



**NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS**

**NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #2**  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015, 7:30 P.M.  
CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM  
2929 TAPO CANYON ROAD

AGENDA

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NC #2 Interim Chair	Sara Rosario
NC #2 Interim Vice Chair	Lesley Greenfield
NC #2 Interim Secretary	Kimberly Drewes
NC Coordinator	Emily Habib
City Council Liaison	Mayor Pro Tem Steve Sojka

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1. Call to Order/Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance
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. Police Liaison Report
7. Informational Presentations
  - a. The Samaritan Center- How They Help the Homeless Help Themselves
  - b. Update on Proposed Increases to Water Service Rates
8. Continued Business: None
9. New Business
  - a. Appointment of a representative to the Special Event Support Review Committee
  - b. Appointment of representative to the Taskforce on Homelessness
10. Neighborhood Council Coordinator's Report



11. 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

12. Adjournment: Tuesday, November 10, 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.

DRAFT MINUTES

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

Chair Jan Smith called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. Secretary Robert McLaren confirmed that a quorum was present.

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

2. Agenda Review

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

3. Approval of Minutes

Nancy Kidd noted that she was excused from the meeting in August as opposed to being absent. A motion was made by Nick Steinwender and seconded by Sara Rosario to approve the August 11, 2015 minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Correspondence: None

5. Police Liaison Report

Officer Tom Chapple gave a brief reminder about the Police Department's Community Liaison Officer (CLO) Program. The goals of the program are to increase communication in the community, nuisance abatement, increased community involvement, and overall crime reduction. The CLOs work to target and resolve ongoing, continuous nuisance issues (alcohol issues, parties, gangs, etc.) that tax the system by constantly requiring attention. He noted that the holidays are approaching and that residents should be more vigilant than usual by making sure doors to houses and cars are locked. He also stated that putting packages or purses in the trunk when parked at the destination does not prevent theft. Thieves often stake out parking lots for just this reason. He advised residents to put things in the trunk before leaving for a destination.

6. Public Statements/Comments

Three citizens living near Fitzgerald Road stated that they had long term problems with coyotes in their neighborhood. One person had recently lost a pet from her yard and was very upset. Officer Chapple explained that people can build high fences to keep them out of yards and hire trappers to take the coyotes away, but there is little more to be done other than to keep pets inside at all times.

7. Informational Presentations
  - a. The Simi Valley Senior Center

Toni Olson, Chair of the Council on Aging, gave the presentation. The Senior Center opened in 1984, and has evolved into a 22,000 square foot enrichment and learning center for adults. The Center is committed to offering people fifty years of age or older lifelong learning programs, exercise classes, meal programs, health services, trips to places such as Las Vegas and Alaska, computer classes, book clubs, support groups, a billiard room, social services, art classes, and much more.

8. Continued Business: None

9. New Business

- a. Request to construct 11 townhomes on a vacant parcel west of 1765 Heywood Street

**Questions and comments from the audience/responses from the applicant:**

Two residents who live to the immediate west of the project site had concerns with privacy, in that the second and third story windows will provide direct visibility into their single story home and yard.

The same residents also had concerns that the 30 proposed parking spaces planned for the townhomes are not adequate. The street parking in the area is usually full and people always have to park on the front portion of their property since Heywood Street does not have any sidewalks. Eleven more units will only exacerbate the parking issue further.

**Questions and comments from the Executive Board/responses from the applicant:**

**What will the price range be on the new units?**

It is expected to be \$250,000 to \$290,000 for the single story units and \$300,000 to \$350,000 for the two-story units. However, two of the 11 units will be affordable units.

**Why is there no secondary access for emergency vehicles?**

The Ventura County Fire District agreed that the single 26 foot wide driveway would function as both a driveway and secondary access.

**It appears to be a large development for a smaller lot. What percentage of the lot will be covered by the developed area?**

Actually, there will only be 30% coverage, well within the City's requirements because the map does not show the adjacent back parcel, which is approximately 95 feet by 95 feet.

**How has the applicant dealt with the neighbor's concerns that the second and third story windows will provide direct visibility into their single story home and yard?**

They changed the design of the building by removing balconies on the west side and minimized the number and size of the windows.

**What street improvements are planned?**

Curbs and gutters will be added to their property.

**Has the Police Department expressed concerns about any increased crime from the new development?**

Originally, they had planned an alley on the west side of the property to separate the building from the adjacent property, but the Police Department expressed concern that alleys often increase the amount of crime, so it was removed from project.

**What will happen to the existing trees on the property?**

The pepper trees are old and in poor condition and will be removed. They will be replaced with 17 new trees.

**Will the interior sounds of walking in the third floor units impact the lower floor units?**

No because the third floor units will have cement floors to prevent such impacts.

**Comments:**

One Executive Board member suggested that trees be planted along the west property line to provide additional privacy for the neighbors who will be impacted by the new townhomes.

**Upon conclusion of the discussion, the following motion was made by Sara Rosario and seconded by Lesley Greenfield:**

**MOTION: Recommend that the Planning Commission approve the request to construct 11 townhomes on a vacant parcel west of 1765 Heywood Street, with the recommendations that the western wall be eight feet tall with the planting of shrubs and trees, and that additional onsite parking spaces be added.**

**Executive Board vote: 9 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**  
**Audience vote: 2 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**  
**Unincorporated Area vote: None**

**The motion carried.**

- b. Discussion of Proposed Changes to Transit Fares and Senior Service Age  
Sommer Barwick, Director of Community Services and Anna Medina, Administrative Officer provided a presentation about the proposed changes to Transit Fares and Senior Service Age. Due to state legislation, the City is now required to recover a 20% portion of fixed-route expenses, and 10% of ADA Paratransit/DAR expenses through fare revenue. These requirements are currently not being met and Simi Valley Transit last revised the fares in 2003. It is proposed to increase the eligibility age of senior riders from the age of 60 to 65, to provide consistency with other local transit agencies. The

proposed changes will allow Simi Valley Transit to provide comparable services and fares on a regional basis and further the City's ability to meet state requirements.

**Questions and comments from the audience/responses from staff:**

None.

**Questions and comments from the Executive Board/responses from staff:**

**How would the option of offering seniors free rides on buses cut costs?**

The hope is that able bodied seniors will take a bus instead of Dial-a Ride. Buses can be more convenient for seniors, plus each trip on Dial-a-Ride costs the City \$53.37. Seniors have the option to ride free, so this is a very costly form of transportation for the City. Each time a senior chooses a bus over Dial-a Ride, the City saves \$53.37.

**If a senior with a cane or walker chooses to ride a bus, will someone be there to help them on and off, and deal with their walker and other hand devices?**

Yes, if they ask the driver, they will help the senior to utilize the bus.

**If the Senior Service Age is raised from 60 to 65, how many people would lose their Dial-a-Ride eligibility?**

Approximately 40-45 people would lose their eligibility. However, there is an option to grandfather these current riders in and still allow them to use Dial-a-Ride.

**Are there any financial concessions for caretakers that may need to ride a bus with a senior?**

Not at this point, but that will be considered.

**Upon conclusion of the discussion, the following recommendations were made:**

**The following motion was made by Jan Smith and seconded by Marques Crutchfield:**

**MOTION: Recommend that the Senior Service Age be raised from 60 to 65.**

**Executive Board vote: 8 Ayes; 1 No; 0 Abstentions**

**Audience vote: None**

**Unincorporated Area vote: None**

**The motion passed.**

**The following motion was made by Robert McLaren and seconded by Lesley Greenfield:**

**MOTION: Recommend that the current Dial-a-Ride users who are between the ages of 60 to 64 be grandfathered in so that they can continue to use the program.**

**Executive Board vote: 8 Ayes; 1 No; 0 Abstentions**  
**Audience vote: None**  
**Unincorporated Area vote: None**

**The motion passed.**

**The following motion was made by Robert McLaren and seconded by Sara Rosario:**

**MOTION: Recommend that all fixed route bus fares be increased by \$.25.**

**Executive Board vote: 9 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**  
**Audience vote: None**  
**Unincorporated Area vote: None**

**The motion passed.**

**The following motion was made by Wendy Morley and seconded by Nick Steinwender:**

**MOTION: Recommend that all ADA/DAR IntraCity fares be increased to \$2.00.**

**Executive Board vote: 9 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions**  
**Audience vote: None**  
**Unincorporated Area vote: None**

**The motion passed.**

c. Election of Interim Officers

By consensus of the Executive Board, Sara Rosario was elected Interim Chair, field was elected Interim Vice Chair, and Kimberly Drewes was elected Interim Secretary.

10. Neighborhood Council Coordinator's Report

Emily Habib discussed the current recruitment period for the term that begins on November 1. She stated that interviews for the six openings on Neighborhood Council #2 will be held at the end of September/beginning of October.

11. Executive Board Comments

Nick Steinwender reported on the Joint Chairs meeting. He noted that each Executive Board would be asked for volunteers to mentor the new members.

12. Adjournment: Tuesday, October 13, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

By the consensus of the Executive Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:23 p.m.