

Arleta Neighborhood Council (ANC)
-General Board Meeting Agenda DRAFT MINUTES
Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Location of meeting: Osborne Neighborhood Church, Fellowship Hall,
13501 Osborne St., Arleta, CA 91331

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 Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 977-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

The City’s Neighborhood Council system enables civic participation for all Angelinos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, comprised of volunteer stakeholders who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities and bringing government closer to us. In keeping with the ANC bylaws, the chair does not vote unless it affects the outcome.

I. Call to Order by Raymond Duran, at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call,

Present: Raymond Duran, Jaime Gallo (stepped out during Board Business, Motions 1 & 2), Burton Hunter, Jesse Ramos, Javad Butah, Gary Gallon, “Jeo” Escobar, Christianna Hartwell (arrived at 5:55), Dave Hunt, Ronald Pacheco, Jose Pumay, Robert Yaffe

Absent: Moises B. Bazan

Pledge of Allegiance led by Burton Hunter

II. President’s Report

Neighborhood Watch meeting last night: good turn-out. If interpreting need, please notify us 72 hours in advance.

III. Report from L.A.P.D. Senior Lead Officer and Representatives from other State, County or City Agencies.

LAPD Arleta SLO – Tracy Ware Good Neighborhood Watch meeting last night..

Reported Clean-ups happened at Hoyt/Canterbury and behind Arleta Post Office. “Pepper-Ball” is something less-lethal that can be used for protection if you get caught in a violent or dangerous situation. (There is a Police version for officers. A civilian-accessible version can be purchased.)

ONC has consistently supported the LAPD Mission Division’s kids / cadet / & PAL programs. Thank you. She presented the ANC Board President, Raymond Duran with a plaque in gratitude.

Kagel Canyon RV issue; Marcela with CD-6 is looking into this situation & will give a report.

Area Stakeholder – Lady on Beachy – she’s staying on sidewalk – disruptive in area. suspect that she is under a restraining order from her mother’s house nearby. SLO will look into it.

Call it in is you see a problem. Even if it says it’s already been reported, follow-through with reporting it anyway. The more calls received on an issue, then the higher it gets bumped up the list for responding to it. If it is a mental issue that you are reporting, then call it in to the Non-Emergency Line; If it is a criminal issue situation, call the police detectives. Call 911 if it’s something dangerous happening

For encampment at Terra Bella & Wakefield – Tracy is working with Officer Smith.

For encampments at Tobias park – due to be cleaned out and temporarily closed during renovations.

Marcela Quintanilla – with the CD-6 office of Imelda Padilla.

Tobias Park renovations will displace people, so expect to see homeless moving around.

Canterbury & Hoyt clean-up was supposed to be today (Tues.) but the Dept of Sanitation dropped the ball for a “today” schedule. (Will now be scheduled for Friday 6-21.

RV on Kagel Canyon & Canterbury (RV was Not leaking; no Dept. of Sanitation issues), so now they will follow the DOT rules for dealing with the vehicles.

Advertising a Grand Theft Auto event of Tuesday, July 9th.

Fiscal Budget is being prioritized, so turn in your requests for improvements needed in the area, so that the budget items can be prioritized and appropriate funding allocated in the District’s Budget .

(examples: sidewalk repair, street repair, tree trimming, tree removal, or other items)

Street light repairs – to prevent further wire theft, will start encasing the bases in cement after repairs are made.

Q.) Javad – What is hold-up of Future Starbucks on Woodman? Marcela has offered to help. They need to resubmit a permit that was incorrectly filed.

Q.) Jose P. – The WELCOME TO ARLETA sign – status. A.) Still being worked on. Funding to install the sign. Graffiti-Busters now has the sign. There may be some delay due to the project of installing sidewalks along the Woodman Corridor. Sign placement needs to fit in with the design of that project. Other comments from Loyce, Burton, Dave Hunt.

Mayor’s Office – Betsaira Aguilera – East Valley Rep, Mayor’s Office of Community Engagement

New Chief of Police Choice – she explained what the process will be for arriving at the appointment made to this crucial position. Comments about Bureau of Street Lights.

2 new programs to promote small business to be able to access resources that they need to move ahead. (mostly Under-Grad Students are being considered) Youth who may want to intern with the Mayor’s Office. Strength United at local college/university (at CSUN ?)

Q.) Ray Duran – 911 issue for wait times. Some improvement, then bad again.

Hiring freeze is for certain departments who have not used their funds to hire additional staff.

Comment) Community needs to see support from politicians in order to encourage people enough to consider applying for jobs with the City & government agencies.

Comment) \$ theft thresholds need to be lowered to be able to prosecute lawlessness. The 10-year “social experiment” is a failure in creating a safe society.

Robert Yaffe – “Ponzi scheme” of \$810 million tax revenue given out for housing homeless.

LASHA couldn’t account for how or where this vast amount of money was spent.

Other comments from Geo. Dave Hunt –asked for clarity on process of how the new Chief of Police will be chosen.

Report from Budget Advocates.

Lionel Mares – Budget Advocate for Region 1.

Lionel reported that he was re-elected as Budget Advocate (BA). Elena from Panorama City NC was also elected. (Kevin Davis did not run for Budget Advocate this time.)

After Pandemic freezes were lifted on raising sewer charges, the City is accepting public comment on upgrading the infrastructure for sewer handling. expect rates to increase significantly.

Budget Advocates (BA) noted that there is a personnel issue in City services. They asked the City to fill the vacancies; not to cut positions.

24-0600 is the Mayor’s Budget.

Kay Hartman has stepped-down for the Co-Chair seat of the Budget Advocates)

(unlimited) roll-over funds has been granted to NC’s for their budgets into the next fiscal year.

The new DONE GM, Carmen Chang was at Budget Day (this past Saturday) and also attended the two most-recent Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) meetings.

IV. General Public Comments on Items **Not Listed on Agenda** - California State Law (the Brown Act) requires PUBLIC COMMENT to be a **NON-DISCUSSION PERIOD (Two minutes /per Speaker)**.

The LA City Council passed supporting a Charter Reform Commission for schools. Expect to see a ballot measure for reform during this coming election.

Board Business

I. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote on approval of the [ANC Minutes](#) for the prior **Special Board meeting of May 21, 2024 –General Board Meeting**

Motioned by – Robert Yaffe 2nd by – Javad Butah
Discussion: (Jaime Gallo Stepped out)

The Motion Passed with 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 1 ineligible, 2 absent .

II. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote on approval of monthly financial documents prepared by the Treasurer which have not yet been approved.

A.) **May 2024 ANC M.E.R.s** (monthly expenditure reports)

Motioned by – Jesse Ramos 2nd by – Christianna Hartwell
Discussion: \$4,318 balance in our account as of today. (Jaime Gallo was still Stepped out)

The Motion Passed with 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 1 ineligible, 2 absent .

III. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve **ANC 2024-2025 Budget.**

Motioned by – Robert Yaffe 2nd by – Jesse Ramos
(Jaime Gallo returned for discussion)

Discussion: Current proposed budget will change once the roll-over is added.
Will amend budget to cover NC Elections this coming year (2025).

The Motion Passed with 10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 1 ineligible, 1 absent .

IV. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve the expense of up to \$ 600. for purchasing matching, ANC embroidered Polo shirts for the Neighborhood Council Board.

Motioned by – Burton Hunter 2nd by – Jaime Gallo
Discussion: 24 shirts will be ordered (sold by the dozen)

The Motion Passed with 10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 1 ineligible, 1 absent .

V. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote to sending a letter, as composed or amended, to the City Council & to any City agency that requires it, a statement that ANC wants to be able to meet virtually (as in via ZOOM) **at any time, if we choose to do so, as stated in the provisions of the CA State Senate Bill 411 that recently passed in Sacramento.**

(We must have a 2/3 majority vote for this motion to pass.) (10 Yes votes required.)

Motioned by – Robert Yaffe 2nd by – Burton Hunter

Discussion: We've been waiting a long time to vote this in. Questions about how will technically set up these meetings to operate. We'll work on the details later; for now, just submitting a letter stating that we have voted to be able to do this when we want to or need to.

The Motion PASSED ! with 10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 1 ineligible, 1 absent .

VI. Possible Discussion/Vote to approve to fill each of the following open ANC Board seats:

- A.) **Senior Representative** (1)
- B.) **Animal Welfare** (1)
- C.) **Any other seat that comes available**

Discussion:

Robert Yaffe resigned his **At Large** seated position in order to apply for the available **Senior Seat**.

A.) Vote to fill the **Senior Seat** with **Robert Yaffe** (Robert Yaffe is ineligible to vote on this, as he has stepped down from his seat and so is technically not on the board for this vote.)

Discussion: -none-

The Vote **Passed** with 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 2 ineligible, 1 absent .

- Robert Yaffe is thus reinstated to the Board as a Senior Representative.

Christianna Hartwell resigned her **Renter** seat position in order to apply for the **Animal Welfare Seat**.

B.) Vote to fill the **Animal Welfare Seat** with **Christianna Hartwell**. (Christianna Hartwell is ineligible to vote on this, as she has stepped down from her seat and so is technically not on the board for this vote.)

Discussion: - She has 2 dogs registered with the City of Los Angeles. She is interested in the welfare of all animals in our community and is wanting to be sure that the City Departments are doing their part by implementing measures to insure that good standards are being upheld for these domestic animals. Also that they are taking reasonable measures to insure that the problems of predatory animals encroaching into our urban areas are being properly addressed.

The Vote **Passed** with 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 2 ineligible, 1 absent .

- Christianna Hartwell is thus reinstated to the Board as the Animal Welfare Representative.

C.-1) Board Seats

Stakeholder, **Stelian Martinez** applied to become part of this Board in the **At Large Seat**.

Discussion: Stelian stated his long-time connection with the Arleta Community. He grew up in his family home just a few blocks from this location. His mother still lives there. He played sports at Branford Park and now has his oldest child enrolled in a sports program there. He and his wife Amy and their 3 children regularly attend Osborne Neighborhood Church (in Arleta) and both he and his eldest son are involved with the music ministry team at the church. He has a desire to work with others to create and maintain an Arleta community where his family and other families can thrive. Thus, he is applying to become part of Arleta Neighborhood Council to help that desire become a reality.

The Vote **Passed** with 10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 1 ineligible, 1 absent .

Stelian Martinez is thus seated on the Board of ANC as an At Large Representative.

C.-2.) Seats -no other stakeholders applied.

VII. Possible Discussion/Vote to fill any available ANC Committee Seats:

Motioned by – Javad Butah 2nd by – Jaime Gallo

Javad Butah asked if any benefits of him changing committees. Reply, that he will likely find more opportunity to be involved by staying in the committee that he is currently in for the way he feels he has the skill-set to contribute. Once the committee has a meeting to discuss projects, he will better see where his skill-sets and desires to contribute better fit in.

A.) Outreach Committee - Members
-no applicants-

B.) Community Improvement Committee - Members
- **Stelian Martinez** – applied to be on this committee.

The Motion **Passed** with 10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 2 ineligible, 1 absent .

C.) Animal Welfare Committee - Members

Christianna Hartwell applied to be on this committee and to be the **Chair of the Animal Welfare committee**-

Discussion: -by Christianna Hartwell-

The Motion **Passed** with 10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 1 ineligible, 1 absent .

Both Board member **Jaime Gallo** and stakeholder **Loyce Lacson** also applied to become **members on the Animal Welfare Committee**.

The Motion **Passed** with 10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 1 ineligible, 1 absent .

VIII. Committee Reports

Jesse Ramos – Community Improvement – looking at: Council Files. Construction costs have raised in recent years. Previous plans to create a mural under the I-5 freeway overpass on Osborne St. Lite Rail concerns on Van Nuys Blvd. Will schedule a committee meeting (looking at possibly Aug. 6th.)

Christianna Hartwell – Animal Welfare – Was looking forward to participating in a day planned for public to help at local animal shelters, but the organizer of the event cancelled it (for what reason??)

Robert Yaffe – Outreach - They a good opportunity for Outreach. They went to a local coffee shop and connected with some interested community members. Gave information about connecting with us.

IX. Announcements:

Jaime Gallo – announced that Josh Duran (our Board President’s son) graduated from San Diego University and will be going overseas to expand his studies.

“Geo” Escobar – one of ANC’s Budget Representatives attended recent Budget Day at City Hall. It was a great event to participate in. He suggests that we all attend the Congress of Neighborhood Councils coming up on September 28th.

X. Adjournment of this meeting at 8:35 p.m.