



CHATSWORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
P.O. Box 3395, Chatsworth, CA 91313-3395



<http://chatsworthcouncil.org>

Phone: 818-464-3511

Jeff Hammond-President, Shawn Shawmlou-Vice President
Vicki Briskman -Treasurer, Shilpa Gupta-Secretary
Dorothy Allison, Kamesh Aysola, Mark Cox, Gus Dominguez,
Tracey Jennings, Karen Kikalo, Jill Mather, Nicolas Montañó,
Shelly Thompson, Patricia Thorington, Carey Tri, Jim Van Gundy, Deb Zumerling

Board Meeting Minutes and Agenda for the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council,

Wednesday April 3rd, 2024, at 6:30 P.M.

To be held at Lawrence Middle School Library,

10100 Variel Avenue, Chatsworth, Calif. 91311

<http://chatsworthcouncil.org>

AGENDA

- Welcome, call to order, pledge of allegiance, and roll call.**

Call to order: 6:35pm

Board Member	Present	Absent
Shilpa Gupta	x	
Shelly Thompson	x	
Jim Van Gundy	x	
Tracey Jennings	x	
Karen Kikalo	x	
Nicolas Montano	x	
Jill Mather	x	
Carey Tri		x
Patricia Thorington	x	

Board Member	Present	Absent
Dorothy Allison	X	
Jeff Hammond	X	
Mark Cox	X	
Kamesh Aysola	X	
Shawn Shawmlou	X	
Gus Dominguez	X	
Deb Zumerling	X	
Vicki Briskman	X	

Note:

- Presidents report - Discussion of upcoming events.**

- NEW BUSINESS:** All listed motions include discussion, possible action and or vote, Community Impact Statements and NPGs.

4. Treasurers Report:

A. Motion: To approve the February 2024 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER).

(To view the MER online, visit <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/NCFundPortal/Dashboard.html> and select Chatsworth Neighborhood Council from the drop-down menu, and then click on MER.)

Public Comment: No comment

Action: Approve Treasurers report from March:

Mover Kamesh Aysola				Second Vicki Briskman			
Ayes	16	Nays	0	Abstentions	0	Absent	3
Motion		Carries					

Board Member	YES	No
Shilpa Gupta	x	
Shelly Thompson	x	
Jim Van Gundy	x	
Tracey Jennings	x	
Karen Kikalo	x	
Nicolas Montano	x	
Jill Mather	x	
Carey Tri		
Patricia Thorington	x	

Board Member	YES	No
Dorothy Allison	x	
Jeff Hammond	x	
Mark Cox	x	
Kamesh Aysola	x	
Shawn Shawmlou	x	
Gus Dominguez	x	
Deb Zumerling	x	
Vicki Briskman	x	

Absent: Carey Tri, Two open seats for 2024

Note:

5. Representatives of elected officials, or elected officials, and LAPD SLO for our area.

Public Comment: Judy Daniels, founder of CNC, "Good to see full room tonight." This is 21st anniversary of CNC. The CNC has done a lot of good in its history. Good luck to future board.

Note:

6. Standing Committees:

A. Land Use & Equestrian Committee – No meeting, committee update.

B. Public Safety and Transportation Committee – Committee update from Shilpa Gupta...
CERT Training in future?

Public Comment: Judy Daniels, "Where are the jaws of life that CNC purchased? Speak with John Lee's office. The city will not purchase the batteries needed for jaws of life at station #107.

C. Outreach Committee – Committee update for outreach events, Day of the Horse Sunday April 7th, 2024, and volunteers for Chatsworth Preserve Earth Day Saturday April 27th, 2024. **Jill Mather- Shuttle at the Train Station. Sign up on the link to volunteer for DOTH. Need volunteers for Earth Day on April 27, 10a-2p, will have a sign up sheet. Location off of Valley Circle. 4,000 people expected**

Public Comment: Great event-this is where we show people what we do.

Note:

D. Homelessness awareness – no meeting

E. Beautification & Enrichment Committee – Committee update from Kamesh Aysola.

1 - Motion: The Canoga Park Senior Citizens Club, 7326 Jordan Av, Canoga

Park, CA 91303, is requesting \$350 for a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) to fund the ‘Salute to Recreation Dance’ on 3rd May 2024 at the Northridge Recreation Center. The grant will support the Dance Festivities in funding food and refreshments. The event is open to all seniors in the community. Participation in this event offers the Neighborhood Councils an opportunity to showcase their organization and its commitment to outreach to seniors throughout the surrounding area. The organization is reaching out to eight other area NC’s for funding. **Kamesh – Vicki promote**

Public Comment: None

Action: Vote to approve the NPG for \$350 for The Canoga Park Senior Citizens Club:

Mover Kamesh Aysola				Second Vicki Briskman			
Ayes	16	Nays	0	Abstentions	0	Absent	3
Motion		Carries					

Board Member	YES	No
Shilpa Gupta	x	
Shelly Thompson	x	
Jim Van Gundy	x	
Tracey Jennings	x	
Karen Kikalo	x	
Nicolas Montano	x	
Jill Mather	x	
Carey Tri		
Patricia Thorington	x	

Board Member	YES	No
Dorothy Allison	x	
Jeff Hammond	x	
Mark Cox	x	
Kamesh Aysola	x	
Shawn Shawmlou	x	
Gus Dominguez	x	
Deb Zumerling	x	
Vicki Briskman	x	
TWO open seats 2024		

Absent: Carey Tri, two open seats 2024

2 - Motion: To approve a request for \$1000 for a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) to the Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains P.O. Box 4831, Chatsworth, CA 91311 to defray expenses of staging a LAUSD-approved Interpretive Hike in the Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park for 3rd grade Students at Chatsworth Elementary School during the 2023-2024 school year. As part of the LAUSD curriculum, 3rd graders study California History and Native American culture. These hikes have interpretive stops along the hike route where the students learn about the life of a Chumash child from a storyteller from the local Indian tribe.

Public Comment: Bob Dager and Ann LaManna. CNC gave first grant for this program. Waiting list for the program, six-twelve hikes per year. Title 1 schools are eligible.

Action: Vote to: a request for \$1000 for a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) to the Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains

Mover Kamesh Aysola				Second Vicki Briskman			
Ayes	15	Nays	0	Abstentions	0	Absent	3
Motion		Carries					

Board Member	YES	No
Shilpa Gupta	x	
Shelly Thompson	x	
Jim Van Gundy	x	
Tracey Jennings	x	
Karen Kikalo	x	
Nicolas Montano	x	
Jill Mather	x	
Carey Tri		
Patricia Thorington	x	

Absent: Carey Tri, two open seats

Board Member	YES	No
Dorothy Allison	X	
Jeff Hammond	X	
Mark Cox	X	
Kamesh Aysola	X	
Shawn Shawmlou	X	
Gus Dominguez	X	
Deb Zumerling	X	
Vicki Briskman	X	
Two open seats 2024		

3 - Motion: To approve a request from Germain Academy, 20730 Germain St, Chatsworth, CA 91311 for \$1,000 for a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) to remodel the school’s staff break room which has not undergone any significant updates over half a century ago, since the school was first constructed, back in 1963. The current condition of the break room has deteriorated, posing challenges to the well-being and morale of the hardworking staff (see photos). The funds will be utilized to make the breakroom more functional leading to increased job satisfaction and productivity.

Public Comment: Parent from PTA, Francisco, speaks to promote NPG: need furniture, need plumbing, about \$5,000 total. 2.Gentlemen asks why LAUSD will not assist? Why does a school need to go through this? 3. Judy Daniels- LAUSD has its own budget; they provide school funding. School Board member is Schmelson, usually responsive. 4. Have you contacted Scott Schmelson?

Board Comment: Shilpa Gupta: Total cost? What does that entail in an old building with asbestos?

Patty: Can LAUSD help with construction?

Nick: Any school issues should go to Scott Schmelson, approach when they have a board meeting.

Action: To approve a request from Germain Academy, 20730 Germain St, Chatsworth, CA 91311 for \$1,000 for a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) to remodel the school’s staff break room.

Mover	Kamesh Aysola		Second		
Ayes	11	Nays	0	Abstentions	1
Motion	Carries				Absent 3

Board Member	YES	No
Shilpa Gupta	abstain	
Shelly Thompson	x	
Jim Van Gundy	x	
Tracey Jennings	x	
Karen Kikalo	x	
Nicolas Montano	x	
Jill Mather	x	
Carey Tri		
Patricia Thorington	x	

Absent: Carey Tri **Abstain:** Shilpa Gupta

Board Member	YES	No
Dorothy Allison	X	
Jeff Hammond	X	
Mark Cox	X	
Kamesh Aysola	X	
Shawn Shawmlou	X	
Gus Dominguez	X	
Deb Zumerling	X	
Vicki Briskman	X	
Two open seats 2024		

4 - Motion: To approve a request from Granada Hills Rotary Foundation for an NPG \$1,000. The Granada Hills Rotary Foundation is the only Rotary Foundation in the northern SFV, and it includes Chatsworth, Northridge, Porter Ranch, Granada Hills. The purpose of this grant is to assist the Foundation with providing our scholarship awards luncheon to support college bound High School Senior students.

Public Comment: Judy Daniels: Is there anyone from Chatsworth who will be honored?

Board Comment: Vicki Briskman – the honorees have not yet been selected, but Chatsworth students have been included in the past.

Action: To approve a request from Granada Hills Rotary Foundation for an NPG \$1,000.

Mover	Vicki Briskman		Second		
Ayes	15	Nays	0	Abstentions	1
Motion	Carries				Absent 3

Note:

Board Member	YES	No
Shilpa Gupta	x	
Shelly Thompson	x	
Jim Van Gundy	abstain	
Tracey Jennings	x	
Karen Kikalo	x	
Nicolas Montano	x	
Jill Mather	x	
Carey Tri		
Patricia Thorington	x	

Board Member	YES	No
Dorothy Allison	x	
Jeff Hammond	x	
Mark Cox	x	
Kamesh Aysola	x	
Shawn Shawmlou	x	
Gus Dominguez	x	
Deb Zumerling	x	
Vicki Briskman	x	

Absent: Carey Tri, two empty seats **Abstain:** Jim Van Gundy

F. Homeless Awareness Committee – No meeting.

G. Selection Committee: Committee update from Jim Van Gundy and Glenn Bailey:

- The regular 2024 Selection resulted in two (2) vacancies for terms expiring in 2026. In addition, there have been three (3) additional vacancies for terms expiring in 2025 due to resignations. An effort to fill these vacancies will be made pursuant to the “Vacancies and Special Selections” provisions of the Chatsworth NC 2024 Selection Manual. In order to achieve the required “extensive outreach,” it is recommended that the Special Selection be held during the Wednesday, June 5, 2024 CNC Board regular meeting and that the candidate filing deadline be established ten (10) days prior (Sunday, May 26, 2024 at 11:59 p.m.). Additional information, including the Candidate Filing Form, will be posted on the CNC website: ChatsworthCouncil.org
- The Seating of the Newly Selected Board Members:
 Mark Lauterman
 Paul LaBella
 James MacDonald
 Kamesh Aysola
 Douglas Nolan
 Kristen Shubert
 Shawn Shawmlou
 Ricardo Gracia

3. New Board Roll Call to establish a Quorum

Board Member	Present	Absent
Shilpa Gupta	X	
Shelly Thompson	X	
Jim Van Gundy	X	
Tracey Jennings	X	
Karen Kikalo	X	
Nicolas Montano	X	
Jill Mather	X	
Carey Tri		X

Board Member	Present	Absent
Mark Lauterman	X	
Paul LaBella	X	
James Thomas Mark MacDonald		X
Kamesh Aysola	X	
Douglas Nolan		X
Shawn Shawmlou	X	
Kristen Shubert	X	
Ricardo Gracia	X	

Note: Two open seats for 2024

4. Election of Officers. President, V.P., Treasurer, and Secretary.

Public Comment: None

Action: Motion to appoint Nicolas Montaña as President.

Mover		Jim Van Gundy		Second			
Ayes	13	Nays	0	Abstentions	0	Absent	5
Motion		Carries					

Note: Two open 2024 seats

Public Comment: none

Action: Motion to appoint Kamesh Aysola OR Paul LaBella for VP. (Shilpa Gupta Concedes to Kamesh Aysola.)

Mover		Nicolas Montano		Second Shelly Thompson			
Paul	5	Kamesh	8	Abstentions	0	Absent	5
Motion		Carries for Kamesh					

Board Member	Paul	Kamesh
Shilpa Gupta		X
Shelly Thompson		X
Jim Van Gundy		X
Tracey Jennings		X
Karen Kikalo		X
Nicolas Montano	X	
Jill Mather		X
Carey Tri	Absent	

Board Member	Paul	Kamesh
Mark Lauterman	X	
Paul LaBella	X	
James Thomas Mark MacDonald	Absent	
Kamesh Aysola		X
Douglas Nolan	Absent	
Shawn Shawmlou		X
Kristen Shubert	X	
Ricardo Gracia	X	
Two open seats for 2024		

Public Comment: Ask for statements from candidates.

Action: Motion to approve Tracey Jennings as Treasurer.

Mover	Nicolas Montano			Second	Shelly Thompson		
Ayes	13	Nays	0	Abstentions	0	Absent	5
Motion	Carries						

Note: Two open seats for 2024

Public Comment:

Action: Motion to approve Kristen Shubert as Secretary.

Mover	Jill Mather			Second	Kamesh Ayshola		
Ayes	13	Nays	0	Abstentions	0	Absent	5
Motion	Carries						

Note: Two open seats for 2024

Public Comment: none

Action: Propose Shelly Thompson is the second signer on the Credit Card

Mover	Nicolas Montano			Second	Jim Van Gundy		
Ayes	13	Nays	0	Abstentions	0	Absent	5
Motion	Carries						

Note: Two open seats for 2024

5. Committee assignments. Committee chairperson and secretary selected at first committee meeting.
 - A. Land Use and Equestrian Committee
 - B. Public Safety and Transportation Committee
 - C. Outreach Committee
 - D. Beautification & Enhancement Committee
 - E. Selection Committee:
 - F. Homeless Awareness Committee

7. **DONE** - Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA) Jose Galdamez report and comment.

Public Comment:

Note: Code of conduct includes five training topics on-line through Cornerstone account for those who are new to the council.

8. Board Member Comments and Discussion topics.

9. Public Comment - GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Public Comment for **non-agendized** topics will be limited to one minute each per individual due to time

concerns. Public comments will be limited to 10 comments.

10. Adjournment at 8:45 pm

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS –Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to one minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Public Comment for unagendized topics will be limited to one minute. Due to time concerns public comments will be limited to 10 comments at 1 minute per comment per individual.

THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT - As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by email: NCsupport@lacity.org or phone: (213) 978-1551.

PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS – In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at Chatsworth Train Depot 10038 Old Depot Plaza Road Chatsworth, CA 91311 and at our website: <https://www.chatsworthcouncil.org/> or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Nicolas Montaña at 818-489-6421 or email: info@chatsworthcouncil.org/

SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN - Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte a Nicolas Montaña de la Mesa Directiva, al 818-489-6421 o por correo electrónico avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

Notice to Paid Representatives - If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS – Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- 1 - Chatsworth Train Depot 10038 Old Depot Plaza Road Chatsworth, CA 91311
- 2 - <https://www.chatsworthcouncil.org/>
- 3 - You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City’s Early Notification System at: <https://www.lacity.org/government/subscribe-agendasnotifications/neighborhood-councils>

The CNC complies with Title II of the American Disabilities Act and does not discriminate on the basis of any disability. Upon request the CNC will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. To ensure the availability of services, please make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the CNC at 818 464-3511 or preferably an email that states the accommodations that you are requesting to info@chatsworthcouncil.org. Public Access of Records: In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5 non-exempt writings that were distributed to a majority or all of the board members in advance of a meeting may be requested for public review at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact CNC at 818-464-3511 or email <http://chatsworthcouncil.org>. Process for reconsideration and the process for filing a grievance can be found on the CNC website chatsworthcouncil.org under by-law.

