

Valley Village Homeowners Association
Board Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2017

I. Call to Order

Held in the home of Ron Meyer, the meeting was called to order by President Hatfield at 7:10 p.m. Hatfield, Fagin, Meyer, Wilhelm, Apple, Goldzweig, Kaysing, Shorr and Woersching were present.

II. Officers' Reports

A. President: Hatfield said he would make his comments on items as the meeting proceeded.

B. Vice President: Fagin has attended committee meetings.

C. Treasurer: Meyer reported that the telephone number has been transferred to a VOIP service provided by Ooma. The initial set-up is approximately \$200 but the savings will be rewarding because AT&T is at least \$936 a year. So our first year savings using Ooma will be about \$736 and for the following years it will be \$882/year.

The checking account balance is \$21,048.00; checks were purchased at Costco for \$19.95. Some small expenses were paid and a donation of \$600 was given to PACE to support the Colfax World Fair.

Meyer has also prepared a directory of and for the board members.

D. Secretary: Wilhelm reviewed the time assignments for the VVHA/NCVV booth at the Colfax World Fair.

III. Committee Reports

A. Membership: Wilhelm reported that the Committee met and gave recommendations for an updated Valley Village Story. She handed out the first draft and asked for ideas and corrections.

Meyer showed his mock-up of the "Discover Valley Village" membership card. Twenty merchants have agreed to give discounts to our members. Merchants will put up signs on their storefronts. The cards must be ready by the time of the membership drive.

B. Outreach & Communications: Rynew was not present.

C. Specific Plan: Woersching reviewed the series of attempts to amend the Specific Plan. Inertia in the system led to no action by city officials. There are nine areas within Valley Village that could be downzoned if the city permitted. These areas include duplexes and triplexes currently zoned as R3. The aim of downzoning is to lower

housing density. Woersching opined that speculation about opening the Specific Plan for amendments would invite developers to alter density rules is an exaggerated concern because the density of development is not controlled by the Specific Plan but rather by the zoning, which is separate from the Specific Plan.

The committee asked the Board to urge Councilmember Krekorian to submit the Specific Plan amendments for review by the appropriate city department.

MOTION: Apple proposed; seconded by Kaysing.

That VVHA support downzoning in appropriate areas as identified by Woersching and the NCVV.

AMENDMENT TO MOTION: Woersching proposed; Apple and Kaysing agreed.

That VVHA support downzoning in appropriate areas as identified by Woersching and the NCVV; and that VVHA support the 2009 amendments to the Specific Plan; and that VVHA request that Mr. Krekorian reactivate the process of seeking approval of the amendments.

Motion was approved unanimously.

Hatfield, adding that he recently met with Krekorian's new deputy, Jessica Fugate, and her supervisor, Geoffrey Yezzetti, stated that he will contact the Councilmember's office to initiate action.

Goldzweig asked if a petition supporting VVHA's effort would help influence Mr. Krekorian. Meyer agreed to prepare a sign-up sheet entitled "Downzoning Initiative for 13 At-Risk Blocks." Woersching will assist with the wording. Members working the booth at the Colfax World Fair will ask attendees to lend their support by signing their names. Meyer will make a sign "Talk to us About Defending the Character of Valley Village" for the booth.

D. Hospitality: Shorr reported that no plans have been made yet for the July membership meeting. Wilhelm added that she applied for the LAUSD Civic Center Permits.

E. Events: Apple will be leading a 4th of July committee meeting May 16th. Sanchez will not be helping at the park this year, so Apple hopes Ken Hearn will agree to take over those responsibilities.

F. Political: Hatfield briefly shared the results of his meetings with Krekorian's staff, former Board of Supervisors member Zev Yaroslavsky, as well as Senator Henry Stern (West Valley) who hopes to modify loopholes in Prop. 47 that may be causing an increase in property crimes

IV. New Business

A. Historic Preservation Overlay Zones: Hatfield advised that Kaysing and Fagin agreed to tackle this

project. Kaysing recommended L.A. Conservancy tours of HPOZ neighborhoods. Hatfield stated that there are several blocks that appear to retain its original character such as Apple's block on Ben Avenue. Kaysing said there is a 1920 bungalow on LaMaida that has been untouched since its original construction. She advised more research is required and asked that a committee be formed. Wilhelm suggested she contact Sandy Hubbard. Hatfield asked Kaysing to approach representatives from L.A. Conservancy and ask if they would speak at the July membership meeting.

B. Archive Storage: Sanchez asked the Board to decide what should be done with storage boxes of VVHA archives that he has in his garage. He had supplied the board with a list of items. Meyer agreed to make arrangements to obtain the boxes and review their contents. Insurance records hold no value and need not be kept but Bylaw changes and Incorporation papers could be scanned. The Board asked Meyer to sort the archives and then three Board members will review the documents and decide what must be done.

V. Unfinished Business

A. Welcome to Valley Village Sign at Starbucks Laurel Cyn. & Burbank: Hatfield reported the Department of Public Works has located the line item and that \$50,000.00 has been reserved; however, Starbucks has reneged on its commitment to install the sign. The other sticking point is that the funds are designated for a median sign; Hatfield agreed earlier to contact the City Attorney's office to see if this designation could be lifted. He also wondered if another location could be determined. Shorr and others expressed a desire to have the sign installed at Starbucks. Shorr will research NCVV minutes and look for a written agreement with Starbucks. Once that is found, Hatfield will ask Mr. Krekorian's office to demand that Starbucks honor the agreement.

VI. Old Business

A. Update on Search for Officers Insurance Policy: Hatfield said he thought Sanchez agreed to search for a quote on this type of policy.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.