

VAN NUYS AIRPORT CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL
Tuesday, November 2, 2010
MINUTES

A meeting of the Van Nuys Airport Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Don Schultz. Members present: Don Schultz, Ron Merkin, Wayne Williams, Bob Jackson, Gerald Silver, Roger Oeland, Elliot Sanders, David Rankell, Ken Miller, Harold Sullivan, Wendy Saunders, Laurence Rabe, Harold Lee

Members Absent: Rick Flam, Bob Frazier, Chris Nassif

The Council vacancies as of May 4 are as follows: one appointment from the Office of Councilmember Alarcon, and one appointment from Councilmember Cardenas.

The minutes from October 5, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.

1.) STAFF REPORTS

A. Holiday Dinner – December 9

Mr. Romo stated that the invitations for the Holiday Dinner were mailed out today. The dinner will be held on December 9th at 5:00 p.m. at the Flight Path Museum. Bus transportation will be provided to CAC members from the Van Nuys FlyAway. Ms. Sanchez will email all the CAC members with more information regarding the transportation.

B. Prop Park – Discussion/Action

Mr. Steve Argubright made a Power Point presentation that described and showed the proposed vision for the VNY Prop Park project. He stated that the goal is to sign a lease by December 6th but there is still a lot of work to do but they are moving forward. He shared that they are 50% through the building department, have planning approval, and the building documents for the sub-contractors.

Ms. Milos stated that the Negative Declaration response deadline is November 17th, 5:00 p.m. If no major comments are made, it should go to the BOAC on December 6th and full City Council in January or February. Ms. Milos also distributed copies of a Power Point presentation from LAWA regarding the VNY Prop Park. Each member also received a CD of the Negative Declaration.

C. VNY Golf Course RFP – Discussion/Action

Mr. Romo stated that the lease for the VNY Golf Course went to the Trade, Commerce, & Tourism (TCT) last week. The Councilman wants specific provisions included in the lease as to community benefits. This item could go to full Council in January 2011.

Mr. Schultz asked for all the elected officials at this meeting to introduce themselves. Emily Williams and Linda Levitan represent Councilman Tony Cardenas' Office and Jim Bickhart represents Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's Office.

D. Hayvenhurst Ave. Landscape Update

Mr. Romo made a Powerpoint presentation showing the progress that has been made in the landscaping along Hayvenhurst Avenue. Mr. Romo thanked Construction & Maintenance staff from VNY and ONT for facilitating this project. He stated that India Griffin who recently promoted to General Services was instrumental in moving this project forward. He also stated that this project was an effort made by LAWA, Castle & Cooke, and Aerolease. The creeping fig planted along the

wall will continue to be planted down to the south of Hayvenhurst. The hydroseed option for grass was used to save money. Aerolease purchased the four Crape Myrtle trees that were planted at the entrance gate to their leasehold.

Mr. Merkin commended LAWA, Castle & Cooke, and Aerolease for making this happen in a very short amount of time. He asked if in the future trees could be planted in the empty tree wells along Hayvenhurst. These wells could be a hazard to people walking at night.

Mr. Romo stated that in better economic times Street Services would fill these tree wells however there are not enough funds in our budget today because this would also require watering system for these trees. However, some of the tree wells were cleaned up during this project.

Mr. Merkin stated that that some landscape maintenance is also needed at Maguire on Sherman Way and Valjean.

Mr. Silver asked if any of the water used is reclaimed.

Mr. Romo stated that no, the only reclaimed water being used at this time is at the VNY Golf Course but maybe in the future this option could be used at other locations at VNY.

Mr. Sanders asked if the tree wells have been a trip hazard for people.

Mr. Romo stated no, not that he knows.

2.) REPORT FROM CHAIR

No items were addressed.

3.) BOAC AGENDA ITEMS CONCERNING VNY

Mr. Romo stated that there were a couple of construction contracts for LAX/ONT/VNY on the agenda.

Mr. Romo stated that the December 6th BOAC Meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place at the Van Nuys City Hall Council Chambers. Mr. Sanchez will email specifics, including parking options, to the Council when everything is confirmed.

4.) PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Mouzis, member of the public, stated that although commercial helicopter flight activity has decreased somewhat in the Bull Creek area, Police and Fire Department violations continue on a routine on a routine basis. He would like to hear from the airport people as to why no corrective action has been taken so far. Mr. Mouzis provided the Council with a copy of his entire statement.

Mr. Schultz read the letter from Mr. Alan Rothenberg (BOAC President) to Mr. Rick Flam (CAC Chair):

"I am in receipt of your letter regarding the CAC motion request for the FAA to conduct a 45-day test to divert helicopter activity from the established Bull Creek route to one over Balboa Boulevard during specified time periods. I have requested LAWA staff, on behalf of the CAC, to make such a request to the FAA for a 45-day test as noted in your letter. Should the FAA approve this request, we expect

the CAC to be engaged in the process, including involvement in any public meeting(s) that take place prior to the test.

Thank you for your continued patience as this matter moves forward.”

Mr. Williams stated that LAPD Air Support personnel and LAFD Air personnel attend the January CAC Meeting to present to them about the crossing of airspace. This will give Mr. Mouzis and other community members the opportunity to express their concerns.

Mr. Williams stated that this should be an agenda item for the January meeting.

Mr. Krugler stated that he will meet with LAPD and LAFD pilots to discuss the communities concerns.

Mr. Romo said that a majority of the response flights are LAFD Air Support. The LAPD Air Support is here the majority of the time to be serviced at the General Service Facility. He stated that this invitation will come out of his office to these departments.

5.) NEW BUSINESS

A. Ad Hoc Committee/VNY BOAC – Discussion/Action

Mr. Schulz stated that Mr. Flam requested that two Council members be chosen to represent this committee. Elliot Sanders and Ron Merkin were chosen for this panel.

B. VNY Privatization – Discussion

Mr. Merkin stated that VNY Privatization will be an issue that will come up at some future time and will be discussed when appropriate. This will be something that the CAC will be involved in.

Mr. Romo stated that there is no official comment regarding this issue. He stated that privatization has been discussed from time to time and other general aviation airports are privatized.

Mr. Bickhart stated as far as he knows there is no effort being made from LAWA as to privatization. However, the Mayor's Office was approached by American Airports (that runs the County Airports) to discuss this subject. The Mayor's Office informed them that LAWA would not do a sole source sale but perhaps a managing contract. But there is nothing official at this time.

Mr. Jackson asked who is promoting this idea.

Mr. Schultz stated that people on this panel and LAWA staff have heard other people talk privatization. This is not an action item, only a discussion item.

Mr. Silver stated that this could be a facilities management contract where LAWA still owns the airport but the managing is contracted out.

6.) OLD BUSINESS

A. Committee Reports – Discussion/Action

Mr. Jackson stated that Councilman Cardenas is working on appointing a new member to the CAC. Councilman Alarcon is also working on appointing a new member. Both offices are getting close.

Mr. Merkin stated that SEP Swimming Pool Supply Company on Waterman Drive has done a good job cleaning up their area. The progression along Hayvenhurst has been good and may make others spruce up their areas as well.

Mr. Merkin asked if there are materials that can cover the tree wells along Hayvenhurst. He inquired if there is anything they can do to assist in having Street Services and LAWA work together to address this issue.

Mr. Schulz stated that a committee that the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council overseas has volunteers to fill the wells and possibly fund it. They are waiting on an approval from the City Attorney because this is City property and if any injuries occur the City could be held liable.

Ms. Levitan stated that this issue could be placed on the next agenda for the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council meeting to discuss if they would be willing to assist on moving this project forward since it does fall in their area.

7.) EMERGENCY ITEMS SINCE POSTING OF AGENDA – Discussion/Action

Mr. Williams stated that there are chairs in the FlyAway Conference Room that are broken or falling apart.

8.) ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS

CAC members expressed their happiness with the landscaping on Hayvenhurst Avenue.

Ms. Rabe stated that she is excited about the Prop Park Project.

Mr. Silver stated that he did receive a complete report from LAWA pertaining to his Public Records Request dated August 24, 2010. He stated that the report showed that in the last three years there was one fine of \$750.00 paid, however in 2005 there were numerous fines paid but listed under Non-Addition Rule (NAR). His question is why so many were listed under NAR but none in the last three years have anything under NAR.

Mr. Schultz asked if we can agendize this item for the next meeting.

Mr. Silver stated that this report should be shared with all the Council members for review.

9) ADJOURNMENT:

8:45 p.m.