

**RAMPART VILLAGE
Governing Board Members:**

David Rockello, President
 Velinda Rockello, Vice President
 Mitchell Gutman, Treasurer
 Uver Santa Cruz, Secretary
 William Greene, Business Rep
 Angela Joo, Homeowner Rep
 Dom Dacong, At-Large Rep
 Carlos Villa, At-Large Rep
 Joselyn G Rosenthal, CBO Rep
 Jose Sanchez, Student Youth Rep
 Jeff Jamison, Business Rep

**RAMPART VILLAGE
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

RVNC Office at St. Anne's
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 155 N. Occidental Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026
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RAMPART VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Special Joint Board & Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 9, 2016 – 6:00 PM

Meeting Location

St. Anne's 155 N. Occidental Blvd, RVNC Office, Suite 236, Los Angeles, CA 90026
 (Cross streets: Beverly Blvd. and Temple St.)

I. WELCOMING REMARKS:

(Please Note: These minutes were taken from voice recording only by the Recording Secretary (minutes taker) from Lloyd Staffing. They are not verbatim but provide some detailed information to the readers.)

- a. **Call to Order:** David Rockello called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, welcoming all to this Special Joint Meeting of the Board and the Executive Committee, being held at the Rampart Village office.

David and NEA, Lorenzo Briceno, from EmpowerLA explained the difference between this type of meeting and a regular Board meeting. David noted that for our Executive meetings, it's usually just the five officers, and anybody with a special interest can do a presentation. Lorenzo responded to questions about Brown Act as to attendance for this special joint meeting. For any absent, it will not count against them as for General Board meetings. The general public can attend but the (*full*) Board cannot participate in meeting because it has the appearance of a defacto Board meeting. David noted that we have to fill these agenda items into certain categories; this meeting is to create an agenda. David discussed problem of the small size of the board in relation to meeting quorum.

- a. **Flag Salute**
- b. **Executive Committee Roll Call – Please Note: Roll was not heard on the recording. The following was provided via phone call between minutes taker & Secretary, Uver Santa Cruz.**

Present: David Rockello, Mitchell Gutman, Uver Santa Cruz, William Greene, Jose Sanchez, Joselyn Geaga R., Carlos Villa and Jeff Jamison. Velinda Rockello and Dom Dacong arrived late.

Absent: Angela Joo

Voting Executive Board Members: David, Mitchell, Uver, William & Velinda

Community Stakeholders in Attendance: Carmen Medina, Margarita Fernandez & Peter Quezada from PHFE/ YDS formerly known as Aztecs Rising

DONE: NEA Lorenzo Briceno, EmpowerLA

II. LOCAL REPORTS: (Representatives from government offices, police departments and community based organizations)

- a. **LA City Council District Representatives – None Seen, None Heard**
- b. **LAPD Senior Leads – None Seen, None Heard**
- c. **Other Government Departments/Agencies – None Seen, None Heard**
- d. **Community Organizations** Peter Quesada with the PHFB Youth Counseling Program, 672 Lafayette Park Place, 2nd floor, Space #40, across the street from the Lafayette Park. He is the liaison between the organization and the neighborhood councils. They do a lot of community service in this area. He is looking to band neighborhood councils in the surrounding area together for support, including Pico-Union, MacArthur Park NC, Olympic Park, and Wilshire Center Koreatown. He himself sits on the Board of the Cypress Park NC. His organization has done several cleanups and would like to do more. He would like support from this NC to the things that they do, including working with the gangs and taggers who affect this area. The Clean-up that they are doing next is for this Saturday. This Board will be occupied with our own retreat. He was welcomed to bring their flyers to our General Board meetings. The next clean up is scheduled with Olympic. They also have a clean up Shatto, Saturday August 27th, at the request of the LAPD, Olympic Division and one September 17th all Saturdays, from 8-noon.

III. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Margarita asked that handouts be updated going forward.

Will noted that there was a murder on Beverly & Dillon, and asked if we could put these things on the bulletin board. Carmen added that this would fall under Public Safety and recommended that we form our committees and get our website up, we could post. Uver expressed disappointment that there is a lot of trash being dumped into this neighborhood, expressed frustration that we haven't been able to get things going, such as Neighborhood Watch and others.

Peter added that that he can help with the homicide as he is on crisis response, so that whenever there is a shooting, in the Rampart and Olympic area, he is notified. He would recommend that we should get a report on this from the SLO, from the LAPD. He recommended getting in touch with the SLOs at Olympic if our division doesn't respond, as to crime stats.

Peter also responded to Uver's concern about illegal dumping, stating that the Councilmembers, either Mitch O'Farrell or Gil Cedillo, and the Department of Sanitation and the Department of Public Works, as well as the Los Angeles Conservation Corp., at LACC – at least four entities can do the work. With the Council office, the minimum they would provide would be a dumpster; a 40-yard bin or smaller, and we as the residents/community, can band together with community cleanups, post nicely done signs, (not handmade) that say "Please Don't Litter in This Area" or other. He stated that he also sees this illegal dumping. He recommended contacting the other Field Reps at Mitch O'Farrell's office, if you don't get a good response from their office, and/or contact Mitch. Carmen recommended setting up an appointment when going to the Councilmembers' office.

IV. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AGENDIZE BUSINESS ITEMS FOR THE AUGUST 13, 2016 SPECIAL BOARD RETREAT:

Gary De La Rosa will be providing an exercise at the Retreat to help Board members collaborate and share information. We will be discussing the budget for approval. Possible locations for the retreat were discussed. Carmen noted that her ideas regarding possible meeting places were disrespected at the last meeting with laughter. Mitchell responded that he was expecting these ideas to be submitted and apologized to Carmen that the laughter was not intended to be disrespectful. Also suggested were several churches and Rampart's LAPD Community Room. St. Anne's was discussed. Eco-Village was discussed and the meeting took a recess for Uver to call EcoVillage. During that recess, David brought out large sheets with notes from a meeting in 2013, which had never been typed. He listed the various parts of the Budget Package that need to be reviewed. He asked if anyone had heard of the 2016 Town Hall Survey. Uver returned with good news that we would be able to use the Eco-Village for the Board Retreat. Attendance issues were discussed. Carmen clarified that "every meeting is important." Uver noted that

Board Dynamics is important. Mitchell noted that we have made the effort to move forward, (having been in “Exhaustive Efforts”) and it will be a learning process for all of us. Lorenzo noted that we can discuss the Budget Package at the retreat, and that alone with Gary’s planned exercise can take up the entire retreat. Carlos asked if the Board from the last period ever had a mission vision.

Motion to close public comment on the location of the retreat – Moved by Will; seconded by Mitchell; none opposed; no abstentions, and the motion was **approved by all 5 voting**

Motion: That LA EcoVillage will be the location of the Board retreat – Moved by Will; seconded by Mitchell; none opposed; no abstentions, and the motion was **approved by all 5 voting**

Motion: To appoint line items for the agenda for the business to take place at the Board retreat, and that Mitch will help with the bullet points – Moved by Will; seconded by Mitchell; none opposed; no abstentions and the motion was **approved by all 5 voting**

Items to prioritize for discussion and possible action for the Retreat:

The Budget. Mitch will be completing his Treasurer’s Training on Friday and will be ready on Saturday to have the discussion and put the budget together on Saturday, to present to the Board on Tuesday, when they will be able to discuss it with stakeholders and full Board.

Outreach, Strategic Plan, Board Dynamics and General Vision for the Community & Mission Statement for 2016-2017, which is already in the Bylaws and website.

Committees may be discussed at the next Board meeting. Mitchell noted that the MERs are all completed; we’ll look at the budgets from last year, and he’ll put a draft budget together as a jumping off point.

Carmen noted that unfortunately we don’t have our committees which in the past have been able to offer funds anticipated for various activities throughout the year. She asked for greater commitment to the allocations on paper of the budget. Mitch noted that it is a necessity to shuffle around a little bit, but offered to make as correct and accurate estimate as possible. If we don’t get the budget approved, which is due September 1st, we will not be able to get out of Exhaustive Efforts. He promised that the input from stakeholders will be put into effect.

Peter came back to relate that the Rampart Police Station is making their Community Room available.

Motion: To request of DONE that they assign someone from the staffing agency to take minutes of the retreat and of this Executive Board meeting (the latter from voice recording) – Moved by Will; seconded by Mitchell. None opposed; no abstentions **approved by all 5 voting**

Uver brought up having a Spanish-speaking interpreter. Carmen noted that they have approved \$700 for the retreat, and the funds for the minutes taker can come out of that.

Motion: To add some business items to this agenda for the Board retreat, per our conversation – Moved by Mitchell; seconded by Will. None opposed; no abstentions, approved **by all 5 voting**

Motion: To schedule the Meet & Greet from 8:30 to 9:00 then the following items in this order:

- 1) Board Dynamics (Gary De La Rosa)
- 2) The Budget/Outreach Plan
- 3) Strategic Plan/Vision
- 4) Mission Statement for 2016-2017
- 5) Committees to prioritize for our next General meeting.

(There was discussion about including renegotiating with St. Anne’s as #6 in this list as David is meeting with DONE Contract Liaison, Jeff Brill; however, it was noted that there may not be time at the retreat.)

Motion: To approve the above through #5, moved by Mitchell; seconded by Uver. Discussion was held on

time per item. Breaks, logistics on shopping for food, etc. None opposed; no abstentions and motion was unanimously approved by all 4 voting. [Further discussion as to shopping for snacks & paper was held. Mitch volunteered to do the shopping this time, and asked that we alternate/share this responsibility for future meetings. He will shop for 30 people. Printing for the retreat was also discussed.]

V. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Board Members - None Seen, None Heard

B. Public: Carmen asked about items to include in the strategic plan or vision & mission statement, to which David related that we'll be picking our Committee Chairs & Liaisons on the 16th, we'll get everything done one step at a time, and maybe will need an extra meeting here and there.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. Board Members David noted that Ciclavia will be happening 14th of August 9:00am to 4:00pm. He will be at Lafayette Park, at Wilshire & Lafayette Park to do outreach for the RVNC.

David also announced and invited all to participate in the Ribbon-Cutting / Opening of the LA River and Aliso Creek Park, Thursday August 11th, Wilbur Avenue in Reseda.

B. Public - None Seen, None Heard

VII. ADJOURNMENT: Mitchell moved to adjourn, and the meeting adjourned 1:54 hours after the start of the meeting, per the voice recording, **at 7:54 pm**