


NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #4
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2017, 7:30 P.M.
CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM
2929 TAPO CANYON ROAD

AGENDA

NC #4 Chair	Steve Mace
NC #4 Vice Chair	Monica Hopper
NC #4 Secretary	Diane Martinez-Adams
NC Coordinator	Emily Habib
City Council Liaison	Council Member Glen Becerra

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 Presentation
 - a. Water Conservation Update - Where Do We Go Now?
7. New Business
 - a. Nomination of a representative to the Special Event Support Review Committee
8. Neighborhood Council Coordinator's Report



9. 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.

10. Adjournment: Special Meeting Date - Tuesday, November 14, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

/s/

Anna M. Medina
Deputy Community Services 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/Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance/Introductions

Chair Pete Stong called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. Secretary Gina Simonelli confirmed that a quorum was present.

John Casselberry Jr.	P	Ron Knepper	E
Steve Mace	P	Sharon McCann	P
Diane Martinez-Adams	P	Patti Ringo	P
Monica Hopper	P	Gina Simonelli	P
Chuck Kiel	E	Pete Stong	P
Ron Hypes	P	Vacant	
Teri Hypes	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 Monica Hopper and seconded by Diane Martinez-Adams to approve the May 16, 2017 minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Gina Simonelli and seconded by Ron Hypes to approve the July 17, 2017 minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Monica Hopper and seconded by Patti Ringo to approve the August 16, 2017 minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Correspondence: None

5. Public Statements/Comments

A resident introduced his new business venture, the Neverending Stories Book Store, which will be opening on October 1, 2017 at the Simi Valley Town Center.

Mark Zeller, Santa Susana Field Laboratory Deputy Program Director, updated the Executive Board on the latest developments in the site cleanup process. He noted that in April of this year, a permanent conservation easement was put on the land, preserving the land as open space in perpetuity. He also noted that Boeing, NASA and the Department of Energy have conducted environmental investigations in preparation for the final cleanup of the Santa Susana site. The California Department of Toxic Substances Control released its draft Environmental Impact Report for the Santa Susana cleanup for public review and comment on September 11, 2017. The report will evaluate the potential impacts of the cleanup on the site's wildlife, vegetation, Native American artifacts and nearby residents. It also lays the foundation for the scope and schedule for the site-wide soil cleanup and long-term groundwater monitoring.

Robbie Hidalgo, Director of the Simi Valley Community Garden, updated the Executive Board on the new @SocialFeed project. During the three-week period between May 13 and June 4, 2017, hundreds of community members planted sweet potato starts, known as “slips”, in private and/or public locations such as landscape borders, backyards, containers on patios, parks, schools, municipal landscaping areas etc. The hope is to harvest over 5,000 pounds of sweet potatoes on October 7, 2017 for donation to local food banks for distribution to citizens in need, thus activating the community at a municipal scale to sharply reduce food insecurity amongst our city’s low-income, homeless and indigent populations.

6. Informational Presentation: None

7. New Business

a. Discussion of a City-initiated Municipal Code Amendment on proposed marijuana standards, whether or not to:

i. **Permit, with standards, the indoor cultivation of plants for adult personal or qualified patient medical use**

Questions/Comments from the audience and responses from City Staff:

How will any permit standards be enforced?

Because any standards are unknown at this point, it is uncertain whether Code Enforcement or the Police could be called in to enforce the conditions of the permit. However, any enforcement will be complaint based.

One person felt that indoor cultivation should not be allowed on rental properties because they are typically not well maintained and as such could increase the danger of an already dangerous process.

One person commented that no additional standards beyond those of the State should be applied.

One person commented people who do not normally follow rules will grow the plants illegally anyway, so there is no reason to bother with a permit.

Questions/Comments from the Executive Board & responses from City Staff:

One person commented that it would be very difficult to enforce any permit standards.

One person commented that there should be a permitting process put into place with any proposed standards reviewed by the Neighborhood Councils.

Six people commented that no additional standards beyond those of the State should be applied.

MOTION: Upon conclusion of the discussion, the following motion was made by Sharon McCann and seconded by Diane Martinez-Adams:

Recommend that the Planning Commission vote not to create standards for indoor cultivation of plants for adult personal or qualified patient medical use over and above the State standards. However if standards are created, they should come before the Neighborhood Councils for review.

Executive Board vote:	9 Ayes;	0 Noes;	0 Abstentions
Audience Vote	8 Ayes;	0 Noes;	0 Abstentions
Unincorporated Area vote:	None		

The motion carried.

ii. **Prohibit outdoor cultivation**

Questions/Comments from the audience and responses from City Staff:

One person felt that outdoor cultivation should never have been prohibited and should be allowed with no regulations.

One person expressed support for the outdoor cultivation of marijuana with regulations.

Questions/Comments from the Executive Board & responses from City Staff:

One person spoke against the outdoor cultivation of marijuana.

Four people expressed support for the outdoor cultivation of marijuana for personal use with no additional standards beyond those set by the State.

MOTION: Upon conclusion of the discussion, the following motion was made by Diane Martinez-Adams and seconded by Ron Hypes:

Recommend that the Planning Commission vote not to prohibit outdoor cultivation and if standards for cultivation are created beyond those set by the State, they should come before the Neighborhood Councils for review.

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

The motion carried.

iii. **Prohibit marijuana land uses, operations and activities**

Questions/Comments from the audience and responses from City Staff:

Three people commented that if marijuana is sold legally, it can be regulated, available for people who really need it and would keep people from going to drug dealers. They also felt that the Simi Valley Town Center would be a good

central location for marijuana operations and these uses would help revitalize the Town Center.

One person described three sources of revenue that they City could have access to if they allow marijuana land uses, operations and activities: sales tax; tax on the type of use, and State grant funding.

Questions/Comments from the Executive Board & responses from City Staff:

Two people spoke in favor of marijuana land uses, operations and activities with no additional standards beyond those applied by the State.

Six people spoke in favor of City regulated marijuana land uses, operations and activities.

Two people felt that by prohibiting marijuana land uses, operations and activities, the City is deliberately giving up substantial tax revenues.

MOTION: Upon conclusion of the discussion, the following motion was made by Steve Mace and seconded by Monica Hopper:

Recommend that the Planning Commission vote to allow commercial, recreational and medical marijuana land uses, operations and activities with standards to be reviewed by the Neighborhood Councils.

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

The motion carried.

iv. Permit medical marijuana deliveries only to qualified patients within the City

Questions/Comments from the audience and responses from City Staff:

One person felt that medical marijuana deliveries should be allowed to qualified patients by State licensed dispensaries.

Questions/Comments from the Executive Board & responses from City Staff:

Two people agreed that medical marijuana deliveries should be allowed to qualified patients by State licensed dispensaries.

MOTION: Upon conclusion of the discussion, the following motion was made by Patti Ringo and seconded by Ron Hypes:

Recommend that the Planning Commission vote to allow medical marijuana deliveries to qualified patients at their residences by State marijuana dispensaries.

Executive Board vote: 9 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions
Audience Vote 8 Ayes; 0 Noes; 0 Abstentions
Unincorporated Area vote: None

The motion carried.

b. Election of Officers

By consensus of the Executive Board, Steve Mace was elected Chair, Monica Hopper was elected Vice Chair, and Diane Martinez-Adams was elected Secretary. Diane Martinez-Adams also volunteered to be the Social Media Coordinator.

8. Neighborhood Council Coordinator's Report: None

9. Executive Board Comments

Diane Martinez-Adams discussed how much she enjoyed participating in Coastal Cleanup Day in September. She noted that a number of interesting things were found in the Arroyo, including a stuffed dolphin and the front of a washing machine.

Pete Stong informed the Executive Board that on Saturday, October 28, 2017, the Simi Valley Noontime Rotary would be holding their annual Pancake Breakfast from 8:00-11:00 a.m. at the Simi Valley Senior Center.

10. Adjournment: Tuesday, October 17, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

By the consensus of the Executive Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.