

Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council

General Meeting - 12.14.2016

at Dorris Place Elementary School

1. **Call to Order:** 6:33pm. **Roll Call:** 8 members
2. **Community Announcements**
 - a. Kids Breakfast with Santa at the Recreation center
 - b. Seniors Holiday Lunch
3. **Government Officials' Reports, presented by Officer Gina**
 - a. There will be a town hall meeting regarding immigration and LA's policy on immigration December 15th from 5-7pm. There will be an attorney there to answer questions and it is a safe space.
 - b. There will be a toy drive on Saturday the 17th at the station at 8am. Anyone can sign up to take or give toys.
 - c. Burglary and car thefts are occurring. They are not at alarming numbers, and the police cannot categorize it as serial activity, but they have been seeing activity. The community is encouraged to call in when burglary/robberies happen, because that is how they can best help the police crack down.
 - d. Graffiti has become more present as of late. Graffiti is the local gangs' way of talking to each other. At this point, there has been no linkage between graffiti and violence. The best way to deter graffiti is to call 311 and have it removed within 72 hours.
 - e. Discussion of use of Frogtown at the brewery. The brewery doesn't understand the implications of the name of their brewery and are selling frogtown shirts.
 - f. **Position on being a sanctuary state:** Gina is clear that she and the other officers are not immigration police, and have never been in the position to arrest for immigration. That will not change under the new administration.
 - g. There is a request for more of a response to hate crimes. Officer Gina re-emphasized to call the police when hate crimes occur.
 - h. **Homeless problem:** There is nothing the police can do. Being homeless and living in the streets is not a crime. There is an intense protocol, and the police are the last resource. The procedure is as follows:
 - The council district office will send homeless organizations to ask about providing them housing and medical.
 - If they do not want anything, there is a scheduled "clean up" where within 72 hours waste sanitation will come and clean up.
 - Once it is cleaned up, they can move right back there and the process will start again.

- A new law is preventing people from camping/sleeping in their vehicles, but that does not impact the street. There is a council liaison who is trying to do outreach to see how everyone can help that part of the Elysian community as well.
- i. Heroin is hitting the streets in a big way right now.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes for October, November General Board Meetings (One Minute per Speaker; Discussion and Possible Action).

Has to be postponed because AppleOne does not have the minutes to give to them yet.

5. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Report for November 2016 (One Minute per Speaker; Discussion and Possible Action).

Treasurer is not present so that too will have to be postponed.

6. Approval of Letter Regarding Pedestrian Access on Rosanna St. and Requesting Signage to Improve the Public's Health and Safety (One Minute per Speaker; Discussion and Possible Action).

Postponed to next meeting.

7. Announcement for Requirement of Funding of Co-Sponsorships to be filed at least 45 days before a Co-Sponsored Event with a Flyer is Held (One Minute per Speaker; Discussion and Possible Action).

- a. It's important to provide the public with ample fliers, information and time with any events that require co-sponsorship with the neighborhood council.
- b. **Vincent Montalvo**: Outreach takes 10 days prior to request for money. 45 days before the event for enough time for paperwork and submitting approval forms to the city. This would require a bi-law amendment. He thinks they should table this so that he can get the documents from the treasurer.
- c. **Arturo Gomez**: It's important to bring in a lot of different procedural changes regarding sponsorships and things of that nature, but the committee should take it into consideration.

MOTION: Vincent made the motion to table the matter until he can get the necessary documents from the treasurer. Joe Lovelis seconded the motion. The motion was passed as unanimous (8-0) to table it.

8. Removal of Board Member: Leticia Saldana (One Minute per Speaker; Discussion and Possible Action).

- a. **Roman Gomez:** She has not attended any meeting since May. Roman got a hold of her and she said that she was not going to be able to participate in the meetings any longer.
- b. Four should be the limit of absences to be kicked out of the board. We appreciate her interest but if after four people can't make it for any reason it should be brought up to discussion. This was brought up at least three times before, but people didn't want to make the motion to take this action.
- c. In the future we will be talking about other people who have had multiple absences and their standing on the board.
- d. Next month there will be an announcement for the opening. There is a new up and running website that it will run on.

MOTION: Arturo Gomez made the motion to remove Leticia Saldana from the board, and Gloria Mora seconded the motion. It passed unanimously (8-0).

9. Homelessness Liaison Robert Leyland's Report (Five Minute Report, One Minute per Speaker; Discussion and Possible Action).

Roman Gomez: Robert Leyland is not present, so this will be postponed to next session.

10. Approval for January General Meeting Foot Expenses for \$100 (Five Minute Report, One Minute per Speaker; Discussion and Possible Action).

Cannot vote on this without something in writing with an itemized list breaking down the expenses, so this will also be shelved until next time.

11. Committee Reports: Outreach, Environment and Land Use, Community Impact Statement, Ad-Hoc on Bylaws Reform (Three Minute Reports, One Minute per Speaker; Discussion and Possible Action).

- a. **Outreach:**
 1. **Vincent Montalvo:** Going over funding that was approved for the kids. The funding for the seniors is at a stand hold because of a change to the menu invoice. Invoice was not made out correctly. There was a charge of a dollar for a raffle but the city policy is that nothing can be charged. In the future there needs to be a packet so incorrect fliers can be sent back with explanations of why they are incorrect.

2. **Ms. Dominguez (from the senior center)**: Thank you to whoever submitted \$1000, but no one told them they had to have an invoice or flier by this time. On December 2nd, she was informed that she had to submit it by 5pm that day. She was never called and told that it went through. They had already planned their own event with 20-30 people with food and everything because their original one was denied. They do the raffle every year. The invoice for the food was made in november and never got a copy saying "here is the food for this event" nor were they told they were going to have 125 people. If this is the event that the neighborhood council will like to put on, they will be glad to help. But their event will continue as planned. There was a lack of communication, if they knew they had to have a flier they would have made it, which they have and did distribute. Were never told: I need this by this day. They would have complied if they had known. If they knew about the invoice format they would have complied. The seniors voted and would like to continue with their party.
3. **Roman Gomez**: We regret the lack of communication and want to bridge the gap and are happy to promote the event that the seniors are doing on their own.
4. **Ms. Dominguez**: They can only do 30-40 people with the money they raised.

Frank Mendoza just arrived at 7:15pm.

b. Environment and Land Use:

1. The city hasn't determined where the location is going to be for the homeless. They are proposing to build housing for as many 10,000 people.
2. Gloria Mora wants to go with portals.
3. **Vincent Montalvo**: Everyone should consider that the measures passed for the homeless were passed 10-15 years ago. The housing is only supposed to stay for 10 years before they become fair market rent. The taxpayers money is paying for buildings that will be sunsetted. Most housing money that went into the homeless issue is actually cutting into the community. This is a federal law and we should look into a way to extend the use for homeless people.
4. **Arturo Gomez**: Went to a meeting where they said that HHH developments will not be constructed for a couple years, meaning the project won't alleviate homelessness immediately.
5. **Frank Mendoza**: In the meantime, they provide temporary housing for homeless.

c. Community Impact Statement:

1. Asked by the city for the council to make an official statement.
2. **Vincent Montalvo**: Only document that gives the council a seat where they get up to 5 minutes to explain the community's position on whether we approve or disapprove of it. So that is a powerful document to get started. Sent along the packet for board members to sign. Then five members of the council will send it along to the board that represents thousands of people.

3. **Roman Gomez**: The five members have already been chosen and should be working on this now so they can have a statement ready in the new year. Don't want to allow months before we address the issues.
4. **Gary Rogokos**: People rig these meetings.
5. **Roman Gomez**: Have to change the address where we get information so that we have all information.

Frank Mendoza has decided to stay with the board.

d. **Ad-Hoc on Bylaws Reform:**

1. Arturo Gomez did not hold a meeting last month, but are this month. They are working on article five which is long. Once it's done, it will be sent to the board so they have a couple weeks to read it through.
2. They are sending letter to the city about presentation about health and safety in regards to newly open businesses and how they are impacting our neighborhood. Will look back on the minutes to see if this happened.

12. Public Comment on non-agenda items (One Minute per Speaker).

- a. **Jonathan Rodriguez (from the floor)**: representing Jessica Salans. Drawn into getting involved on a local level. He is a resident of district 13 and has been called to action by the recent election events. Wants to invite everyone to the meeting tomorrow. They will be discussing homelessness specifically. Campaign is grassroots and driven for the people, really trying to instill the power back into local residents.
- b. **Roman Gomez**: What's her position on the development on the city?
- c. **Jonathan Rodriguez**: Anti corporate development. Opposes Mitch in that he is pro big development. Looking at how we can combat that and work more for the people. Jonathan is in charge of Latino outreach so he has been reaching out to organizations throughout the city to see what they are facing especially because of the new administration. Contact: jonathandeniol@gmail.com He will filter questions to the appropriate sub-channels.
- d. **About Salans' Campaign**: Salans' campaign is completely volunteer-run. Meet weekly in Echo park on Thursdays and moving forward will try to be doing more Town Halls leading up to the March 3rd election. Tomorrow's town hall meeting is at Trenchard. She has been trying to attend as many council meetings as she can and will definitely try to get her to come and introduce herself. She is not a politician; she worked on Bernie Sanders campaign. This is her first time running for public office. But she is committed to making that change and driven to action.

13. Adjournment (Discussion and Possible Action).

- a. Vincent Montalvo made the motion to adjourn, and Joe Lovelis seconds to adjourn.