

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

**EMPOWERMENT CONGRESS
NORTH AREA NEIGHBORHOOD
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**



**PO Box 7536
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www.nandc.org**

Area Representatives:

Leslie Evans, Area 1
VACANT, 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
Moises Matamoros
Hector Ramos

Community Interest Positions:

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

**Regular Meeting
Thursday November 4, 2010
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 (20 min)**
 - a. CD 1 Report – Richard Reyes - absent
 - b. CD 8 report – Cathy Davis - absent
 - c. LAPD report – Senior Lead Officer - absent

A. Possible Action Item: Neighborhood Party Issues – Collaboration with SLO and LAPD

Trying to make prostitution arrests.

Burglaries, Adams and Hobart critical arrest- caught man breaking in to a car. Auto burglaries have been down this month.

Loud Party complaints: as a community what can we do? How can we work with LAPD to help the situation

Prett Galloway monitors this in his area. Go on by Leslie as well and form Western to Vermont.

Comment: parties on 23rd and Normandie, parties twice a month, part of ANNA block club 1736 W. 23rd st.

Party Policy: Officers are to respond and MAY cite, not shall cite. Can tell them to stop the party and turn down the music. Warnings may be given but can be called back a second and third time. At that time officer will cite. Officers do not have to cite the first time they go out.

Best thing to do is call station a second time and ask to speak to the watch commander and tell him that LAPD has already been out once, can you please cite next time?

From Western to Vermont in my area, getting all property owners and holding a large property owner meeting and bringing in City Attorney and guests speakers. Some property owners don't live there but they need to hear it. Bring in noise enforcement department heads and tell property owners that they will be held responsible for the tenants that are cited. Shawn: put together letters- letters to the parties and to the neighbors about what their rights are.

SLO: still want to hold a meeting because sending letters to the owners may be effective because they don't want to be liable and then send letters out to everybody

Comment: What is your usual response time? SLO: parties are low on the priority list

Comment: we stagger our calls amongst the ANNA members

Shawn: about the party policy, how do we change it? Why not cite them right away and get money?

SLO: write the chief of police, police board would review. But sometimes when you cite, they don't care and turn the music back up.

Ana: Are there minors there? ANNA rep: yes they usually leave at 11pm. Ana: are there specific dates that they have these parties? ANNA rep: Yes, they rent equipment and charge admission. SLO: is there alcohol? ANNA rep: Yes

Andrea: is it up until 10pm that they can have loud music? SLO: noise can take place at anytime, but generally up until 10pm is a courtesy

Dave Galaviz/Roberts: I'm from USC, want to figure out how to get a neighborhood prosecutor back in the area

SLO: Complaints can be about any kind of noise

Andrea to help coordinate the meeting from Normandie to Vermont and from the 10 to Jefferson. Normandie to Western and the 10 to Jefferson. Have two separate meetings, send out letters and get rsvp. Try for something after new year. Depends on when City Attorney is available. Get a list from City and write letter together and have the explorers flier the area.

Shawn: can fix one problem party but then someone else will host it. It's about educating the community about this issue and making sure they know the consequences.

Add to agenda next month

TRACY 35896@lapd.lacity.org

d. Assemblymen Davis report - absent

e. Senator Price report – James Westbrook - absent

- 3. Public Comment** - 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.

Those in CD8 will be big election in spring for all even number Council Districts and Assemblymember Davis and Curren Price were re-elected.

Board should arrive to meetings at 6:15pm to help set up

- 4. Roll Call of Present Board Members Board announcement: Eddie, Hector, Andrea, Ana, Leslie, Rohan, Ashley, Shawn, Samantha – 7:09pm**

a. Action - Approval of Minutes for September and October - Motion to approve: Ashley, Rohan seconds. ALL IN FAVOR. Approved

- 5. Discussion/Action: Board Vacancies**

a. USC Student Representative Applicants- Blaine Prober and Jonathan Oliva
Jonathan Oliva: undergrad and USC. Heard about NANDC through Ashley. Looked at website and interested. Flexible schedule to dive in to committees and help out. Major in POSC and COMM, Freshman. Experience in this, student body president in high school. On USG, campus affairs committee, interested in Public Safety committee. Would stay involved even if did not get position. From Monterrey Bay, living in the dorms.

Rohan: come to a committee meeting- Blaine came to Land Use

Shawn: Since you are a Freshman, worried that don't know the area well enough and have USC connections. For instance, wants USC to offer a van to come over to this area of the neighborhood

Jonathan: In URSC and USG, in a fraternity.

Shawn: I wasn't here for Blaine. Motion to table. Ana seconds.

TABLED UNTIL NEXT MONTH WHEN BLAINE CAN BE PRESENT

b. Area 1 Rep - Josyel Castellon

Josyel Castellon: Lived here for over 20 years and interested in serving community. 7 year old son, want to ensure he grows up in a prosperous neighborhood. Want the changes going on to benefit the community. Committed to serving area 1 and get involved. Goal is to get the word out about NANDC to Area 1 because no one really knows about it. Served on Boards before and knows the commitment, worked in non-profit in fundraising, direct mail campaigns and events. Yelba's sister but representing a different area and has been vacant for some time.

Shawn: was at Park event and helped a lot.

Signed up for outreach and block club committees

Ana: don't see it as a conflict because representing different areas

Hector motions to approve. Ana seconds. ALL IN FAVOR. APPROVED

6. Committee Reports: (20 min)

a. Treasurer Report - Budget & Finance: Jill Remelski - none

b. Planning & Land Use: Rohan Gupta

Land Use: Rohan- didn't have anything come to the committee this month. Talked about the design board potential and cell phone towers. Request attendance at board meeting to discuss cell phone tower placement, draft letter to ATT about why bringing the tower to our area.

Shawn: NANDC is zero tolerance on cell phone towers until there is tracking by the planning department. Pilot a program in our area to map them before put up more.

What happened to the QIMBY funds from the Gateway project?

c. Public Safety: Leslie Evans

Public Safety: did not clear cases in October but made progress in some.

Recycling center asked for continuance until December 1st – seems to be their strategy, but judge will not allow it again.

Homeless encampment that lives off of Harvard and Hobart is growing. Sanitation truck came out and Tracy and Nicole got rid of the trash themselves. The man arrested while breaking into a car was from this encampment. They're not just homeless, they are crack-addicted criminals.

Two lots on 27th street on east side of Western, Hobart lot is residential and Western lot is commercial. Tons of huge plastic sewer pipes there, graffiti on fences. Protesting because the land is not zoned for that and city ordered them to clear by October 20. The commercial lot has been cleared and the residential one has been partially cleared.

Need more cases, violations of building and safety, housing, drug related, we will follow up on that. Lost contact with the community, if there are any reports, will go out with digital camera and record and report it. Only have about 10 cases now and usually have about 20.

Motion to accept report: Eddie, Rohan seconds. ACCEPTED

d. Youth/Senior: Al Foster – none

Andrea Canty Leaves 7:33pm

e. Block Club and Beautification: Gabriela Garcia

Block Club: Eddie

First ever meeting. Have three potential block clubs that want to form. Comment ANNA: want to create new group, ANNA West.

Beautification: discussed ideas for projects

f. Outreach: Eddie North-Hager

Outreach: Eddie

Double sided- four panel pamphlet and postcard. Spanish and English. Discusses what we have accomplished and goals.

g. Economic Development: Shawn Simons

Economic Development: Shawn

Meeting with Bernard Parks, 7th forum.

USC Specific Plan by Parks' own admission is the biggest thing to happen o South LA. Need to get community aware about getting voices heard on this. Parks didn't negate any ideas but clearly showed that he was visionless on the project and his asks were anemic at best. City Council is in last stages that will be mandate projects have 30% local hiring. Been discussing local hiring as community benefit over low-income housing- want to give people jobs and raise people up. Parks is all for it and talking to USC about 30% but committee wants 60% and his ask was weak. It's a negotiation process with USC. Parks' package does not reflect what the community deserves and have a willing partner in USC because USC is as much a stakeholder in our neighborhood as anyone. Have an opportunity to have a partnership with USC and bring about positive changes. Start talking to neighbors about this project. Get 50 people to sign up to go down to City Hall and let you know that we will show up if this becomes a problem. We will no roll over.

Hector: 10% at risk involvement is part of that 30%

Shawn: getting hotel union and construction unions to come out to meetings. 30% hire within 2-mile radius and 20% hire in 5 mile radius. 10% risk on top of that. Also want training for construction jobs

Hector: Community hiring component for construction on campus for new athletic building

Shawn: thinks they do local hiring on both construction and jobs at projects. But will find out for sure.

Comment: will Parks come before the next meeting?

Shawn: Parks up for reelection in March. Have NANDC debate amongst candidates

h. Park Partnerships: Shawn Simons

Park Partnerships: Shawn

Community garden and MLK. Piloting program that will allow us to help program in our parks.

First meeting: November 16th at 6pm at Denker. Have activities at the park without being charged.

7. Discussion/Action NANDC Holiday Plans – Board Brainstorm

Board brainstorm about holiday events to do as a Board. Serve turkey dinner somewhere.

Gather resources about where there are free turkeys, trees, present drops and get information out to the community. We don't need to do an event if there are a lot of events in the area, but do we want to do something? Everyone needs to go out and investigate to see what's out there and where people can go.

Stephen: Did Christmas card from NANDC a few years ago and encouraged involvement

Ana: Work with a food bank and give out bags or around thanksgiving. If we participate in an activity we can talk to them when they come out.

Comment: tie in NANDC outreach to whatever we do

Shawn: Concern about thanksgiving is that it's fast approaching, maybe do Christmas dinners?

Rohan: should do something around Christmas

Stephen: work with existing org and do service.

Leslie: we don't have the resources to contact people to give food away. Maybe do the Ahmanson senior center. Jill works at homeless center north of Washington

Hector: Professional clothing drive at USC. Do it every year, 100 received clothing and 50 were hired. Drive begins November 12- December 17th

ADD TO AGENDA NEXT MONTH, have bin at the meeting to gather clothes.

Rohan: piggy back on other events

Joyse: Like to research and see what is out there and if there is a lot happening. Email board before the meeting about events.

Shawn: everybody research what's going on

Jonathan: A lot of people staying at USC for the holidays, can get URSC to help out with whatever we do

Shawn: Letter to Santa- kids write to the post office and go and collect letters, ask for our zip code

8. Discussion/Action: Tenant's Right Event in collaboration with SAJE and CCU

Tenant's Rights Event: Shawn

Came up at ED Forum, cosponsor with SAJE and CCU a tenant's rights event. Someone on the board spearhead the event with these two groups.

Jesus from SAJE: Research and policy coordinator. A lot of people don't know about their rights as tenants and people are being kicked out of homes by landlords and living in slum conditions because don't know how housing departments can work for them. Educate the community about their rights as tenants.

Roberto: lead organizer. Have relationship with a lot of organizations in the community. Interested in educational forums and activities in the area.

Ana: What type of services do you offer, do you guide them through the whole legal process or refer them to other organizational resources.

Roberto: Screen tenants to figure out what the problem is. It all depends on what the problem is. We might need to write a letter for them or refer them to the correct agency for legal advice and services.

Ana: Work with non-profit and our job is to inform the parents about their rights. Are you willing to work with us?

Roberto: Yes.

Jesus: looking to do a one-time thing?

Shawn: it would be like a fair type event with different breakout sessions about their rights and resources.

Jesus: invite partner organizations that offer healthcare services at no cost and that seems to go well with Ana's group as well.

Shawn: Yelba has also mentioned doing a health fair. Should be well-attended. Who on the board wants to work on it.

Ana will take the lead.

Shawn: put together timeline and proposal and we can use some outreach funding and we can vote on the proposal

9. Project Updates

a. My Perfect Park – Ashley Ramos

My Perfect Park: Ashley

Event went well. Planted about 50-60 trees, signed up about 176 signatures for skate park petition and a lot of people for the NANDC listserv.

b. Mayor's Budget Day– Rohan Gupta

Mayor's Budget Day: Rohan

Last month, October 16th at City Hall. About 400 people there. A lot of City Councils there. Discussed lack of budget and then broke off in to regional groups, South LA being the smallest group, with 22. Received challenge questionnaire to help understand how important those questions were to the area. Voted for 2 people to represent the region- voted Reverend from Crenshaw District and a guy that did it last year. They will get together and continue to discuss the budget and meet back with the City in April.

Shawn: should be getting feedback every month – STANDING AGENDA ITEM.

10. Agenda Setting for December Meeting (5 min)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Luke: USC task force to explore vandalism. How does council feel about it, suggestions and solutions. Will meet in a couple weeks, with Chief Drayton

Eddie: attended two events- Carnival on King and Western- well attended, a lot of families and LAPD there too, but could have been busier. Gave out glow in the dark Halloween bags. Esperanza Housing event and celebration of what they've done in the community.

Shawn: Target moving in downtown LA. December 4 there is a foreclosure fair in Inglewood. Get information posted on website.

Ana: President Obama given money for education in California and think that community agencies and non-profits have access to funds, anybody know anything about that? Maybe research in that area? Want to get the information and get training or attend workshops.

Samantha: Access City Hall event. Sent around packet of information about economic statistics in different Council Districts.

11. Adjournment: 8:25pm

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	rohan@stuho.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 or every month, 9:00 pm
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 December 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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