

**Neighborhood Council Valley Village
Board Meeting
11-17-04**

Approved 12-15-04, 14-0

The meeting was called to order by NCVV President Peter Sanchez at 6:32 pm.

Mr. Sanchez welcomed the Board and recognized two newly elected Board members in attendance, Dr. Alan Brody and Rev. Dan Clark. Mr. Sanchez explained the process by which public comments can be made, and invited anyone who had such comment on any agenda or non-agenda item to complete a Speaker's card at the back of the room.

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution and Welcoming Remarks. Mr. Sanchez asked the secretary to call the roll. Board members in attendance were: Mr. Tony Braswell (residential renter), Mr. Paul Hatfield (at large), Ms. Jody Hidey (residential homeowner), Mr. Greg O'Connor (education), Ms. Ann Hull, (business), Mr. Tom Paterson (residential renter), Mr. Nick Pool (business representative), Ms. Breice Reiner (community based organization), Mr. Peter Sanchez (residential homeowner), Mr. Stuart Simen (business), Dr. Daniel Wiseman (faith based). Board members excused absent were Ms. Debra (D.J.) Harner, Ms. Ginny Hatfield (community senior organization), Mr. Walter Katz (residential renter), Mr. Chris Pechin (residential homeowner).

Mr. Sanchez explained the importance of posting the agenda of the meeting under the Brown Act. The posting roll call was made – Beth Hillel Temple (yes), Shaarey Zedek Congregation (yes), The Hemster (yes), East Valley Senior Center (no), Jon's Market (yes), Steven's Nursery (yes), Valley Photo (no), Marie et Cie (yes), Bank of America (yes), Botique Voila (no), 7-11 (yes), Newspapers (yes). Mr. Paterson mentioned that retiring Board members would no longer be able to distribute the agenda, and asked if they would be reassigned. He volunteered to take The Hemster from Ms. Hidey. Mr. Braswell noted that Ms. Hidey was the only Board member with distribution duties that was retiring from the Board. Mr. Sanchez thanked Mr. Paterson.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the October meeting were sent by email to the Board, and copies were available for the public at the meeting. *A motion was made by Mr. Simen to accept the minutes and seconded by Mr. Pool. The minutes were approved by a vote of 10-0.*

Agenda Item 3 – President's Comments, Introduction of Distinguished Guests. Mr. Sanchez noted that Mr. Bill Santoro, newly elected homeowner, joined the audience. He stated that most meetings have representatives from Council members offices, however with our changed meeting dates for November and December there might not be a high level of attendance.

Agenda Item 4 – Public Comment on Agenda Items. Dr. Wiseman asked to address the Board related to Neighborhood Congress and a joint meeting with the Mayor’s Budget Committee. He stated that a grievance committee work group will be formed. They will help to develop a system which governs grievances from or related to the Neighborhood Councils. He further reported that an Education committee addressed the code of “civility” for Neighborhood Councils. He also noted that Neighborhood Councils are chartered to be an advisory group to The City of Los Angeles, and the question of whether or not we have been effective in this role. Ms. Janice Hahn proposed a community impact statement, which is a statement that goes into the agenda and will become part of the public record for city related business.

Mr. Paterson stated that he attended the ad hoc Neighborhood Council meeting at LA City College. It was announced there that a DWP meeting will be held on Saturday, November 20, at which information will be given related to a planned increase in water rates. Mr. Pool stated that he attended a meeting some time ago on this issue and had received no follow-up. Mr. Paterson stated that an 11% increase is planned for water rates, and Neighborhood Councils are asking that if there are further increases, the NC’s be represented in the decision process. *Mr. Paterson stated that NCVV needs to be represented at these meetings, and nominated Dr. Wiseman to be the official NCVV representative. Ms. Hidey seconded. The motion was approved 9-0.*

There was no further public comment. Mr. Sanchez asked that for the future the public comment section be held for non-Board public comment only.

Agenda Item 5 – Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Hatfield reported \$15 additional spending in the month of October, and reiterated the availability of funds to support community related projects, approved by NCVV Board. Mr. O’Connor stated that Colfax Elementary School is hosting a school beautification project in December, and asked if it is appropriate to request financial support? Mr. Hatfield asked if this would be a school project? Yes. He then stated that he would consult DONE to be certain there is no conflict in support. He felt that NCVV could not make a “flat out” donation but there could be some financial participation in approved expenses.

Mr. Paterson stated that he had a specific expense question. Mr. Hatfield added to the prior conversation by stating that NCVV could sponsor refreshments for the volunteers for the school project. Ms. Hidey asked if this could be a part of the NCVV Beautification effort? DONE will need to be consulted. Mr. Braswell suggested that Mr. O’Connor forward a written request to the Board so that action could be taken once DONE is consulted. Mr. Hatfield stated that any participation in this project will fall under outreach or beautification. Mr. Paterson then asked if receipts for duplicating reports he was required to send to the city (\$65.30) could be reimbursed. Mr. Hatfield asked Mr. Paterson to keep a copy of the report and give him the original and the receipts. Mr. Sanchez asked that copies be given to Mr. Braswell to archive.

Agenda Item 6 – Board Committee Structure. Mr. Simen reported that related to committee structure, NCVV bylaws lend no instruction to committee structure. There is

no place in the bylaws that defines the construct of a committee or how they perform duties. He advised the Board that they must come up with a committee structure that formalizes the committees and their work process. He proposed Standing Committees of the Board as a way of addressing this issue. The Committees have been sent to the Board prior to the evening's meeting for their consideration. They are Outreach, Planning & Land Use, Limited Projects, Long Term Projects, and Elections.

Ms. Reiner reported that a working group led by Mr. Sanchez attempted to come up with a division of duties that could work toward the approved goals of NCVV. She walked through each of the proposed Standing Committees and explained how they match up with NCVV goals. She stressed the need to involve community stakeholders who are not part of the NCVV Board. Mr. Sanchez stated that the working group received numerous proposals for committees and thanked the Board members for over 20 different committee suggestions he received. He stated that the group tried to keep the process simple and related directly to the NCVV goals, and also keep it attainable. He advised the Board that it is very significant that Outreach is the first committee. The next step in this process is to put structure behind the committees, and Mr. Simen reminded the Board that committees must consist of 2 or more people. Mr. Braswell stated that he had spoken with Deanna Stevenson and that she was very pleased with this proposal, with the understanding that the NCVV Board is working toward formal Board Committees in the bylaws in the near future.

Mr. Sanchez stated that every committee must have Board members on the Board. He was asked if the Committee chairperson must be a Board member, and he said he did not have a preference but that would be an issue the Board must decide. Ms. Reiner commented that it would be absolutely necessary to have a Board member liaison to each committee. This would keep the Committees working in structure toward NCVV goals. Mr. Paterson asked if the committee structure allowed for non-Board members to serve on Committees. Yes. Mr. Simen reminded the Board that any action that comes to the Board from a Committee comes to the Board in the form of a motion with a second and that the Board would be required to act on the motion or send it back to the Committee. Mr. Sanchez stated that what he foresees in the committee structure are Base Committees, then sub-Committees for specific efforts. The example given was that the Outreach committee will have a Newsletter committee. He made note that many of our current Board members have extensive experience on the projects that will be governed by the committees, mentioning Tom Paterson's work with Planning and Land Use issues. He asked Tom if he would care to comment on how this structure works with other NC Boards. He verified Mr. Sanchez's statements.

Mr. Sanchez discussed the difference between limited and long term projects – limited being those that have a finite time period, and longer term including those that span more than a year or are ongoing. Mr. Simen discussed the importance of the Election Committee and why it needed to be a standing committee. He stated that Jerry Kvasnicka from the League of Women Voters stated NCVV had the best election procedures he has seen, and that when the city adopts its 23rd version on election procedures, NCVV will have very few changes to make.

Mr. Braswell made a motion to approve the Standing Committees as presented to the Board (attached) with all first year chairs, required to be Board members. Mr. Sanchez asked that Ms. Reiner review again the Outreach committee. Ms. Reiner stated that NCVV Board needs to reach out to the community beyond the normal “involvement” of the Board and volunteers who currently work with us. When you (the Board) look for people to get involved, don’t look for the “usual people” but bring new energy and passion to the process. Ms. Reiner mentioned that she brought her three names to the evening meeting and asked if others had. Mr. Braswell stated that Ms. Hatfield sent her names via email, others gave their names to Ms. Reiner. Ms. Reiner introduced Jerry Fagin, who lives near her and came to the NCVV Board meeting to get involved at the committee level.

Mr. Sanchez thanked Ms. Reiner for her comments, and reminded the Board that a motion was pending. He stated that if the motion is approved at this meeting, we will be able to go to the community and start to build committees.

Mr. O’Connor stated that he agreed with the motion, and the need for structure and guidance for committees. He asked, however, if there could be the possibility of an enthusiastic member of the community running a committee that is not an elected Board member. Ms. Hull stated that this proposal ensured that the committees are represented at the Board meeting. Ms. Reiner added that she agrees with Mr. O’Connor, but the Board might want to consider adding a liaison for each committee.

Mr. Sanchez asked that everyone remain aware of the vocabulary being used – that the chair positions would not be liaisons. Ms. Reiner stated that she envisioned Board members functioning in the roles as Mr. Sanchez stated. Mr. Braswell asked if she agreed with the request that Board members be chairs for the first year? Ms. Reiner stated that she felt it would be appropriate to have non-Board members considered for chair positions. She asked to amend the motion to allow non-Board members for Chair positions. Mr. Braswell stated that he respectfully did not accept the amendment. Mr. Pool stated his position in accordance with only Board members in chair positions. Mr. Fagin (audience member) asked if the amendment could be added to say “if possible”. Mr. O’Connor asked if the Board could have particular input over any non-Board chairs that might be appointed. Mr. Braswell respectfully asked that the motion be voted up or down without that amendment. Mr. Simen advised the Board that regardless of what we as a Board do in the vote, DONE will have final say, and that there has been communication with DONE related to the motion and it is one that could be approved. Ms. Hidey stated that she wished to point out that each committee will have many subcommittees but that they may only report to the Board through a Board member. The structure presented actually becomes an “umbrella” for that process. Ms. Reiner asked if the motion might be tabled until the December meeting. It was decided that it should not be tabled. Mr. O’Connor stated that he listened to the comments and felt that there had been guidance from the city and that he would be willing to support the motion. Mr. Paterson stated that there are actually only five committees, and that with 15 Board members there should be no problem meeting the requirements of the motion. Ms. Hull called the question. Mr. Sanchez asked for a vote to end debate. Approved 9-0. Mr.

Sanchez then asked for a vote on the motion by Mr. Braswell, seconded by Ms. Hull, which states the Committee structure be approved as presented with Board members as chairs for the first year. The motion was approved 8-1.

Mr. Sanchez thanked the Board for the debate and the hard work on the issue, and stated that now the Board must put persons into the chair positions. Mr. O'Connor asked if that action could wait until December when the new Board is seated. Mr. Sanchez replied yes.

Dr. Wiseman asked that a membership roster be available at Board meetings for the public to sign up for committees. Ms. Reiner distributed a brochure that would be mailed to all Valley Village residents describing the work and purpose of NCVV. She stated that there is hope that this will be an ongoing effort to recruit people to help with NCVV.

She also distributed a prototype of a newsletter that will be published by NCVV. She stated that this won't be an effort to duplicate the newsletter of the Homeowners Association, but will be a communication effort from NCVV. An audience member asked if the NCVV website is active? In part, but it is still a work in progress.

Mr. Hatfield advised that any type of mailing or printing be given to him before it is done so that he can use the prepay card to take care of the associated expense.

Mr. Sanchez reminded the Board that they all need to reach out to three persons each before the December 15 meeting and think ahead to how each person's skills could be used on a committee level. He also asked the Board to bring to him on or before the December 15 meeting the name of any committee they would want to chair.

Ms. Reiner stated that the newsletter will have some specific deadlines so please write and submit copy with that in mind. She will be the Editor of the newsletter, and Mr. Sanchez will be the Publisher. Unlike the HA newsletter the NCVV newsletter will have bylines that identify contributors to the newsletter. Mr. O'Connor asked if the entry sign for Valley Village will be discussed at the meeting. Mr. Sanchez replied yes.

Agenda Item 7 – Committee Reports. Planning & Land Use. Mr. Paterson stated there has been a zoning decision against a proposed business at Laurel Canyon and Burbank (the former Shell Station), which was returned to the owner because it was improperly prepared (due to exceptions). The issue of the Psychic and the neon sign in the residential zoned space on Laurel Canyon has come up again. Historically advertising has not been allowed in residential zones even though home businesses may be allowed. (The current site plan states no advertising is allowed in residential areas.) One year ago there was a lawsuit that was won by a psychic citing 1st amendment rights (claiming status as a resident allows such advertising.) NCVV Board P&LU Committee has been advised by city code enforcement Department to review the lawsuit and request a change in the zoning language from The City Council, that would address the constitutional issues raised in the lawsuit the City lost (and advocate for no advertising in an R zone.)

Lori Dinkin and Mr. Paterson met with the managers of a planned 22 unit complex on Laurel Canyon, a mixed use complex. He stated that there are many exceptions required by the project, and there are many exceptions to the Specific Plan that are required by the project. Mr. Paterson wrote to the developer and he stated that he (the developer) would review Mr. Paterson's letter raising various zoning issues with his architect and that he would be out of town until late November.

Mr. Sanchez asked if this was the individual identified as Uzi who presented at the October meeting? No. Uzi is another developer. Mr. Paterson reported that a nine unit complex at Hartsook and Colfax has been approved, and it is his understanding that this project meets all requirements for zoning and the Specific Plan, and for code. He reported that a hearing was held by the South Valley Planning Commission related to the five unit project at Hesby. The SVAPC overruled the decision of the city planning department and allowed a 5th unit to be built. Mr. Paterson felt some good progress was made. At Riverside and Gentry a four unit project is planned, the city had required that the alley be opened. We have agreed that the alley be vacated for future landscaping. The SVAPC ruled that the tract map could be approved allowing the alley to be used for landscaping for the project but with the stipulation that sometime in the future if the alley is improved, the landscaping must be removed. Mr. Paterson stated that this decision does not address the "paper alley" issue relayed in prior meetings to the Board.

Mr. Pool asked what type of business would be put on the Shell Station space on Laurel Canyon? A Jiffy Lube type business is planned. Regarding the three divided lots on Hesby from the October meeting, Ms. Greuel gained approval for an interim control ordinance on the use of the land. He stated that NCVV should ask for an interim control ordinances on all subdivided property in Valley Village. An example was given of two houses on Agnes that are being combined for one lot but only retain 15 feet of back yard. He referred to this as a problem of "mansionization" of Valley Village. This can be addressed through an interim control ordinance. Mr. Sanchez reviewed the purpose of the site plan for Valley Village.

Dr. Wiseman stated that he was under the opinion there was going to be an agenda item for a Heritage Zone on the agenda. He stated there was a member of the audience who was attending to speak to the Heritage Zone issue. He added that in order for Valley Village to establish a Heritage Zone, there would need to be an inventory of the current buildings within Valley Village. There is also a student attending the meeting from Notre Dame High School. He felt the neighborhood inventory effort might be a good project for high school students. He further stated he had visited the high school to see if there was any interest in the effort.

Mr. Sanchez asked Dr. Wiseman to explain what exactly constitutes a Heritage Zone? Dr. Wiseman stated that this is similar to a Heritage "building". The neighborhood would in effect become an architectural site that is to be preserved. A zone would allow us to maintain an environment that will help preserve the character of the entire neighborhood. Mr. Paterson asked if this was different from a Historical Overlay Zone?

Dr. Wiseman stated they are very similar projects. Our goal is to preserve the character of the neighborhood so that we do not have overbuilding.

Mr. Sanchez stated that this issue was presented in the October meeting, but as Dr. Wiseman is coordinating the effort, he will also be meeting with the students that might volunteer to characterize the personality of Valley Village. Dr. Wiseman stated that the issue will be addressed with a Board presentation in December.

Agenda Item 7.b. – Orange Line. Dr. Wiseman reported that the pavement is now in place over most of The Orange Line. He reported there will be fencing along the entire bus route, 4 feet tall and some form of metal with landscaping on it. The issue of the renaming of the Valley Village/Laurel Canyon stop is still pending. He stated the precedent for this has been very liberal with other MTA lines but no action has yet taken place on any Orange Line requests. He suggested we send another letter. Mr. Sanchez stated that he spoke with Devon Brown and this appears it will be approved. He also stated that if there were no Board objections he would write the letter.

Ms. Dinkin reported that there has been no communication at any meetings and no plan presented regarding the fencing. The MTA was supposed to bring a sample of the fencing to the last meeting. Mr. Sanchez took the opportunity to introduce Ms. Dinkin, President of the Valley Village Homeowners Association, to the audience. Dr. Wiseman added that he was not certain there was added value to re-contact the MTA Board on these issues.

Mr. Santoro (newly elected NCVV Boardmember) stated that the fencing is closer to the Chandler Road than to the bus line. There is a concern that landscaping will not be on both sides of the fence, as the clearance for Chandler is very short. Mr. Paterson added that there has not been a plan for the fence and no public information distributed. Ms. Hull stated she is greatly concerned about the issue, particularly about the fence being too close to Chandler. If fencing comes up against the street, who will benefit from the landscaping? Dr. Wiseman stated that the MTA was aware of this; it is part of a very firm plan and it will be very difficult to change. He reminded the Board of his example that we are sitting on a track with a train rapidly approaching.

Ms. Hull asked when the next Landscape Committee meeting is scheduled? Next week. Mr. O'Connor stated that if you bring the fencing in too far from the Chandler streets, you will encourage pedestrian traffic along the inside of the Chandler corridor. This will promote kids walking in unsafe areas and also accumulate trash. Dr. Wiseman agreed, and stated that sidewalks are the greatest concern he has at this time, important for all pedestrian traffic and for the Orthodox community that lives in this area. Ms. Hull advised that this must be brought to the attention of the public. She asked that the community get involved. Ms. Dinkin stated she has raised this issue at numerous MTA meetings and her requests have been ignored. Dr. Wiseman also stated he has addressed the questions. He offered to write a letter and send it to The MTA. He mentioned there is still time but our best action might be to take these issues directly to the City Council persons offices. There are multiple departments involved; MTA, DOT and DWP.

Ms. Hull stated she, like many people, walk and jog along the paved bus line as it is now. When the project is finished and pedestrian/bike traffic is on Chandler, if a delivery truck is stopped to make a delivery it could be very dangerous to runners/bikers/pedestrians who try to get by. Mr. Braswell added that there is an additional danger of parked cars along Chandler opening their doors and hitting bikers/joggers. Mr. Paterson stated that abandoning parking along Chandler would cause a negative impact on the already problematic parking in the area.

Mr. Sanchez stated that he specifically noted the MTA Board was at the September meeting, and answered all questions presented by the NCVV Board. He wondered aloud if we are “beating a dead horse” and advised that the Board needs to carefully pick its battles. Ms. Hull replied that there were many issues presented to the MTA, but none included the ones currently under discussion. Mr. O’Connor stated that NCVV has been treated like “complete idiots” by the MTA. Ms. Hull agreed that their representatives are just “cheerleaders” for the MTA. Mr. Sanchez stated that it was his understanding that the MTA addressed the Board’s concerns in September. Dr. Wiseman stated that they did provide answers to some questions, but did not address these issues – especially fencing. They actually stated they would have to check into the issue of fencing and report back. But Dr. Wiseman added that NCVV has had no impact on construction and he is very disappointed in that point. It will have a major negative impact on the community.

Mr. Paterson advised that NCVV needs to go beyond the MTA representatives. They have not responded to our concerns, and have ignored our requests. We need to take the lack of response to the City Council.

Mr. Hatfield added that this is a practical matter, that many of these issues are beyond our control. They must be referred to the City Council and put in the hands of Wendy Greuel. Ms. Hull also felt this was an outreach opportunity. One of the most powerful things we can do is reach out to the community, and initiate a letter writing campaign and/or petitions. She mentioned the example of Kulak’s Woodshed in suggesting that we engage the community, write to the LA Times and Daily News, and to City Council and Mayor Hahn’s offices. It must be a community effort.

Mr. Paterson stated that 15 years prior when an elevated line was proposed, he personally went along the Chandler corridor to involve the public in addressing the issue. He stated that there is a risk to leaving the issue to just one person, e.g. Councilwoman Greuel.

Mr. Sanchez asked for input regarding what specific steps could be taken prior to the next Board meeting? Mr. Hatfield felt that the effort should be coordinated through Wendy Greuel. Mr. Pool stated that he agreed. Mr. Paterson advised that a letter should be drafted and a mass mailing sent, similar to Kulak’s effort. Mr. Hatfield reminded the Board that any mass mailing would have to be approved by the Treasurer in advance. Mr. Sanchez asked for a motion. Dr. Wiseman motioned that NCVV create a communication of concern with a letter containing our “particular” concerns, e.g. the

fencing, appearance and safety, landscaping, pedestrian and bike safety, sidewalks, and the types of buses. In addition the letters should be sent to DOT, Council members, MTA, and others. Mr. Paterson stated that rather than stating a position, we need a meeting with Wendy Greuel and Jack Weiss in the next few weeks. We have a problem with the lack of response to our inquiries from Wendy Greuel and MTA in the last 6 months. Mr. Paterson specifically referenced the 6 motions approved at the last meeting of the Board. He said Ms. Greuel is doing a terrific job but the lack of a response to our communications is an affront to the NCVV Board. Ms. Hull stated that rather than having a complicated letter with numerous issues, we should state we are dissatisfied with the response we have received on our communications. Dr. Wiseman reminded the Board that a big part of this project (The Orange Line) is the responsibility of Zev Yaroslavsky's office. Mr. Braswell added that the public should be engaged in the effort. Ms. Reiner stated that if the COST people are invited we would fill the room for the next meeting. Mr. Paterson motioned that the Board direct Mr. Sanchez to set up a meeting with Ms. Greuel to address the concerns including the Orange Line and the lack of response to motions approved by NCVV. He further advised that another meeting be set with Councilman Jack Weiss related to The Orange Line. Mr. Sanchez would select who would attend the meetings with him. He felt this would allow the issues to be discussed in a non-hostile environment. Ms. Hull seconded the original motion and the second motion by Mr. Paterson. Dr. Wiseman asked that the second motion be amended to related only to The Orange Line. Mr. Paterson accepted the amendment but stated the issues are really similar. Dr. Wiseman called the question. Mr. Simen advised that there were two motions on the floor, with two seconds. Mr. Sanchez asked if there were objections to approving both motions with one vote. There was none. The motions were approved by a vote of 8-0-1.

Mr. Simen asked if the meeting could be moved to agenda item 7.g.

Agenda Item 7.g. – Youth Seat for NCVV Board. Mr. Simen introduced Michael Drachkovitch, a student at Notre Dame High School. Mr. Drachkovitch has expressed interest in the student seat on the NCVV Board. Mr. O'Connor led a discussion of how best to recruit candidates for the student seat, offering to draft and distribute a letter to neighborhood schools. The bylaws state the position is to be appointed by the Board, and some form of presentation by qualified interested students might be in order. Mr. Pool stated that as Mr. Drachkovitch has expressed interest in the seat, and is present at the meeting, the Board should consider appointing him to the seat. Mr. Sanchez asked Mr. Drachkovitch to address the Board and state his desire to serve in the student seat. Mr. Drachkovitch stated that it is his passion to be involved with the neighborhood and to learn more about the political process. He reviewed his activities at NDHS for the Board.

Dr. Wiseman drew attention to a recent article in the Daily News regarding student involvement in the political process. Ms. Reiner asked Mr. Drachkovitch two questions, how did he hear about the position, and was he still interested after sitting through the Board meeting? He replied that he read about the position in the newspaper, and that he was still interested in the position.

Mr. Hatfield stated that he was the proud father of a Notre Dame graduate (valedictorian of her class) and asked Mr. Drachkovitch to name his favorite teacher. Ms. Hull motioned that Mr. Drachkovitch be appointed to the student seat for the remainder of the school year and that he help NCVV develop a structure for the next student appointment. Dr. Wiseman seconded the motion. Mr. Simen cautioned the Board that there are two separate motions in that motion. Dr. Wiseman stated that this does not need to be a two part motion and the important point is to support the nominee. Mr. O'Connor disagreed with the motion in absence of information on other candidates that might be interested. Mr. Simen shared that there was only one other candidate who had expressed interest in the position. Mr. O'Connor asked that this be an interim appointment through June. The comment was echoed by Mr. Hatfield. Ms. Hull called the question. The motion was approved 8-0.

Agenda Item 7.d. – Neighborhood Watch. Ms. Hidey reported that the original plan to engage Public Works to hang the NW signs in VV included a request to secure three bids for the work. But now she is told there are no funds to be used on the effort, and that NCVV will have to pay the cost of hanging the signs. There are two bids for the work, both from approved city contractors, one for \$1800 flat rate and the other for \$17.50 per sign. She would like permission to move forward with the project. Mr. Hatfield stated there will be no problem with the use of city funds on this and no conflict with the bid policy. Mr. Paterson asked if there is liability coverage. Mr. Sanchez stated that these are approved city contractors and coverage is part of the certification. Ms. Hidey motioned that \$1800 be approved for the project. Mr. Pool seconded the motion. Mr. Hatfield asked that the motion be amended to \$2000 to allow for a “cushion”. The motion was approved 9-0-1.

Ms. Hidey asked if the placement needs approval by the Board? Mr. Sanchez said no.

Agenda Item 8.f. – Bylaw Changes. Mr. Braswell presented an overview of the bylaw changes as emailed in advance to the Board. The process was explained by Mr. Simen; the Board must approve the changes, then they must be presented to DONE for final approval. Then they must come back to the Board for a vote at the next meeting. Mr. Braswell made a motion to approve the bylaws changes. Mr. Pool seconded the motion. In discussion Ms. Hidey asked that the pages be numbered, and Mr. Simen pointed out a typographical error. The motion was approved 9-0.

Agenda Item 7.h. – Office Space and Web Site. Mr. Sanchez reported that there has been no change in the office space situation. He is working on a lead with Midtown North Hollywood, but still needed suggestions from the Board if possible. The web site is still under construction.

Mr. Sanchez asked if, in the interest of time, Dr. Wiseman could move his cable access presentation to December. He agreed.

Agenda Item 8. – Election Procedures Working Group. Mr. Sanchez asked the secretary what this item related to – and Dr. Wiseman explained that this has to do with

Issue 23, and BONC, and NCVV is being asked to submit concerns/comments formally, as stated previously in this meeting. Three comments from Dr. Wiseman, first this will become a much bigger issue, we have to be very clear of the role of DONE on the issue, and some procedure must be developed to allow NC's to move forward even when their internal procedure doesn't fit into this pattern. Mr. Braswell motioned to allow Dr. Wiseman to communicate the thoughts of NCVV on this issue by letter on behalf of NCVV. Mr. Paterson seconded the motion. Dr. Wiseman noted that this had to be done by December 1 to meet the December 7 deadline. The motion was approved 9-0-0.

Agenda Item 9. – Board Liaison Reports and Material Distribution. Mr. Sanchez asked if there were any liaison reports. He noted that there has been extensive communication from LA World Airport, asking to make a presentation to the Board. He has referred the calls to Mr. Katz. Mr. Pool stated he followed up with the Police captain and there will be an increased effort in ticketing for littering. He also stated that Ms. Greuel had achieved passage of the change in Business Tax legislation that will benefit all the businesses of Los Angeles. Ms. Hidey commented that mentioned that the litter law states that officers actually have to see the litter leave the person's hand. Mr. Paterson asked for help identifying who installed the planters on Highway 134 underpass. It has lowered the graffiti in the area. Ms. Hull offered to find out who helped accomplish that. Mr. Sanchez reported that the Police Open House on October 30 was a great success and a positive outreach for NCVV. Ms. Dinkin and Ms. Reiner reported on the entry sign on Laurel Canyon, that they attended a meeting in Wendy Greuel's office to discuss how to improve the median. The city will re-install the sign at no cost to NCVV. They are obtaining prices for more planting. The city will show the plans for updating the sign to NCVV and help to come up with a improved planting plan.

Agenda Item 10 – Other Items for Discussion per NCVV Board President. There were no additional items. Dr. Wiseman reminded the Board of the Sunday NC radio show (handout attached).

Agenda Item 11 – Future Agenda Items. Committee Structure, Officer Election, Tracking potential Committee members and volunteers, Community Outreach and Beautification projects, Youth Board appointment procedures, NC City Charter change to allow NC members to be named to area planning commissions were all requested to be on the December agenda.

Agenda Item 12 – Public Comment. Ms. Dinkin was recognized, and she reminded the Board that the issue of Inclusionary Zoning was again "rearing it's ugly head" and Council member Reyes is spearheading it. She said this is a "no-no" and that we must do all in our power to fight it and preserve the specific plan.

Agenda Item 13 – President's Closing Comments. Mr. Sanchez stated that the Valley Village specific plan is being used to model a specific plan for Studio City.

Agenda Item 14 – Adjournment. *At 9:16 Ms. Hull motioned to adjourn, and Mr. Simen seconded. The meeting was adjourned.*