

Mid-town North Hollywood Neighborhood Council
Beautification Committee
Wednesday, October 5, 2016
Senior Center at North Hollywood Park
5301 Tujunga Ave, North Hollywood, CA 91601

Draft Minutes

Council Members Present

James Askew
Adria Brodie
Mary Garcia
Paul Storiale
Robyn Sumners

Council Members Absent

Bob Peppermuller

1. Roll Call

- a. 5 present

2. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

- a. Paul Storiale reported that the trees on Lankershim between Camarillo & Magnolia are overgrown and creating a hazard. He has contacted the city who said there is a moratorium on tree trimming unless it's an emergency.
- b. Stakeholder Matthew Fine reported that the sidewalks in front of Starbucks at Lankershim & Magnolia and the Ralph's complex at Vineland and Magnolia are unclean with various human secretions. He would like to see regular power washing. Stakeholder Jonathan Brown echoed Matthew's observations.

3. Max Merlán's Eagle Scouts Project

- a. Max Merlán wishes to submit a project to the Clean Streets LA Challenge of two clean-ups on the north side of Chandler between Tujunga and the 170 freeway.
- b. On 11/5 he plans to clear weeds and trash, and on 11/12 he plans to put down wood chips and paint a mural on the back of a shoe warehouse which references historical North Hollywood.
- c. Max is partnering with a local church group, Boy Scouts and 501(c)(3) Exceptional Minds.
- d. Robyn Sumners informed Max that the city had previously stopped working with the Boy Scouts, but that things have subsequently changed and she is waiting to hear back from DONE for a definitive answer.

4. Other Clean Streets LA Projects

Nicole Pellegrini's Eagle Rock Yacht Club Project

- a. Nicole Pellegrini and her group, the Eagle Rock Yacht Club, have already submitted a project to the Clean Streets LA Challenge for a 11/5 clean-up near the old Valley Foods Market near Victory and Lankershim.
- b. The ERYC's project will clean up loose debris and litter and spread the word about the 311 app.

- c. Post clean-up, the ERYC volunteers will be provided a discount at nearby Blaqhaus. Nicole mentioned that since Max's project is also scheduled for 11/5, that his volunteers would be welcome as well.
- d. The ERYC project's partners are the Valley Plaza Recreation Center and Paul Krekorian's office.

Jonathan Brown's Clean-up Project

- e. Stakeholder Jonathan Brown is interested in submitting a proposal to the Clean Streets LA Challenge to clean-up the area between Magnolia, Caheunga, Camarillo and Vineland including the Ralph's complex at Vineland and Magnolia.
- f. Jonathan would like to include some sort of public art as a component of his clean-up.
- g. Robyn Sumners suggested Jonathan combine forces with Max Merlán's project since both still need to be submitted.

5. Beautify NoHo Gateway at Burbank & Lankershim

- a. Stakeholder Robert McGrath proposed that perhaps the new park fee on apartment developments could provide the funds necessary to repair the broken NoHo Gateway. The new park fee on apartment developments will be in effect January 2017 and is to be used on park lands and streetscapes within 10 miles from the development.
- b. James Askew said that he believes repairing the gateway has stalled due to a pending lawsuit filed against the person who ran into it with their car back in 2014.
- c. James Askew suggested planting drought tolerant plants around the Gateway in the interim and that perhaps Tree People could provide assistance.
- d. James Askew suggested following up with Paul Krekorian's office to check the status of the lawsuit.

6. Vacant Seat on Committee & Possible Restructure of Leadership

- a. James Askew said there is a new vacancy on the committee and encourages whomever wishes to be involved to fill that gap, whether that's a board member or a member of the community.
- b. Robyn Sumners echoed James request for involvement.
- c. Robyn Sumners said that when she attended the Congress of Neighborhoods, she attended a workshop about committees and asked the panel of five people how to manage being co-chair of two committees. They all agreed that co-chair of two committees was too much and that co-chairs are never a good idea as things invariably tend to fall through the cracks. They suggested being a Vice Chair instead and Robyn is looking to make this change.
- d. Adria Brodie said she supports Robyn in her efforts.
- e. Paul Storiato informed everyone that such a change needs to be approved by the board.

7. Sidewalk Survey Report

- a. James Askew passed around the results of the sidewalk surveys conducted in May and July. One of the main goals of the survey is to get ADA compliant curb cut-outs within the MTNHNC boundaries.

- b. James asked stakeholder Robert McGrath if he could assist in making the data more presentable.

8. Native Plant Education Area

- a. Robyn Sumners said that she and Adria Brodie had a booth at the One Chicken Fest on the previous Sunday as Co-Chairs of the Outreach Committee, that it was a great event and they met Lisa Novick from the Theodore Payne Foundation.
- b. Lisa has a wonderful idea to plant a native plant education area in each neighborhood council repute with signage educating the public about the importance of native plants in maintaining our ecosystem.
- c. Adria said she was thinking that we could work with the beautification committees across the San Fernando Valley in making this project a reality for all of our communities with each offering to help with each other's plantings.
- d. Mary Garcia said she knows Lisa, that she is wonderful and already did such a planting at a church in Burbank.

9. Committee Member Comments on Non-Agenda Items

- a. Adria Brodie echoed James Askew's previous call for more board involvement. She said a few people are very involved but that getting the board even slightly more involved would help significantly. She said she goes out into the community every Thursday evening when there are food trucks at North Hollywood Park and introduces herself as a member of the neighborhood council and invites them to get involved and tell her their concerns.
- b. Stakeholder Yvonne Demery expressed frustration at the shopping carts in her area of District 2 around Lankershim and Oxnard. She said she cannot find anyone to help, no service will take away the carts and the police are unable to help. James Askew and Adria Brodie said if the carts are full that that is considered personal property and the city has strict laws governing such items. Adria offered to look into the situation and see if she can find a solution.