



September 11, 2013  
**Palms Neighborhood Council**  
**General Assembly Minutes**



1. Meeting was call to order by President Lipmen.
2. Roll Call was taken by Secretary Leal, eight Board Members were present: Eli Lipmen, Niall MacMenamin, Tanya Trumbull, Tanya Leal, Charles Miller, Terry Robinson, Andrew Pennington and Jennifer Tobkin. There was quorum. Stakeholders were also present at the meeting.
3. **Public comments** from:
  - Father Vincent Shamo regarding Faris Drive Neighborhood Block Party.
  - Comment from a Stakeholder who owns a condo in Palms, who expressed an interest in shared parking because he does not have a parking space.
  - Presentation of Certificate to Former Treasurer Jason Buchalter.
4. **Monthly Updates**
  - a) **Government Representative Announcements & Reports:**
    - No Representative was present
    - President Lipmen announced City Attorney Mike Feuer to attend October General Assembly meeting.
    - DONE Representative Amber Meshack reminded everyone of upcoming Congress of Neighborhood on September 28, 2013 and encouraged Stakeholders were to attend.
  - b) **PNC Representative Reports:** No Representative was present.
  - c) **President's Report:**
    - President Lipmen stated that 2 of 3 mural boxes have been replaced and has been located. Palms Middle School will display the mural boxes. The mural boxes have to go through City Council to sell to a local group. Department of Transportation asked for a \$1.00 per box to transport boxes and that a motion will be presented to the Board for the DOT cost.
    - President Lipmen announced the resignation of Neal Anderberg, Community-Based Organization Representative, who was one of the founders of the PNC and expressed that he'd like for the Board to find ways to recognized Mr. Anderberg for all his hard work over the past years. He also spoke on the recruitment process for new board members and hopes to seat someone by next month.
    - President Lipmen announced for interested Board members or stakeholders to represent Palms stakeholders as Budget Advocates during the budgeting process. Terry Robinson, Residential Rep., expressed interest in being a Budget Advocate. President Lipmen to appoint at next meeting.
    - President Lipmen gave update on Overland Avenue Improvement Project, he stated that he spoke to Mar Vista and Homeowner Association.
    - *MOTION to appoint Tanya Leal, Secretary, as Chair of the Outreach Committee,* Motion by President Lipmen, Seconded by Residential Rep. Robinson. Motion passed by voice vote: seven in favor; zero opposed and one abstained.
    - *MOTION to appoint Karen Fratkin as Business Representative Area 1 (Pacific*



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*Electric*), Motion by President Lipmen, Seconded by Residential Rep. Robinson.  
***Motion passed by voice vote: eight in favor; zero opposed and zero abstained.***

Nine board members are now present (addition of Karen Fratkin).

**d) Vice President's Report:**

- Vice President MacMenamin gave update on Woodbine Park Construction, which is scheduled to start in mid to late September. The park will be completely closed during renovation which includes a completely new basketball court, improved lighting, new playground equipment, new pathways, and a new "community living room" (horseshoe shaped meeting area) added.
- Vice President MacMenamin announced meeting with Recreation on Parks on September 20, 2013 at 1:00 p.m., all are invited.
- Vice President MacMenamin stated that he will contact former Council Members, like Wesson and inquire about available Quimby funds. Planning and Land Use Committee to draft letter and bring back to Board for approval.

**e) Secretary's Report:**

- Board approved minutes from August 7, 2013 General Assembly Meeting with changes.
- Secretary Leal discussed NC Meeting Reminders Handout which outlined Brown Act Revisions as of July 1, 2008 and making documents available to the Public, Agenda Posting, and so forth.
- Secretary Leal stated that the complaints filed against PNC Election Ad Hoc Committee dated May 21, 2013 and PNC President Eli Lipmen dated June 24, 2013, were not subject to the Grievance Process because one was filed against an individual Board Member and the other one alleged Brown Act violations, which are handled by the City Attorney's Office. She also felt that it was inappropriate for President Lipmen and Vice President MacMenamin to respond to these complaints, since they were named in them.
- Department of Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate Amber Meshack clarified that anyone from the Board can contact the Department for advice and that communication with the Department and City Attorney was to clarify the process to receive and review a complaint, and what constituted a grievance. Ms. Meshack shared a letter that was distributed to the Board (attached) and noted that the Board can choose to take or decline the advice of the Department and City Attorney.
- Secretary Leal discussed moving forward with the Grievance Process to address the complaints filed against the PNC Board dated August 7, 2013 as stated in the PNC Bylaws. Tanya read the full complaint filed against the PNC Board (attached). Charles Miller supported this for the sake of transparency in addressing stakeholder concerns. President Lipmen suggested that Secretary Leal provide a set of ground rules and/or guidelines for the Grievance Panel.

f) **Treasurer's Report:**

- Treasurer Trumbull discussed an accounting error made by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment whereby the Department accidentally took funds from the Palms NC account to pay for other NC expenses. President Lipmen and Treasurer Trumbull are working to resolve this discrepancy with the Department, who had admitted this was done in error and the money for the 2013-14 budget would eventually be reinstated. Last two quarters of 2013 budget and expenses have been submitted to DONE for review.
- Treasurer Trumbull reported on PNC Balance Sheet through September 5, 2013.
  - **MOTION to Consider Voting on a SLATE to approve Treasurer's Motions by Residential Rep. Miller, Seconded by Residential Rep. Pennington. Motion passed by voice vote: eight in favor; zero opposed, zero abstained, one ineligible.**

MOTION TO approve funding motions:.

- *MOTION TO: Approve the PNC Monthly Expenditure Report for the month of August.*
- *MOTION TO: Allocate \$500 for the LAPD Pacific Area Booster Association to renovate the entry to the LAPD Pacific Station on its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*
- *MOTION TO: Allocate \$250 for the LA Congress of Neighborhoods*
- *MOTION TO: Allocate \$3 to buy the Palms Mural signal boxes from the LA Department of Transportation*
- *MOTION TO: Allocate up to \$300 to transport and place the Palms Murals at Palms Middle School*
- *MOTION TO: Allocate up to \$200 for copies and other outreach methods to notify the community about closure of Woodbine Park for renovation*

***Motion proposed by Tanya Trumbull and seconded by President Lipmen. Motion passed by roll call of 8 eligible Board members: Eli Lipmen, Niall MacMenamin, Tanya Trumbull, Tanya Leal, Charles Miller, Terry Robinson, Andrew Pennington and Jennifer Tobkin.***

- g) **Outreach Report:** Secretary Leal announced that Natasha Ericta resigned from outreach committee and that she will lead [Chair] the Committee until new co-chair and members are appointed. She reported on the PNC BBQ - 40+ people including PNC board members, Councilman Koretz and Deputy Tania Bradkin and firefighters from Fire Station 43. Thanked everyone who attended and brought something to share. Announced that Coffee with council is postponed until further notice. Hope to have a volunteer opportunity in Palms. [She also stated that this report was from Natasha and not her]
- h) **Transportation and Safety Report** by Residential Rep. Miller.
- Operation Neighborhood Council Blitz – September 27
  - *MOTION: The Palms Neighborhood Council supports traffic calming and walkability measures on Overland Avenue to include Rapid Rectangular Flashing*



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*Beacons for the crosswalk at Overland Avenue and Rose Avenue (north).*

***Motion to table***

- *MOTION proposed by Charlies Miller, seconded by???: The Palms Neighborhood Council endorses the Los Angeles Department of Transportation's Walk to School Day, Los Angeles, slated for October 9, 2013, and encourages schools in Palms to participate in this important initiative.*

***Motion passed by voice vote: nine in favor; zero opposed and zero abstained.***

- Planning and Land Use Report** by Residential Rep. Pennington, he stated that
  - That Developer for 3627-3637 Hughes Avenue Development met with Planning and Land Use Committee and will add guest parking and will discuss landscaping issues with Residential Rep. Miller.
  - Los Angeles Transit Neighborhood Plans still in planning stages and will be discussed at next meeting.
  - Overland Avenue Streetscape Contest is still in Committee.
  - Vacant or Derelict properties for potential open space is still in Committee.
  - Next PLU meeting scheduled for Wednesday 9/25 at 7 pm at the IMAN Center, Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance among other items to be discussed.
- Green Committee:** Resident Rep. Miller announced next Green meeting scheduled for Wednesday September 18<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, Fire Station #43.
- Assembly Business & Announcements** – The Board took a moment of silence in remembrance of 9/11. Meeting Adjourned at 9:31 p.m.