



NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #1
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2016, 7:30 P.M.
CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM
2929 TAPO CANYON ROAD

AGENDA

NC #1 Chair	Tracy Ford
NC #1 Vice Chair	George Apodac
NC #1 Secretary	Bernie Riedel
NC Coordinator	Emily Habib
City Council Liaison	Mayor Pro Tem Mashburn

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. Police Liaison Report
7. Informational Presentation
 - a. 211: A Comprehensive Information and Referral Service for Ventura County
8. New Business
 - a. Discussion and Input on Possible Revisions to the Neighborhood Council Program
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: Thursday, November 3, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

/s/

Mara Malch
Acting Deputy Director

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/Pledge of Allegiance/Welcome

Chair Tracy Ford called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Secretary Bernie Riedel confirmed that a quorum was present.

Dan Kirk	E	Ro Curry	P
Dennis Lea	E	Jeff Faulwell	E
Joyce Erdman	P	Howard Globber	P
Tracy Ford	P	Vacant	
Bernie Riedel	P	Vacant	
Amanda Weiss	E	Vacant	
George Apodac	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

A motion was made by Howard Globber and seconded by Ro Curry to approve the August 4, 2016, minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Correspondence: None

5. Police Liaison Report

The report was postponed to the October 6, 2016, meeting.

6. Public Statements/Comments: None

7. Informational Presentation

The presentation, titled "National Preparedness Month", was canceled due to unforeseen circumstances and will be rescheduled to a future date.

8. Continued Business: None

9. New Business

a. Discussion and Input on Draft Revisions to the Neighborhood Council Bylaws

The Executive Board and the audience provided the following comments on the various sections of the Bylaws:

- Utilize the Neighborhood Councils to offer citizen input on a greater scope of City programs and projects including the Community Projects Grant and traffic planning;
- Position the Neighborhood Councils as an information hub to educate residents on ways to engage in services such as properly reporting crimes or initiating a Neighborhood Watch program;

- Consolidate the number of meetings and reduce the number of members to allow for one meeting a month to review all development projects since development affects everyone;
- Modify the requirement of for returning Executive Board members to attend an orientation;
- Eliminate the Joint Chairs Committee.

The following motion was made by Howard Gobler and seconded by George Apodac:

MOTION: Recommend that the City Council revise Article IV, Section 5B of the Simi Valley Neighborhood Council Bylaws to replace the title “Joint Chairs” to “Joint Councils” and revise the section to read as follows: Each Neighborhood Council Executive Board Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary shall be members of the Joint Councils. The Joint Councils shall meet as needed to discuss matters of mutual concern among the Neighborhood Councils.

Executive Board vote:	10 Ayes;	0 Noes;	1 Abstention
Audience vote:	1 Aye;	0 Noes;	0 Abstentions
Unincorporated Area vote:	None		

The motion carried.

10. Executive Board Member Comments

Tracy Ford said that there have been complaints about the accumulation of trash behind the Simi Valley Towne Center. Joyce Erdman stated that she will contact Code Enforcement to discuss the matter and report back to the Executive Board. She also asked the Executive Board members about different types of entries they wanted for the Simi Valley Days Parade. Howard Globber said that he would contact the manager at the new Stater Brothers grocery store to inquire about the possibility of utilizing their truck in the parade.

11. Neighborhood Council Coordinator’s Report

Emily Habib informed the Executive Board that the Neighborhood Councils will have an opportunity to inform the community about the Neighborhood Councils by having an information booth at the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District’s Snowfest Arts and Crafts Fair. The event will take place on Sunday, November 6, 2016, at Rancho Madera Community Park.

12. Adjournment: Thursday, October 6, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

By consensus of the Executive Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

CITY OF SIMI VALLEY • MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 1, 2016

TO: Neighborhood Council Executive Boards

FROM: Emily Habib, Neighborhood Council Coordinator

SUBJECT: Discussion and Input on Possible Revisions to the Neighborhood Council Program

On November 23, 1970, the City Council created the Neighborhood Councils to provide its active citizenry the opportunity to remain engaged with City government. Since then, the Neighborhood Councils have contributed to the quality of life in the City through communications with the Planning Commission and City Council on land use and community development issues, public safety, allocation of resources, community services and priorities, and by being responsive to resident concerns.

For most of their history, the main focus of the Neighborhood Councils has been the review of development projects. Since the large volume of development projects has slowed over the years, the Neighborhood Council program has been in transition. On August 19, 2016, the City Council had its Annual Retreat and reaffirmed the continued importance and instrumental nature of the Neighborhood Councils to the effective governance of the City.

In order to maximize the role of the Neighborhood Councils going forward and to ensure that the City government remains accessible, efficient, and accountable its residents, the program needs to be reviewed periodically. Over the years, Executive Board members have identified improvements to the structure of the program to not only preserve its functionality but to enhance its ability to be responsive to the City's current needs. The City Council is seeking input from the Executive Boards on the program's structure and possible revisions. The following are discussion areas; however, the Executive Board is encouraged to provide input on all areas of the program that could be improved or modified to better meet the needs of the community. For reference, those areas included in the current program bylaws have been noted and the bylaws have been attached.

1. Role and purpose of the Neighborhood Councils (Page 1: Article II, Section 1)
2. Visibility of the Neighborhood Councils in the community
3. Communication tools and other outlets to distribute meeting and recruitment information
4. Agenda item requests (Page 10: Article V, Section 7)
5. Criteria for staff to proactively solicit Neighborhood Council input
6. Size and number of Executive Boards (Page 3: Article IV, Section 3A)

7. Frequency of meetings (Page 9: Article V, Section 2)
8. Meeting attendance requirements (Page 6: Article IV, Section 3H)
9. Orientation attendance requirements for returning Executive Board members (Page 3: Article IV, Section 3A)
10. Role and purpose of the Joint Chairs Committee and Joint Neighborhood Council meetings (Page 9: Article IV, Section 5B)
11. Appointment and participation of Neighborhood Council representatives to other boards and commissions (Page 7: Article IV, Section 4A.a.2)
12. Additional items

These are only considered starting points for your discussion. All suggestions for improvements to the program Neighborhood Council program are encouraged. The goal of this discussion is to ensure that the program continues to maintain strong visibility within the community and serve as a resource to residents. Staff is soliciting ideas, feedback and recommendations from Executive Board members at the September meetings and will incorporate those that input into a discussion with the City Council regarding potential restructuring and re-visioning of the program. Your input, recommendations and vision will help shape the direction of the future Neighborhood Council program and its ongoing impact to the community.

Additionally, the Neighborhood Councils will also be recognized for their many years of service and the month will be commemorated as Responsive and Accessible Governance Month. Once a date is finalized it will be shared with the Neighborhood Councils.