



Picfair Village Neighborhood Association Minutes –
General Meeting December 9, 2024: In-person at the SGI Los Angeles Friendship Center

Board Roll Call: Joe Carrabba (Pres), David Riva (VP), Cindy Levey (Secretary), Darren Davis (Treasurer)

Meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m./Meeting was adjourned 8:00 p.m.

Invited Guests:

Mayra Guevera, Field Representative, Los Angeles City Council District 10

Lead Officer Green, Los Angeles Police Department (Officer Green was not present.)

Thank You: PVNA Board publicly thanked Rosemary and Thyme, Yummy Café, Bloom Café, Alfredo's Pizza and Vons for donating food for the holiday gathering today.

Item 1

SGI: Martin, staff at SGI Los Angeles Friendship Center lives on the 1800 block of Orange Grove and is staff at the SGI Center. Martin gave the group an introduction to the SGI Center. SGI is the largest Buddhist community in the world. The Center is open from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. every night, and during the day on weekends.

Item 2

Los Angeles City Council District 10:

Report-out:

- Councilwoman Heather Hutt is humbled by her election to Los Angeles CD 10 and by the trust the community has given to her and her leadership team.
- Storm drains are being cleaned out in the neighborhood. Councilwoman Hutt has been proactive. Mayra asked for any additional information on storm drains that need cleaning attention. *Action Item: PVNA Board will ask community about storm drain needs and provide responses to Heather Hutt's office.*
- Work continues to be done to hold Hollywood Auto Brokers accountable for the continuous infractions on the corner of Hauser and Venice Blvd. Challenges to movement on the Hollywood Auto Brokers issue continue to include staffing issues in the city's Building and Safety Inspector team.
- Community Events:

- » Christmas Food Give-away – December 19th at Barack Obama Family Sports Park
- » Reynier Park Winter Wonderland – December 15th (Includes snow!)
- » Reynier Park Festival of Lights – December 30th
- » Please see Councilwoman Heather Hutt’s newsletter and follow her on social media for updated information

Community Questions/Comments:

- Requesting suggestion for man who sleeps in manhole on Sierra Bonita and Venice. Mayra will follow-up.
- In response to a tree-trimming question, Mayra reported that Picfair Village trees will be trimmed. *Action Item: PVNA Board will follow-up by drafting a letter to Heather Hutt about the tree-trimming response for all of PVNA.*
- Mayra reminded the group that sidewalk repair is the responsibility of the property owner.

Special Presentation:

- Mayra presented a City of Los Angeles certificate of Appreciation from the Picfair Village Neighborhood Association to Officer Green for his years of services as the Lead Officer for Picfair Village.

Item 3

LAPD – Lead Officer Green

- Crime Report:
 - » On 12/6/24 at 10:10 a.m. there was an incident at the check cashing establishment on Venice and Hauser. The perpetrator who attempted to rob the check cashing owner and security guard were stabbed. One of two perpetrators is dead, the other has not been caught. The business owner and security guard are stable.
 - » Burglaries from motor vehicles is a major problem.
 - » Always lock and secure homes, and keep lights on so as to look like the home is occupied at all times.

Community Questions/Comments:

- Question from Bloom owners – Why is there sometimes a wait for police response? Officer Green explained that sometimes there is a delay for police response when resources are short.
- Question from residents of 1800 block of Orange Grove (which falls outside of Officer Green’s jurisdiction): Multiple homes on the block have been burglarized multiple times. How can the community prevent and how can the community ensure response? Officer Green provided tips on keeping property safe. Additionally, families were connected to appropriate lead officer. Families have invested in “Flock” cameras to track burglars in neighborhood, but current organizing efforts are not yet enough. *Action Item: PVNA Board will explore providing more information on Flock cameras for blocks that might be interested.*

Item 4

PICO Neighborhood Council Report-Out

- Monique Carraba, Picfair Village representative on the Pico Neighborhood Council reminded the group that grant funding is available for those who apply. If PVNA plans an event with a nonprofit Community Partner, the partner can receive funding to defray/pay for the cost of the event (for example, a clean-up) through a proposal for a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG).

Committee Reports

- Events Committee:
 - » PVNA Board is seeking more input and involvement for committees from community.
 - » PVNA Board is also seeking ideas and help for fundraisers. (Fundraising box was available for anyone who wanted to donate.)
 - » PVNA Board is working on Venmo and other ways for community members to donate.
 - » Input at meeting included recommendations for street fair, block captain-organizing, and mixers to build community momentum.
 - » Upcoming: Bollard maintenance day in January. *Action Item: PVNA will announce bollard clean-up end of January.*
- By-Law Committee: More to come.
- Traffic Committee: Seeking involvement from community members to engage in committee work, including those interested in traffic abatement in the neighborhood.

Item 5

General Comment

- The City of Los Angeles, under the mayor's program to build more housing, is constructing an apartment building on the SE corner of Pico and Sierra Bonita. The PVNA Board understands the building to cater to a combination of no-, low- and middle-income housing.