



CITY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



PACOIMA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
11243 Glenoaks Blvd., #4
Pacoima, CA 91331

Telephone: (818) 890-1563
Info@PacoimaNC.com
www.PacoimaNC.com

Michael Gonzalez, President
Vanessa Serrano, Vice-President
Reuben Garcia, Treasurer
Jessica Urquiza, Secretary
Ernesto Ayala, At- Large Rep.
Raquel Cedillo, Renter Rep.
Karl Cruz, Faith Based Rep.
Imelda Foley, Senior Rep.
John Hernandez, Retail Business Rep.
Jaime Lazo, Home/Condo Rep.
Fannie Long, Senior Rep.

Rebecca Long, At-Large Rep.
Martha Martinez, Renter Rep.
David Milian, Community-Based Rep.
Alex Morales, Renter Rep.
David Rodriguez, Youth Rep.
Juan Salas, Home/Condo Rep.
Jessica Urquiza, Youth Rep.
Vacant, Home/Condo Rep. (#4)
Vacant, Industrial Rep. (#2)
Vacant, Senior (#3)
Vacant, Youth (#3)

Minutes of the
PACOIMA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (PNC)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, February 18, 2015

Boys and Girls Club, Multipurpose Room, 11251 Glenoaks Blvd., Pacoima, CA 91331

PNC (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary; Minutes were not, are not and are never meant to be an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript or comprehensive record of what was said at a Meeting. Exceptions: Motion(s) (included as stated at the Meeting, or, if not stated, as written on the Agenda); quotes (words that have quotation marks (“ ”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words); and Agenda wording copied into the Minutes.

I. WELCOMING REMARKS

a. Call to order & flag salute

President Michael Gonzalez introduced himself and called the Meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Mr. Gonzalez explained the Neighborhood Council mission and that Agendas, Speaker Cards, Minutes and more are available on the literature table.

b. Board roll call

Roll Call was taken. Thirteen of the 18 Board Members were present at the Roll Call: Karl Cruz, Imelda Foley, Reuben Garcia, Michael Gonzalez, John Hernandez, Jaime Lazo, Fannie Long, Rebecca Long, David Milian, David Rodriguez, Juan Salas, Vanessa Serrano and Jessica Urquiza. Alex Morales arrived later. Four Board Members were absent: Ernesto Ayala (unexcused), Raquel Cedillo (unexcused), Martha Martinez (unexcused) and Rosa Rubalcava (unexcused).

The PNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is eleven (see <http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Pacoima-NC-Bylaws.pdf>), so the Board could take such votes. Eighteen of the 23 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). Five Board Seats (At Large (#2), Industrial (#1 and 2), Senior (#3) and Youth (#3)) were vacant. Also attending: 35 Stakeholders and Guests.

- c. Self-introductions of guests
There were none at this time.

II. PNC Town Hall: California High Speed Rail Route through San Fernando Rd.

- a. Representative from the California High Speed Rail Authority

Copies were distributed of a letter regarding “High Speed Rail – Revenue Impacts.” CHSRA Regional Director Michele Boehm (213.308.4507; 800.630.1039; Michelle.Boehm@hsr.ca.gov; <http://hsr.ca.gov>) presented slides and reported that “this is the beginning . . . 800 miles . . . are planned”; the section near here is called the “Palmdale to Burbank” section. She stated that “we are committed to the study of a full range of alternatives . . . we’re looking” to “protect natural resources . . . preserve communities and improve mobility.” The train would take “two hours and 40 minutes . . . to San Francisco.” Two main “corridors” are being considered: along State Route 14 and through the San Gabriel Mountains. Many things are studied for the EIR (Environmental Impact Report). She said “our Board meetings are public and open to everyone . . . we’re a public agency and we have to follow all the laws.” They “are asking you for permission to enter your property to do pedestrian surveys . . . it’s purely voluntary.” The DEIR (Draft EIR) is due in June 2016; the FEIR (Final EIR) is due in June 2017.

- b. Environmental Report; Veronica Padilla

Ms. Padilla, of Pacoima Beautiful (818-899-2454; Info@PacoimaBeautiful.org; <http://PacoimaBeautiful.org>), presented slides about the “environmental justice organization” that has “analyzed the four different alignments that are being proposed.” They estimate that the proposed alignment closest to Pacoima may affect 13,000 buildings, including 10,000 residential, far more than the other three proposed alignments.

- c. Business Community: San Fernando Mayor Sylvia Ballin

Ms. Ballin and San Fernando Councilman Joel Fajardo were concerned about negative “financial impact to San Fernando” estimated to be \$1,300,000.

- d. Displacement of homeowners: Jenero Ayala

Long-term Stakeholder Mr. Ayala described negative impacts of previous displacements of residents and urged opposing the closest alignment.

e. Pacoima Chamber of Commerce

A “High Speed Rail – Pacoima Stakeholder Survey” was distributed. Pastor Karl Cruz introduced the Survey, available in English and Spanish [see <http://www.pacoimanc.com/high-speed-rail-survey>], and was concerned about the proposed Rail’s impact on families, businesses and faith-based organizations.

f. Outreach: Next steps and actions

A flier was distributed for and Mr. Salas announced a February 28th “High Speed Rail . . . Information Session & Discussion.”

g. Public Comments

CSUN professor Deborah Broadous announced the 13th Annual African-American Music Festival Monday, March 19th through Saturday, March 24th at CSUN [see <http://sundial.csun.edu/2012/03/13th-annual-african-american-music-festival-to-be-held-on-campus>]. The Festival is free and anyone can attend.

Stakeholders spoke in opposition to the Rail project. Nicole Chase was concerned about project transparency and independence and the idea of an “acceptable amount of collateral damage.” Sharon Wa was concerned about the projects’ impact on ground stability. David Barron said that 97 of 99 high-speed trains “around the world are taxpayer funded.” Ms. Boehm added that “all of our completed reports are put up on our website . . . the scientists are objective . . . independent . . . they do receive . . . compensation for their work . . . we’re looking at ways we can mitigate . . . we’re looking at a route that has the most minimal impacts we can find . . . the impacts have to be addressed . . . you have to determine: can those impacts be mitigated? . . . where the train will operate at 240 miles per hour it will be completely sealed . . . the vibration will be looked at . . . there would be no impact at the surface . . . we do have ridership and revenue studies.” Ms. Boehm believed that the train will be able to pay for itself because its use by residents and visitors “will cover the operations and maintenance.” Also, “our trains are all electric . . . there will be no emissions.”

Mr. Salas pointed out that airplane travel is “heavily subsidized” by the government. Mr. Lazo believed that decisions already have been made. Ms. Foley believed that not enough information was publically available. Ms. Boehm encouraged riding Metro’s Red Line to experience what the High-Speed Rail “looks” and would “ride like.” She “will need to look into” an experienced French firm for the project; they have received Chinese, Spanish and Swiss bids. She stated that “the route is not selected . . . you build a fault chamber” through earthquake-prone areas; “our system would have an earthquake warning system . . . it shuts the train down . . . customer service . . . will be taken into consideration” regarding graffiti and trash removal and other maintenance. Ms. Serrano noted

that the PNC survey is available on the website, Facebook and on paper, and encouraged distributing it to local organizations. Mr. Gonzalez encouraged signing up to receive PNC emails.

III. COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Representatives from government offices, Police Department, and community-based organizations)

Ms. Coria spoke about the revitalization of Van Nuys Blvd., including that “about 68 trees” dead or dying will be removed. The L.A. Bureau of Sanitation dedicated two trucks to Pacoima for weed abatement, illegally dumped items and alley cleanups. She encouraged calling 3-1-1 or their Office for pickup and other “enforcement issues.” A Police patrol car has been dedicated to Van Nuys Blvd. Yard sales are limited to “five two-day yard sales per year”; call if you have a concern. She clarified that “you cannot sell on the street” or “on public right-of-ways.”

a. California Congressional District 29

Brian Gavidia, Field Representative for U.S. 29th District of California Congressman Tony Cardenas (cell 818-781-7407; office 818-504-0090; Brian.Gavidia@mail.house.gov; <http://cardenas.house.gov>), was not present and there was no report at this time.

Los Angeles City Mayor’s Office: Field Deputy Amanda Mejia (213) 978-0600, was not present and there was no report at this time.

Bill Ulmer, Field Representative for State 39th District Assemblymember Patty Lopez (818-504-3911; William.Ulmer@asm.ca.gov; <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a39>), reported that Assemblymember Lopez is “against” the High-Speed Rail project as “this plan is currently” proposed. She is putting together a package of bills for consideration by the State.

Cristina Coria, Council Aide for L.A. City District Seven Councilman Felipe Fuentes (818-756-8409; Cristina.Coria@LACity.org; <http://CD7.LACity.org>), reported that the liquor license for Junior’s Bar on Van Nuys “carried on” to the new owner. Officer Munguia said “it was already zoned that way.”

b. LAPD Senior Leads, Community and Stakeholder Organizations

Steve Nunez, LAPD Mission Division (north of Van Nuys Blvd.) Senior Lead Officer (mobile/text 818-634-0652; office 818-756-8866; 35382@LAPD.LACity.org; http://www.LAPDonline.org/Foothill_Community_Police_Station), and Adriana Munguia, LAPD Mission Division (south of Van Nuys Blvd.) Senior Lead Officer (mobile/text 818-634-0685; office 818-756-8866; 30116@LAPD.LACity.org), reported. Officer Nunez explained that a State law change reduced some crimes

from felonies to misdemeanors, so “aggravated assaults are up” partly because “domestic violence” is now included. He urged not to leave valuables in vehicles.

IV. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments at this time.

V. PRESENTATIONS

1. Pacoima Charter School 100th Year Anniversary.

Copies were distributed of a letter regarding the Pacoima Charter School’s 100-year anniversary. Tanya Jordan announced the event on Saturday, May 16th, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the School [818.899.0201; <http://www.PacoimaCharter.org>] which used to be called Pacoima Elementary School. Alumni and the community are invited. A mural will be painted; copies were distributed of the tentative design. The mural will cost \$16,000 for scaffolding, paint and more and take six weeks to finish. They will be requesting funding. Mr. Gonzalez referred Ms. Jordan to PNC Education Committee Chair Raquel Cedillo.

2. Mr. Charles James who owns Fat Burger in the Lakeview Shopping Center. He has a plan that will involve the community and engage our youth.

Representative Sharon Wa requested for Mr. James to reschedule this Item.

3. Professor Alex Reza and Imelda Padilla representing Adelante Hombre Latino Summit North East San Fernando Valley Conference.

Copies were distributed of a flier for the April 11th 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. “5th Annual Adelante Hombre Youth Summit” (formerly “Hombre Latino Summit”) [<http://www.pacoimabeautiful.org/events/info/adelante-hombre>] at Panorama High School [8015 Van Nuys Blvd., Panorama City]. They will request \$250 in funding. She described activities for all youth. Imelda Padilla will email information to the PNC. Mr. Gonzalez will Agendize this for another PNC Board Meeting.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS -- No items to discuss.

Board Members Rebecca Long and Jessica Urquiza left and Alex Morales arrived around this time, making 12 Board Members present (the PNC quorum is 11).

VII. MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS (Discussion/Possible Action Items)

1. Discussion and Possible Approval of a letter of support and use of our logo to LA Labor for a consumer Boycott of the highly profitable Latino grocery chain, El Super. The LA County Fed has been asking the big grocery chain to negotiate but they refuse to come to the table and negotiate with the workers. The LA Labor will use our PNC Logo and various other organizations on their flyers as supporters of the El Super Workers.

Union Representative Erik Ramos (213.487.7070; Erik.Ramos@ufcw770.org; www.ufcw770.org) described efforts and challenges to negotiate a new contract with El Super. He said that 75% of the workers voted to retain their Union.

MOTION (by Mr. Gonzalez, seconded by Mr. Morales): The Pacoima Neighborhood Council will write a letter of support and use of our logo to LA Labor for a consumer Boycott of the highly profitable Latino grocery chain, El Super.

DISCUSSION: Copies were distributed of a letter supporting the boycott. Ms. Serrano urged LA Labor to be careful about how the PNC logo is used. Mr. Hernandez was concerned about whether the L.A. City Attorney would allow the PNC to vote on this; Mr. Gonzalez noted that the City Attorney did not say anything about the PNC's action about the Wal-Mart. Mr. Garcia believed that Neighborhood Council letters of endorsement are only allowed "about City issues." Mr. Lazo said "we've endorsed other non-City issues." Mr. Ramos promised that the PNC logo would be used "just for this particular issue."

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Gonzalez); there was no objection.

MOTION FAILED by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with five in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Gonzalez, Lazo, Milian, Morales and Rodriguez); five opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Foley, Garcia, Hernandez, Salas and Serrano); two abstained (Cruz and Fannie Long).

2. Discussion and possible Approval for the PNC to remove Rosa Rubalcava from the Home Owner's Seat and to declare the Board Seat vacant. Rationale: Rosa has missed too many meetings and has not completed the NC trainings.

MOTION (by Mr. Gonzalez, seconded by Mr. Garcia): The Pacoima Neighborhood Council removes Rosa Rubalcava from the Home Owner's Seat and declares that Board Seat vacant.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with 11 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Foley, Garcia, Gonzalez, Hernandez, Lazo, Fannie Long, Milian, Morales, Rodriguez, Salas and Serrano); one abstained (Cruz).

Mr. Gonzalez declared that Home Owner's Seat vacant. Ms. Serrano noted that Martha Martinez' absence from this Meeting was her third consecutive unexcused absence.

3. Discussion and possible Approval for the PNC to be a contributor of up to \$500 in a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for Relay For Life American Cancer Society's event on 6-6-15 held at Pacoima Charter located at 11016 Norris Ave. Pacoima Ca 91331. The R.F.L.A.C.S. 4th annual event is to raise awareness among the

Pacoima Community with their 12 hour marathon race. The PNC will benefit from this event with media attention and outreach exposure. The PNC point person for this event is Alex Morales.

Event fliers were distributed. The Relay's Adriana Serrano [818.841.3800 ext. 157; Adriana.Serrano@cancer.org] described the June 6th 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m. one-day only event that raises funds for cancer research [http://relay.acsevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY15CA?fr_id=68293&pg=en try]. The PNC logo would be on event fliers.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Milian, seconded by Mr. Morales): The Pacoima Neighborhood Council will be a contributor of up to \$500 in a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for Relay For Life American Cancer Society's event on 6-6-15 held at Pacoima Charter located at 11016 Norris Ave. Pacoima Ca 91331.

DISCUSSION: There was discussion of the best method for allocating funding.

MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with 11 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Cruz, Foley, Garcia, Gonzalez, Hernandez, Lazo, Fannie Long, Milian, Morales, Salas and Serrano); one opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Rodriguez).

VIII. BOARD & COMMITTEE REPORTS (including discussion and possible action items, if listed)

a. President

Mr. Gonzalez described Pacoima history and its importance.

b. Vice-President

There was no report at this time.

c. Secretary

i. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Minutes for the General Board Meeting held on December 2014.

MOTION (by Fannie Long, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez): The Pacoima Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its December 17, 2014 General Board Meeting as written.

Mr. Gonzalez requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

[This Agenda Item was returned to after Item #VIII. D.]

MOTION (by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Ms. Foley): The Pacoima Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its December 17, 2014 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote of all 12 Board Members present.

- ii. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Minutes for the General Board Meeting held on November 2014.

It was noted that the January 21, 2015, not “November 2014” Minutes need to be approved. The following correction(s) to the January 21, 2015 General Board Meeting Minutes were requested: page three, Item #III Public Comments: “Ivette” should read “Yvette” and “Ciel” should read “Ceil”; page five, Item #III Public Comment: “worked with 5 different” should read “worked with many different.”

MOTION (by Fannie Long, seconded by Mr. Morales): The Pacoima Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its January 21, 2015 General Board Meeting as corrected.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Cruz, Foley, Garcia, Gonzalez, Hernandez, Lazo, Fannie Long, Milian, Morales, Rodriguez, Salas and Serrano).

d. Treasurer

- i. January Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) on PNC’s funding account, including review and approval of the monthly expenditure report and bank statement.

Mr. Garcia distributed and reviewed copies of the “[PNC] Monthly Expenditure Report for: January 2015,” “Ledger Balance as of 02/13/2015” and an invoice from Webmaster Aaron DeVandry,

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Cruz, seconded by Mr. Hernandez): The Pacoima Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for January 2015.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Cruz, Foley, Garcia, Gonzalez, Hernandez, Lazo, Fannie Long, Milian, Morales, Rodriguez, Salas and Serrano).

e. Committees

i. Outreach Committee – general monthly activities report.

Mr. Milian reported.

ii. Education Committee – general monthly activities report.

Ms. Cedillo was not present and there was no report.

iii. Land Use Committee – general monthly activities report.

Mr. Lazo reported that the Committee tried to meet but there was no quorum.

iv. Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee- general monthly activities report.

There was no report at this time.

IX. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Garcia reminded that the PNC will elect a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer at the next [March 18th] Board Meeting. Mr. Gonzalez encouraged having a Board Members Retreat. Fannie Long announced a Leadership Training four-week course in March and April; see www.EmpowerLA.org. Mr. Salas announced a March 28th 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. School garden and community clean-up event; food will be provided.

X. REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were none at this time.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Mr. Hernandez, seconded by Mr. Salas).

MOTION PASSED without any objection.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:55 p.m.

Minutes written by DL, possibly edited by PNC. *The first paragraph of some Items is directly from the Agenda.*