

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

California



Office: 13521 Hubbard Street
Sylmar, CA 91342
Mailing: P.O. Box 921023
Sylmar, CA 91392-1023
Telephone: (818) 833-8737
E-mail: Board@SylmarNC.org
Website: www.SylmarNC.org

SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Christian Rubalcava

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Administration: Andres Rubalcava

Communications: Maria Silva

SECRETARY: Michelle Underwood

TREASURER: George Ortega

**Sylmar Neighborhood Council
General Board Meeting – Draft Minutes
Thursday, November 21, 2019 – 6:30 PM
Sylmar Charter High School- Spartan Hall
13050 Borden Ave. Sylmar, CA 91342**

Boardmember	Roll Call	Funding Vote Eligible*	Category
Christian Rubalcava	Present	Yes	Renter
Andres Rubalcava	Present	Yes	Home/Condo Owner
David Gonzales	Present	Yes	Renter
Donald Zelaya	Present	Yes	At Large
George Ortega	Present	Yes	Recreation/Open Space
Michelle Underwood	Absent	Yes	Business
Brielle Acevedo	Present	Yes	At Large
Kathy Bloom	Present	Yes	Community Based Organization
Cheri Blose	Absent	Yes	Equestrian
Hector Cabrera	Absent	Yes	At Large
Lucille Floresta	Absent	Yes	Business
Carlos Lara	Absent	Yes	Business
Veronica Magana	Absent	Yes	Community Based Organization
Penelope McMillan	Present	Yes	Senior
Guadalupe Montano	Present	Yes	Home/Condo Owner
Bob Oppermann	Present	Yes	Home/Condo Owner
John Pacheco	Absent	Yes	At Large
Maria Silva	Absent	Yes	Home/Condo Owner
Chad Durio	Absent (arrived 7:32PM)	Yes	At Large
Jose Velasquez	Present	Yes	Education Institution
Vacant			Youth Seat
TOTAL: 20	PRESENT 11 ABSENT 9		

*Funding vote eligibility key: **A**=age less than 18 yrs.; **E**=Ethics training; **F**=Funding training; **N**=not taken; **X**=expired ** Advance notice given for absence

- CALL TO ORDER** Pledge of Allegiance, and opening remarks from President Rubalcava. Meeting was called to order at 6:38PM.
- ROLL CALL** Roll call and quorum of 11 confirmed by the President Christian Rubalcava.

SNC ITEM 2 Roll Call		
Present –11	Absent -09	Excused-00
Acevedo, Bloom, Gonzales, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, C. Rubalcava, A. Rubalcava, Velasquez, Zelaya	Underwood, Blöse, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Durio	None

3. **HOUSEKEEPING & WELCOME FROM FACILITY HOST** -OPENING REMARKS - Mr. Rubalcava invited all for refreshments that are at the side of the room. Due to a full agenda, Boardmembers are asked to keep points brief and that Boardmembers may speak a second time after all Boardmembers have spoken. Audience will keep to two minutes and once as well. This meeting is earlier due to Thanksgiving holiday. Sylmar NC has traditionally traded the December meeting for a holiday party and that is on the agenda tonight to be voted on. This is the last meeting of the year.

4. **PUBLIC OFFICIAL AND COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS:**

a. FD Juan Solorio juan.solorio@lacity.org Council District 7 – Juan presented recent activities for CD7 including the Nov. 10 CD7 Veterans Festival at Richie Valens Park. Councilwoman Rodriguez is the daughter of a green card veteran who served during the Viet Nam War and this year their office collaborated with local Veterans from the Council District to plan the Veterans Festival by Veterans for Veterans. The Bob Hope USO performed as well as the Elks 2790 Band. Mission College donated five sheet cakes, one for each branch of the military. Different branches of the VA were also present to connect Veterans to Veterans services. The event was a success and they intend to grow it next year. Councilwoman Rodriguez also recognized Veteran Art Guzman at City Hall. Art and his family have served in every branch of the military. On Sunday Nov. 24, between 6 am and 6 pm they will be resurfacing Polk Street from Foothill to Gladstone. There are a lot of roads in our district in bad shape and this one is prioritized because of calls received at the Council office. Send in the streets that need resurfacing so they can prioritize as they are under a limited budget. There will be a Sylmar Christmas Tree Lighting event, Monday, Dec. 2, 6pm – 8 pm, flyers available. They are partnering with property management at Sylmar Square for this event. Tia Chuchas is holding a Neon Night Ride as part of their six-month community outreach efforts to receive a Great Streets grant showing a robust outreach process in an effort to activate the path of San Fernando Road. There will be local food vendors, screen printing, bike riding and skateboards. They are seeking feedback on potential improvements for San Fernando Road. This outreach effort showcases residents and CD7 working together. For a public property needing weed abatement CD7 got Sanitation and LA Conservation Corps out to clean it up. Juan reminded all to call their office so we can work on these issues. Juan introduced new District Director Rocio Hernandez rocio.hernandez@lacity.org who brings 11 years of experience with the City to CD7. She was previously with CD14. Rocio will be supporting field staff in three district offices: Sylmar, Pacoima and Sunland-Tujunga with the office initiatives, community events, community engagement. Rocio said she looks forward to working with the Sylmar NC and she knows all are volunteers. Rocio is new to the area but not new to the City. As District Director she is Juan’s immediate boss. Welcome also to Doug Tripp, Chief of Staff for CD7 doug.tripp@lacity.org who came to talk about the agenda item regarding the Sylmar Fire Station. Doug said that he’s lucky to be Chief of Staff for CD7 for the past 2-1/2 years and that he previously worked for CD12 for 11 years. He has learned a lot working with talented people. He knows Sylmar NC and the community are passionate for a fire station for Sylmar. For the last year and a half CD7 has been working hard and he came tonight to share the progress. Monica Rodriguez introduced a motion asking for a study for a Sylmar Fire Station and that motion happened to coincide with another big push to put a Public Safety Facilities Bond Measure on the ballot. Her approach has been to work holistically with her fellow councilmembers, thinking of the whole city while at the same time advocating for Sylmar. The Fire station is a top priority for CM Rodriguez. The parcel that we thought was given to the city never was. Bureau of Engineering has been involved in the study and Doug has seen the report, but it is not public yet.

Q&A: What is Plan B if bond is to fail? The City Family still has to decide if it gets on the ballot. Their office has worked hard on the real estate issues. It will take \$16 million to build out the 8,000 sq. ft station and then they will have to staff it at \$3 million a year. Question as to the status of the \$6 million from the Mello Roos Tax Fund which equals 33% in property taxes shown on tax bills which is to pay for this fire station? The successor developer doesn’t include that money because 500 units weren’t built in

Legends. Doug wants to talk to him but understands that the Mello Roos doesn't include the Fire Station. Regarding the Feasibility Study that the Councilwoman spoke about many times that now will lapse because there's a bond measure? CD7 is working with the City family, BOE has been a part of it and in order to identify sites that LAFD wants to prioritize including talking about money for land acquisition. We have to figure out a way to move forward in a separate way. They wanted to break it down project by project in land acquisition. If they do, that would change the dynamics and cost of the fire station. The bond will list the property acquisition by aggregate. If we don't have at least \$16 million we can't accomplish the goal. They've been working hard and it remains the Councilwoman's top priority. Have been trying to get answers for over a year. When the study came out, sounds like you've identified a location. Doesn't alleviate the response time. That station won't solve the problem. Asking for updates for updates, no answers, there is no study. Money wasn't spent \$200,000 18-19 and 19-20 money was not allocated. Money has not been spent because they haven't identified a partial. We don't go out to a third part unless there's land. All conversations in order to do this, we had to look at a larger project. She's been working to get this parcel. When she commits to something, she won't sleep until she'll get it done. As something this complex comes about. End goal is at least one Fire Station for Sylmar. We don't have a Communication System that is systemic. Even though you're working hard and believe in it. What would help us and feel in line with your thinking, revisit your ongoing status. There's no evidence of it to allow us to own it. Feel your restating the obvious and allowing us to help you. With our support and ability to communicate in the community. You said you're the point person and she cares about it. Measure time, efforts, you're paying attention. It's a collaborative way. That's why he's here. Can you come back every 60 days? Our office always endeavors to be communicative. Juan comes. Will get updates through Juan when he has them. Is the Feasibility Study happening? Specific parcel was never granted over the city, BOE is putting together that report. Piece they are working with is just that parcel. As they move on, and its complex. Land acquisition costs are difficult. Is the land viable for a station? Who owns the land? There's a successor developer and trying to work with the Cascades and they are working hard to secure that land for the community. Maybe on the agenda today. Report is in draft form. Fire and LAPD 19-0414.

Request for Item #16 to be discussed at this time.

Item #16 – CIS - Discussion/Update: Met with Juan and called a special meeting to discuss the motion. Committee didn't reach a recommendation at this point. Intertwining with other issues and send formal request. Bond measure is very, very vague. We don't know how. There's got to be a Plan B. Leaving the safety of Sylmar in the hands of the voters is bad. There will be a LAPD, LAFD, County, Schools and everyone will have their hands out. CF-19-0414.

Link to do's and don'ts for lobbying for NCs. NC can't advocate for or against a measure. Has to be impartial and share both sides.

Thank you to Doug Tripp, Rocio Hernandez and Juan Solorio from CD7 for attending.

Steve List s.list@verizon.net – Community Rep for Forestry Advisory Committee – 35 years living here and never knew what Sylmar Square was. Represents CD7 -- #1 – project – Plant 50 olive trees on campus. Most of our olives are being taken out or dying from old age. Wants to bring them back. If you know nurseries who can donate? Fire Station – landscaped the Fire Dept and will be done before party. Pioneer Cemetery – hard work consulting on the trees and drip system. Without the volunteers it would be horrible. We keep things local here. Please support our community. Lopez Canyon – will talk about water management, harvesting, vector control will also be there. Will be the advisor for Tia Chucha and will set up small landscaping. Has new contract for L.A. Sanitation and will be there through 2020.

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment - Gibson Nyambura for Vanessa Serrano – Census is in April 2020 and Mayor is doing the Census training for the Goodwill Ambassador program. First held last Tuesday. Will be sending an email to go out and train in other areas of the city. Want to use the NC system to reach out to the stakeholders. Census will be primarily on line. This will create communities hard to count. We want to help identify Census Action Kiosks where stakeholders can

go to do the Census online and also community based organizations so we can make sure folks are counted. Let him know if you want to be a Census Liaison. Asked board members to complete the demographics survey. We want to make sure we understand the demographics of our board members so DONE can support the NCs. If board would like to update board Bylaws the time is open now until April or May. Structure changes must go through BONC. Will need to provide a red-lining of the document so all can see what is being changed. If needs to go to the BONC, DONE will provide a report. Q&A: Many schools have capacity and technology to provide online for the Census with a system already in place? We are trying to leverage the NC system. He will check into how they're working with the schools. Intent is to get everyone to be counted. An email will be going to NC board members with the map and kiosk maps and a layer of hard to count areas. Someone asked about a Census questionnaire already sent out and no, the counting is not happening yet. Meeting with Hackers of L.A. and leverage 311 data and open source.

Luz Rivas Representative: Brenda – Sylmar Field Rep – reminder of services from their office include issues with DMV, EDD, Cal Trans. The 2nd Annual Holiday Mixer will be on Dec. 18 in coordination with Councilwoman Nury Martinez and partnering with Children's Resource Center. Bring a toy for the center.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS WITHIN THE BOARD'S SUBJECT MATTER

JURISDICTION: Marti Marshall – her company is relocating to FL and she will be going to FL. Offers to anyone to take this over. Favorite Article 1 Section 1 people are by nature free and independent and have inalienable rights. Among these are enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining safety, happiness, and privacy. Good luck to all, it's been a pleasure being in Sylmar.

Mr. Hunt – recently attended Northridge and Arleta NCs regarding Board of Education new mandatory regulations to teach newly revised sex education that includes LGBTQ and Transgender with graphic details. The books are so graphic that it borders on pornography and child abuse. The revisions have been done with no transparency and parents are not aware of this effect on their children. What can be done to protect our children as this is one sided? Some schools have told parents that they are not allowed to opt out. This is an urgent matter and he is requesting the board and stakeholders to partner in a local town hall meeting so people will know what's going on in their schools. Mr. Hunt provided a handout for the board and the resource table including a petition.

Diane – SFV Veterans Day Parade – thank you for all who made it free for all. If anyone has any follow up questions to improve and we hope to see everyone out there next year.

Chad arrived at 7:32 p.m.

At this time President Rubalcava took up Item #8

8. PRESENTATION by the Los Angeles Department of Transportation on proposed bike lanes along Eldridge Avenue between Hubbard and Harding. This project is located in front of Los Angeles Mission College and the El Cariso Golf Course. Active Transportation Representative Charlie Ho Charlie.ho@lacity.org presented the Sylmar Networks + Connections and Eldridge Bicycle Lane proposal in front of LA Mission College and El Cariso Golf Course. Projects are selected through the network connectors, stakeholders, street resurfacing, high injury networks and long term objectives. Community input is important to develop preliminary concepts. The Mobility 2035 plan calls for extension of bike lanes on Foothill and is extending the Eldridge bike lane. Mission College approached LADOT to extend it to include Eldridge sidewalk and lighting improvements, pavement resurfacing. They wanted to create the connection between the campuses. Making these changes will bring the area into compliance with the Mobility 2035 plan and will be calming the street. It also supports future connections to Pacoima Wash and El Cariso Park and Hubbard to College entrances. Better organization of the street and better safety for drivers and cyclists will help to calm the speed

on Eldridge. Narrowing the street will also help to calm the street. Outreach concerns about losing the left turning pockets and they are keeping those except for two streets. Other is on street parking and have retained 90% of the on street parking. Emergency vehicle access will be addressed because they've retained 30' of space from parking to parking so cars can pull to the side. Q&A: Is there a study on number of bicycles? Have never seen a bicycle. Yes, they did average daily counts from cell phone data. Will the bus system be impacted? No. Question about street calming. Cyclists are long-distance riders. Left turn lanes are not for left turns but are to get around people. If the lane is removed could be more dangerous when backing out. The fire dept. requires 10 ft. lanes. What's the approval process? There won't be a hearing. Bollards are a huge concern, we're in a high fire area and that area is an evacuation route for hundreds of homes that cannot support bollards. Need to research the geography, homes and evacuation route. Pine needles is also a problem. Parking between 3 and 5 p.m. and there's no street cleaning. They have mini-sweepers to clean protected bike lanes. Who initiated the project? Mission College. Mission isn't a good neighbor. The number of complaints is horrendous. Surrounding neighbors need to be contacted. Has the project been started? LADOT wants to hear from anyone. What is the timetable? Design completed and if Council office decides to pursue then will implement next summer. Insulting that Mission College skipped the whole Neighborhood Council. John Laue is Special Projects Officer at Mission College. John works one day a week at Mission College. The need is trying to get from east campus to west campus. We can provide small bicycles so students can travel by bike lanes. Lanes already exist on Polk and Hubbard. Traffic is very bad and has tried to get officers to help. Idea is to provide better means for students to get back and forth. Comment that it sounds like it's more a traffic issue than bike lanes. They will be protected with bollards and next to the parking and the sidewalk. President Rubalcava stated they would connect with John Laue and LADOT and bring this back to a future meeting. Will advocate for a bigger town hall meeting and invite the DOT president to come and partner with Mission College on the Town Hall event. John said there have been a lot of problems between the neighborhood and the college and they won't go forward without more outreach.

6. **President and Executive Committee Report for November.** Thanked all for their hard work. We are all volunteers. December committee meetings are optional. If you want to have a meeting to organize your committee, it is up to committee chairs. We want to organize our operations and get 2020 off to a good start. Many have a lot of experience and can execute goals and have a vision. If you have an idea and you don't know where to start, please reach out to him or Diane Valencia and we can flush out how ideas become reality. Many grassroots organizations are springing up and he's offering office space to help as it supports civic engagement. Thank you to Donald Celaya for becoming a Census Ambassador and attending the training at City Hall. Thanked Ray Wefferit and Jose Diaz who have been meeting with our Public Works Commissioner. These two are the eyes who are on the ground in Sylmar. They continue to follow up and advocate for City services for tree trimming, sidewalk repairs, basic stuff. Thank you to all for attending the Veterans Day parade. There was a broadcasting on Facebook and lots of photos. Thanks to John Pacheco for working with the Red cross for long term preparedness planning. Red Cross is continuing to work with Sylmar. Thanks to Cathy Bloom for making sure we had refreshments. Thank you to Andres for working with the Great Streets proposal. Thanks to Diane Valencia for bringing the Forest Service in depth presentation and go to see how the fire spread. Wishing a speedy recovery who are in the hospital, John Pacheco and Carlos Lara, Hector Cabrera.
7. **Committee Announcements and Reports.** Donald – Outreach – Guadalupe, DCR Committee chair is inviting electeds to a Town Hall. Outreach and GCR will have a formal proposal for a bilingual event to answer community concerns in May 2020. Hoping to host at Mission College. Requesting board and community support to organize and let the electeds know that this will be happening. President Rubalcava recommends April or June. Diane Valencia requests the presentation from LADOT for their December Public Safety Committee meeting. Forest Service presentation was the first time that they've presented the technology. We need to have them come back and this would be a great opportunity for town hall around fire issues. Important for us to be collaboration with Forest Service, County. To correct any confusion, during Saddleridge there were of people backed

up not using the bike lanes. A police officer could have been there to direct using the bike lanes. It would have doubled the evacuations. It was nice the CD7 Chief of Staff came. And even though we've requested the study, there isn't a study, even though \$200,000 is designated for a study. They're focused on the bond measure. A bond measure will take six years, if it passes. That's a long haul. Public Records request do not match the story.

9. Meet and Greet - 15 minutes

Meeting called to order at 8:26 p.m.

President Rubalcava took roll call with quorum of 11 present.

Jose Velazquez left during the break.

10. Discussion and possible action on approving an amount not to exceed \$5,000 to support a neighborhood purpose grant for Sylmar Graffiti Busters Inc. \$1500 would come from the 2017 Clean Streets Fund, \$1750 would come from the 2018 Clean Streets Fund, and \$1750 would come from Neighborhood Purpose Grants. This would support clean ups in the Sylmar community.

Discussion: Funds were going to be originally for Clean Streets, Clean Starts. The Clean Streets Fund is available separately from the SNC budget. Tom Weisbard, president of Sylmar Graffiti Busters gave an overview of their history that started in 1988 by the Sylmar Chamber of Commerce. They later incorporated Sylmar Graffiti Busters to be separate from the Chamber. In 1988 they were already doing cleanups. Mission is to increase pride in the community. They do neighborhood clean ups and pulled 300 tons in one clean up that required skip loaders and dump trucks. They pick up illegal dumping and there's a lot less now than in the past. They pick up the Christmas trees. Brush Cleanup. Public Rights of Way. They clean up horse trails. He believes that the Saddleridge fire would have spread quicker if it wasn't for their brush clearance work. They do small litter pick-ups as they are doing graffiti. Showed photos some before and after. History of money for clean ups received which runs their operations including vehicles, supervisory staff and some tree watering. In 2015-16 total of \$67,000 (\$35,000 from Community Beautification and \$32,000 from CD7). In 2016-17 they received \$95,000 (\$45,000 from Community Beautification and \$50,000 from CD7). In 2018 total of \$45,000 only from Community Beautification. In 2017-18 they were asked to go to Woodland Hills, Chatsworth because two gangs were feuding with a truck that says Sylmar on the side. Expressed dissatisfaction for the distance. At the end of 2018-19 they got \$20,000 for clean ups. Has requested it be corrected by CD7 but it hasn't. They've reduced to two supervisors per week. For \$20,000 they pulled out 991 bulky items and 718 bags. This year 519 bulky items and 4,385 bags. They use Free Court Referred Labor who they supervise. They use to get reports from Sanitation but BOS doesn't provide them anymore. President Rubalcava asked about how we can partner by providing locations? They can't place people in medians or on private property. Unfortunately, because of the cutbacks they've concentrated on the brush for safety. The Mural at Harding and Glenoaks on the back of Pizza Hut was originally created by a muralist that had the kids get involved. That mural has a long history and it needs to be taken care of. Comments: Taking advantage of Sylmar Graffiti Busters' history and name recognition we need to try to collaborate on a fundraising campaign. We grew up with Graffiti Busters' work and their work was always completed within 24 hours. Disappointed that the funding has been cut. Would like to help with fundraising. There are no other funds remaining in the Clean Streets fund special accounts.

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 10. Motion to approve NPG for Sylmar Graffiti Busters Inc. \$5,000 with \$1500 would come from the 2017 Clean Streets Fund, \$1750 would come from the 2018 Clean Streets Fund, and \$1750 would come from Neighborhood Purpose Grants. Moved: McMillan Second: David Gonzales			
Yes -10	No- 00	Abstain-01	Absent-9
Acevedo, Bloom, Gonzales, Durio, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, A. Rubalcava, C. Rubalcava, Zelaya	NONE	Ortega	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

The president then moved up items 12, 13, 16, 17, 18 on the agenda.

12. Postponed.

13. Discussion and possible action on approving a request that the City of Los Angeles puts a moratorium on any new development in Sylmar, with no new certificates of occupancy issued until the entire community of Sylmar is continuously serviced within NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) standards for all categories of emergency response.

Diane Valencia, Public Safety Chair opened the discussion that NFPA is an International Organization and has 50,000 members who have interest in fire safety and risks. They develop standards and studies. Standard 1710 is about response times. Sylmar is underserved with only the one fire station. We continue to see a lot of development and what we see now projects that started a long time ago are being built. Until we have additional resources we say “no more”. After this motion passes, we will then decide on a letter. Comments: Station 91 does not meet the standards. EIR for the hospital indicates their project will extend (delay) response times according to NFPA and the City said we don’t need another fire station. Los Angeles makes it as a Class A Fire Stations but Sylmar is Class B. The statistics that they use to respond are citywide. Eventually the insurance companies will not insure. We are already seeing insurance companies drop out of the market. **Motion to refer to Planning & Land Use Committee: Andres Rubalcava Second by George Ortega to. Discussion: This is sufficient with the Public Safety Committee. This shouldn’t wait. The board going dark for one or two months. If the holiday party has a notice with this one item. Willing to work with Land Use to hold a joint Public Safety and Land Use Committee meeting. This is exactly the kind of thing that would be under the Land Use & Planning committee but in the past the chair has refused to take up these types of issues.**

Amendment Failed

SNC ITEM 13. Amendment to refer Item 13 to the Planning & Land Use Committee. Motion: A. Rubalcava Second Ortega.			
Yes –4	No-6	Abstain-1	Absent-9
Acevedo, Ortega, A. Rubalcava, Zelaya	Bloom, Durio, Gonzales, McMillan, Montano, Opperman	C. Rubalcava	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

Discussion on the original motion: This is an important fire discussion. Has an alternative approach to having developers fund the fire station. Diane stated that we’ve asked for that for years and monies have been collected but we’re getting new development and not a new fire station. We need a framework to get our fire station. Would be better to deal with this at the planning outset. It is not to stop already existing or pending projects. Clarification of the motion wording to change certificates of occupancy to no new building permits. Passing this motion could bring some attention to Sylmar standing up to help make this issue known farther around the City. Best to stop at the permit stage. Developers can get around things through the politicians. Diane will work with Christian on the draft of the letter.

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 13. Motion that the City of Los Angeles puts a moratorium on any new development in Sylmar, with no new building permits issued until the entire community of Sylmar is continuously serviced NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) standards for all categories of emergency response Moved: A. Rubalcava Second: McMillan			
Yes –8	No- 1	Abstain-2	Absent-9
Bloom, Durio, Gonzales, McMillan, Opperman, Ortega, C. Rubalcava, A. Rubalcava	Acevedo	Montano, Zelaya	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

16. Discussion and possible action to approve a Community Impact Statement (CIS) for Los Angeles City Council File #19-0414 (Fire Station Facilities Bond Measure / Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) / Fire Station Upgrades) http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2019/19-0414_mot_04-17-2019.pdf including discussion on guidance for Neighborhood Council “lobbying” activities <https://empowerla.org/lobbying-dos-and-donts-for-neighborhood-councils/>

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 16. Motion approving a Community Impact Statement(s) for Council File 19-0414 (Fire Station Facilities Bond Measure / Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) / Fire Station Upgrades including guidance for Neighborhood Council “lobbying” activities. Moved: Second:			
Yes-10	No- 0	Abstain-01	Absent-9
Acevedo, Bloom, Durio, Gonzales, McMillian, Montano, Ortega, A. Rubalcava, C. Rubalcava, Zelaya	NONE	Opperman	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

17. Discussion and possible action to approve an amount not to exceed \$2,500 for a recognition marker/ monument at Stetson Ranch to honor Captain Albert Torres, including possibly naming one of the equestrian arenas for him. The goal is to have the City pay for the marker / monument, with a ceremony to occur during the Make Your Horse Count event at Stetson Ranch in May, 2020. Discussion: New proposal with goal that the City pays for this, but we want SNC to put some money toward it. Showed photo of Borderline marker which is the kind of marker that would be equestrian friendly and low cost. Captain Torres served the entire City and Griffith Park. We’ve picked Stetson because he worked with us on issues around Stetson where he brought out Ranger patrols. Stetson was the last park he visited before he passed away.

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 17. Motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$2,500 for a recognition marker / monument at Stetson Ranch to honor Captain Albert Torres, including possibly naming one of the equestrian arenas for him. Moved: A. Rubalcava Second: Gonzales			
Yes –10	No-0	Abstain-1	Absent-9
Acevedo, Bloom, Durio, Gonzales, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, C. Rubalcava, A. Rubalcava, Zelaya	NONE	Ortega	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

18. Discussion and possible action to approve an amount not to exceed \$1,000 to support community attendance at Fire Station 91 with food and refreshments on 2020’s Fire Service Day – May 9, 2020. Discussion: Any way we can support, we should. This is a placeholder if we need funding. The fire station can accept donations. They cancelled donations last year out of concern for handling the food at the event but we have assured them we will have volunteers able to help on the day of the event. We think they’ll have the donations from the local businesses but this vote for funding is just in case.

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 18. Motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$1,000 to support community attendance at Fire Station 91 with food and refreshments on 2020’s Fire Service Day – May 9, 2020. Moved: A. Rubalcava Second: Zelaya			
Yes –11	No- 0	Abstain-0	Absent-9
Acevedo, Bloom, Durio, Gonzales, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, C. Rubalcava, A. Rubalcava, Zelaya	NONE	NONE	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

The president returned to Item #11, 14, 15

11. Discussion and possible action: 13735 & 13737 Foothill Blvd - ENV-2019-2866-CE / ZA-2019-2865-CUB-CUX - Caruso’s Italian Kitchen a Conditional Use Permit to allow the sale and dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption in conjunction with a 3600 sf restaurant with live entertainment and karaoke. Hani Mammo applicant and applicant representative Al Pratt 818-346-4096. Discussion: This is a renewal application. Caruso’s has been a part of the community for many years and has supported the community in emergencies, supported our youth groups. The SNC Planning and Land Committee voted to support.

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 11. Motion to approve letter of support renewal application for Conditional Use Permit 13735 & 13737 Foothill Blvd - ENV-2019-2866-CE / ZA-2019-2865-CUB-CUX - Caruso’s Italian Kitchen to allow the sale and dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption in conjunction with a 3600 sf restaurant with live entertainment and karaoke. Moved: Ortega Second: McMillan			
Yes –11	No- 0	Abstain-0	Absent-9
Acevedo, Bloom, Durio, Gonzales, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, C. Rubalcava, A. Rubalcava, Zelaya	NONE	NONE	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

14. Discussion and possible action on approving a Community Impact Statement(s) for Council File 19-1173 relating to a study to see if the empty building at Sylmar Recreation Center can be used as a Senior Center. Discussion: The councilwoman seeks a motion. Rec and Parks operates Senior Centers and because of our 28% growth seniors deserve services. The building was withdrawn due to it being unsafe and it hasn’t been physical for six years. The study should be completed in six months or less. This motion only addresses the empty building. The Senior and GCR committees support this motion.

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 14. Motion to approve a Community Impact Statement for Council File 19-1173 relating to a study to see if the empty building at Sylmar Recreation Center can be used as a Senior Center. Moved: A. Rubalcava Second: Gonzales			
Yes –11	No- 0	Abstain-0	Absent-9
Acevedo, Bloom, Durio, Gonzales, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, C. Rubalcava, A. Rubalcava, Zelaya	NONE	NONE	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

15. Discussion and possible action on approving a Community Impact Statement(s) for Council File 19-1119 relating to a request to the Department of Recreation and Parks to conduct stakeholder meetings relating to park safety. Discussion: Recommended by GCR introduced by CM O’Farrell. Deadlines should be established to hold these meetings. Question regarding camping or tents in parks. Homelessness is brought up as an issue but that this isn’t part of this motion. Only calling for community stakeholder meetings about City parks.

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 15. Motion approving a Community Impact Statement(s) for Council File 19-1119 relating to a request to the Department of Recreation and Parks to conduct stakeholder meetings relating to park safety. Moved: A. Rubalcava Second: McMillan			
Yes –11	No- 0	Abstain-0	Absent-9
Acevedo, Bloom, Durio, Gonzales, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, C. Rubalcava, A. Rubalcava, Zelaya	NONE	NONE	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

19. Discussion and possible action to approve an amount not to exceed \$850.00 for outreach activities. \$600 for

two open houses in 2020 and \$250 for a community clean up. Dates are TBD. Discussion: Vision is to have quarterly open houses and to learn about issues and fostering community through networking. It's to activate our space. We should allow it to be a space for people to come and use it. Create displays for each committee. Who are they and what they do? Hopefully this is a way to get out in the community and will become a tradition. Funds for the clean-up are for snacks for the volunteers.

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 19. Motion to approve an amount an amount not to exceed \$850.00 for outreach activities. \$600 for two open houses in 2020 and \$250 for a community clean up. Dates are TBD. Moved: A. Rubalcava Second: Zelaya			
Yes –11	No- 0	Abstain-0	Absent-9
Acevedo, Bloom, Durio, Gonzales, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, C. Rubalcava, A. Rubalcava, Zelaya	NONE	NONE	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

20. Discussion and possible action to approve an amount not to exceed \$250.00 for Holiday Toy Drive in Sylmar. The Toys would be donated to children at the Hope Gardens Shelter. Discussion: This is from the Homeless Committee to promote a toy drive. Hope Gardens is a transitional living facility 163 children infants on up. This will help to engage with the community to collect toys for the children. It is an opportunity to connect with the businesses. The SNC will be able to help distribute the toys in mid-December. Hope Gardens is located in Lopez Canyon, two miles away. Suggestion that other items be paid by the H and HHH. This will create more partnerships in the community. There's no exchange of money between SNC and Hope Gardens. It's to get the SNC name out into the community.

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 20. Motion to approve an amount an amount not to exceed \$250.00 [for outreach activities to promote SNC] for Holiday Toy Drive in Sylmar. The Toys would be donated to children at the Hope Gardens Shelter. Moved: A. Rubalcava Second: Zelaya			
Yes – 11	No- 0	Abstain-0	Absent-9
Acevedo, Bloom, Durio, Gonzales, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, C. Rubalcava, A. Rubalcava, Zelaya	NONE	NONE	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

21. Discussion and possible action on approving an amount not to exceed \$1000 for the Sylmar NC Holiday Party. The annual party will be held on December 19th at Discovery Charter School. Discussion regarding the amount of food and location. Discussion: Tradition of SNC to hold a holiday party. 130 people last year at the El Cariso Golf Course. Funds are for food and chair / table rentals. Question if funds sufficient. Last year was \$500 so this is a higher amount.

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 21. Motion to approve an amount an amount not to exceed \$1000 for the Sylmar NC Holiday Party. The annual party will be held on December 19th at Discovery Charter School Moved: Zelaya Second: A. Rubalcava			
Yes –11	No- 0	Abstain-0	Absent-9
Acevedo, Bloom, Durio, Gonzales, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, C. Rubalcava, A. Rubalcava, Zelaya	NONE	NONE	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

22. Discussion and possible action on approving the October 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER). Discussion: Christian would like to see the amounts put into the correct categories and he will have the update before the next meeting.

Motion Passed

SNC ITEM 22. Motion to approve the October 2019 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER). Moved: A. Rubalcava Second: Ortega			
Yes –11	No- 0	Abstain-0	Absent-9
Acevedo, Bloom, Durio, Gonzales, McMillan, Montano, Opperman, Ortega, C. Rubalcava, A. Rubalcava, Zelaya	NONE	NONE	Underwood, Blose, Cabrera, Floresta, Lara, Magana, Pacheco, Silva, Velasquez

23. Discussion and possible action on approving the October 2019 Minutes - **Postponed.**

24. Notice of Board Vacancy – At Large Representative (Formerly Youth) - Request to put Diane Valencia on the board. Christian would like to open the seat up for someone new. We will have a more extensive process to fill the board vacancy. No applications received. The goal is to schedule interviews in January. Discussion: Mike Trout is available. List should start with Diane.

25. Board Member Comments and Announcements - If rent has gone up more than 8% there is relief available.

26. Future Agenda Items - None.

Write to Executive Board by email at ExecutiveBoard@SylmarNC.org or Executive Board c/o Sylmar Neighborhood Council, P.O. Box 921023, Sylmar, CA 91392.

27. Closing Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Adjournment - Wish our ill members a speedy recovery.

Meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

Next Sylmar Neighborhood Council General Board meeting will be:
January 22,2020 at 6:30 p.m.
Sylmar Charter High School, 13050 Borden Ave. Sylmar, CA 91342.