

Arleta Neighborhood Council (ANC)
- General Board Meeting Minutes –approved
Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

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

I. Meeting was called to Order by __Raymond Duran__ at 6:36 p.m.

Roll Call, Present: Raymond Duran, Jaime Gallo, Burton Hunter, Jesse Ramos, Javad Butah, Geo Escobar, Gary Gallon, Dave Hunt, Ronald Pacheco, Jose Pumay.
(Stelian Martinez arrived at 6:40 pm, Moises Bazan at 6:43, & Christianna Hartwell at about 7:25 pm.)
Absent: Robert Yaffe (He texted that he was stuck in a totally stopped freeway on the west side.)

At opening: 10 present, 4 absent. (we have quorum)... At end: 13 present, 1 absent

Pledge of Allegiance led by __Burton Hunter__

- II. President's Report: Raymond** – Thanks for being here. A lot on the agenda tonight with some special guests here to speak and answer questions.
Ray turned comments over to **Jaime Gallo** – During last week's fires, besides the heroic work of 1st responders, another group of people helped people to evacuate their homes and assisted 1st Responders by allowing them more time to do their other jobs. Kudos to this group of people !
- III. Report from L.A.P.D. Senior Lead Officer and Fire Dept.** – none present -
- IV. General Public Comments on Items Not Listed on Agenda –**
Marisol Sanchez – from the new **Assembly woman Celeste Rodriguez's office.** (*she spoke now, in lieu of waiting until later in the meeting.*)
For EDD applications, during this time of emergency, the general 1-week waiting period has been waived. DMV has waived the appointment waiting period for those effected by the fires.
Covered California insurance – A special Enrollment Period now open for Health Insurance, until Mar. 8.
- Armand Carranza** – Walgreens District Mgr. Regarding Arleta Walgreens. They continue to experience problems at the Arleta Store property – with street vendors trying to take over use of the parking lot and leaving large messes. They've recently been pushed out to the sidewalk, but it is an on-going battle to maintain their private property. This Walgreens is the only pharmacy in the San Fernando Valley that is open 24 / 7. The district management is hoping to be able to keep this location's service available.
- Amber Mendoza** – 1st time at an ANC Board meeting. Live on Canterbury, near Branford. Food vendor that was previously at Branford Park has moved across the street from where she and her husband live at their mother's home. They are there every day and their customers hang around their property for hours; sometimes parking across, in front their driveway, so that they are not able to leave their house to go anywhere. They are hesitant to leave, because they are concerned for their mother's safety.
- Jesse Leon** – **LA Metro Lite Rail Transit** meeting on Zoom coming up. Next month an in-person meeting is planned for this area. Utilities along the rail line are currently being relocated in preparation for the rail line construction. Arleta residential neighborhoods are not expected to be impacted by the relocation work on these utility services.

Board Business

- I. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote on approval of the [ANC Minutes](#) for the prior **General Board meeting of November 19, 2024** –General Board Meeting
Approve Minutes -Motioned by – __Jaime Gallo__ 2nd by – __Gary Gallon__
Discussion: - none -
The Motion **Passed** with 10 yes, 1 no, 0 abstained, 0 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.) **November 2024 ANC M.E.R.s** , (monthly expenditure reports)
B.) **December 2024 ANC M.E.R.s**
(At our Board meeting, a copy is available to view at the check-in table.)
A.) **Approve November MERs** - Motioned by – __Burton Hunter__ 2nd by – __Jesse Ramos__
Discussion: **Jesse**: At the end of November, our ANC account balance was \$23,xxx.--
The Motion **Passed** with 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 0 ineligible, 2 absent .
B.) **Approve December 2024 MERs** - Motioned by – __Jaime Gallo__ 2nd by – __Ronald Pacheco__
Discussion: **Jesse**: At the end of December our ANC account balance was \$22,xxx.--
The Motion **Passed** with 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 0 ineligible, 2 absent
- III. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve sending **another letter to the L.A. City Council and to the L.A. County Board of Supervisors** in support of keeping open our regional **Whiteman Airport** as a functional airport facility. (At our Board meeting, a copy is available to view at the check-in table.)
Approve letter re: Whiteman - Motioned by – __Jaime Gallo__ 2nd by – __Burton Hunter__
Discussion: Jesse Ramos suggested removing the “Air Taxi” portion of the letter due to accidents with and general distrust of the technology being used in autonomous vehicles and a recent accident with a drone flying in restricted air space and damaging an emergency aircraft. Comments from **Burton Hunter, Jaime Gallo** suggesting to keep the wording. **Dave Hunt** suggested that the anticipation of “air taxi” services from that location would probably one of the more-compelling reasons for the County Supervisors to be considering on the side of keeping the airport open and operating. **Jesse Ramos** concedes to majority opinion. **Burton** commented. **Joanne Gallon** – The airport was used during fires. We need to retain a regional airport; it’s needed during emergencies. **Loyce Lacson** – Look to the future – the Federal Government will have to be the ones regulating “autonomous aircraft flights”. Putting in housing at that location is not a practical option.. **John Escobar** – Technology & society is changing. If we go against air taxis, we will fall behind. **Dave Hunt** – the main point for sending the letter is to push for not taking away the airport.
(No different motion had been made to change the wording, only opinions suggested.)
The Motion to send the letter “as is” **Passed** with 10 yes, 0 no, 1 abstained, 0 ineligible, 2 absent .
- IV. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve **spending of up to \$1,000.**—to possibly provide emergency supplies for needs of stakeholders or needed items of 1st-Responder units in our district.
Approve expenditure - Motioned by – __Burton Hunter__ 2nd by – __Jaime Gallo__
Discussion: Loyce commented on possibly buying water. It was discussed that this vote is being made now in order to allow for a purchase of up to \$1,000. should the Board President see an opportunity to provide an emergency purchase during this period of disasters. The expenditure won’t necessarily be made, but can be if we vote to approve this.
The Motion **Passed** with 10 yes, 1 no, 0 abstained, 0 ineligible, 2 absent .
- V. *Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve **funding of up to \$4,000.--** for general ANC **outreach materials** and including items to promote the new Animal Welfare Committee as they provide an additional valuable resource to stakeholders with pets.
Approve outreach expenditure - Motioned by – __Jesse Ramos__ 2nd by – __Jose Pumay__
Discussion: Jesse Ramos – Includes outreach items for Animal Welfare outreach. Discussion: **Dave Hunt** – what kind of things might it be for Animal Welfare promotion? **Various comments. Ray Duran** indicated that it is a

TOTAL amount for **all of the ANC Outreach items** that need to be replenished (Items that we give away at events, with our ANC advertising on them). But this amount will include some new items that can be used for Outreach specifically for advertising of the newly formed Animal Welfare group for Arleta.

Loyce - commented, that ALL of this is for Outreach materials purchases.

The Motion Passed with 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained, 0 ineligible, 2 absent.

VI. • Reports from Representatives :

CD-6 City Councilmember, Imelda Padilla.

Why was she here today? To keep her promise that she would not be showing up here only prior to an election. She congratulated ANC on our 25 year anniversary. Presented D.O.N.E. certificate for 25 years strong as an NC to ANC President, Raymond Duran.

Introduced **D.O.N.E. General Manager, Carmen Chang**, who is traveling with her to each NC Board meeting in CD-6.

Thanks to ANC for helping to sponsor the Miracle In Mission Christmas event in December. Another Certificate of Thanks presented.

Recently a lot of people in CD-6 lost their places of employment, due to the wildfires.

Power Outages – Her field deputies were out in their districts getting areas registered for restoration of services and getting cleaned-up. Thanks to Osborne Neighborhood Church for responding to partner with McDonald's for meal give-away to community.

More face masks will be given out to non-profits in CD-6 for distribution.

Imelda put together an emergency fund plan. So some funds are available for specific needs.

Marcela Quintanilla and Lorena Bernal are training more people as Managers.

Q. Jesse Ramos – Arleta / Devonshire Park – fire damaged play equipment remains unremoved.

Graffiti is not being removed.

A. Marcela Q. – The Graffiti has been reported many times.

Q. Javad Butah – Need to provide a more efficient (better) conduit for the same kind of issues that the previous General Public Comment speaker brought up – Food vendors in wrong places.

A. The hands of the City are tied on this matter. The State has set the mandate. The way to possibly secure any changes to the mandate is to address the state-level leaders.

The CD-6 district – recently has been able to help vendors become aware of and to apply for any licensing/registration and press an awareness to apply Health Department rules, etc.

Vendors need to register. The Street Services Dept is involved in some enforcements. At Rite Aid (*correction: Walgreens?*) the vendors were able to be pushed to the sidewalk. The public needs to contact the State Assembly member and the State Senator to press them to see what changes can be made.

Suggestion: possibly to create an “opportunity zone” to indicate where the vendors are preferred to be located.

One such vending location organized their own group. They self-enforce a limit who can set-up there.

CD-6 recommends pushing the County to help. City Council has tried to stay out of handling this issue.

Q. Ray Duran – Has the City Council written letters to the State?

A. Not many of the City Council members would support addressing this issue. The demand is real, but it takes a long time to re-write the formal laws.

Q. Christiana Hartwell – Coyote attacks. **Geo Escobar** – issues at Walgreens.

A Imelda – She lives near Van Nuys Blvd & Vesper. Biggest issue she sees in “drinking in public”.

Comment: some vendors providing the booze. Others purchase it elsewhere and bring it to sit and eat and hang out for hours.

Q. Walgreens guy – The clients of the vendors trash his lot, creating a bad situation.

A. Call office of elected official. Call County Supervisor Horvath.

Q. Husband of Lady who spoke about vendors in front of his & her mom's residence at Canterbury & Bracken. It has become a security concern for their mom.

A. Imelda – she has called on Mission Division Captain – to please keep more vigilant eyes on the Canterbury corridor.

Q. Ray Duran's dad – RV has been at Kagel Canyon & Canterbury for 4 years.

A. “working on it.”

Loyce – Open flames at vendors. Palm trees need trimming. A big risk during fires.

A. Contact County & street services.

Q. Moises Bazan – at Woodman & Nordhoff – Grease in the street from vendor by CVS created slip & fall accident for bicyclist. He also saw a rat next to the food cases at that location.

A. Talk to the State Representatives.

Q. Stelian – re: Street vending ban A ban is what we used to have. State said that the only way to ban from the state level is if a Security issue or a Health issue were in play. The state says they cannot ban vending in streets or in right of way.

Imelda is pushing for transparency with non-profits – holding them accountable for how they are spending the funds allocated to them.

Q. Burton – National Health Foundation (NHF)– heard of mandate signed by governor, that locations receiving governments funds are no longer allowed to require sobriety as a condition for living there. What’s the practicality of that ruling, especially for places that have been set up specifically to help people transition out of the bondages to drugs or alcohol. Also heard that the position of Security Guard for our local, newly-opened NHF facility has been eliminated.

A. The National Health Foundation (NHF) facility is not receiving funding from the County.

She doesn’t believe that information is correct (about having eliminated the security guard position.)

A. “Alliance Case” - Once our quota for having provided (a certain) number of housing options in our district (IF the facility (NHF) is not receiving funding from the County , then the City can limit residents to be only from Arleta & CD-6. Law 4118 – When meet quota for housing – then can enforce no encampments. Every time we build low income housing, then we get closer to meeting the quota. Comments about ADUs. The Hotel Lobby is a strong force at work pushing legislation.

• **D.O.N.E. General Manager, Carmen Chang.**

ANC has been around for the whole time of NC’s. The City Budget isn’t great. Whatever Empower L.A. can do to help? – please DO ask for help. We’re “all-in”.

Q. –Burton Hunter Documentation required to run for NC election and to vote in this election. One document Empower L.A. has put out regarding the election requirements has completely contradictory statements about documentation requirements.

A. They’ll look at amending the document and correcting any mistakes.

Geo Escobar – regarding their newsletter – please continue putting it out with the information showing staff & their positions and for contact information for these staff.

Q. John Escobar – Enforcement and protection around their businesses – If the City can’t do it, or the City Council Member can’t, or the County can’t – It should NOT become the store manager’s responsibility to do it. They shouldn’t have to, because they are paying taxes for protections and policies. This Walgreens is the ONLY 24 hour pharmacy in the Valley. It needs protections if it is to be able to continue offering this needed service to the residents of this and the surrounding communities.

A. Consider B.O.N.C. if we would like to host town halls to address what local issues are.

Dave Hunt – Mission of D.O.N.E. is to support NC’s.

(question about “over-reach” of the D.O.N.E. Department)

A. Bring N.C.’s together for a common push (purpose) on issues.

Trainings – All Boards should be seated in July. (voted-in and trainings completed by this time).

Q. man Stakeholder – re: going out and getting petitions; constantly having to do our own research – Is there a way to automate it to make it easier to address issues?

A. Attend NC & address collective interests

Q. Loyce – Will we be able to roll-over funds into the next year?

A. There was to be a meeting this month to decide. However, due to the wildfires the timing of this meeting is uncertain. She suggest that we write to the City Clerk’s office, sharing with them our request to allow roll-over of funds.

- **Mario Hernandez** – City Clerk has extended to March 3rd, the NC election candidate filing deadline for our district.

Suggesting that stakeholders join NC Board to be better involved.
There is a candidate info session coming up.

- **Reports from other State, County or City Agencies.**

- **Celeste** – Marisol Sanchez

- **Marcela Quintanilla** – CD-6 Arleta Field Deputy.

Jose Pumay – Can signs be posted to “Pick Up After Dogs”? Used to be a “fine” levied. Now no consequences.

Ray – Discuss this proposal in “Animal Welfare Committee”.

Michael - Homeless encampment(s) on Canterbury & Hoyt (near DMV) and at I-5 Freeway entrance at Van Nuys Blvd.

A. Scheduled cleanup on January 31st.

Q. Encampment behind Der Weinerschnitzel (at Woodman & Osborne)

A. One property owner owns the whole strip of stores on the East side of Woodman, between Osborne & Nordhoff.

Q. Jaime Gallo – Homeless encampment across from DMV. He reported it, then got a phone notification that the problem had been cleared (at the very same time that he was driving by and noticing the encampment was still there.)

A. Marcela – City & area directors have to prioritize encampment clean-ups. These are little things that she wants to work together to fix.

Comment from **Ray Duran**– Will have to change the opinion of the whole community in order to see a change. Get stakeholders together to see that things get done.

Comment from **John Escobar**.

- Report from **Budget Advocates.** – none –

VII. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote to approve to fill the following open ANC Board positions:
A.) **Renter Representative** (1) *(this seat will be up for election in 2027.)*

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

A.) Approve Board **Renter** position -Motioned by – ____ - none - ____ 2nd by – ____ - none - ____

Discussion: - none applied -

The Motion _ - none applied - _ with __ yes, __ no, __ abstained, __ ineligible, __ absent .

B.) Approve **Alternate-3** Board position -Motioned by – ____ - none - ____ 2nd by – ____ - none - ____

Discussion: - none applied -

The Motion - none applied - _with __ yes, __ no, __ abstained, __ ineligible, __ absent .

VIII. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote to fill any available ANC Committee Seats (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

Approve **Committee seats** -Motioned by – ____ - none - ____ 2nd by – ____ - none - ____

Discussion: - none applied -

The Motion _ - none applied - _ with __ yes, __ no, __ abstained, __ ineligible, __ absent .

- IX. • Committee Reports :** Community Improvement – Nothing significant at this time. Some wasteful spending of taxpayer dollars going on. Animal Welfare – Will be scheduling a committee meeting.
- X. • Announcements:**
- ANC Board Elections –
 - Register to run for election or re-election for a seat on this board. Deadline to registered to run is ~~February 24th~~. *Deadline to register Changed by the City to **Monday, March 3rd***.
 - Register as a stakeholder in order to receive a mail-in ballot for voting in the Arleta Neighborhood Council (ANC) election. You may only vote once for each seat running in Arleta NC's election. However, if you also meet the criteria as a stakeholder in another NC's district election, you may also register and vote in that NC's election process.
 - Other announcements –
- Q. Any update on the Arleta Sign?
- A. -No update available currently available.
- XI. • Adjournment** at __9:15 p.m.__