

Arleta Neighborhood Council (ANC)
- General Board Meeting Minutes – DRAFT
Tuesday, March 18, 2025 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 6:38 p.m.

Roll Call, Present: Ray Duran, Jaime Gallo, Burton Hunter, Jesse Ramos, Moises B. Bazan, “Jeo” Escobar, Gary Gallon, Dave Hunt, Stelian Martinez (Stelian left at 8:35 p.m.), Ronald Pacheco, Robert Yaffe.

Absent: Jaime Gallo (sick) , Javad Butah, Christianna Hartwell, Jose Pumay.

and **Pledge of Allegiance** led by Burton Hunter

II. President’s Report: Voter Registration for ANC Election is now open to apply for a mail-in ballot. Get registered. Candidates – promote stakeholders to apply for a ballot and to “vote form me (you) !”

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** - 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.*

Burton Hunter (speaking as an individual) – Burt attended landfill meeting this past Thursday. Spoke to other NC’s who were having trouble achieving Quorum to hold board business meetings due to vacant seats on their board. One issue has always been not being able to retain a sustained interest by youth to keep attending their events to their Youth seat filled. Cited that parents often have to transport their youth to attend these events. Not many can continue to do that + young people have other peer-pressure interests that appeal to them more than civic programs.

Our ANC Board experienced that situation for a long period of time, until we changed our ANC Bylaws to replace the Youth Seat with another qualifying seat, easier to fill with a stakeholder from Arleta.

Yet L.A. City Council CD-7 Representative, Monica Rodriguez is still pushing a motion for the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) to consider changing all Neighborhood Council (NC) Bylaws in order to require having a Youth Board seat. She is also pushing a request for the BONC board to consider instituting “term limits” on members serving on NC Boards. (personal view: an attempt to rid NC Boards of the valued perspective and experience of those who have maintained a vested interest in their local community and have chosen to serve on a board that advises their City Council representative about items of interest and of concern in their neighborhoods.

Steven Martinez has been active in the Valley for 32+ years. He promotes PESA (Parent, Educators, Student Association). One of his big concerns is about crime in the area.

Owen Evans – He is a business owner representing New York Life agency. He is not here to ask for, nor is he wanting anything other than to participate and to help be of service to the community. He has been an L.A. resident for 10 years and has lived in this area of the Valley for 6 years.

Chad Monk – with National Health Foundation – at Woodman and Nordhoff. He was late getting it in, but he submitted a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) to help support an Arleta area food-give-away on April 17th. Holiday hams & produce were given in December (with the help of MEND). He is requesting an NPG of \$1,200.—for this up-coming food give-away targeting area community members.

(continued: General Public Comment)

“Jeo” Escobar – Running for an ANC At Large Board Seat.

Dave Hunt – Running for another At Large Board Seat

Ray Duran - Running for a Home / Condo Owner Board Seat. He has been a “home-boy” in this area for many years. Has a tremendous community involvement interest in Arleta.

Also, **Ray** is promoting **Jaime Gallo**, who is also a long-time resident, running for a Home / Condo Owner seat on the ANC Board. Please register to get a ballot and vote for us. Please encourage other Arleta stakeholders to do the same.

Jonathan Sanchez, Director of Branford Park Rec. Center introduced **Bethany**, as a the new Coordinator for their Branford Park Recreation Center. Bethany feels strong about the importance of Youth Sports & Community.

ANC Board Business

I. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote on approval of the [ANC Minutes](#) for the prior **General Board meeting of February 18, 2025 –General Board Meeting**

(At our Board meeting, a copy is available to view at the check-in table.)

Motioned by – Jesse Ramos 2nd by – Dave Hunt

The Motion Passed with 9 yes, 0 no, 0 ineligible, 4 absent.

- no correction or comment -

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

A.) **February 2025 ANC M.E.R.s**, (monthly expenditure reports)

(At our Board meeting, a copy is available to view at the check-in table.)

Motioned by – Burton Hunter 2nd by – Dave Hunt

The Motion Passed with 9 yes, 0 no, 0 ineligible, 4 absent.

(**Jesse** corrected the year on this motion to 2025 – noted).

Loyce Lacson – better to find good ways to spend our NC allotment for our community than to merely give it back to the City, to be gobbled-up and frivolously spent

III. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote on recommendation to the ANC Board regarding a **Community Impact Statement (CIS) on **Senate Bill 79** -Relative to the impact of City of Los Angeles neighborhoods in the vicinity of rail stations and multi-family residential developments.**

(At our Board meeting, a copy is available to view at the check-in table.)

Motioned by – Gary Gallon 2nd by – Robert Yaffe

The Motion Passed with 9 yes, 0 no, 0 ineligible, 4 absent.

Jesse Ramos – This State Bill requires municipalities to ignore established zoning rules and requires Up-Zoning of land / property within ½ mile of a rail line station or of a Rapid bus line. Developers buy-out single-family home properties or local businesses (making them “an offer that they can’t refuse”.)

Housing prices continue to go up, so where can these sellers afford to move to? (They can’t.)

Other bills linked to this have already passed where the state has given developers the right to build multi-housing structures with a limited number of parking spaces or with no parking spaces at all.

Where will these residents park their cars? In front of our houses in our neighborhoods- making an already difficult-to-deal-with situation into something that will become nearly impossible situation to live with..

Talk to our State Senator, Caroline Menjivar. The State is still pushing to pass this type of legislation.

Burton commented. **Ray Duran** – years ago this same discussion arose over ADU’s and Air B & B’s. This hiked the prices of everything. On Roscoe just west of Shoupe – apartments have been built right in the middle of residential homes.

Stakeholder asked if there is any way to address this? A.) keep voicing you’re point of view to the State Representatives. Ask them to vote AGAINST such bills.

IV. *Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote of recommendations to the ANC Board regarding a **Community Impact Statement (CIS) on Assembly Bill 1333** -Relative to public safety.

(At our Board meeting, a copy is available to view at the check-in table.)

Motioned by – Dave Hunt 2nd by – Robert Yaffe

The Motion Passed with 9 yes, 0 no, 0 ineligible, 4 absent.

Jesse Ramos noted that this particular bill has currently been withdrawn from consideration during this legislative session. (but it will likely get re-written and the premise re-introduced). This is a life-threatening bill; making it “wrong” for you to protect yourself with force when someone enters your habitation and threatens you. Bill states that the resident’s duty is to retreat; not to defend oneself with force. AB 1333 contradicts some existing bills and a statute in the U.S. Constitution, which gives one the right to defend oneself. This is a nonsense bill. Watch for an amended version of it to pop-up in the future, and stand against that.

Joann Gallon – CRPA – This bill will likely get re-written for the next legislative session.

Stelian Martinez – Important for us to stand for the victim; or we will have a very un-checked system, where self-defense is not discussed.

Ray Duran – I’m a firm believer – each individual is responsible for (protecting) our own life.

I met with the LAPD Mission Division Captain: told him of a neighbor who waited 15 minutes for a 911 operator to answer. Could have been dead by then if this were one of those situations. “I will not live in a cage out of fear for problems in my community.” It becomes a “Police State” when people’s rights get taken away.

Stakeholder, Steven Martinez – This kind of proposal and thinking is a danger.

V. Discussion of topics submitted by “**LAIT911**” for the purposes of obtaining personal protective equipment for volunteer licensed EMTs and firefighters in the City of Los Angeles. (note: not voting on this as a motion at this time. This time, just hearing them out on who they are and what they do.).

Jonathan Martinez – Volunteer fire fighter, as are other LAIT911 volunteers. His day-job is that he works with Park Rangers. Their teams are all volunteers with day jobs. They have been in the area since 2022. They’re trained and do volunteer work as EMT’s and fire fighters. They were deployed during recent wildfire events to provide additional resources for the LA Fire Dept. They have 2 vehicles owned by the non-profit and 2 teams that are primarily in the S.F. Valley, staged for Hansen Dam and to the Sepulveda Basin, until they are deployed elsewhere if a greater need for their services. They help free-up LAFD to handle other fires that require bigger equipment. They were also in Sylmar during a fire there, but didn’t have the resources they needed to save a home on fire.

They will re-submit a NPG in the amount of \$1,890.—for purchasing Brush Jackets, Neck Shrouds and Helmets for more team volunteers. It costs about \$350.—per person to provide this rated personal protection gear. This equipment is just for their volunteers; not for LAFD.

There is a free mobile app notification that works automatically through the 911 app, which will notify you of radio dispatches to such occurrences. Jonathan works with Rosie (CD-6 employee that Marcella Quintanilla knows, who can vouch for the work that they do to help.)

Loyce Lacson – Sounds like a good program for our support.

VI. Possible Motion/Discussion/Vote for ANC to set up an outreach table at one or two events in April at **Branford Park Recreation Center: Sat. April 5th, 10 am – 1 pm, their Spring Egg Hunt**. And then the following **Saturday, April 12th for their Opening Day** event. Spending up to \$400 for snacks to give out from ANC’s outreach table.

Motioned – Ray Duran stated for ANC to set up a table at the April 5th, Egg Hunt event

The Motion Passed with 9 yes, 0 no, 0 ineligible, 4 absent.

April 5th Egg Hunt event goes from 10 am – 1 pm (set-up prior)

Opening day for Baseball/Softball season is April 12th (there are 350 kids registered right now)

Jonathan Sanchez, Director of Branford Rec. Center commented that Branford Park does qualify with the City of L.A. as a low-income community, so the park has to show the City “proof of income”

(where-as other parks are not required to show proof of income). Setting up an ANC table at the April 12th Opening Day event was not voted on. Discussion that we would do the one event.

**VII. • Reports from Representatives : CD-6 City Councilmember, Imelda Padilla's office.
CD-6 Marcella Quintanilla :**

Canterbury & Hoyt clean-up. Gain & Garber – tree trimming. Discussed Kagel Cyn & Canterbury, Sharp & Mercer, Ridley & Canterbury. The “Welcome To Arleta” sign is still pending. Recommended to have pet spayed or neutered before the pet's license expires.

Jesse R. - Canterbury & Van Nuys – suggested that CD-6 motion for DWP to beautify that stretch. **A.** With rail line coming in – beautification is in the mill.

At Devonshire & Arleta (near pocket park)– vagrants an issue – suggest to secure wash & bridges

Jeovani E. – comments re: Lighting & tree-trimming funds.

Joanne G. comment, **Jesse R.** – in light of Supreme Court ruling – re: disallowing sleeping in public.

Burton H. – Spreading grounds – planned “public walking paths”- Marcella verified: Outside the fenced-in ponds only.

Dave H. – How City Councils honor the will of individual Neighborhood Councils (particularly regarding considerations to over-ride NC Bylaws by forcing at Youth Seat and also Term Limits. – Recommends to vote against the proposals

Stakeholder **Owen Evans** – re guidelines for making appeals to the City. **A.** Will take into consideration. The more the number of phone calls about encampments, the more attention & priority they will get. Call SLO Police officer Tracy Ware if growing size of encampment; she will prioritize. Owen Evans stated to Marcella that he wishes to help in whatever way possible

• from other City, State, County or City Agencies.

Marisol Sanchez – Rep for State Assembly Woman Celeste Rodriguez

Wingo St. adjacent to Freeway has been reported to CalTrans.

Celeste Rodriguez has been newly elected to office. Getting her foothold/balance established in the role. **re: AB 1333** – The session runs for 2 years. The Assembly Woman is aware of our position on these bills. Workers employed until March 31st.

Jesse R. – Mis-information. Previous Assembly Woman, Luz Rivas, knew our opinion, but still voted for bad bills. **Dave Hunt** – Please notify the Representative of our concerns.

Events: Open to Public – YMCA US Citizenship application filing help event at Pacoima City Hall.

• Report from Budget Advocates (BA).

Lionel Mares – Email - the Charter Reform Commission March 26th.

BA's formulating their “White Paper” recommendations for the City Budget.

Meeting Saturday 1:00 pm on ZOOM. email input at budgetadvocates.org

Big issue - \$600 million dollars paid out in lawsuits against the City is equal to the Total City Budget.

\$50 million dollars in civil rights violations lawsuits. The City is not taking sufficient actions to prevent lawsuits.

The City Controller is projecting \$140 Million dollar shortfall this year alone. Projecting more next year.

VIII. 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

- none -

IX. 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

- none at this time - Owen Evans – perhaps interested in the future –perhaps on Animal Welfare.

X. Committee Reports

- None at this time -

XI. Announcements:

- ANC Board Elections –
 - Register as a stakeholder in order to receive a mail-in ballot for voting in the Arleta Neighborhood Council (ANC) election. **Ballot application period began on March 14th and closes on May 5th.** You may vote **once for each open 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 for a ballot to vote in that NC's election process.

Go to the website <https://clerk.lacity.gov/clerk-services/elections/neighborhood-council-elections> and click on **Register to Vote**. You will need to create an account with an email address and password if applying on-line. Can print a paper copy of the application & mail it in or email it in without creating an account..

- Other announcements – Tomorrow – City Council

XII. Adjournment __8:50 p.m.__