



ARLETA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Attention: Arleta NC
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**Minutes of the Arleta Neighborhood Council
General Board Meeting
Tuesday, December 15, 2020**

President Raymond Duran called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

I. Pledge of Allegiance – led by Burt Hunter.

Roll Call: Board Members Present: Raymond Duran, Jaime Gallo (arrived at 6:51 p.m.), Margaret Shoemaker, Loyce Lacson, Jose Pumay (arrived at 6:40), Gary Gallon, Jesse Ramos, Burton Hunter, Joshua Duran, Jesse Torres, Mary Oberg, Adrian Carrillo, Kenneth Nguyen

Board Members Absent Excused: Jennifer Punay

Board Members Absent: Barbara Berumen

II. President's Report – President Raymond Duran welcomed all attendees. He spoke about the policy of releasing arrestees without bail. Since this has been implemented, crime has gone up.

III. General Public Comment – Lorena Bernal, **Council District 6**, gave an update on concerns forwarded to her from the Arleta Neighborhood Council. The homeless encampment at Wentworth and Sharp has been there several months leaving trash in the neighborhood. The Sanitation Care Team came out and removed trash. In addition, they are trimming trees removing shade that might encourage homeless encampments. There have been stakeholders inquiring about parking permits. Light poles are being vandalized (14 service requests in Arleta). Lorena spoke about housing for homeless. She will be reaching out to the ANC for input regarding housing the homeless in our area.

Art Garcia from **State Assembly 39th District**, gave updates for our area. Homeless is a top issue. He spoke about AB1845, a bill introduced to end homelessness. It would have created the Office to End Homelessness which would have been administered by the Secretary on Homelessness appointed by the Governor. Governor Newsom vetoed this bill. In response, AB71 Bring California Home has been introduced. Art also spoke about AB27, a bill to address homeless children. He stated that Caltrans has a new director who has committed to working on the homeless issue. Art announced that Victory Outreach is holding a “Toy Drive-Through” on Saturday at 5 p.m. He spoke about a Zoom Town Hall meeting in Spanish and wished everyone

Happy Holidays. He introduced the new District Director for State Assembly District 39, Griselda Ortiz. Ms. Ortiz spoke and is looking forward to working with the community.

A stakeholder believes that Gascon was fraudulently elected. He added that Nury Martinez voted to defund the Los Angeles Police Department (L.A.P.D.) and stated that both do not support law enforcement. He is glad to see that Luz Rivas is working with Caltrans. He feels that Caltrans is corrupt, that they allow homeless along our freeways causing safety concerns.

Another stakeholder announced that she has made a lifetime commitment in Arleta and is interested in learning more about how the Arleta Neighborhood Council works. She added that she really wants to get to the bottom of the Arleta Sign and asked if there could be an audit to find out what happened to the money spent on the project.

Board Business:

IV. Motion 1/Seconded/Carried – Loyce Lacson – Move to approve the ANC Special Board Meeting Minutes dated November 4, 2020. (Second by Jaime Gallo). The motion passed with 10 yes, 2 abstentions, and 2 absent.

Motion 2/Seconded/Carried – Burt Hunter – Move to approve the ANC General Board Meeting Minutes dated November 15, 2020. (Second by Jesus Torres). The motion passed unanimously.

V. Motion 3/Seconded/Carried – Margaret Shoemaker – Move to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (M.E.R.) for the month of November 2020. (Second by Jaime Gallo). The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Motion 4/Seconded/Carried — Margaret Shoemaker – move to approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) for L.A.F.D. Station 7 for a cost not to exceed \$2,000.00 to make improvements at L.A.F.D. Station 7 to protect against COVID-19. (Second by Loyce Lacson). The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Motion 5/Seconded/Carried – Loyce Lacson – Move to approve an expense of up to \$200.00 to co-sponsor a community clean-up with Arleta High School. (Second by Jesus Torres). The motion passed with 7 yes votes, 3 no votes, 1 abstention, and 3 absent. (The clean-up will be held on January 16, 2021).

VIII. Motion 6/Seconded/Carried – Margaret Shoemaker – Move to approve ANC 2020-2021 budget amendments. (Second by Loyce Lacson). The motion passed unanimously.

IX.. Committee Reports:

Community Improvement/Land Use Committee – Jesse Ramos reported that the committee is working on a Community Impact Statement (C.I.S.) regarding a bill authored by Senator Scott Weiner to repeal Article 34 of the California Constitution which requires cities to submit projects to a voter referendum when public funds are allocated to developing low income and rental housing.

Arleta Sign – Jaime Gallo reported that he has been trying to get in touch with the architect but has been unsuccessful. He is planning to get the City Attorney’s Office involved.

Outreach Committee – Raymond Duran reported that the first batch of outreach material has been mailed out to 1800 homes in the area east of Woodman on Branford. The information includes homeless encampments and other issues we are dealing with in Arleta. It also gives contact numbers and who to call to report various problems. They will be sending more out soon. This is an excellent way to involve stakeholders and inform them about the Arleta Neighborhood Council. He stated that they have reached 1,006 followers on the ANC Facebook page.

X. Budget Advocate – Glenn Bailey reported since the Budget Advocate for Region 1 is not here. All 12 Regions have 3 elected Budget Advocates. Two from Region 1 have resigned. He has two updates – 1. We will be notified when an election to fill the two positions will be held. Budget representatives are eligible to run for the Budget Advocate positions. 2. The L.A. City Council Budget Committee met and have proposed that 951 L.A.P.D. officers be fired as well as some civilian positions. (Council File #20-0600 – S84). Four departments recommended for cuts include Police, City Attorney, Department of Animal Services, and Department of Engineering. They are looking to reduce their budget by \$675 million.

President Duran closed the meeting asking board members to close with their comments – Board members wished everyone Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year.

Board members also expressed their concerns with the path our elected officials are taking. Some concerns include the way our tax dollars are spent. Homeless encampments are a big concern with homes and vehicles being broken into, drugs and needles left in our streets, and trash dumped in our streets and alleys. Many believe it is a mental health issue and not a lack of housing. Multi-family dwellings with little or no parking are built with no concern for the single-family homes nearby – these neighborhoods will be filled with parking from the apartments that have no parking spaces. Defunding police has brought a huge increase in crime in our communities with elected officials approving no bail, releasing criminals back into our communities to repeat their crimes. It was stated that Mayor Garcetti owes the communities in Los Angeles an apology for endorsing District Attorney Gascon.

President Duran adjourned the meeting wishing everyone Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

X. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

