



NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #2
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2015, 7:30 P.M.
CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM
2929 TAPO CANYON ROAD

AGENDA

NC #2 Chair	Jan Smith
NC #2 Vice Chair	Nick Steinwender
NC #2 Secretary	Robert McLaren
NC Coordinator	Emily Habib
City Council Liaison	Mayor Pro Tem Steve Sojka

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance/Introductions
2. Agenda Review
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Correspondence
5. Public Statements/Comments
This is the time allotted for public statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Executive Board not on the agenda. Statements and comments are limited to no more than five (5) minutes per speaker.
6. Informational Presentations
 - a. The Simi Valley Police Department's Traffic Unit
 - b. The City's Home Rehabilitation Program
 - c. Proposed Water Service Rate Increases
7. Continued Business: None
8. New Business: None
9. Neighborhood Council Coordinator's Report



10. Executive Board Comments

This is the time allotted for Executive Board member statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Neighborhood Councils, to request a future agenda item, or to give an Ad Hoc Committee Report. This is also the time to make any announcements related to community events and other items of interest

11. Adjournment: Tuesday, September 8, 2015

/s/
Mark Oyler
Deputy Director/Citizen Services

If any interested individual has a disability that may require accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the Neighborhood Council Coordinator at (805) 583-6756. Upon advance notification, reasonable arrangements will be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

MEETING NOTES

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance/Introductions

Secretary Robert McLaren called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. He also confirmed that a quorum was not present.

Marques Crutchfield	P	Nancy Kidd	P
Kimberly Drewes	E	Robert McLaren	P
Jonathan A. Perez	E	Jan Smith	E
Lesley Greenfield	P	Vacant	
Wendy Morley	A	Vacant	
Sara Rosario	P	Vacant	
Nick Steinwender	A	P=Present; E=Excused; A=Absent	

2. Agenda Review

Due to lack of a quorum, all items presented were for informational purposes only. The Executive Board did not take any formal action.

3. Approval of Minutes

Due to lack of a quorum, the May 12, 2015, minutes will be reviewed for approval at the August 14, 2015 meeting and the July 14, 2015 meeting notes will be provided for information only.

4. Correspondence: None

5. Public Statements/Comments: None

6. Informational Presentations

a. The Simi Valley Police Department's Crime Analysis Unit

Debbie Ruud and Danielle Bonfiglio from the Crime Analysis Unit discussed how crime in Simi Valley is up slightly in 2015 after 2014 was the safest year on record for Simi Valley. They also mentioned how more offenders are not going to jail due to the Realignment Bill of 2014 and Proposition 47, which went into effect this year. Both of these reduce the classification of most "nonserious and nonviolent property and drug crimes" from a felony to a misdemeanor. They also noted that the biggest percentage of thefts is due to people not locking their vehicle doors. Residents can stay up to date about crime in the City by going to the Simi Valley Police Department's Facebook page, Nixle.com or crimemapping.com.

b. Coastal Cleanup Day

Kay Allen, Environmental Compliance Program Coordinator from the Public Works Department, discussed the upcoming Coastal Cleanup Day on Saturday, September 19, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. – noon at Rancho Simi

Community Park. She explained the importance of keeping the Simi Arroyo clean so that the trash doesn't eventually end up in the ocean.

Ms. Allen requested that Neighborhood Council #2 volunteer and also help to recruit additional volunteers for the event. For additional information or to volunteer please call (805) 583-6424.

7. Continued Business: None

8. New Business: None

9. Neighborhood Council Coordinator's Report

Emily Habib discussed the current recruitment. Neighborhood Council #2 has six openings and four applicants. She also briefly discussed what is expected of Executive Board members and what their responsibilities are during recruitment.

An Executive Board member asked about the status of a proposed skate park in the City. Ms. Habib will look into this and report back to the Executive Board.

10. Executive Board Comments

Nancy Kidd reported that the Ghost Tours at Strathern Historic Park will be discontinued but they will hold a Dia de Los Muertos celebration on November 1. This will hopefully become an annual event.

Marques Crutchfield inquired about the possibility of getting left turn arrows at the north/south intersection of Sycamore Drive and Alamo Street. Ms. Habib will get this information for Public Works and report back to him.

11. Adjournment: Tuesday, July 14, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

By the consensus of the Executive Board, the meeting ended at 8:30 p.m.

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance/Introductions

Secretary Robert McLaren called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. He also confirmed that a quorum was present.

Marques Crutchfield	P	Sara Rosario	P
Kimberly Drewes	P	Nick Steinwender	E
Jonathan A. Perez	P	Nancy Kidd	E
John Reid	A	Robert McLaren	P
Samuel F. Soehnel	E	Jan Smith	E
Lesley Greenfield	P	Vacant	
Wendy Morley	P	P=Present; E=Excused; A=Absent	

Also present: Deputy Director/Citizen Services Mark Oyler

2. Agenda Review

By consensus of the Executive Board, the agenda was approved as presented.

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Sara Rosario and seconded by Michelle Moroney to approve the minutes of April 14, 2105, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Correspondence: None

5. Police Liaison Report

Sergeant Steve Shorts informed the Executive Board that the major crime trend in Neighborhood Council #2 is still property theft from unlocked vehicles. He also noted that his team of officers are preparing for the potential increase in crime during the summer when the youth are out of school.

6. Public Statements/Comments

A resident stated that the Municipal Code should be revised to allow chickens in all residential zones by classifying them as either companion or show animals.

7. Informational Presentations

a. The Simi Valley Police Department's Detective Unit

The presentation was postponed to a later date to be determined.

b. National Public Works Week

Jim Langley, Deputy Director/Sanitation Services, discussed the Public Works Open House, which will take place on Thursday, May 21, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Simi Valley Public Services Center. The

event this year will be free to the public. There will be educational tours of the facilities, and opportunities to learn about the various functions of the City of Simi Valley's Public Works Department.

8. Continued Business: None

9. New Business:

a. Review of Proposed Revisions to the City's Sign Ordinance

Peter Lyons, Director of Environmental Services, provided an overview of the City's current temporary sign ordinance and what is proposed once the ordinance sunsets later this year. He noted that the City Council had requested input from the Neighborhood Councils on the proposed revisions. Of particular interest was whether they felt it was appropriate to discontinue the use of feather signs and to increase the size and amount of monument signs.

Questions and comments from the audience/responses from the applicant regarding feather signs:

None

Questions and comments from the Executive Board/responses from the applicant regarding feather signs:

What are the issues that have resulted with using feather signs?

Aesthetics has been the main issue. Many people have found the signs to be unattractive.

Two people commented that they would like to see feather signs allowed for special events only. Mr. Lyons replied that because of the cost of such signs, merchants may not be in favor of using them occasionally for special events.

Two people commented that there were too many feather signs and they were a distraction to drivers.

Upon conclusion of the discussion, the following motion was made by Wendy Morley and seconded by Kimberly Drewes:

MOTION: Recommend that the Planning Commission deny the proposed revisions to the City's Sign Ordinance and allow the use of feather signs to continue.

Executive Board vote:	2 Ayes;	5 Noes;	0 Abstentions
Audience vote:	0 Ayes;	4 Noes;	2 Abstentions
Unincorporated Area vote:	None		

The motion failed.

Questions and comments from the audience/responses from the applicant regarding monument signs:

None

Questions and comments from the audience/responses from the applicant regarding monument signs:

Will business owners be required to pay to have their name on the new monument signs, whether they want to or not?

That would be on a case by case basis, depending on the individual leases.

Will people living near the signs be impacted by the glare from the lighting?

No because lighting standards are required to comply with the Municipal Code to control potential glare.

Upon conclusion of the discussion, the following motion was made by Sara Rosario and seconded by Kimberly Drewes:

MOTION: Recommend that the Planning Commission approve the proposed revisions to the Sign Ordinance regarding monument signs as presented.

Executive Board vote:	6 Ayes;	1 No;	0 Abstentions
Audience vote:	1 Ayes;	3 Noes;	0 Abstentions
Unincorporated Area vote:	None		

The motion carried.

10. Executive Board Comments

Jonathan Perez announced that the quarterly meeting of the Taskforce on Homelessness was coming up on May 14. At the last meeting, the recent cleanup of local homeless camps was discussed. He noted that most people were cooperative and many took advantage of the many services they were offered.

Bob McLaren reported that he provided the Neighborhood Council quarterly report to the City Council at the May 11 meeting.

11. Neighborhood Council Coordinator's Report

Emily Habib discussed the next recruitment, which will open at the beginning of June for the terms beginning on November 1, 2015 and concluding on October 31, 2017. She stated that NC #2 is expected to have four openings.

Ms. Habib also provided an update on the recent change to the striping on the off-ramp of the westbound 118 at Sycamore Drive, which was made by CalTrans. They have committed to remove the old reflective dots and striping, but it will take a couple of months.

12. Adjournment: Tuesday, July 14, 2015, 7:30 p.m.
By the consensus of the Executive Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.