



**CITY OF
LOS ANGELES**

ENCINO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

(A CERTIFIED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL)

**MAIL: P. O. BOX 260439
ENCINO, CA 91426-0439
OFFICE: 4933 BALBOA BLVD.
WWW.ENCINOCOUNCIL.ORG**

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SERGEANT AT ARMS**

APPROVED MINUTES of Encino Neighborhood Council Education Committee Meeting Monday, November 16, 2009

The meeting of the ENC Education Committee was called to order on Monday, November 16, 2009 at 6:02 p.m. by Harout Keosian, the committee chair.

Present were committee members: Hi Hand, Bonnie Youngdahl, Frances Zamir and Jean Strauber. Excused was Shelley Rivlin. Guest was Sharon Brewer.

The minutes for the October meeting was read and approved as read.

A motion was made to suspend Roberts Rules of Order, seconded and passed.

The first agenda item that was discussed and approved was an invitation to Joyce Real or Jenne Jones from the Encino branch of the charter school, Opportunities for Learning, to speak to the committee at its January meeting. Because the usual meeting day in January is the Martin Luther King holiday that is observed by schools, it was felt that the speakers from Opportunities for Learning would be more available if our meeting was held on the next day, Tuesday, January 19, 2010. Harout will issue the invitation to the two proposed speakers from the charter school.

It was proposed that the regular committee meeting time be moved back to its original time of 5:00 p.m. It will be easier to attract guest speakers to our committee meeting at an earlier meeting time.

Motion was made, seconded and passed.

Bonnie Youngdahl reported on her meeting with Encino Elementary School's principal Betty Kaplan. She shared the information about the fund-raising program at Encino. Encino is not considered a Title I school (less than 40% if the children are on a free-lunch program) and was allotted \$56,000 for the instructional program budget. The money for payment for an in-school teacher of physical education, music, art and a computer specialist was raised by a parent support group. Parents are requested to sign a pledge to commit a certain amount annually. After-school programs are available, but a fee is charged. Bonnie also noted that Lanai Road and Wilbur Avenue Elementary Schools have similar fund-raising programs. She also noted that Ms. Kaplan was impressed with the ENC Education Committee's project funding application and is looking forward to receiving the next application.

The committee discussed fund-raising techniques and how they can help the individual schools in Encino publicize their events at the monthly meetings. There was further discussion as to how the committee could publicize the fund-raising activities of the schools. It was decided that one of the methods would be that the committee members contact the person responsible for fund-raising activities at their contact school and request the information which would be presented to the community at the regular ENC meeting.

Jean announced that LAUSD Board Members Tamar Galatzan and Steve Zimmer were hosting a Middle School Night in the East Valley on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Harout handed out his proposed Volunteer plan that the Encino Neighborhood Council Education Committee would plan to establish in an effort to assist schools serving Encino children in areas where they have been adversely impacted. A spirited discussion followed.

A suggestion was made that Melissa Infusio who is the director of Partnerships for LAUSD be invited to a meeting of the Education Committee. Harout will contact her and inform the committee of her availability or that of her designate. He will also contact Larry Slade, ENC Volunteer Rep and Leon Woods, chair of the Encino Chamber of Commerce Education Committee, and invite them to that Education Committee meeting with Ms. Infusio or her designate.

As the criteria for committee membership and the proposed project funding applications were not published in a timely manner, their discussion will be deferred for the next meeting.

Volunteers for the November Encino Chamber of Commerce Committee meeting were requested. Jean and Bonnie volunteered to attend. The committee members were unsure whether there would be a meeting on the 4th Monday in November due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Harout volunteered to contact Leon Woods to confirm the date and would e-mail the information to the committee members.

Another item that was discussed and not voted on was this committee's relationship with the Education Committee of the Encino Chamber of Commerce. Bonnie reported that two principals expressed their appreciation that a member of the ENC Education Committee was attending the Chamber Education Committee's lunch meeting.

The committee also discussed awarding a certificate of appreciation to teachers honored by the Encino Chamber of Commerce Teacher of the Year luncheon. It was also proposed that the committee do something unique. It was suggested that the chair appoint a "point" person to maintain contact with the Education Chair of the Encino Chamber of Commerce.

As our December meeting is scheduled to be held before the Christmas holiday recess, the committee debated whether to have the meeting. The committee decided that a meeting would be held only if the chair is able to secure a speaker for that date. If not, the chair will poll the committee members as to their attendance.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Jean Strauber