

ELYSIAN VALLEY RIVERSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
SPECIAL GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 24, 2016, 6:30 PM
Meeting started at 6:30pm

(I arrived late - minutes start at 6:40pm)

ITEM 2 – NEIGHBORHOOD SELF ASSESSMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

Big Vision 2015-2016 Fiscal Year

Lupe: filling this out for us. Empower community members to engage in community's environment, community diversity and identity.

Arturo: Big Goals – develop a real presence in the community by having signs and forms that affect the community.

Roman: We posted signs. We were successful because we had a high election turnout.

Robert: Elections for the previous council.

Roman: We were successful with Outreach, got people hear and posted signs. We had a presence.

Carmen: We have Joe, Robert, Roman, Arturo and myself. We have goals, agendas and minutes. We created a website that is not active – no Facebook page activity.

Roman: Inactive for three months – May, June, and July.

Arturo: Improve in maintaining our digital presence.

Roman: Yes, the website was maintained when the other board was active.

Arturo: Improve Outreach – we do have ADS.

Roman: We added two posting sites.

Arturo: Create land development projects, land development information, month by month.

Roman: We have room for improvement.

Carmen: Like hearings.

Roman: Events and organizations within Alysian Valley.

Carmen: Self-Assessment, you will fill out.

Roman: Yes.

ITEM 3

Page 202

12 general board meetings and include 2 standing committees

36 committee meetings – they can be modified.

ITEM 4

Our Neighborhood Council will collaborate in six events with one now five (5) , one election, one city department

ITEM 5

Stakeholders, we must increase stakeholders' database, form 530, add 100 more to increase to 700.

Communication meets three times per month.

Outreach Survey:

Lupe: Does your neighborhood council have a web site?

Roman: www.evrnc.org. It links with EmpowerLA.

Board member: We sent the changes, but it's slow.

Board member: We can't link into it – no password.

Lupe: No.

Lupe: Database of stakeholders – yes / Virtual phone or fax – no / Goes through Outreach / General information and business cards – no/ Brochure – no/ Explain why Outreach's budget is \$17,000 / Letterhead – yes / Templates and brochure – no / Calendar online – no / Community bulletin boards – no / Local media contact – yes / Press release template – no / Contact from local media – yes / Advertising strategy – no / Advertise in businesses, street light banners – no / keep community informed – email ads / engaging public – the Beacon

Roman: Money paid from council is for advertising.

The upcoming election in March is a great opportunity to bring the candidate form in anyone seeks to challenge Mitch O'Farrell. It's a great opportunity to expand our presence. Each month the public will receive the cost that has gone out.

Page 204, 2 pages

Arturo: We have the budget - \$5600 for operations, \$8400 for outreach, Community improvement/ Neighborhood improvement \$5,000, NPG \$16,000, Elections \$2,000 – did not separate budget by quarter.

Roman: We don't have MERS, because DONE's PC crashed. We don't have access in January through June.

Lupe: July to January DONE has hard copies.

Page 303

Lupe: How many Community Impact Statements?

Roman: None. The board was not informed.

Arturo: June tells us how much we spent. We need June.

Lupe: It has to be turned in by next Thursday. How many requests for actions?

Arturo: Do they mean resolution/ recommendation?

Lupe: When the board makes a recommendation to take further actions.

Arturo: We did pass a few actions. We did for Bimbo.

Robert: Coolidge was before July, Spoke Café.

Arturo: Bimbo, when was that?

Lupe: That was in end of July.

Roman: Let's say four and let's look back at the minutes and see how many. Bimbo does not count done in previous board.

Arturo: How many special meetings?

Roman: 14

Lupe: Committee meetings.

Roman: 25 Committee meetings.

Arturo: How many events did the neighborhood council collaborate in with a community group

or non-profit?

Roman: One Christmas event. Important to note that we are filling these forms in public.

Arturo: The Health Fair was in June.

Roman: It's a road map to improvement.

Arturo: How many events did the neighborhood council collaborate with a community group or non-profit? 2 – Community group – Santa Claus Breakfast and Senior Group/ Schools – none.

Lupe: That is room for growth.

Roman: Halloween events are huge – great venues to promote the neighborhood council.

Lupe: How many stakeholders in its database?

Roman: Increase by 100.

Arturo: 400 to 530

Lupe: How many council community within database?

Roman: Monthly

Lupe: 2 of 2, I will put it in there based on what I find out from DONE - \$9,250 per quarter. I went to the bank. Joe is the cardholder. The only money used was \$300 for public storage. I have the receipt.

Roman: The entire budget plan for 2016-2017 – let's discuss it.

Lupe: Staples is a monthly expense.

Roman: \$3,000 by 12. \$230. Mics are in storage, we have to mention what is going on with storage.

Lupe: WE have two get office supplies.

Stakeholder: The board will be more active.

Roman: We restarted the web page. Finish uploading documents, we are changing the host. Nation builder is for businesses.

Carmen: I don't have online access – Frank we are asking for access.

Lupe: You will have more than \$250.

Arturo: We are not bound by this budget. We can go back adjust it as long as we don't exceed \$37,000. We are good.

Lupe: \$3,000 includes a computer for myself.

Roman: We also have another PC used by the previous treasurer. DONE is getting it back. We can discuss the NPG amount of \$5,000. In the past, we included more money. I feel \$5,000 for NPG is very little. You can move funds from one category to another – increasing the NPG will help the neighborhood council. \$17,000, we don't spend even half of that.

Arturo: First, we need to approve the budget, then vote on the other amount.

Lupe: We are going to spend – get involved. Children in the community need to have exposure.

Roman: Outreach was successful. We purchased banners, giving money schools. It has impacted kids, purchasing computers will impact children for three years. The board. Can we increase it?

We are not going to spend \$17,000. It's a plan.

Robert: A plan?

Roman: We can manipulate the funds. We can go from high to low, best low to high.

Arturo: Moves to increase NPG from \$5,000 to \$7500 moving it from Outreach to NPG.

Gloria: 2nd the motion.

Vote: 6-3-0
Motion passes

Discussion:

Robert: I'm concerned that we take care of the neighborhood first and everyone later. Standing committees have a responsibility to have minutes – withdraws

Arturo: We are not bound to this. We can revise this. It's not legally binding.

Roman: If we have two call for a recess, then we can discuss this.

Arturo: Let's be pragmatic.

Roman: Vote to add \$2500 to NPG – new sum of \$14,000.

Arturo: Moves to approve the budget as amended

Joe: 2nd

Vote: Unanimous

Roman: Only numbers missing are the numbers from last year's budget – finalized budget. Calls for a five-minute recess at 7:57pm to speak with Robert in private.

Meeting resumes at 8:07pm

Roman: Let's go to number 4.

4. Approve September general expenses \$100

Arturo: Public Comment

Lupe: We need to have it approve legally

Arturo: We would like to be more transparent – DONE's decision.

Board Comment:

Lupe: I would like to see Joe – you and I work on that.

Lupe: Moves to approve September's general expenses of \$100.

Joe: 2nd the motion

Vote: Unanimous

Item 5

Public Comment:

Ms. Dominguez: It was already approved.

Joe: I have not seen any paperwork.

Ms. Dominguez: We submitted it twice to the old board and the new board.

Stakeholder: I don't think it was approved. According to DONE, it must be itemized for each item. If a non-profit, we need to see reps from non-profits. We need to know the board of directors – should be part of the cover letter the board sends out. The Brown Act needs to have it done individually.

Ms. Dominguez: We did what you said. If it needed to be broken down we didn't do that,

because I didn't know – had a board of directors here. I don't believe it should be tabled.

Board Comment:

Lupe: We did not vote on it. It has to be itemized in three separate events.

Roman: Our minutes have not been approved yet.

Gloria: I think it's a good thing – I'm part of the senior citizens.

Adrienne: I would like to table it myself. It needs to be itemized separately – not a good idea to give anyone a lump sum of money.

Frank: I think it was itemized \$300 per event.

Arturo: Call for a vote.

Joe: Moves to table the item.

Adrienne: 2nd

Vote: 5-3-1

Item is tabled

Item 6

Roman: Andy is trying to unsuccessfully – discuss accessibility to LA River pass. The only way to access the river is via Newell Street.

Andy Janicki: Lives two blocks from entrance to the river on Newell Street. It takes a long distance to get to the river pass. I think a lot of people will benefit from it – creating a pass makes it more accessible.

Roman: I understand the lack of access to accessibility. I would like to apologize for having meeting here since you had to come up the ramp. We want to change the setting to address everyone's needs in the community.

Andy: Best solution is to create a concrete ramp from the street to the river pass. So there is easier access for people with disabilities.

Roman: We may need to use your expertise to go to the right agencies.

Andy: I don't know how much that will cost.

Roman: It comes from the city.

Stakeholder: It's a bike path – accidents have already happened there. We should be careful about allowing access for people with disabilities.

Arturo: It's a shared path.

Andy: I go out there now.

Stakeholder: You will need to have Caltrans present when you have the meeting. It's a questions of safety – need to put a speed limit. The path's dangerous. 100% for disabled people – need to consider safety.

Robert: Please to hear original plans. On June 28th, we discussed this issue. The new name LA River Path will include people with disabilities. We can discuss it at the Land Use Committee meeting. It's an issue that concerns us. I've had some unpleasant experiences myself. Re-submit that item for board consideration.

Gloria: We should notify O'Farrell.

Joe: The Army Corps of Engineers – take it to Mitch O'Farrell's office since they are doing lots

of improvement to get Hector Vega at the meetings.

Lupe: This could be a game changer. There was a lawsuit – no access to disabled – safety is something to look into.

Gary: It's a safety issue.

Adrienne: Someone was on the path and fell down.

Roman: Moves to get the Army Corps of Engineers and Mitch O'Farrell's office to build a ramp and path for people with disabilities

Joe: 2nd the motion

Vote: Unanimous

Item 7: Committee Reports

Outreach

no reports

Land Use and Environment

Robert: neighborhood integrity group – meeting on Sunday at 4p.m. at their headquarters. DASH held a public hearing yesterday. The deadline for public comment is September 9th. We meet September 14th. We can't have the issue on that issue – contact DASH and ask for an extension. Many neighborhood councils are demanding an extension. Land Use Committee had six items – two were considered by the board and voted unanimously by the Land Use Committee. The board should consider all of them, and not ignore them.

Bylaws Committee:

We were unable to meet yesterday, since we did not meet quorum. When you sign up to a committee, we should at least have quorum. We should attend the committees that we are assigned to. We are almost done with the first quarter – with unity we can work our way to a stronger board. We will reschedule.

Roman: The reason we held a meeting yesterday. The park cancelled on us and said the only availability was Tuesday. We didn't hold a meeting then to avoid having quorum or not attend the DASH meeting. I agree with Arturo.

Gary: The deadline is the 9th – get those lines (DASH) before the 9th.

Stakeholder: We need to check our debate on all the hearings. That is where all the decisions are made to avoid these conflicts.

Stakeholder 2: Bylaws – go to EmpowerLA and get a copy of the bylaws. So you can also amend the Bylaws – import what's the outcome.

Ms. Dominguez: Important to have minutes, we need to know what the conclusion of these meetings are.

Item 8 Treasurers Report

Stakeholder: You should look at the rules on DONE's website and learn how to use

Public Comment:

Ms. Dominguez: Board decisions – if things are going to be done in a specific way, it should be done for everyone across the board. Public opinion is public opinion. It's not factual – please

don't base your decisions on someone's public opinion.

Roman calls Ceci Dominguez to order. Ceci Dominguez refuses to comply with the chair when she was disrupting the meeting, when her time had expired, which resulted in the adjournment of the meeting.

Lupe: Moves to adjourn the meeting

Joe: 2nd the motion

Meeting is adjourned at 8:56p.m.