

**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**

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RAMPART VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**Special General Board Meeting Minutes**

Saturday, August 13, 2016 – 8:30 AM

Meeting Location

LA Eco-Village, 117 Bimini Pl., Community Room #201, Los Angeles, CA 90004

I. 8:30am – 8:55am GENERAL MEET & GREET

- II. 8:55am – 9:00am INTRODUCTION – LORENZO BRICENO** At 9:15 a.m., Lorenzo introduced Ms. Lois Arkin of EcoVillage, where the RVNC held this meeting this morning. Lois welcomed the Board and Stakeholders to this community complex.

8 Board Members Present: David Rockello, Mitchell Gutman, Uver Santa Cruz, Joselyn Geaga R., Jose Sanchez, Dominador (Dom) Dacong, Jeff Jamison, & Velinda Rockello
(Quorum was met)

3 Absent: William Greene, Angela Joo, Carlos Villa

1 Stakeholders Present: Carmen Medina

2 DONE: NEA Lorenzo Briceno, HR/ EmpowerLA mediator Gary De La Rosa

III. 9:00am – 9:45am BOARD DYNAMICS – GARY DE LA ROSA

Lorenzo introduced Gary De La Rosa, who describes himself as a Human Relations Advocate for the City of Los Angeles' Economic Workforce Development Department. His work involves informing people on the various national programs in the City of Los Angeles, including but not limited to "Rapid Response" which helps neighborhood businesses and "Save Your Home California." He has been working with neighborhood councils, with an emphasis on helping people work with one another.

Gary provided a handout on four personality types and gave an exercise to those in attendance which involved answering questions, which were later discussed as a group. The following individuals identified with the following (animal) types as described in the handout sheets:

David & Cathy: Owls, the "analysts"

Uver & Mitchell: Lions, the "get it done" people

Jeff & Carmen: Retrievers, the "nurturers"

Joselyn, Jose & Dom: Monkeys, the "visionaries"

Gary stated that we need to remember that it takes ALL four personality types to create a fully effective team and we need to recognize these qualities in our constituents when they walk in the door, to be ready to include them accordingly. Gary suggested asking four questions about our

Vision, Relationships, Process and Results. He offered this witticism by Ernest Hemingway: "Never confuse movement with action."

IV. 9:45am – 10:45am BUDGET / OUTREACH PLAN

Mitchell provided a review of the proposed budget to go along with our Strategic (outreach) Plan.

Lorenzo noted that the cell phone service has just been cancelled. David said we need to renegotiate telephone and internet, to which Mitchell related that this has to be done through Jeff Brill at DONE.

Carmen expressed concern that DONE was going to take the phones back, break a two-year lease, and would like to be sure that our new Treasurer knows that they want to get reimbursed. Joselyn and David assured Carmen that this is being taken care of.

Jeff suggested finding out the price of telecommunications through St. Anne's if we stay there (as a negotiating tool). It was noted that any contracts must be through the City.

The Rollover policy was discussed; whether the NC can petition to roll over left over funds. David noted that in the case of rollover, we would be giving the Councilmember the funds, and they would direct the money back. Lorenzo noted that the City doesn't recommend it and their policy is no roll over.

Joselyn returned the focus back to budget allocations.

Mitch noted that we could use this as part of our goal for our mission: To use the funds for the neighborhood to improve it.

Mitchell related that he has been working with Vera from Apple One and the \$9,000 surplus may be a result of rent not yet paid. David noted that the landlord at St. Anne's is okay with this.

Discussion was held as to whether or not to include food at committee meetings, website maintenance and creation of website with City-approved vendors.

Joselyn stressed the need to move forward with time-sensitive expenditures. Mitch suggested including these in the mission statement; noting that if the money is not spent within the quarter, it gets reallocated.

Joselyn brought up the idea of cameras for hotspots. The bounty system was also discussed.

V. 10:45am – 10:55am BREAK

VI. 10:55am – 11:15am Strategic Plan / Vision

Big Vision:

Joselyn recommended promoting more citizen participation in government, to improve the sustainability of Los Angeles, including the environment, communities, and economic sustainability, at a practical and achievable level that doesn't negatively impact business.

Uver recommended that our vision should be more immediate, to fulfill immediate needs in these borders; to have short-term goals in alignment with a piece of the larger vision.

Big Goal #1: To make Rampart Village more sustainable, productive, beautiful and safe for all residents, stakeholders and visitors.

Smaller Goals to reach Big Goal:

Discussion: David recommended a goal to participate in and raise awareness of the Welcome Home Project to help persons experiencing homelessness settle into a new home; which involves donating housewarming gifts. Joselyn recommended including “Cool Blocks” as a goal, which involves reducing carbon footprint, e.g., reducing the number of black bin trash that you generate weekly.

- 1) Conduct three coordinated cleanups in Rampart Village areas impacted, including but not limited to homelessness, illegal dumping and graffiti.
- 2) Conduct three community town halls to increase knowledge and participation in subjects including but not limited to Cool Blocks, Clean Streets LA and Welcome Home Projects.

Big Solutions:

- 1) Gather sufficient community input to file a minimum of four CISs. Each Committee Chair will review the relevant Council Files and advice board on possible NC action.

(Joselyn recommended that each Committee Chair go through the Council Files and “spearhead the development of your CISs.”)

- 2) Hold Town hall meetings to promote community engagement and learn about issues relevant to stakeholders.
- 3) Partner/Collaborate with local organizations within the RVNC boundaries and/or those that serve the neighborhood regarding outreach and City initiatives.
- 4) Get out of exhaustive efforts and use our strategic plan for this fiscal year.
- 5) To choose one initiative that the Mayor and City Council’s goals for sustainability.

MOTION: To approve the Rampart Village Neighborhood Council Budget Package for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 – Moved by David Rockwell, seconded by Jeff Jamison. The Budget Package was approved by **7 yes votes by David, Velinda, Jeff, Mitch, Jose, Jos, Uver; 0 nays; 0 abstentions; 1 ineligible: Dom**

VII. 11:15am – 11:30am 2016-2017 RVNC MISSION STATEMENT – Continued

VIII. 11:30am – 11:50pm DISCUSSION OF COMMITTEES TO PRIORITIZE AT 8/16/2016 RVNC GENERAL MEETING – Continued

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT – None Seen, None Heard

X. ADJOURNMENT: Mitchell moved to adjourn; motion was seconded, and meeting adjourned at **12:05 pm**