

Shawn Simons, President
Rohan Gupta, Vice President
Samantha Foley, Secretary
Jill Remelski, Treasurer

**EMPOWERMENT CONGRESS
NORTH AREA NEIGHBORHOOD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**



**PO Box 7536
Los Angeles, CA 90007
sam.r.foley@gmail.com
www.nandc.org**

Area Representatives:
Leslie Evans, Area 1
Josyel Castellon, Area 1
Ana Carrion, Area 2
VACANT, Area 2
Al Foster, Area 3
Ashley Ramos, Area 3

Committees:

Jill Remelski, Budget & Finance
Rohan Gupta, Planning & Land Use
Leslie Evans, Public Safety
Eddie North-Hager, Outreach
Al Foster, Youth/Senior
Gabriela Garcia, Block Clubs and Beautification
Shawn Simons, Economic Development

At Large Representatives:

Yelba Castellon
Gabriela Garcia
Christine Lee
Hector Ramos

Community Interest Positions:

Andrea Canty, Education Rep
Eddie North-Hager, USC-Staff Rep
Sabrina Brown, Public Safety Rep
VACANT, Youth Rep

**Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 5, 2011
6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
MLK Park Gymnasium
(39th Street and Western Ave)**

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome and Call to Order & Translation Services (5 minute)**
- 2. Announcements (15 min)**

a. LAPD report – Senior Lead Officers - not present

-LAPD Announcement: Southwest Division looking for Reserve Officers. Voluntary position, application process. Can keep your career and give back as a police officer.

b. CD 1 Report – Richard Reyes – not attending

c. CD 8 report – Cathy Davis

-Residents have asked what development is taking place in the district? Have list of developments in North Area.

-Event: Los Angeles Land Trust having Beautification at Richardson Family Park (2700 Budlong) from 10am-2pm on May 14th. Contact Julio Esperez Jr.

-Event: Sanitation is hosting having Discover Recycle on June 11th at Expo Park Lot #1. Can bring old tires and they will take them. They do have different locations and dates. If bring tires get 15% coupon off purchase of Firestone or Bridgestone tires.

-Resource guides on table for 8th District.

-Clean up took place on Saturday, April 30th, walkway on Vermont off of 35th Street. Had close to 200 volunteers. Doing again on a yearly basis, looking for more participation from North Area.

d. Assemblymen Davis report – not attending

e. Senator Price report – James Westbrook – not attending

Announcement: Small Business Access to Capital and International Trade Forum. Friday, May 6th, 2011 from 1-4pm at West LA College (Fine Arts Complex). For more information or to RSVP call Senator Price's Office at (213) 745-6656

3. Roll Call of Present Board Members (5 min)

- a. Action - Approval of Minutes for April: MOTION TO APPROVE by Eddie. Jill seconds. All in favor, approved.

Present: Al, Hector, Leslie Sam, Rohan, Eddie, Jill, Josyel

4. Committee Reports: (40 min)

- a. Treasurer Report - Budget & Finance: Jill Remelski

i. Discussion/Action: Audit Reports

Copy of April Bank Statement available. Find it easier to approve monthly rather than quarterly. Large due to Health Fair and other activities.

MOTION TO APPROVE by Joysel. Leslie seconds. All in favor, approved.

- b. Planning & Land Use: Rohan Gupta

i. Discussion/Action: Oak & Washington Entertainment venue – not present, will be coming back to Land Use Committee

ii. Discussion/Action: Flower Japanese Restaurant

Ana Present

Bruce Kafil from Lotus on Flower Restaurant: Started project after graduated from USC. Japanese restaurant located at 3742 S Flower St. behind Tuscan residences. Parking will have 16 on site spaces and 16 off site. Spaces are valet only due to location of spaces. Building is a historic monument so revamped current building. Entrance goes through large outdoor garden area to interior dining area. Will create 21 full time jobs for the community. Will advertise jobs locally.

Question: Where is the employee parking? Designated spots behind the building for employees

Question: What are the restaurant hours? 11:30am to 11:30pm. Are you charging for parking? Yes, around the area it's somewhere between \$3-6, will keep to industry standard

Question: What drinks will be available? Offering special menu of hot and cold exotic teas from all around the world.

Question: When will open? August 2011

Question: if you don't want to valet, where do you park? A lot of street parking because no other businesses in the area. Metered spaces for 2 hours.

Rohan: Presented at the Land Use Committee and it's a great project. No other businesses on the block and space has been empty for a long time and trying to do something creative. Not easy area to park in, but area doesn't have any retail.

MOTION TO ENDORSE BEER AND WINE LICENSE WITH LETTER by Ana. Leslie seconds. All in favor, approved.

-LA Streetcar Scoping Meeting on May 17th from 4-7:30pm at the Los Angeles Theater at 615 South Broadway

- c. Public Safety: Leslie Evans

Closed three major cases this month:

1. Recycling Center owners entered no contest plea to leave center closed for one year. Will not be sentenced as long as place does not reopen.

2. Homeless encampment in alley north of 10 freeway and east of Normandie. Alley is now clean.

3. Three story abandoned apartment at 3856 Normandie. Did paint out graffiti.

One new case at 2617 Dalton, Spanish style duplex, changing hands and being reconverted into single family home. Transients breaking into it. Will monitor with police.

Letter from Expo Park and the City put in extra street lights on 38th and 39th Street and because of cutbacks the City wants to take them back. Want letter from NANDC to say we want to keep the lights.

MOTION TO APPROVE REPORT by Jill. Joysel seconds. All in favor, approved.

d. Youth/Seniors: Al Foster

Follow up meeting with Social Hazard Awareness Research and Education (SHARE) asking to present to Board. From Realto but want to come here to do work. Large food bank. Want to do focus group in area, working with Student Government at USC to see if they can hold it on campus.

Meetings with Principals of Manual Arts and West Adams Prep. West Adams Prep Parent Club wants to come to NANDC to find out how they can get USC students to come and mentor students due to LAUSD cutbacks. Looking for youth activities for summer as well.

e. Block Club and Beautification: Gabriela Garcia – not present

f. Outreach: Eddie North-Hager

i. Web update, committee pages and strategy

Teleconference for outreach committee. Discussed additions/changes to website and working with developer. Email Eddie anything that would like on the website and partner with them.

Want to update the committees

g. Economic Development: Shawn Simons

ED: CBA are not mandated if the organization is not taking public money or getting concessions. some of the programming will not be in a CBA but are voluntary programs that USC wants to provide for the community. One focus is on job training. We would like to invite USC to come and discuss the plans and get input from the board and community. One very important point are the CBA boundaries. We need to push for clarification that the boundaries go all the way to Western for their improvements and don't stop at Vermont. Would like to ask for a letter writing campaign from individuals and block clubs to have USC work within what this board voted on as CBA natural boundaries.

h. Park Partnerships: Shawn Simons

CPP: Moving ahead with volunteer recruitment. Had a discussion about 'community events' and rates and fees for home grown programs and the willingness to pay for hard costs (such as additional maintenance due to large turn out for events) but disapprove of intangibles such as indoor rental.

May Day: If no one was there the report I received was approx 300 people showed and they had an awesome art wall. Someone needs to follow up if any sign in sheets were used we need a copy.

i. SLAANC Update: Andrea Canty - not present

j. Budget Update: Rohan Gupta & Ernesto Arias

i. Discussion/Action: Budget Support letters

Ernesto: budgetadvocatesla.com have copies of minutes from meetings. Have been lobbying City Council for budget proposal. Published white paper and cal report, online with email address if have comments or questions. Still discussing if need letters of support and drafting a letter for NC's to sign. Have not discussed NC budgets yet so still not sure where at with that. NO ACTION TAKEN.

5. Discussion/Action: Crenshaw Line (5 min)

Eddie: Pushing for stop at Leimart Park, stop at Vernon and Crenshaw, and putting the rail underground. It's a lot more money to go underground. If above ground, Crenshaw is wide street with locally serving retail so splitting street and could hurt businesses. Safety is always an issue with it being above ground. Vernon and Crenshaw is major community area with Senior Center and other community gathering places.

MOTION TO ENDORSE MARK RIDLEY THOMAS' MOTION TO PUT PORTION OF LINE UNDERGROUND AND AN ADDITIONAL STOP AT VERNON by Jill. Eddie seconds. All in favor, approved.

6. Project Updates (5 min)

- a. Health Fair
 - i. sign in sheets

A lot of community partners present, free dental check ups. Yelba has the sign in sheets. At least 300 participants. Gave out free recyclable grocery bags with logo.

- b. Internet seminar – Andrea not present
- c. Set date for NANDC/DONE strategic planning day

Jill: Have it on a day on Saturday in June. June 11th from 10am to 3pm. Everyone can make it. Board commitment form to complete.

Additional Update: Park Safety – Ana – have more security or a restroom for children only

7. Agenda Setting for June Meeting (5 min)

- a. Revisit- Discussion/Action: Budget Support letters
- b. Reminder about DONE Strategy Day
- c. Jill: Monthly Audit Report for May
- d. Oak & Washington Entertainment venue

8. Public Comment and Announcements - Comments from the public are limited to 3 minutes per speaker unless the presiding officer of the board determines a different limit for a particular item. (5 min)

9. Adjournment 8:02pm

Official public notice for all committees:

Empowerment Congress North Area Neighborhood Council Committees				
COMMITTEE	CHAIR(S)	CONTACT INFORMATION	MEETING LOCATION	MEETING DATE/TIME
Public Safety	Leslie Evans	lbevans@earthlink.net	Bethune library at 39th Street and Western Avenue	Third Thursday of every month. 5:00 pm
Budget & Finance	Jill Remelski	nandc.treasurer@gmail.com	NANDC Office Ahmanson Senior Center, 3990 S. Menlo	As needed
Land Use & Planning	Rohan Gupta/ Samantha Foley	rohan@stuho.com / sam.r.foley@gmail.com	Community Computing Center, University Village	Last Thursday of every month, 6:00 pm
Outreach	Eddie North-Hager	edwardnh@usc.edu	Community House, 28 th and Hoover	Last Tuesday of every month, 6:00 pm
Youth/Senior	Al Foster	aljfooster@yahoo.com	Starbucks on Hoover	Last Sunday of every month, 9:00 am
Economic Development	Shawn Simons	Shawn.simons@yahoo.com	Community Computing Center, University Village	Last Thursday of every month, 7:00 pm
Block Clubs and Beautification	Gabriela Garcia	gabriela.unidad@gmail.com	Community House, 28 th and Hoover	Last Tuesday of every month, 7:00 pm

The Next Regular Meeting of the Empowerment Congress North Area Neighborhood Development Council Governing Board is: **THURSDAY June 2nd**

- You are encouraged to visit a NANDC posting site 72 hours prior to the Regular and Town Hall Meeting at the following locations:
- Los Angeles Child Guidance Clinic, 3787 South Vermont Avenue (near Vermont & Exposition)
 - Martin Luther King Recreation Center, 3916 South Western Avenue (near King & Western)
 - Supermercado Latino, 1049 West Martin Luther King Boulevard (near Vermont & King)
 - Food 4 Less, 1748 West Jefferson Boulevard (corner of Western & Jefferson)
 - Smith's Quick Cleaners, 1901 Rodeo Road (near Rodeo & Arlington)

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