



## City of Los Angeles California



### Empowerment Congress Southwest Area Neighborhood Development Council

#### General Board Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2021

**Minutes taken by ShaRon Davis**

**Approved at General Board meeting held on August 16, 2021**

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Meeting called to order by Mario Hernandez, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA), Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) at 6:09 p.m.

#### II. ROLL CALL

- a. Call of the roll and certification of a quorum – completed by Mario Hernandez. Luis Nunez is absent. Present: Vanessa Bailey, Kyle Brown, RaShon Chavis, ShaRon Davis, Lonelia Enix, Nia Mayers Franklin, Elice Hennessee, Jacob Henry, Timothy Henry, Roderick Sowell Jr., We do have quorum.
- b. Public comments accepted Angelic Perez KYCC raised hand to show attendance. Margarita Munoz KYCC congratulations to all Board members. I'm happy to work with you.

#### III. SPECIAL ORDERS (Discussion & Possible Action)

- a. Installation of newly elected Board of Directors – completed by Mario Hernandez (Oath of Office)
- b. Nominations for Board President completed by Mario Hernandez.
  - i. President -Lonella Enix nominated by Timothy Henry for Board President. Lonella Enix accepted. No one in opposition. Approved by unanimous consensus.  
Nomination of other board officers completed by President Lonella Enix.
  - ii. Vice-President – Timothy Henry nominated Roderick Sowell Jr. for Vice President. RaShon Chavis self-nominated for Vice President. Roderick did not accept the nomination. No one was in



new member, Angelique. Angelique will attend the meetings. Joy asked if KYCC representatives can attend the retreat and present at the retreat. Lonella will put her email in the chat. No questions

Chelsea – Program Director for prevention program at the Avalon Carver Community Center. We target parents to discuss some of the trends among youth using drugs and alcohol. Joy asked Chelsea if she wants to present at the next meeting. Chelsea will email Joy.

#### V. ELECTED OFFICES/DEPARTMENTS/ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Isaias Benavides – [Isaias.benavides@lacity.org](mailto:Isaias.benavides@lacity.org)) CD8 Field Deputy Marqueece Harris-Dawson joined by Jasmin Desenclos Jasmine (Justice and Community Safety Deputy) will be our new Field Deputy. Isaias will help Jasmine [jasmine.desenclos@lacity.org](mailto:jasmine.desenclos@lacity.org)

#### **South LA Strong**

Summer initiative to bring robust resources. Saint Andrew Park; Monday – Thursday: Yoga, Dance, Art, and Soccer offered to Youth. Movies in the Park 7 pm. The movie was done July 16<sup>th</sup> returning with the second July 30<sup>th</sup>. Register to have your own social distance Pod. Two new pools opened. Algin Sutton – 88<sup>th</sup> Hoover, and Van Ness Park – Slauson and Van Ness

**Illegal dispensaries** – Steps being taken to enforce the motion to padlock illegal dispensaries (Cannabis Enforcement Task Force). Working with LAPD, Building and Safety, . . . Who will keep the keys. The program will launch at the end of July/the beginning of August. Focus on Western Avenue between Manchester and Florence Avenue.

**Homelessness** – legislation – clean up and enforcement to resume. Second vote required and will occur after recess. Isaias will share the Council file in case public comment. If we can verify that you have a place for the homeless to move to and that you offer this place to them the legislation can be enforced. If we can clearly and quantitatively confirm that we have offered people services (houses that they can move into). Encampments cannot block access to driveways, schools, parks, and Freeways. We can serve the homeless once the legislation passes. CF#20-1376. The Board is welcome to bring public comment when the motion is brought back to council.

**Clean Up** - Three outside crews contacted to clean up community Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCD) and Los Angeles Conservation Corp (LACC) and Gang Alternative Program (GAP). Different parts of the district are being targeted daily. All crews will be active by August 1, 2021

**ARCO** withdrew application to sell liquor on Manchester and Wilton after receiving feedback from the community and the council that people are in opposition.

Job Fair – SOFI stadium held July 16, 2021. 200 offers made. Part time and Full time (Hospitality and Security). The SOFI event was held at the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza.

### **Questions to Isaias Benavides**

1. Chelsea: Will you have monthly meetings with updates? Task Force – Cannabis Enforcement – monthly updates available at monthly ECSWANDC
2. Joy – Can an update be made to all 15 Neighborhood Councils at South Los Angeles Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (SLAANC) meetings? We are there on a quarterly basis. We can present at SLAANC meetings, and we can attend more SLAANC meetings if the Vice-Chair requests.
3. Marcello - Housing for the Homeless on Vermont – Center medians. As the pandemic winding down it is easier move people, open shelters and use motel accommodations. We had to create more options and make offers. Outreach services were done first. We put more teeth in enforcement. The new motion allows enforcement to move people if we have a place to move them. Over the last year we invested in outreach services and alternative housing. Relationships with homeless exists. There are rules of where homeless encampments can be placed. HOPICS (Homeless Outreach Program Integrated Care System) LASA (Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority)
4. Elice – what is the teeth in the legislation? The ability to offer housing and the authority to remove people once they have been offered housing. The teeth come with the ability to do enforcement. With the update to the motion, we can enforce and ask people to move if we have a place to offer them. We’ve had a CD8 relationship with the homeless for the last year. There is language (rules) that tell people where they are not allowed to locate. We have a well-functioning outreach team with HOPICS.
5. Roderick – Are we pressure washing sidewalks? Yes. CRDC and GAP can pressure wash.
6. Joy - Can someone send us notification when washing has been done. Up until August 1, we had pressure washing once a week to be divided between 6 regions. After August 1, we will be able to pressure wash more often and we will send you the dates. Dates provided reflect when power washing is conducted in different areas within CD 8.
7. RaShon - How do you track who has been offered help and who refused help? Records are tracked and maintained by the Outreach team. It takes 3 – 6 offers before a homeless person says yes or is forced to move. HOPICS along with LASA tracks this information. We meet with HOPICS weekly. LASA (joint effort between the county and the city) contracts HOPICS (non-profit organization to do outreach services).
8. Joy – Cannabis Enforcement Hearings – conducted by Administrative Lawyers LAPD, City Attorney, Council members. Task Force led by LAPD.

9. On Vermont what part of the homeless are in the in City of Los Angeles  
Most of the homeless on Vermont are in RVs in the Center medians. The Center medians are county property. The City and the County will work together to address the issue. County Supervisor will be included.
10. Introduction of Jasmine the newest member of the team. She will attend ECSWANDC meetings and the Block Club meetings.

## VI. PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

Mario Hernandez – House Keeping

Any board member with a conflict of interest needs to consult with the Office of the City Attorney. Any board that feels it may have a conflict of interest should table the matter to give the board member an opportunity to consult with the Office of the City Attorney's. Tabling the matter is preferred. The Board can refuse.

Card holders and signers must attend training. Dates will be mailed tomorrow July 20, 2021. NC Training.

Funding Officers – card holder, alternate card holder, second signer, alternate second signer required to attend training July 27<sup>th</sup> training date on Zoom 6 – 8 p.m. Lonella Enix, Timothy Henry took the Financial Officer training. Roderick has not taken the training. Mario will send the link for the training to Roderick Sowell Jr.

Board of Neighborhood Commissioners. Resolution passed – Monday June 21<sup>st</sup> temporary continuation of virtual Neighborhood Council meetings. Expires December 31. The next six months will be on Zoom.

Bylaw amendment period is open neighborhood councils are encouraged to review and amend their bylaws. Mario is available to attend the Bylaw committee meeting.

CIVIC U is back. DONE partners with the mayor's office and Cal State LA Pat Brown Institute for Public Affairs. Three sessions. Dates September 9, 23, 30 began at 6:30. CIVIC U sessions are provided annually.

- a. Board Service Acknowledgment and Affirmation skipped
- b. Required Board member trainings - Ethics, Funding and Code of Conduct. Ethics and Funding required to vote on funding matters.
- c. Upcoming Orientation Sessions – Department's CORE institute. Developed for new stakeholders. July 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. Open to everybody.
- d. NEA Contact Information [mario.hernandez@lacity.org](mailto:mario.hernandez@lacity.org) (213) 473-7472

## VII. ADMINISTRATIVE MOTIONS – (Discussion & Possible Action)

- a. Approval of Minutes – June 2021 General Board Meeting motion made by Roderick Sowell Jr., seconded by RaShon Chavis
- b. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Reports (MER) for May and June 2021 motion to adopt the June 2021 MER by RaShon Chavis, seconded by Roderick Sowell Jr.

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS (Discussion & Possible Action)

- a. Complete and approve the ECSWANDC Administrative Packet (includes creating a budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year) Joy shared the pdf on the screen. Elice Hennessee made a motion to approve the 2021/2022 Administrative Packet as presented seconded by Roderick Sowell Jr.
- b. Create an Ad-Hoc Committee to organize the retreat – Motion made to create an ad hoc committee to organize the retreat ShaRon Davis, seconded by Roderick Sowell Jr.
- c. Decide on a date(s) to hold the retreat - The following dates will be presented to the councilman August 7<sup>th</sup> or August 14<sup>th</sup>.
- d. Appoint 6 ECSWANDC Board Members to attend Civic U. on September 9th, 23rd, and 30th at 6PM. Program developed by the Mayor's Office and CSULA Pat Brown. A Series of workshops help neighborhood council understand city government. Power structure. Guts of City Government. Mobilizing Civic Influence. Inside of City government how everything is connected and how I can influence legislation (Elice Hennessee, Roderick Sowell Jr., RaShon Chavis, Vanessa Baily, ShaRon Davis, and Nia Mayers Franklin) appointed to represent ECSWANDC. Motion made ShaRon Davis seconded Roderick Sowell Jr.
- e. Appoint South Los Angeles Alliance of Neighborhood Council delegates (primary, alternate, and secondary alternate) All 15 South Los Angeles councils send delegates to this meeting. Three delegates from our council are needed. Joy is the Vice President (primary). We need a second (alternate) and a secondary alternate. Elice is interested in being the alternate. Motion made by ShaRon Davis and seconded by RaShon Chavis to appoint Lonelia Enix as the primary and Elice Hennessee as the alternate to the SLAANC.

## IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made to adjourn meeting at 8:10 p.m. by RaShon Chavis and seconded by Roderick Sowell

**THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT** As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate based on disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org)

## **PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS**

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at St. Andrews Recreation Center located at the Mark Ridley-Thomas Constituent Service Center located at 8475 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90044 and at our website: [www.southwestnc.org](http://www.southwestnc.org) or at the

scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please email [board@southwestnc.org](mailto:board@southwestnc.org). PUBLIC

### **POSTING OF AGENDAS**

Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows: • MRT Constituent Service Center – 8475 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90044 • [www.southwestnc.org](http://www.southwestnc.org) • You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City’s Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>.

### **RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS**

For information on the NC’s process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and on our website [www.southwestnc.org](http://www.southwestnc.org).

### **NOTICE TO PAID REPRESENTATIVES**

If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org)