

Minutes of the
ARLETA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (ANC)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, May 18, 2010

at Sharp Ave. Elementary School – Auditorium, 13800 Pierce St., Arleta, CA 91331

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Grayce Liu, Sr. Project Coordinator, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) (213-485-1360; Grayce.Liu@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), introduced herself and called the Meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

Board Members present: Bennie Bernal; Luisa Chajon; Guy Dionne; Jim Kallas; Loyce Lacson; Kelly Magallanes; Henry Ng; Saul Perez; Cyndee Riding; Robert Rouge; and Lamar Shelby.

All 11 of the Board Members were present, which is a quorum (the minimum number of Members needing to be present to conduct business). The Arleta NC quorum is 11 (eleven), so the Board could make Motions and take votes.

2. General Public Comment on Items not listed on today's Agenda.

Ms. Liu introduced herself and explained some ANC history and DONE assistance. She added that DONE will be “turning back operations of the Board tonight.”

Ed Novy, Sunland-Tujunga NC Board Member and one of two North Valley NC Budget Advocates to the Mayor, introduced himself. He explained the Budget Advocates' role, especially regarding “how NCs are funded, including working on NCs having \$45,000 to spend next fiscal year” [July 1st, 2010 – June 30, 2011]. He can be contacted at Ed.Novy@yahoo.com or Region4Rep2@stnc.org.

Sean Rivas, Granada Hills South NC Secretary and Parks Representative, introduced himself and described his NC work, including that he's willing to be part of the NC Mentoring Program that DONE is creating. He can be contacted at SRivas@ghsnc.org.

Angelica Ayala, City of L.A. East Valley Director/Labor Liaison of Neighborhood & Community Services (213.618.6222; Angelica.Ayala@LACity.org), introduced herself.

Lee Perry, LAPD Mission Division Senior Lead Officer (office phone 818-838-9844, cell phone 818-634-0624; 34733@lapd.lacity.org), introduced himself and reported that there's a “big problem with car thefts . . . mostly at night.” There'll be a Senior Lead Officers Summit on May 26th at 6:00 p.m. at the Mission Station, 11121 North Sepulveda Blvd. in Mission Hills.

3. Discussion and Possible Action – Fill Board Vacancies.

Ms. Liu reviewed that the ANC, in the Special Board Meeting immediately preceding this Meeting, filled the Homeowner and Community-Based Organization Board

Member category seats. She asked which additional Candidates were in attendance.

Stakeholder Sammy Vasquez introduced himself and expressed his interest in being a Board Member in the Faith-Based Organizations category.

MOTION (by Ms. Riding, seconded by Mr. Bernal): to appoint Sammy Vasquez to the Arleta Neighborhood Council Board as the Faith-Based Organizations Representative.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

Stakeholder John Hernandez introduced himself and expressed his interest in being a Board Member in the Community-Based Organizations category.

Amelia Herrera-Robles, Project Coordinator, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) (213-485-1360; Amelia.Herrera-Robles@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), explained that working for an insurance company does not qualify a Candidate as a Community-Based Organizations Representative. She read the Renter category wording from the ANC Bylaws. Ms. Liu cited additional explanatory wording from the Bylaws. There was discussion regarding how Mr. Hernandez can qualify as a Board Member.

MOTION (by Mr. Kallas, seconded by Mr. Dionne): to appoint John Hernandez to the Arleta Neighborhood Council Board as a Community-Based Organizations Representative upon the condition that he will join the Chamber of Commerce and that he works with local Boys and Girls Clubs.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

Stakeholder Chris Garcia introduced himself and expressed his interest in being a Board Member in the Youth category.

MOTION (by Mr. Bernal, seconded by Ms. Lacson): to appoint Chris Garcia to the Arleta Neighborhood Council Board as a Youth Representative.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

Stakeholder Bennie Bernal, Jr. introduced himself and expressed his interest in also being a Board Member in the Youth category.

MOTION (by Mr. Rouge, seconded by Mr. Dionne): to appoint Bennie Bernal, Jr. to the Arleta Neighborhood Council Board as a Youth Representative.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

Ms. Liu asked all other Board Members to introduce themselves, which they did.

Leyla Campos, Sr. Project Coordinator, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) (213-485-1360; Leyla.Campos@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), administered the Neighborhood Council Oath of Office to and congratulated all the Board Members.

4. Discussion and Possible Action – Selection of the Executive Officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Ms. Liu described the Executive Board election procedure and read the Executive Board Members responsibilities descriptions from the ANC Bylaws.

MOTION (by Mr. Bernal, seconded by Mr. Dionne): to nominate Jim Kallas to be the Arleta Neighborhood Council President.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Kallas accepted the nomination, and described his background and hopes for the NC and the community. There was extensive discussion regarding who will set future ANC Board Meeting Agendas; Mr. Kallas stated his intention that the Executive Board will set the Agenda.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with 12 in favor and three abstentions.

MOTION (by Mr. Kallas, seconded by Mr. Dionne): to nominate Saul Perez to be the Arleta Neighborhood Council Vice-President.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Perez accepted the nomination and spoke briefly.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with 13 in favor and two abstentions.

MOTION (by Mr. Perez, seconded by Mr. Dionne): to nominate Luisa Chajon to be the Arleta Neighborhood Council Secretary.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Chajon accepted the nomination and spoke briefly. Mr. Rouge expressed that writing the Board Meetings Minutes “be considered as an ongoing service to help the Secretary.” Ms. Liu explained that that would be a Board decision.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with 14 in favor and one abstention.

MOTION (by Ms. Riding, seconded by Ms. Chajon): to nominate Loyce Lacson to be the Arleta Neighborhood Council Treasurer.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Lacson accepted the nomination and spoke briefly. Kelly Magallanes volunteered to assist Ms. Lacson.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with 13 in favor and two abstentions.

5. **Discussion and Possible Action** - Review of the requirements to bring the Arleta NC out of Exhaustive Efforts, including, but not limited to taking Board Orientation training, amending the Bylaws and addressing existing Grievances.

Ms. Liu described past ANC challenges. Five Board Members have attended Board Member Training. DONE will work to unfreeze ANC funding and take other actions to allow the ANC to be out of Exhaustive Efforts. There's another Training this Saturday in Westchester. There was extensive discussion regarding bringing the ANC out of Exhaustive Efforts. Ms. Liu explained that Board Members who've filed a Grievance(s) must recuse themselves from voting on those Grievances. Mr. Rivas suggested that the Board have a retreat facilitated by a non-Board Member to discuss procedures and enable everyone to have the same information.

MOTION (by Mr. Perez, seconded by Mr. Dionne): to remove the ANC from Exhaustive Efforts by accepting the Bylaws as drafted by DONE.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Liu explained that DONE would still have the ANC in Exhaustive Efforts for now; "it would be a disservice to the NC" and Grievance filers to remove the Exhaustive Efforts now. DONE "wasn't able to handle the Grievances" because the Board wasn't functioning. There was extensive discussion regarding the ANC being in Exhaustive Efforts and what can be done about it.

AMENDED MOTION (by Mr. Rouge, seconded by Ms. Lacson): to split the original Motion into two Motions to: 1) ask DONE to remove the ANC from Exhaustive Efforts; and 2) to accept the Bylaws as drafted by DONE.

AMENDED MOTION PASSED with 11 in favor, three opposed and one abstention.

6. **Discussion and Possible Action** – Amending the Arleta NC Bylaws based on the proposed Bylaws amendments from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

Ms. Liu turned over the Chairmanship of the Meeting to Mr. Kallas. The Board discussed and Ms. Liu provided guidance about how to proceed regarding Bylaws approval.

MOTION (by Mr. Perez, seconded by Mr. Dionne): to accept the ANC Bylaws as drafted by the L.A. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

DISCUSSION: There was extensive discussion as Board Members expressed their views regarding whether to accept the Bylaws draft. Ms. Liu explained that the Board can resolve to immediately accept this draft so that they can move forward.

AMENDED MOTION and RESOLUTION (by Saul Perez, seconded by Guy Dionne).

BE IT RESOLVED that the Arleta Neighborhood Council adopts the Arleta Neighborhood Council Bylaws drafted by the L.A. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the L.A. City Attorney.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

7. Discussion and Possible Action – Addressing the seven existing Grievances of the Arleta NC.

Mr. Kallas asked Ms. Liu and the Board agreed for her to temporarily take over as Chair while he recused himself and asked Mr. Dionne, Mr. Perez and Mr. Rouge to also recuse themselves, which they did and left the room. Ms. Herrera-Robles read and reviewed the seven Grievances, explained that the Grievance process was not meant for Board Members to Grieve each other and how Grievances can be avoided. There was very extensive discussion by Board Members, Ms. Herrera-Robles and Ms. Liu regarding handling the seven Grievances.

MOTION (by Mr. Shelby, seconded by Ms. Chajon): for the ANC to lay the seven filed Grievances to rest and have the Secretary write a letter to current and former Board Members regarding corrective actions for the seven filed Grievances.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with 11 in favor.

Mr. Kallas, Mr. Dionne, Mr. Perez and Mr. Rouge returned to the room at this time with Mr. Kallas taking over again from Ms. Liu as Chair of the Meeting.

8. Discussion and Possible Action - Formation and/or reinstatement of Arleta NC committees to address Arleta NC issues including, but not limited to election, funding, outreach, website and Bylaws.

There was discussion regarding reinstatement of Committees and other issues. Mr. Perez recommended having a Special Board Meeting for this.

MOTION (by Mr. Perez, seconded by Mr. Rouge): to TABLE this Item for it to be addressed at an ANC Special Board Meeting to be held within two weeks from tonight.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Kallas encouraged Board Members who may be absent from the proposed Special Board Meeting to let a fellow Board Member know.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote.

9. Adjournment

Mr. Kallas encouraged that if a Board Member wants an item Agendized to contact an Executive Board Member.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.