

APPROVED

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



**RAMPART VILLAGE
Governing Board Members:**

David Rockello, President
Velinda Rockello, Vice President
Mitchell Gutman, Treasurer
Uver Santa Cruz, Secretary
William Greene, Business Rep
Ángela 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
Suite #236
155 N. Occidental Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026
(Cross streets: Beverly Blvd. and Temple St.)
TELEPHONE: (213) 568-3086
FAX: (213) JOV-3086
www.rvnc.org
www.EmpowerLA.org

RAMPART VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 18, 2016 – 6:00 PM

Meeting Location

St. Anne's, Anne Floto Class Room 155 N. Occidental Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026

I. WELCOMING REMARKS:

- a. **Call to Order:** President, David Rockello, called the meeting to order at 6:11 pm.
- b. **Welcoming Remarks:** The President welcomed everyone. Eight members were present at the time. He noted that we are still in Exhaustive Efforts and have been promised to be out of this soon.
- c. **Flag Salute** The pledge was recited.

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

- a. **Federal, State, County or Mayoral Representatives – None seen / None heard**
- b. **LA City Council Districts 1, 10 & 13 – None seen / None heard**
- c. **Thank you, et al, that solved homelessness issues in RVNC; enforcement of Ordinance 56.11**
David Rockello thanked CD 13 Representative, Juan Fregoso, with CM Mitch O'Farrell's office 213-207-3015 juan.fregoso@lacity.org who was not present, and asked Uver for an update. Uver reminded us that, per Juan, the procedure to get encampments cleaned up is: Call 311, take a picture, have the Commissioner of Sanitation be informed, come and take a picture; a case is filed; wait up to 72 hours before we can ask the Police who can come, and issue an order to move. Once an organization that works with the homeless sees everything was done in good order, they can ask them to move within 72 hours. They are working on a schedule with Council District offices. Mitchell Gutman reminded everyone to use **311** and the **LA 311 app** with which you can take a photo of anything you want to report to the City; a request is then placed in a central database.
[Dom Dacong arrived at 6:16 pm.]
- d. **City of LA Departments None seen / None heard**
- e. **DONE / BONC:** Lorenzo Briceno had no updates to report but was available for questions.
- f. **LAFD / CERT:** Carolyn Burlson introduced herself as a CERT Central Bureau Coordinator as well as a stakeholder of this neighborhood council. CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) is a seven-week training to prepare for any disaster.
(David stood up & blinked the lights on & off) – The RVNC Pre-Mini-Shake had begun at our meeting; Carolyn relayed that in the event of an earthquake, drop, and cover and hold on; cover your

head until the shaking stops. If nothing to get under, stay by an inside wall, because buildings in California are designed for the façades to fall outward. For that reason, never run outside! If driving during an earthquake, don't stop under a bridge or overhead wires.

The Great California Shakeout – a statewide drill – is happening October 20th, at 10:20 a.m. Drop, cover and hold on wherever you happen to be. Carolyn related that they had an Emergency Preparedness (EP) Committee a couple years ago, and she needs to bring it back up to a 5-step plan. David thanked Carolyn for all she does for this NC, including work on the website. Carolyn asked that if this Board approves a subcommittee, she'd like to meet November 4th at 10:00 a.m., to plan events for CERT training, first aid, etc., so this is a safe community. Carolyn announced that 10/19/2016; the LAFD is having their Public Safety Advisory Committee meeting at 500 East Temple Street. Uver volunteered to attend.

g. LAPD:

- i. Olympic Station SLO – Officer Dakran Melkonian: Crime Tip: Be wary of the darkness, drive more carefully than usual; kids walking around are not seeing you. Number one problem in this district is pedestrians and roadway. People walk into the streets. They will be enforcing with citations as a preventative educational tool.

Announcements: 1) He reported that we have a new City Attorney, Veronica Soto, and Neighborhood Prosecutor, who is at the station daily. She files reports, works in the community, helps get things done. Leeward abated properties were flattened because of the City Attorney. She'll be having at town hall November 1st, Tuesday at 6:00 at RFK School on Wilshire and Catalina, at which the City Attorney will be present.

2) "Shoes from Santa" is an annual event where they collect brand new shoes, and go to the schools and ask for a list of needy kids that need shoes. The kids get a ticket and come to the station on December 15th, beginning at 5:00 pm, and have a nice event. They are requesting shoes for Kindergarten to sixth or eighth grade. They are collecting 1,000 pairs of shoes, starting now. He'll collect the shoes next month. Extras will be given to those without tickets on a first come first served basis.

As to Halloween, he related that events at the Police Stations are great for the kids. Be careful and escort the kids trick or treating.

[CPAB meets 1st Thursday of the month at the Olympic Station.]

- ii. Rampart Station SLO **None seen / None heard**

[C-PAB meets the 1st Tuesday of the month at Rampart Police Station.]

h. NCSA Sustainability Report - Sustainability Rep; Cool Blocks; Joselyn Geaga R

Joselyn provided a letter for NCs to endorse to send to Mayor Garcetti, that DWP develop a plan to convert to 100% renewable energy by 2030, and not make more expenditures on methane as energy; she noted that DWP still plans to build a structure to store liquid natural gas. **She asked that we agendize & support this letter for the next meeting.** DWP will present its plan early November. Joselyn also gave an update on "Cool Blocks," noting that carbon footprint of Americans has been found to be 55,000 pounds per person per year, compared to 27,000 for every German citizen. See: www.Coolblocks.org for more information and as to the efforts made by EcoVillage & the Coronado Cool Block Team that is a collaborative group of Echo Park NC and RVNC Stakeholders.

i. NC Budget Advocates Report - Budget Reps; Mitchell Gutman, Uver Santa Cruz

Uver related that the meetings have just begun, next one will be on November 7th. We can go to the various departments. See the website for further information: <http://ncbala.com/>

j. Community and Stakeholder Organizations

Jill Stewart from Neighborhood Integrity Initiative, introduced herself, as taking on developers

and their undue influence on City Hall; they have initiative on the March 2017 ballot to make City Council do their job to Plan L.A., to end backroom meetings with developers; they're having town halls over three to four months, next being on Saturday at the Sportsman's Large at 11:00 a.m. Lois from EcoVillage noted that this is extremely controversial; she volunteered to provide notice. David noted that this NC could provide 5 minutes for both sides to speak. Uver tried to reach BBLA to speak along with Jill.

Vince Leus, Community Organizer with Koreatown Youth Community Center spoke about his organization's services, e.g., low-income tax clinic, pre-school & afterschool programs.

Lois Arkin from LA EcoVillage spoke on LA EcoVillage's reinventing how we live in the City with higher quality of life and lower environmental impact. For Mayor's Sustainability Plan, see <https://www.lamayor.org/plan> 2) LA EcoVillage closed escrow on 10/07 on the auto repair shop, own the quarter acre and will return with a plan in a few months.

Peter Quezada & Giovanni Diaz, PHFE, Youth Development Services, have a Gang reduction & development program, helping gang members; assist with community cleanups; and cover Rampart 1, Rampart 2, East Hollywood and Olympic. 323-286-9431.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

a. Roll Call – RVNC General Board Officers:

9 Present: David Rockello, Velinda Rockello, Mitchell Gutman, Uver Santa Cruz, Joselyn G. Rosenthal, Jose Sanchez, Jeff Jamison, William Green and Dom Dacong

2 Absent: Angela Joo, Carlos Villa

DONE: NEA, Lorenzo Briceno (+ approximately 18 guests including guest speakers)

b. Review and Adoption of Minutes of General Board meeting 09/20/16

Moved by Joselyn; seconded by Jeff; The September Minutes were **approved by 7 yes; 0 no; 2 abstentions: Mitch and William; 2 absences: Angela and Carlos.**

IV. VITAL AD HOC COMMITTEES & LIASONS:

a. Creation of Community Emergency Preparedness Planning Ad Hoc Committee (CEPP);

CERT Liaison, Carolyn Burlson, Chair (Item # 7 last meeting; tabled, no quorum)

Moved by Mitchell; seconded by Velinda; public comment opened and closed.

Motion was **approved** by **8 yes; 0 no; and 1 abstention: Dom Dacong; 2 absences: Angela and Carlos.** Velinda and David are members; others are invited to sign up and Carolyn will be in touch.

b. Creation of Standing Rules Ad Hoc Committee (SR); choose Chair

Mitch moved; Uver seconded; public comment was opened and closed. Discussion was held.

David noted they will meet once a month or as needed. Stakeholder Ronee Reece noted this might fall under Bylaws Committee. Vote was taken and **motion failed** with **3 yes, 3 no, and 2 abstentions: Uver and Jose. 2 absences: Angela and Carlos.**

Amended Motion: To combine and make it a "**Bylaws & Standing Rules Committee**"

Moved by Mitchell; **seconded** by Jeff. **9 yes; 0 opposed; 0 abstained; 2 absences: Angela and Carlos. Motion passed.** David will be Chair.

c. Creation of Bylaws Ad Hoc Committee (B); choose Chair – As noted above; this was combined into one committee with standing rules.

d. Creation of Quality of Life Issues Ad Hoc Committee (QOL); choose Chair

(Ad-hocs reviewed every 6 months)

David noted that that this can work with the Public Safety, Housing and Transportation Committee; David would like Jose to Chair; to work on this an hour ahead when Uver has his meetings; meet

9:00 am, 3rd Saturday. Public comment was opened and closed. Board discussion was held. Uver clarified that Jose could address various specific issues, e.g., youth-related; tenants' rights seminars, etc. Mitch would like to see the committees meet first and wait until putting things in front of the Executive Committee to see if it's needed.

Mitch moved to table; Joselyn seconded. Public Comment was held; Ronee agreed that there shouldn't be too many committees but that "if no committee it won't happen." Lois Arkin volunteered to share with Jose and Uver the meaning of "quality of life."

Motion to table passed by 9/0/0.

- e. **CIS Filing Reps;** President + choose four (4) Lorenzo explained Community Impact Statements (CISs), based on motions passed by resolution by the Board on Citywide or other issues which have Council Files. A Board can have up to five submitters; they get a password from DONE, and are able to submit Board resolutions via the City Clerk's portal. **David, Joselyn and Uver** volunteered.
- f. **Regional Grievance Panel;** choose one (1) Lorenzo noted that if you don't have a liaison, the President is by default the person. The panelist would be from the same region but not the same NC. **William Greene** volunteered.
- g. **City Attorney Liaisons;** President + choose one (1) **Jeff Jamison** volunteered.
- h. **DWP-MOU Rep/ DWP-AC Rep;** choose one (1) David related that this meets the first Saturday of the month at DWP bi-monthly; LANCC starts at 10:00 thereafter. **David** attends and volunteered to be our representative. David nominated **Velinda** to be his alternate.
- i. **LANCC Rep;** choose one (1) **David** already attends this, and volunteered to be the representative. David nominated **Velinda** to be his alternate.
- j. **Emergency Preparedness Liaison;** choose one (1) Meets fourth Saturday @10:00 am – 12:00 pm. **Carolyn** will be our liaison; **Uver** will be the alternate.
- k. **ARC Rep** (The Alliance of River Communities); choose one (1) Community Stakeholder. **Peter Quezada** volunteered.
- l. **Planning/ Plancheck NC Liaisons;** choose two (2) **Uver** volunteered; will seek a second volunteer at a later date.

V. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Mr. **Jesse Rosas** introduced himself as running for the CD1 seat of Councilmember Gil Cedillo in March 2017. His concerns included but were not limited to the impact of development in the area, the need for accessible housing and programs for low income seniors; cleaning up and making the streets safer and more family friendly. He mentioned having a CEQA case regarding a development on a City parking lot. He passed out a door hanger for his candidacy in English and Spanish. Public comment was closed.

VI. RECOGNITIONS & PRESENTATIONS:

- a. Anna Huizar Management Assistant at the Office of Community Beautification will give presentation on services available from her department – She was here but had to leave – **None seen, None heard**
- b. LA's 100% renewable energy campaign presentation by Adriana Swain – Ms. Swain spoke about a goal of 100% renewables by 2030, before DWP finalizes their plans for sourcing energy into the following years by mid-November. She stated that they (DWP) have not produced a feasibility study and are aiming only for 50% renewables by 2035, which the NCSA feels is not enough. She related that in 20 years the global allowance of carbon dioxide will push us over the edge of global warming; that the DWP has plans to expand natural gas; she would like us to empower our representative with NCSA to vote for the Alliance to send this letter before public comment ends in November. NCSA will submit letter of NCs (*support*) by the second week of November.

David noted that there could be a special meeting prior to our next general meeting. Mitch noted if

we are out of EE, we could have a special meeting to address financial expenditures (and can cover this at that time). **Jeff recommended having a Special Meeting on Tuesday, November 1st**. Six members volunteered to attend.

- c. Levy Sun, Public Information Officer from Greater L.A. County Vector Control District will talk about the invasive *Aedes mosquitoes* threat and increased disease risks to the RVNC.

Mr. Levy Sun spoke on the *Aedes mosquitoes* (sounds like “80s”), described as black mosquitos with tiny white specks. He provided enlarged photographs and a vial with actual mosquitos for our viewing. He stated that: 1) they are disease transmitters of the Zica virus and Yellow Fever, Dengue Fever, among other tropical fevers. The closest found here were in Silver Lake and Echo Park, throughout the San Gabriel Valley, and East L.A. 2) They can live indoors, and in very small containers, e.g., lucky bamboo plants, because they lay eggs on the standing water or on the plant stems. DUMP & DRAIN used to be the motto, but now these lay eggs individually on the container, so dump and drain no longer works. The containers are part of the issue. (Don’t stop dumping and draining!) They are extending efforts to Rampart Village. 3) These mosquitos bite during the daytime, unlike other mosquitos. He strongly recommends that you get rid of all plants sitting in water. One container can produce 100,000 mosquitos in one week. They feed solely on humans. We have had imported Zica. It is also sexually transmitted. There is no vaccine or cure for these diseases; repellants such as Deet and Oil of lemon eucalyptus can be used as prevention; however, the latter can be toxic. Ms. Juanita Prange asked what the bite looks like, it looks like a larger bite than a regular mosquito bite; symptoms are flu-like. www.reportmosquitos.org

VII. MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:

(Discussion Items/Possible Committee Action)

(Old Business)

1. Discussion and/or Possible Action on – the recommendation to take a position on the adoption of a Los Angeles Short Term Rental ordinance until which time as the City is able to negotiate & obtain written legally defensible agreements with the listing platforms that will ensure the City has access to the data & information needed to ensure monitoring & enforcement of days rented, verification of City registration, & the accurate collection of tax funds due to the City; this issue is in reference to the proposed Home Sharing Ordinance, Case # DIR 2016-1243 CA, Council File 14-1635-S2; PPPWLU recommendations.

William introduced this item, relating that he has experience on the subject, having produced and held three town hall meetings put on by AirBnB covering this topic. He mentioned benefits including great increase of money to the community including supplemental incomes and taxes. He noted that there is opposition to these, but is in favor of STRs.

As to the STR Ordinance in the City Council file, of which a copy was circulated and available for review in the room, Uver presented examples of the downside, which include but are not limited to problems with the City’s ability to enforce, and noting risks including fire dangers in the hillsides by people who do not care about the environment or fire safety. Other comments given by the Board and stakeholders included that these are illegal and that it is important to study the council file on this.

Motion: To support the City Council motion **moved** by Mitchell.

Public Comment was given by **Mr. Trevor Maclamor**, from Echo Park NC, who related a personal incident in which he was renting out his home on AirBnB, resulting in huge legal problems when the clients sublet his apartment to enrich themselves beyond what they were paying him. **Mr. Ronee Reece** related concerns about these forcing out and displacing long-term renters often under RSOs/rent control, to put in place short-term rentals, which enrich the owners but put out the renters. Discussion was held as to a possible motion proposed by David in contrast with the City Council file motion.

Motion To remand to this the PLU Committee **moved** by **Joselyn**; **seconded** by **Uver**; **approved by 9/0/0**

For the main file on this with the most CISs, see:

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=14-1635-S2>

(New Business)

2. Discussion and/or Possible Action on – the recommendation from the Executive Committee to ask all RVNC Board members to remain till the posted end of the General Board meeting that is **9 pm**; Board business was interrupted in two consecutive meetings by members leaving prematurely & breaking quorum well before 9pm; suggestion to create a Standing Rule that if you are tardy 15 minutes to the General Board meeting & then leave 15 minutes early from the meeting this will count as an absence at the General Board Meeting.
[Uver stepped out at 8:30 pm; returned at 8:35 pm.]

Mitchell explained the need for all Board members to commit to be on time and be on committees.

Motion: The Rampart Village Neighborhood Council supports timely attendance & participation of all its Board members, and therefore **moves** for 1) the creation of a Standing Rule for all active RVNC Board members; Rules would include but not be limited to: Board members must arrive no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the General Meeting's scheduled start time of 6pm, and must not leave earlier than fifteen (15) minutes before the General Meeting's scheduled adjournment of 9pm to be considered "Present" at said meeting. **Further moves** 2) that All Board members must sit on at least one (1) Committee, and act as a Liaison to at least one (1) Organization/ Agency/ or Municipal Office's meeting; outside RVNC meetings.

Mitch moved; Velinda seconded. Board discussion ensued. William stated that he would support this on the condition that presentation and non-agenda items are at the very end. Public comment was given by Ronee Reece and was then concluded. Board discussion continued where Joselyn agreed with having action items first. William noted that there are unrealistic expectations on the agenda as to the number of items. Vote was taken and **passed** by **7/0/2**, **William & Uver abstained; 2 absent Angela and Carlos.**

3. Discussion and/or Possible Action on – the recommendation to report all broken RVNC Outreach Banners to Point Person, Carmen Medina, so she may negotiate their reparse ASAP; report to Secretary or will Ms. Medina be comfortable with her information becoming public
Deferred next meeting

VIII. REPORTS:

a. Treasurer:

- (i) Monthly MER Statement – Board to receive, review & **file as presented**
Mitch explained the August & September MERs, including a correction in the August version in the packet. He looks forward to being out of Exhaustive Efforts for Community Improvement Projects and Neighborhood Purpose Grants.
- (ii) Union Bank reconciliation screen shot review & **file as presented**
- (iii) Lloyd (formerly Apple-One) services reconciliation review & file as presented Mitch noted that this will always be part of the MER as are the other ongoing recurring expenses. He has received the bank card today.

(iv) 2015-2016 Spend Down Report as presented; Vera Padilla, MER Assistant
Vera is preoccupied with family matters and is unable to be here. **None seen / None heard**

(v) Budget, Finance & Grants; Mitchell Gutman, Chair

- Recruit (1) Member, (4) Members, BFG Committee; Meetings: 1st Tuesday of the month; 6pm. They have met twice, four members: Mercedes, Carmen, Jeff and Mitch are the members, with one seat available.
- Quarterly Report (review every quarter) Mitch updated the 2016-2017 budget, reallocated funds. **None seen / None heard**
Motion: To approve both August and September MERs and “the quarterly report” (updated amended budget is not the Quarterly). **Moved by Jeff; seconded Velinda; passed by 8/0/0; 3 absent: Angela, Carlos, and William** who stepped out, and is absent from the vote.

b. Standing Committees:

i. Planning, Parks, Public Works & Land Use; William Greene, Chair

- Recruit Members, PPPWLU Committee; Meetings Schedule; 2nd Monday at 6pm (William stepped out.) **None seen / None heard**

ii. Community Relations, Outreach & Social Networking; Velinda Rockello, Chair

- Recruit Members, CROSN Committee; Meetings: 1st Wednesday of the month at 6pm

Velinda relayed that they have not had a meeting yet. They will decide on a new meeting date & time if necessary

iii. Public Safety, Housing & Transportation; Uver Santa Cruz, Chair

- Recruit Members, PSHT Committee; Meetings: 3rd Saturday of the month at 10am

Uver relayed that they will hold a special meeting, now that he has a vice-chair, tentatively still at 10:00 a.m. on a Saturday, on October 22, 2016.

iv. Any other written RVNC Reports; Officer’s Reports; President’s Report – None Seen None Heard

c. Ad-hoc Committees, Liaisons & Updates:

Motion: To table i through xiv **moved by David; seconded by Mitch; approved**

- Creation of any possible Ad-hoc committees for 2016-2017; choose Chairs
(Ad-hocs reviewed every 6 months)
- Location & Filming/ Film LA Liaisons; Mitchell, Jeff, William
- Homelessness Advocate Liaison; choose one (1)
- BSS-NCI Liaison; choose one (1)
- RVNC Election 2018 Outreach Chair; choose one (1)
- Animal Services Liaison; choose one (1)
- Public Works Liaison; choose one (1)

- viii. Transportation Liaison; choose one (1)
- ix. Arts & Cultural Affairs Liaison; choose one (1)
- x. Youth Issues Liaison; choose one (1)
- xi. Purposeful Ageing Liaison; choose one (1)
- xii. Disability Liaison; choose one (1)
- xiii. Conservation Core Liaison; choose one (1)
- xiv. Mayor's Volunteer Core Liaison; choose one (1)
- xv. Update on the return of all RVNC intellectual & real property still outstanding **Discussed.**
- xvi. Update on re-launch of the RVNC Website (review in 6 months) **Discussed.**
- xvii. Update on the RVNC inventory; schedule inventory TBD **Discussed.**
- xviii. Update on the status of the three (3) NC training documents;

Vice President: Code of Conduct, Funding & State Ethics Training

Uver & Velinda, gave update, that per the State-conducted testing, the ethics training is now **2 hours minimum**. VP Velinda, noted that **Angela Joo** is out of compliance, by 1 hour and 5 minutes; **Carlos** is out of compliance, by 1 hour and 27 minutes; **William** by 1 hour and 36 minutes, became out of compliance 10/14/16; **Dom** in compliance by 3 hour and 55 minutes , but has not turn information to DONE Rosters as yet

- xix. Update on Attendance of Board members; Secretary Uver: **Angela Joo** has two consecutive absences; this will be her third absence but not consecutive

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. **Project HiFi Highlight**; 54 new streetlights designed by **Roel Punzalan** are to be unveiled October 26th in Historic Filipinotown at the **Silver Lake Medical Center at 6pm**, 1711 W Temple St, Los Angeles, CA 90026; **Phone:**(213) 989-6100 for more information
- b. **Bureau of Street Services Neighborhood Council Initiative** (NC Blitz Requests) is once again looking for your pothole, pavement preservation, broken & uplifted sidewalks & other small repairs to preserve our streets, sidewalks & alleyways in the RVNC; pick up the BSS-NCI paperwork at the back of the meeting room to make your requests and return them to the RVNC Secretary or contact the office of the BSS-NCI, **Benny Carranza**, at 818-974-5474 or bss.nci@lacity.org
- c. **The Greater LA Homeless Count** will be happening again this year in our area on Thursday, January 26, 2017; **LAHSA & PATH** wants the RVNC to participate again; **Volunteer Today** at www.TheyCountWillYou.org
- d. **Discussion of Business cards** was requested and deferred till next meeting
- e. **Velinda and David mentioned the 2nd Annual Larry Itliong Day Parade and Festival, a Historic Filipinotown event on October 22, 2016.**

- X. **ADJOURNMENT: Mitch moved; Joselyn seconded**, the meeting adjourned at **9:00 pm**.