



**ARLETA NEIGHBORHOOD
COUNCIL**

Attention: Arleta NC
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**Minutes of the
Arleta Neighborhood Council
General Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 21, 2017**

President John Hernandez called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call: Board Members Present:

John Hernandez
Margaret Shoemaker
Loyce Lacson
Raymond Duran
Joshua Duran
Max Foster
Gary Gallon
Fernando Moreno
Kenneth Nguyen
Vanessa Lopez
Raul Pineda
Elvia Lazalde
Drew Fischer (arrived at 6:36)
Jaime Gallo (arrived at 6:37)

President's Message – Commitments – President John Hernandez stated that the ANC meets on a monthly basis and asked for all to participate in all events.

Comments/Announcements from Government Officials:

Eveline Bravo-Ayala, the district representative for Senator Hertzberg's office announced that there is free tax preparation at CSUN. In addition, the Senator's office is assisting up to 1,000 families entitled to receive an earned income tax credit refund of up to \$13,000.00.

Jaqueline Serrano, the senior field representative from Congressman Cardenas' office, announced that they have moved to a new office on Van Nuys Blvd. between Woodman Ave. and Plummer St. She stated that they offer a lot of assistance with government issues. In addition, the congressman is sponsoring the "Congressional Art Competition 2017. The competition includes painting, drawing, photography, prints, and mixed media. The deadline for submissions is April 14, 2017.

Public Comments:

A stakeholder spoke about his concern for illegal street vending at Fillmore and Woodman. He presented posters with pictures of the blight that has resulted with these vendors such as trash, public drinking, and public urinating. He asked for support to send a message to our elected officials that this kind of activity is severely impacting quality of life in our community.

Marcos Castaneda, a volunteer for the Imelda Padilla campaign for School Board announced that there will be a kick-off on Saturday, March 25th.

Nigel Sanchez, from the Los Angeles Mission College Foundation announced the 15th Annual Food & Wine San Fernando Valley Festival on May 13, 2017. All proceeds from the event go to a scholarship fund.

Motion/Discussion/Vote on approval of minutes:

Motion 1/ Seconded/ Carried – Max Foster – Move to approve the ANC Board minutes dated February 21, 2017. (Second by Loyce Lacson)
Motion passed unanimously.

Motion 2/Seconded/Carried – Jaime Gallo – Move to approve the ANC Special Board minutes dated March 13, 2017. (Second by Max Foster)
Motion passed unanimously.

At 6:53 p.m., Councilwoman Nury Martinez introduced herself to talk about the main issues affecting Arleta.

The homeless issue is at the forefront of what the City Council has been trying to resolve. Some of the largest encampments are in Council District 6. While she agrees that the homeless need help, she recognizes that many of the homeless are drug addicts or mentally ill or just like the lifestyle. There has been a court mandate that prohibits the police from touching anyone's belongings. They must bag, tag, and store property for 72 hours. The storage of the items is another burden on the affected communities. Municipal Code 5611 states that the sleeping bags, etc. must be picked up after 6:00 a.m. the councilwoman states that we must enforce the municipal codes. Councilwoman Martinez also noted that she was the only "no" vote for Municipal Code 86202 that allows people to live in cars or RVs. It only affects commercial zones – most industrial zones are in Council District 6. The councilwoman spoke about two initiatives to help with the homeless problem:

1. The HOPE Team – to build a relationship with the homeless, give services, and unite them with their families.
2. Rapid Response Team – when they first see the beginning of an encampment, start the process of offering services and removing it.

Sidewalk Vending – have not adopted an ordinance. The concern is about the illegal status of the sidewalk vendors.

- No sidewalk vending in residential areas
- Must have permit
- Not allowed in front of schools
- Councilwoman Martinez introduced an "opt out" so communities have a say to ban vending

Councilwoman Martinez spoke about the Sidewalk Program – over \$600,00.00 to start repair of sidewalks, Arleta submitted 175 sidewalks in need of repair with pictures.

The city was sued by handicapped – must set aside \$30 million a year to fix sidewalks.

The Strike Team – Luis – picks up trash in Council District 6. They are in Arleta all day on Wednesdays. Councilwoman Martinez encouraged stakeholders to call her office of contact Elizabeth to pick up illegal dumping.

Questions were asked and answered about the vending issues. Board members and stakeholders asked questions and showed their dissatisfaction with decriminalizing street vending. Some concerns cited included: vendors sell food that has not been checked by the County Health Department, the vendors have no place to wash their hands or use restroom facilities, law enforcement has informed the community that they are not allowed to even ask them for identification, and licensed brick and mortar businesses will suffer because of vendors that are not held to the same legal requirements as they are.

Councilwoman Martinez maintained that there is nothing on the books that says illegal vendors are allowed to be there.

Motion 3/Seconded/Carried – Max Foster – move to extend the Councilwoman Nury Martinez presentation. (Second by Margaret Shoemaker)

Motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Martinez was asked to advocate to L.A.P.D Mission Station to utilize the ACE Program as a tool to deal with illegal street vending and for help with the homeless issue.

Councilwoman Martinez will give us the language on vendors and ask for enforcement and the opt in and out.

L.A.U.S.D. School Board representative, **Monica Ratliff** representative, Julio Anleu distributed information about the LAUSD SERVICE CALLS MOBILE APPLICATION – a mobile smart phone app “to report vandalism and keep schools clean at LAUSD with the push of a button.”

He also announced a “Know Your Rights” Workshop on March 24, 2017 at 5 p.m.

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (D.O.N.E.):

Barry Stone from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (D.O.N.E.) announced there will be a Volunteer Appreciation downtown on March 30th at 6:00 p.m.

He announced that Jeff Brill is our contact for Contracts (with the City Clerk)

They will have a “roundtable” in the North Valley on April 10th at Pacoima City Hall for funding with a question and answer session.

June 1st is the last day to use the purchase card.

June 7th is the last day to submit funding requests.

June 11th is the last day to pay your bills online.

He noted that there are seven (7) board members that have not complied with the necessary training.

He stated that he can be reached at barry.stone@lacity.org.

Monthly Treasurer's Report including the Monthly Expenditure Report (M.E.R.):

8:28 p.m. – Max Foster, Joshua Duran, and Raul Pineda left the meeting.

Motion 4/Seconded/Carried – Jaime Gallo – move to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (M.E.R) for February 2017. (Second by Gary Gallon).

Motion passed unanimously.

President John Hernandez announced that one more board member is needed on the Outreach Committee.

Motion5/Seconded/Carried – Margaret Shoemaker – move to appoint Drew Fischer to the Outreach Committee. (Second by Jaime Gallo). Motion passed unanimously.

Motion 6/Seconded/Carried – Jaime Gallo – move to purchase “Vehicle Slow Down” yard signs at a cost not to exceed \$2,500.00. (Second by Gary Gallon).

Motion 7/Seconded/Carried – Margaret Shoemaker – move to approve the purchase of polo shirts for board members at a cost not to exceed \$500.00. (Second by Jaime Gallo).

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion 8/Seconded/Carried – Loyce Lacson – move that the ANC Board be more active on social media utilizing the services of Hootsuite.com at a cost not to exceed \$150.00 annually. (Second by Jaime Gallo)

Open Board Seats were offered to stakeholders:

Home/Condo (1 seat)

Renters (1 seat)

School Rep (1 seat)

President John Hernandez spoke about the importance of board members completing the required training.

Committee Reports:

Outreach Committee – Raymond Duran reported: there will be an Outreach Committee meeting on March 28th at the Council District office on Laurel Canyon. Some items for discussion include the Sharp Street tunnel and National Night Out.

Board Member Comments:

Vanessa attended the Homeless Liaison Meeting. She spoke about Measure HHH – supposed to help with housing services.

Drew Fischer thanked Vanessa for her efforts with the Homeless Liaison.

Loyce Lacson asked board members for their name badges so she can get the city emblem on them.

Raymond Duran suggested a committee to address the homeless issue.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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