

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

ELYSIAN VALLEY RIVERSIDE
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
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ROMÁN GÓMEZ
VICE PRESIDENT
JOE LOVELIS
SECRETARY
LUPE FLETES
TREASURER



ELYSIAN VALLEY RIVERSIDE
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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ELYSIAN VALLEY RIVERSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 16th, 2017 – 6:30 PM
Dorris Place Elementary School
2225 Dorris Pl, Los Angeles, CA 90031

1. Roll Call/Call to Order.
 - a. 6:32 PM
 - b. Present: Arturo Gomez, Roman Gomez, Joe Lovelis, Lupe Fletes, Frank Mendoza, Gary Rogokos, Alejandro Palomino, Carrie Sutkin
 - c. Absent: Adrienne Benitez, Jesus Garcia, Alvaro Mora, Gloria Mora, Luis Rosales,
 - d. Late: Vincent Montalvo (arr. 7:15 PM)
2. Government Officials' Reports (5 min per person).
 - a. None were held.
3. Community Announcements (5 mins.).
 - a. None were given.
4. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Reports (MERs) for (a) June 2017, (b) July 2017 (Discussion and Possible Action, 1 min. per Speaker).
 - a. Treasurer Fletes explained that she did not have access to funding as she had only recently attended Funding Training the Monday prior. She reassured the board that she would gain access now that the training was attended.
 - b. Fletes moved to postpone Item 4 to the September General Meeting, Sutkin seconded.
 - i. Vote: 7-0-1 motion passed with Palomino abstaining.
5. Approval of Minutes for (a) October 12th, 2016, (b) May 10th, 2017, (c) May 24th, 2017 (d) June 14th, 2017 (Discussion and Possible Action, 1 min. per Speaker).
 - i. Mendoza moves to amend 5b and 5c to reflect the dates of their respective meetings, Sutkin seconded.
 1. Vote: 7-0-1, motion passed with Palomino abstaining.
 - a. R. Gomez moved to approve 5a, Mendoza seconded.
 - i. Vote: 5-0-3, motion passed with Fletes, Palomino, and Sutkin abstaining.
 - b. R. Gomez moved to approve 5b as amended, Mendoza seconded.
 - i. Vote: 5-0-3, motion passed with Fletes, Palomino, and Sutkin abstaining.
 - c. R. Gomez moved to approve 5c as amended, Mendoza seconded.
 - i. Vote: 7-0-1, motion passed with Palomino abstaining.
 - d. R. Gomez moved to approve 5d, Mendoza seconded.
 - i. Vote: 6-0-2, motion passed with Palomino and Sutkin abstaining.
6. Report regarding EVRNC's allocated funding denied by City for Rec Center. (Discussion, 1 min. per Speaker).
 - a. A. Gomez explained that the \$3,000 funding item for Rec Center's Summer Camp was denied by the City Clerk's office because of its designation as a "scholarship" rather than a co-sponsorship. A. Gomez apologized for the "clerical misstep."

- b. R. Gomez clarified that funding for similar items was approved by Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment in the past, but when responsibility shifted to City Clerk's office this year, their oversight was stricter.
 - c. Meeting paused when Palomino takes a call.
 - d. Sutkin asked if EVRNC could co-sponsor an upcoming event; A. Gomez responded that the Rec Center would have to make the request and that the board be careful from now on with respect to its manner of dissemination of funds.
 - e. Fletes clarified that a scholarship is a gift, which public entities cannot legally provide.
 - f. Rogokos urged the board not to make this mistake, as the children of this neighborhood deserve better.
7. Appointment of two representatives to Film LA committee (Discussion and Possible Action, 1 min. per Speaker).
- a. Palomino explains that two representatives can be appointed to the Film LA committee, which deals with logistics of on-site shooting. Elysian Valley sees a good amount of such activity, so participation from EVRNC can be valuable. Palomino says that himself and Montalvo are willing to sit on the committee.
 - b. A. Gomez nominates Montalvo and Palomino to be appointed Film LA committee, R. Gomez seconds the nomination.
 - i. Lovelis comments that the neighborhood is not advised or respected and that those filming on-site have neglected neighborhood input. A traffic jam on Rosanna was caused by an on-location shoot, and neighbors had not been consulted.
 - ii. Palomino wants to explore the permits submitted and approved to filmmakers within the committee.
 - iii. Vote: 8-0-0; motion passed unanimously.
8. Funding for inflatable movie screen (13' diagonal) for up to \$400. (Discussion and Possible Action, 1 min. per Speaker).
- a. Lovelis expressed disappointment that the Office of Councilmember O'Farrell would no longer provide projection equipment for neighborhood events; he also noted that the equipment itself was of low quality.
 - b. The screen can be used indoors and outdoors. Lovelis noted that the last movie night went very well and that it should be done more often.
 - c. R. Gomez moved to approve Item 8, Mendoza Seconded.
 - i. Sutkin asked if it can be used in one of the pocket parks by the river. Lovelis replied that it can, provided that there were ample electrical outlets.
 - ii. Palomino asked how many people went last time, Lovelis said close to 80 attended, conservatively speaking.
 - iii. R. Gomez expressed support for the item as it assists the EVRNC's outreach efforts; commended Lovelis for taking initiative on this item.
 - iv. Vote: 8-0-0, motion passed unanimously.
9. Filling of Board Vacancy (Discussion and Possible Action, 1 min. per Speaker).
- a. Stakeholder Eddie Serafin was the only person to submit an application to fill the sole vacancy within the EVRNC Board of Directors.
 - i. Serafin answers board questions pertaining to his commitment to the board affirmatively as well as his willingness to work on committees.
 - b. R. Gomez moved to appoint Serafin to the EVRNC Board of Directors, Lovelis seconded.
 - i. Vote: 8-0-0; appointment of Board Member Serafin approved unanimously.
10. Funding of up to \$200 for Board Training on Saturday, August 26th, 2017, 12:00 PM (Discussion and Possible Action, 1 min. per Speaker).
- a. A. Gomez explains the need to hold a training due to a deficit of involvement within the board.
 - b. Montalvo arrived at 7:15.
 - c. A. Gomez further explains that this would cover bylaws, rules of order, responsibilities, committee organization, and next steps.

- i. A. Gomez deferred to Mary Kim, field rep. from DONE; she explains that this retreat would help clarify the purpose of the EVRNC, and serve as an orientation for board members to better understand what they can do, and how they can do it.
 - d. A. Gomez that this would be funding for refreshments and food.
 - e. Sutkin moved to approve Item 10, R. Gomez seconded.
 - i. Event would be open to the public.
 - ii. Fletes suggested a later date,
 - iii. Vote: 9-0-0; motion approved unanimously
11. New Appointments and Restructuring of Committees (Outreach, ELUC, Grants, CIS) (Discussion and Possible Action, 1 min. per Speaker).
- a. President A. Gomez appointed members to CIS Committee (New: Member Serafin; Retained: Chair R. Gomez, Members Palomino, and Sutkin), R. Gomez Seconded.
 - i. Palomino expressed opposition to the appointments due to his expressed belief that the President was being too selective, as Montalvo and Garcia were no longer in the current appointments for the committee.
 - ii. Sutkin expressed support, as the previous iteration of the committee contained one member over the four-member limit.
 - iii. R. Gomez reminded the board that this is how the process of the appointment and ratification of committee members is outlined within the EVRNC bylaws and that the process is democratic, not a “dictatorship.”
 - iv. Montalvo agreed with R. Gomez that this is the process.
 - v. Lovelis inquired if Montalvo was comfortable with being moved to another committee, to which Montalvo responded that he will serve wherever the President places him.
 - vi. Vote: 6-3-0; motion passed with Mendoza, Montalvo, and Palomino dissenting.
 - b. President A. Gomez appointed members to ELUC (New: Co-Chair R. Gomez; Retained: Co-Chair Sutkin, and Members Garcia and Montalvo)
 - i. Stakeholder Elena Lovelis inquires on R. Gomez’s time commitment, R. Gomez affirms his ability to attend, per his perfect attendance.
 - ii. Mendoza clarified that his resignation from the committee was due to personal reasons, and in no way reflected a will to leave it.
 - iii. Alejandro expressed concern over executives having chair positions in committees, President A. Gomez expressed his belief that co-chairs should be members with more experience.
 - iv. Fletes inquired a commitment to monthly meetings, R. Gomez and Sutkin affirmed that commitment.
 - v. Vote: 8-0-1, motion passed with Montalvo abstaining.
 - 1. Palomino announced intention to file a motion to reconsider, having voted in the affirmative.
 - 2. President A. Gomez reminded Palomino to file a memorandum to Secretary Lovelis five days before the next Regular General Board meeting.
 - c. President A. Gomez appointed members to Grants Committee (New: Member Mendoza; Retained: Chair Lovelis, Vice-Chair Garcia, Member Benitez), Fletes seconded.
 - i. Vote: 9-0-0; Motion passed unanimously
 - d. President A. Gomez appointed members to Outreach Committee (New: Member A. Gomez; Retained: Co-Chairs A. Mora and Rogokos, Member G. Mora), Mendoza seconded.
 - i. President A. Gomez reported that he had met with members of the Outreach Committee regarding its productivity, and a major impediment was a general difficulty with technology and access to a computer. He brought up his past experience with Outreach, and his current work with managing the website, Facebook page, and the e-mail service.
 - ii. Rogokos inquired if Serafin could join the committee; A. Gomez reiterated that the issues of access to technology need to be addressed and his current management of online platforms would make him better suited to the open spot on the committee.
 - iii. Vote: 7-0-2, motion passed with Montalvo and Palomino abstaining.

12. Approval of Standing Rules regarding reconsideration and censure procedures (Discussion and Possible Action, 1 min. per Speaker).
 - a. A. Gomez explained that the proposals for Standing Rules were initially approved by the board with the Bylaws amendment packets, but the City Attorney's office had felt that they were better suited as Standing Rules, which are more flexible. The adjustments made by the CA's office to accommodate the Standing Rules suggestions were made within Article V, Section 8 and Article VIII, Section IV.
 - b. A. Gomez also announced that as of June 10th, the new bylaws are now in place.
 - c. R. Gomez moved to approve new standing rules, Sutkin Seconded.
 - i. Stakeholder Elena Lovelis made inquiries on the functions of these rules proposals, which A. Gomez clarified.
 - ii. Palomino asked why his motion to reconsideration was not agendized. A. Gomez reminded him that it was not only agendized, but that it had also failed. Palomino responded that he had also filed a Motion to Reconsider his failed Motion to Reconsider (which is not possible).
 1. A. Gomez clarified that his memorandum was formatted incorrectly (due to the request), and that the Executive Committee could not accept it.
 - iii. Montalvo expressed his belief that the executive committee should communicate to the rest of the board. He also felt that no one had ample time to read the Standing Rules proposals.
 1. A. Gomez clarified that the text within the Standing Rules proposals had been read by all members of the board when they were initially Bylaws Amendment proposals (Articles V and VIII).
 - iv. Fletes asked why they couldn't be Bylaws amendments, A. Gomez reminded her of the City Attorney's decision. Fletes suggested tabling the item, A. Gomez replied that that would prevent the board from reconsidering items and censuring board members who would not be compliant with the bylaws.
 - v. R. Gomez remarked that Palomino would not be able to reconsider anything if these rules were not approved.
 - vi. Vote: 7-2-0; motion passed with Mendoza and Montalvo dissenting.
 1. Palomino announced intention to file a motion to reconsider, having voted in the affirmative.
 2. President A. Gomez reminded Palomino to file a memorandum to Secretary Lovelis five days before the next Regular General Board meeting.
13. Approval for funding of Business cards and name plates for up to \$600 (Discussion and Possible Action, 1 min. per Speaker).
 - a. A. Gomez provided board members and the public invoices to business cards and name plates.
 - b. Rogokos supported the cards, considering the duration of inaction on this item.
 - c. R. Gomez moved to approve Item 13, Sutkin Seconded.
 - i. Stakeholder Elena Lovelis suggested blank cards.
 - ii. R. Gomez felt that it is more professional to have typed cards.
 - iii. Palomino felt that money would go better to flyers.
 1. A. Gomez reminded him of the \$20,000+ Outreach Budget.
 - iv. Fletes felt more work needed to be done on the design. A. Gomez said that this item was for funding, and that the design will be finalized before the purchase.
 - v. R. Gomez urged the board to act.
 - vi. Vote: 6-2-1, motion passed with Fletes and Lovelis dissenting and Montalvo abstaining.
 1. Palomino announced intention to file a motion to reconsider, having voted in the affirmative.
 2. President A. Gomez reminded Palomino to file a memorandum to Secretary Lovelis five days before the next Regular General Board meeting.
14. Committee Reports (Outreach, Environment and Land Use, Community Impact Statement, Grants, Finance) (Discussion and Possible Action, 1 min. per Speaker).
 - a. Outreach
 - i. Rogokos intended on pushing for a field trip for the neighborhood children.
 - b. ELUC

- i. Sutkin looked forward to the ELUC meeting next week, re: Frogtown Brewery, road diet, land map.
 - c. CIS
 - i. R. Gomez intended to hold a meeting as soon as possible.
 - d. Grants
 - i. Lovelis had not received requests for grants.
 - e. Finance
 - i. Fletes will discuss with Lovelis when to hold the committee meeting.
- 15. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (1 min. per Speaker).
 - a. Stakeholder Ceci Dominguez further dissatisfaction that the cancelled Regular General Board Meeting on August 9th, 2017 did not have a notice. A. Gomez clarifies that he and R. Gomez had waited for community members for 45 minutes to let them know the meeting was cancelled.
 - b. Stakeholder Bob Berg claimed that the cancelled Executive Committee Meeting on August 2nd, 2017 had no notice at the location (it did). He claimed that Monthly Expenditure Reports are not publicly available (they are on evrnc.org). He demanded every MER for fiscal year 2016-2017 to be available on print.
 - c. Stakeholder Elena Lovelis agreed with Bob and Ceci. She also suggested that an Elections committee be provided.
 - d. Board Member Lovelis reported on his training and announced that the NC Funding System will make the EVRNC's expenditure updates live. EVRNC's funds were withheld.
 - e. Fletes stated that the City Clerk's office stated that EVRNC's budget was not submitted.
- f. A. Gomez stated that it had been submitted it day-of.
 - g. Palomino suggests Stakeholders file a Public Request Act form.
 - h. R. Gomez reminds board and public that everyone is volunteering, everyone is in this to help the neighborhood succeed, and that we're trying our best to become as transparent as possible.
- 16. Adjournment and next meeting date (Discussion and Possible Action).
 - a. Lovelis moved to adjourned, Fletes seconded.
 - i. Vote: 9-0-0, adjournment approved unanimously.
 - ii. Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.