

Arleta Neighborhood Council (ANC)
- General Board Meeting *DRAFT* minutes
Tuesday, Sept 17, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

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

I. Call to Order by Raymond Duran at 7:36 pm

II. Roll Call,

Present: Raymond Duran, Jaime Gallo, Burton Hunter, Javad Butah, Gary Gallon, Dave Hunt, Stelian Martinez, Ronald Pacheco, Jose Pumay

Absent: Jesse Ramos, Moises Bazan, “Jeo” Escobar, Christianna Hartwell, Robert Yaffe

Pledge of Allegiance led by Burton Hunter

III. President’s Report

Raymond Duran wants to consult with LAPD regarding delayed response times and situations for why they are not citing people who are clearly committing a crime or are in violation of other ordinances. (He cited some personal instances that he has had.)

Jaime Gallo –When calling for police assistance, 1 hour wait just to get to an operator is not acceptable and discourages people from even trying to make any reports. Handling of calls: He reported that someone had threatened to shoot and kill a family member. He was told that that was “not a credible threat” ! Call-in’s for houses causing trouble in neighborhood. We don’t want to discourage people from calling, partly because if it isn’t called in then it is not recorded as ever having happened. Not reporting makes the published, public Crime reports show that the crime rate is going down, when the actual situation is just the opposite.

Raymond – Things that effect our community effects our quality of life – but we often don’t what avenues for our community residents to take to be sure to report problems. We are trying to set up a meeting with our Senior Lead Officers and others to assist us to be proactive with the right tools to help our community.

IV. Report from L.A.P.D. Senior Lead Officer and Fire Dept.

-none in attendance-

V. Any Political Candidates on the ballot who would like to briefly introduce themselves? (2 minutes)

● **Victoria Garcia** – Running for election to **CA State Assembly District 43**. She is credentialed with a background in Law. She is currently on City Council of San Fernando, but has lived in Los Angeles. She has noticed significant contrasts between the conditions she sees in our area of Los Angeles compared to San Fernando and other more-prestigious areas of L.A. This disparity should not be so flagrant. She will fight for programs to make our community to be as nice and as safe as is seen in other areas. Victoria supports the Police, will push to improve the Cost of Living, & supports Parental Rights. Her #1 priority is Public Safety.

- no other candidates -

VI. 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)**. Please fill out a Speaker Card and submit it to the Chair of the meeting. You will be called in order.

● **Lionel Mares** – Appointments have been made to the City Charter Reform Commission.

Comments on L.A. City Council. Deputy Mayor – announced that the final candidate list has been formed and published for the Mayor selecting the next Chief of Police. Suggesting that we look over that list.

● **Chad Monk** – from **National Health Foundation** – They are basically finished with construction at the facility (at Woodman Ave. Nordhoff). They will start moving in furniture soon. (prior to accepting clients).

Board Business

- I. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote on approval of the [ANC Minutes](#) for the prior **General Board meeting of Aug 20, 2024** –General Board Meeting
(At our Board meeting, a copy is available to view at the check-in table.)
Approve Minutes -Motioned by – ___Gary Gallon___ 2nd by – ___Jaime Gallo___
Discussion: -none-
The Motion **Passed** with 7 yes, 0 no, 1 abstained, 0 ineligible, 5 absent .
- II. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote on approval of monthly financial documents prepared by the Treasurer which have not yet been approved. **August 2024 ANC M.E.R.s** (monthly expenditure reports)
(At our Board meeting, a copy is available to view at the check-in table.)
Approve MERS -Motioned by – ___Burton Hunter___ 2nd by – ___Gary Gallon___
Discussion: -none-
The Motion **Passed** with 8 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 0 ineligible, 5 absent .
- III. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote on **approval to the amended 2024-2025 ANC Budget**.
(At our Board meeting, a copy of the amended budget is available to view at the check-in table.)
Approve amended ANC Budget -Motioned by – ___Jaime Gallo___ 2nd by – ___Gary Gallon___
Discussion: Basic change to the budget was adding-back-in the City-approved roll-over of unspent funds from last year’s Budget. Those funds have been put into the Outreach Budget.
The Motion **Passed** with 8 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 0 ineligible, 5 absent .
- IV. Motion/Discussion/Action – Relative to consideration of ANC participating in a **community beautification project(s)** in Arleta.
Beautification Project -Motioned by – ___Jaime Gallo___ 2nd by – ___Burton Hunter___
Discussion ONLY: Marcela Quintanilla, our Arleta Field Rep. to CD-6 office has been contacted, but found out that she is not currently in the office to return inquiries.
Lorena Bernal from CD-6 said that she will check in with Marcela. Reporting issue at Canterbury & Van Nuys. Encampment debris near Arleta DMV. Comments from Jaime Gallo, Stelian Martinez, Ray Duran.
– with regard to the beautification project - irrigation is going to be an issue. Drought-tolerant plants need to be selected. Will need to have volunteers to help with other maintenance issues.
Ray Duran – Volunteers or perhaps hire a company to do watering & maintenance. Could possibly be a business or perhaps a local gardener person could maintain the beautified area(s).?
The Motion Discussion ONLY with - yes, - no, - abstained, - ineligible, 5 absent .
- V. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve ANC to **participate in the Halloween event at Branford Park**, by having an outreach table there, and also spending up to \$ 500.00 to provide water, snacks and/or candy for us to give out at this event.
Branford Halloween event -Motioned by – ___Jaime Gallo___ 2nd by – ___Dave Hunt___
Discussion: Date of event: Thursday, October 31st - currently schedule from late afternoon into the early evening. Currently, most of the activity is scheduled to be inside of the gym. ANC would set-up inside the gym. Comments from **Javad Butah, Jaime Gallo**. **Javad** – Create a table plaque with a LARGE QR Code, to direct people to our website. (A page of Different QR codes could be created to direct people to other specific pages of information.)
The Motion **Passed** with 8 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 0 ineligible, 5 absent .
- VI. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve spending up to \$2,500 to **re-stock ANC outreach materials** for distribution at upcoming community events.
Restock Outreach materials -Motioned by – ___Dave Hunt___ 2nd by – ___Javad Butah___
Discussion: QR Code – Change QR to direct to direct to different page. Committee Chair not here.
Jose Pumay-. Ray – To purchase products, can use any vendors who are licensed. .As a resource, we DO have a list of vendors we have used in past to purchase the kinds of items we use – but not required to use only these.
The Motion **Passed** with 8 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 0 ineligible, 5 absent .

VII. Possible Motion/ Discussion and possible recommendations/Vote to the ANC Board regarding to approve a **Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG)** request from the **Mission Community Police Council for a grant of up to \$1,000** to assist with the overall cost of putting-on the **Mission Foot Pursuit 5K Run**, scheduled to be held at the Davis Training facility in Granada Hills **on November 3, 2024**. Funds raised from this event help with the general costs of Cadet, Jr. Cadet & other youth programs. **LAPD Mission Foot Pursuit** -Motioned by – Burton Hunter 2nd by – Gary Gallon
 Discussion: **Javad** -Will we be setting-up a table there? **Dave Hunt, Ray Duran, Jose Pumay** – issues with police protection in our community. **Burton Hunter**- The fund raising from this event supports the Youth Cadet program, not general LAPD budget. **Stelian Martinez** – suggest we connect with Mission Division liaison. Cadet program is a non-profit. He sees supporting this as worthwhile & valid.
Dave Hunt – Are there statistics on how many cadets have actually become police officers?
Ray – Their budget for outside money for putting on this event is \$15 K; They had asked for \$5 K from us, and we have previously provided that amount. (We were donating 1/3 of the expense spent to put-on this particular event.) We anticipate that our own ANC budget will have many NPG requests from other non-profits aimed at securing donations from us over the coming year.
Jose Pumay – How are the Cadet Program donations are spent?
Ray – What’s collected from our NPG go just toward costs involved in setting-up and putting-on this particular event. Funds for helping run the youth Cadet Program (as a non-profit arm of the Mission Division) are gained from those who contribute to participate to run in this event and from other fund-raiser events.
 The Motion Passed with 6_ yes, 2_ no, 0_ abstained, 0_ ineligible, 5_ absent .

VIII. Possible Motion/ Discussion and recommendations to the ANC Board regarding a Community Impact Statement **CIS regarding: Council File 24-0867** - Relative to City of Los Angeles imposed Neighborhood Council (NC) bylaw amendments to existing NC bylaws and **impose NC board member term limits**; includes requiring NC’s to have **Youth Seat(s)**.

CIS re: **Council File 24-0867** -Motioned by – Dave Hunt 2nd by – Burton Hunter

IX. -
 Discussion: **Burt** comments, **Ray** read the CIS statement.
Javad Butah – Trouble approving this CIS as written. Wording got off-track near end. Others commented in affirmation of that point of view as pertains to this CIS.
 Audience member – **Chad Monk** – What are the “term limits”? What is the age range for “Youth seat”?
Ray, Jose Pumay, Jaime Gallo – It took a long time to fill our Board with people interested in our community.
Javad Butah – He is in agreement with submitting the opposition – but that’s why we should hone-in on the specific subject of the issue that the CIS is meant to address.
Dave Hunt – Not in favor of term limits.
Gary Gallon – The Council File has too broad of a “sweeping” action. There are no specific details. City Council or DONE could do ANYthing with this if it passes. , **Burt H - , Ray D.-, Stelian Martinez** comments. Our **NEA Mario Hernandez** – Committee “recommends” to the Board. Our Board can amend the CIS.
Ray – in this case he wants to leave the CIS as recommended and submitted by the Committee. In the future, please take the time in committee to hash-out wording of proposals prior to submitting it to the Board.
Ronaldo Pacheco - , Stelian Martinez – The necessary timing of submitting a CIS on this Council File is now; It cannot wait until later without losing the opportunity to chime-in on this subject before the City Council.
 The Motion Passed with 8_ yes, 0_ no, 0_ abstained, 0_ ineligible, 5_ absent .

X. Reports from **Representatives from other State, County or City Agencies**.
 ● **Kelly Gonez – Our area’s LAUSD School District Representative** –
 Projects: Teachers Lounge remodels at various schools. Sharp Elementary – Re-vamp hard-surface playground (to be completed in 2026).
 Provisions given to families to lower their costs.
 Heat wave put strain on many school facilities. – HVAC (air conditioning) repairs, improvements & upgrades needed.
 School Bond Measure UF - November 2024 election for school improvement/ repair. Some new schools have been built, but right near them are schools with deteriorating older builds. We need to provide equity for our school children from one school campus to the next. (continued)

(continued: Kelly Gonez) Therefore improvements are necessary. This new bond will add \$0.025 /per \$100 of “assessed value” (not market value) to your property tax bill.

Anthony Garcia is the Field Representative for our area from Kelly’s School Board office.

Schools are funded thru the State. The Local School Board plans & controls on what the money is spent. The State oversees.

Questions from Burton, Jaime Gallo, Javad Butah – Is this bond assessment additional to current property tax? Yes, a LARGE amount additional.!

Discussion with **Ray, Jose Pumay, Stelian Martinez** questioned Kelly extensively.

● **Lorena Bernal – CD-6 from Imelda Padilla’s office.**

Updates: The info we previously received has changed about the Sidewalk construction on Woodman (between Community & Branford is has changed.) The funding for that project has not yet been received. (But it IS coming.) When the funding has been received, then the project WILL start.

- \$ 60 K received toward Department of Urban Forestry. Allocated from Imelda’s CD-6 office funds for safety issues with removing dead or threatening trees. Survey of which trees to prioritize is going on. \$ 75K has gone to Graffiti Busters – for weed clearing (targeting Lake Balboa to Arleta), so it will take some time to cover all that ground. (Balance of \$24 K)

Utility Boxes are going to begin to be “mural painted” from commissioned artists. Selecting art work that reflects on the atmosphere of individual communities.

Jose Pumay Trash left in gutter by CVS. **Javad B** – Taco stand there is dumping grease.

Ray D. Monday night he saw pressure washing that area. That was not the vendor; that was a hired task.

Kagel Cyn & Canterbury Ave.: issue is being looked into. **JoAnn Gallon** comment.

Burton H. Questions about: results at Tonopa tunnel under the freeway? A. fence installed to block tunnel, but it was broken through and breached by homeless. She will check to see the status.

Q. At national Health Foundation (Woodman & Nordhoff / Kagel Canyon) Once building is up and running will parking signage on surrounding streets be able to be enforced?

Also, will enforcement be able to be carried out to prevent encampments around the facility?

Javad B. – Has seen encampments come and go around that facility during construction.

Audience member – Can the City just go in and sweep out encamped individuals without placing them in housing? What happens to them?

A. Encampments – before being cleaned – ALL resource teams have to have been out there to offer all aspects of City-provided services. (Sometimes teams go out and offer multiple times.)

● **Mayor’s Office – Michelle Vergara –Director of Community Engagement for Mayor Bass.**

Main # for Mayor Bass office (213) 978-0600. <https://mayor.lacity.gov>

Michelle Vergara, Senior Area Representative michelle.vergara@lacity.org

Sidewalk in need of repair ?– please report locations to be investigated.

Olympic Flag and Para-Olympic Flag are now installed and on display at L.A. City Hall.

Preparation under way to prepare for 3 major sporting events to be held in Los Angeles, leading up to and including the World Cup and the 2028 Olympics.

Chief of Police selection process Engagement Report is now out.

Please plan to attend the Congress of Neighborhoods at L.A. City Hall at the end of this month.

Also, the North Valley Neighborhood Council Summit this coming Saturday, 8:30 am – 1:00 pm.

● **Katherine Castrejon from State Senator Caroline Menjivar’s office**

2nd Annual Valley Veteran’s Day event – on Sat. Nov. 9th, 12 noon. RSVP required.

Also, Nominate a Veteran who continues to serve their community for Veteran of the Year.

● **Mario Hernandez** (our NEA) - Congress of Neighborhoods, Sat. Sept. 28th starts at 8:00 am with a breakfast. (breakfast and lunch will be provided).

The City Clerk will be sending vote-by-mail ballots out for NC elections.

ANC's election will be on May 13th.

Any Translation Service expenses that the NC incurs can now be submitted to the Clerk's office for reimbursement.

Q. Burt asked about those running for NC election or re-election; how do we do all is required?

A. Register with the City Clerk's Office. They will be sending out the information to applicants.

Report from Budget Advocates.

● **Lionel Mares** – communicate by emailing labudgetadvocates@gmail.com

City Sewer Rates due to increase by 22%. Rates were frozen during Covid. Now making-up for it.

North Valley NC Summit - Registration no longer required as it is now an “open to the public” public meeting (under provisions of the Brown Act).

The following Saturday, Sept. 28th is Congress of Neighborhoods in L.A. City Hall.

XI. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve to **fill the following open ANC Board positions:**

A.) **Renter Representative** (1)

B.) **Alternate Representatives** - 1 - At Large Rep. (for a total of 3) ALT-3 of 3

A.) **Renter Rep. & to Fill 3rd Alternate position-**

Motioned by – ___-none applied-___ 2nd by – _____

Discussion: *-none-*

Motion A.) ___-none applied- _ with ___ yes, ___ no, ___ abstained, ___ineligible, ___ absent .

Motion B.) ___-none applied- _ with ___ yes, ___ no, ___ abstained, ___ineligible, ___ absent .

XII. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote to fill any available **ANC Committee Seats** (for Stakeholder committee participants ONLY. Each committee is at maximum for ANC Board members):

A.) **Outreach Committee** - Members

B.) **Community Improvement Committee** - Members

C.) **Animal Welfare Committee** - Members

-none applied-

XIII. **Committee Reports**

● **Javad Butah** – There has been no **Outreach Committee** meeting, nor a call to hold one. He would like to have a conversation with the committee Chair, Robert to help with committee.

Ray – Suggested Javad contact Robert.

● **Jaime Gallo** – Christianna is planning to schedule an **Animal Welfare** committee meeting.

XIV. **Announcements:**

● Please **REGISTER TO VOTE** (Voter Registration forms on the sign-in table).

● The **SOW** (Shift Our Ways) **Collective** – Encouraging community gardening has new, expanded hours of operation here in Arleta (at 13625 Sunburst St. – Sunburst & Beachy Ave.).

Swing by our small farm for Fresh Air & Free Veggies; Wednesdays: 5-7 pm ,

Saturdays: 9 am – 12noon, Sundays: 10 am – 12 noon.

Burt – They are looking for another plot of land in the area to open another community garden space.

Dave H. – Suggested to have them call the “Real Estate Section” of DWP at 1-800-Dial DWP and ask about the possibility of using a vacant space under the power lines off of Canterbury.

● This coming Saturday Sept 21st – “**FUR Fest**” at **Valley Plaza Recreation Center in North**

Hollywood (10 am – 2 pm). A pet resource fair showcasing various community organizations, info on

resources and services tailored specifically for pet owners & their furry friends. Includes vaccinations, microchips, nail trims & giveaways. (see flier at sign-in table)

- Marlena – Vice President –oversight for the **National Health Foundation** facility at Woodman & Nordhoff recently gave us this update on the opening of the facility: Expected to start receiving clients at the end of September. (We also heard briefly from Chad Monk tonight)

- (Tabled from August to be brought up at October NC Board meeting☺
Consider attending & for ANC to **table at the L.A.P.D. Toy Drive Car & Bike Show on November 23rd**. 10am –3pm. There is NO cost for us to table at this event. The event purpose is to collecting toy donations for the annual December Toy Give-Away. PLUS having a really good time looking at some great vehicles !

- Other announcements – *none* -

XV. Adjournment at ___9:02 pm___

(Tabled from August to be consideration on the Agenda at October ANC meeting)

Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote for ANC to set up an ANC outreach **table at the L.A.P.D. Toy Drive Car & Bike Show on November 23rd**. There is NO cost for us to table at this event. The purpose of this event is to help collect toy donations for the annual December Toy Give-Away event.