



AGPCC Board of Director Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 16, 2005, 6:30pm to 7:45pm

Atwater Avenue Branch Library (3379 Glendale Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90039)

Present: Directors: Luis Lopez, Romi Rios, Sandra Caravella, Betty Bartlotta, Andy Hasroun, Sean Labraque, and Stephen May.

Absent: Kim Baxter and Jeff Gardner

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

- Meeting was called to order at 6:45pm
- Betty Bartlotta wasn't present at roll call but arrived late in the meeting.

2. Review and approval of minutes of two previous meeting

- Unanimous agreement to approve minutes of two previous meetings.

3. Executive Office Reports

- President Report (Luis Lopez):
 1. **Thank you letter to U-haul & Invitation to join Chamber:** A "thank you" letter was sent to Mr. Wilfredo Bolanos from U-haul for his participation in the "Take Back Fletcher Drive" merchant meeting. An invitation to join the chamber was extended.
 2. **Special Notice Postcard sent to Business Members:** A post card notice was sent to all business member encouraging members to apply for vacant positions on the Board of Directors.
 3. **"Take Back Fletcher Drive" postcard update:** A post card update on the "Take Back Fletcher Drive" campaign was sent to all merchants on Fletcher Drive. Please see below for text of postcard.
 4. **Press Release:** I wrote and issued a press release. The press release will be included in CD13's e-Newsletter, FAV's e-News, and AVRA's Newsletter....

The "Take Back Fletcher Drive" grassroots campaign to improve Fletcher Drive by reducing crime, graffiti, and nuisance activity has gained momentum. The campaign took a stride forward with the help of the Atwater Griffith Park Chamber of Commerce (AGPCC); who sponsored the "Take Back Fletcher Drive" merchant meeting.

On January 19th Fletcher Drive merchants, Senior Lead Officer Gina Chovan, and Deputy City Attorney Jeanne Kim attended an AGPCC sponsored forum to network and discuss the many quality-of-life problems that Fletcher Drive faces. The forum allowed Fletcher Drive merchants to gain a new prospective on what they can do to help improve the area and gave city officials a better understanding of the problems.

In addition to networking and discussion the "Take Back Fletcher Drive" grassroots campaign is making concrete progress to reduce the drug-selling activity on Fletcher Drive. With the valuable assistance of Council District 13 and the cooperation of various Fletcher Drive merchants several public telephones frequently used for narcotic activities will be removed.

For more information or to find out how you can help please contact Luis Lopez at 323.665.0166 or luis@atwaterchamber.org.

- Treasurer Report (Romi Rios):
 1. Due to change in bank ownership (Jackson Federal to Union Bank) Chamber bank accounts have new account numbers.
 2. **General Account Activity:** Deposit – \$2,000 (withdrawn from Special Project Account). Paid - \$112, Luis Lopez for stamps, supplies for mailers. \$110, A&K Labels for Chamber window decals. \$708.41, The Hartford Insurance for 1-year coverage. Account Balance: \$2,385.77
 3. **Special Project Account Activity:** Withdrawal – \$2,000 for deposit in Chamber General Account. Account Balance: \$5,743.91.
 4. **Atwater Village Signage Account Activity:** No activity Account Balance: \$9,046.64

4. Approval of new memberships (includes discussion & action revising membership categories and fees)

- Luis Lopez expresses concerns that membership categories and fees need to be updated; presents recommended changes:
 1. **Regular Business Membership (Businesses located within the Atwater Village community):**
 - Business 1-10 Employees \$50/year,
 - Business 10-20 Employees \$100/year
 - Business 20+ Employees \$150/year
 - Corporate \$250/year
 2. **Business Listing Membership (Businesses not located within the Atwater Village community)**
 - Business 1-10 Employees \$50/year,
 - Business 10-20 Employees \$100/year
 - Business 20+ Employees \$150/year
 - Corporate \$250/year
 3. **Other Types of Membership**
 - Resident \$15/year
 - Community Group \$15/year
 - Non-Resident/Non-Business \$50/year
- General discussion on pro/con of changing membership categories and fees
- Unanimous agreement to accept membership category / fee changes as recommended by Luis Lopez.
- Luis Lopez volunteers to update Chamber membership application
- Luis Lopez reports that Netty Carr (Netty's Restaurant) has submitted an application for Chamber Membership as a "Business Listing Member".
- Unanimous agreement to approve Netty Carr application for membership as a "Business Listing Member"

5. New Business:

a) Discussion & action: resignation of Director Arpy Simonian and Lourdes Rivas.

- Luis Lopez reports that Directors Arpy (A&K Labels) and Lourdes (Pampered Birds) have submitted their resignations from the Board of Directors; via email.

- Lourdes Rivas email resignation indicated that her reason for resigning from the Board was due being unable to commit to a “permanent schedule”.
- Arpy Simonian email resignation indicated that her reason for resigning from the Board was due her displeasure of comments made with regards to her past resignations and lack of progress on the Chamber website.
- General discussion on resignations
- Unanimous agreement to accept the resignations of Arpy Simonian and Lourdes Rivas from the Board of Directors.
- Luis Lopez notes that there are three (3) vacant positions on the Board of Directors.

b) Discussion & action: Chamber 2005 events, goals, and community issues & involvement projects.

- Luis Lopez indicates that this agenda will be an ongoing discussion thru various board meeting.
- Luis Lopez requests that the Chamber begin to outreach regularly to Chamber members thru quarterly newsletters called “The Chamber Times”.
- Unanimous agreement to regularly send newsletters to Chamber members starting Spring 2005.
- General discussion on Chamber Spring Mixer event.
- Unanimous agreement to appoint Sean Labrecque Chair of Spring Mixer event.
- Unanimous agreement to give Sean Labrecque complete authority to choose and set details, location, date and time of mixer event.
- Unanimous agreement to give Chamber Spring Mixer event a \$100 budget.
- Romi Rios recommends that a Chamber member is used to host event, possibly Acapulco Restaurant.

6. Board Member Comments and future agenda items (no action)

- Sandra Caravella reports that progress is being made by CD13 to install community identification signs on Glendale Blvd and request that discussion on the signs be placed on a future meeting agenda.
- Sandra Caravella recommends that Atwater Village Pedestrian Oriented District Ordinance be posted on the Chamber website.
- Romi Rios request that the Board follow up on the “Take Back Fletcher Drive” meeting and ask SLO Gina Chovan for an update on Fletcher Drive crime fighting efforts.

7. Adjournment @ 7:40pm

Minutes taken and submitted by Luis Lopez