



Diane Valencia <dianegvalencia@gmail.com>

Re: 2016 Sylmar Neighborhood Council election1 message

Jay <sgrest@aol.com>

Sun, Feb 28, 2016 at 12:07 PM

To: stephen@empowerla.org, dianegvalencia@gmail.com, ann.job@sylmarnc.org

Dear Diane:

I am in receipt of the e mail to Mr. Box.

I have below placed the link to the Sylmar "Certified Candidates", as it appears on the empowerla.org Sylmar page:https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0ByzXbDm8CWMERzVBhYmhScktxeUk&usp=drive_web

This is the official certified list from the City Clerk.

I am not sure who would have said there are still 3 candidates outstanding.
There may have been challenges to candidacy rejection, but the final list was published by clerk.
Unless there was an error in processing, there would be no cause to reverse the certified list.
Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best

Jay Handal

Citywide Elections Administrator-Neighborhood Councils
Chair: West Los Angeles Neighborhood Council
Vice-Chair: Westside Regional Alliance of Councils
Hearing Examiner: Los Angeles Police Commission
[310-466-0645](tel:310-466-0645)

P Please consider the environment before printing this email.

To unsubscribe, hit "reply" and type in unsubscribe in the subject box.
For immediate assistance, please call the following numbers:

- Immediate life threatening police, fire or medical emergency: **9-1-1**
- Parking enforcement (blocked driveway, parking violation, locate impounded vehicle): **213-485-4184**
- Police non-emergency: **877-ASK-LAPD (877-275-5273)**
- Sanitation (missed trash pick-up, broken container): **800-773-2489**
- Traffic control (signal light out): **213-485-4184**
- Dept. of Water & Power: **800-342-5397**
- Other City issues: **3-1-1**

-----Original Message-----

From: Stephen@empowerla.org <stephen@empowerla.org>To: Handal Jay <Jay@empowerla.org>

Sent: Sun, Feb 28, 2016 10:44 am

Subject: Fwd: 2016 Sylmar Neighborhood Council election

Forwarding...

Stephen

Stephen Box
Director of Outreach and Communications
Senior Project Coordinator

**Department of Neighborhood Empowerment
City of Los Angeles**

200 N. Spring Street, Suite 2005
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Office: (213) 978-1551
Cell: (213) 221-9823



[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Newsletter](#)

Empower Yourself. Empower Your Community. Empower LA.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Diane Valencia <dianegvalencia@gmail.com>
Date: February 28, 2016 at 9:36:11 AM PST
To: Ann Job <ann.job@sylmarnc.org>
Cc: Stephen Box <Stephen@empowerla.org>
Subject: 2016 Sylmar Neighborhood Council election

Hi Ann,

For clarity, please note that I am sending this as a personal email as a candidate in the SNC's 2016 election, not as a current SNC Director.

The handling of the SNC's election has resulted in not meeting multiple deadlines as set forth in the election manual. These missed deadlines have the potential to cause numerous issues. While I certainly appreciate that overseeing and administering an election is no easy task, the candidate filing process has clearly had significant issues which need to seriously be looked at. The fact that there seems to still be "pending" candidates is unfair to all of the candidates who took the time and effort to file on time and resolve issues with their documents and is also in conflict with the elections manual. It is REQUIRED that 45 days prior to the election, that the City Clerk will issue a final candidate list. I thought we had a final list, only to learn Thursday evening during the SNC's Board meeting, when someone was allowed to introduce themselves as a candidate, that the "final" may not be final. I'm not pointing fingers in any one direction as it's less important how this happened and who allowed to let it happen, but that there needs to be recognition of the fact that it has happened and may adversely affect our election. In my opinion, our election process is now flawed in a significant way. Today is day 35 before the election and apparently, we still don't have a final list.

What for me is most problematic is that the City Clerk had issued a list over a week ago which I and other candidates believed was the "final" list. To have learned Thursday night during the Board meeting, that a candidate not appearing on the list was allowed to introduce themselves as pending, with an announcement preceding this from you, was troubling. Today, through an email received by only certain members of the Board, I have learned that there is not one pending candidate, but three. At the very least, I would ask that this information be shared immediately with every single candidate, so that every candidate has the exact same information. Also, at no time after the "final" list was issued by the City Clerk, on or about Friday, February 26th, were the certified candidates told that there were still additional candidates being vetted. This has the potential to affect the candidates in a huge way if they are building campaign materials or positions built on what should have been final and known 10 days ago. Consider too that candidates may have already spent considerable time and money on their campaign materials which may include items such as a sample ballot. I am certainly in that situation and that is time and money that I cannot get back.

This process needs to be fair and equitable with full transparency for all candidates. I simply don't believe that this process has been that and would urge that there is an effort to clearly communicate with ALL candidates as soon as possible as to the status of the election, including the final and certified candidate list.

From Election Manual:

Phase 2 Election Timeline Starts Timeline – 105 days from Election Day One hundred and five days from the Election Day, the official timeline of the elections begin with the opening of candidate filing. Candidate filing is open for 45 days and will close 60 (sixty) days prior to each NC election. All potential candidates will file for candidacy online on the EmpowerLA website. All candidates will need to upload documentation to prove that they are eligible to run for the seat for which they are filing. Candidate statements and pictures may also be uploaded. The EmpowerLA website will list each candidate as "pending" until the documentation information has been verified by the City Clerk. Once the information has been verified, the City Clerk will change the status of the candidate to "certified" and the name will be placed on the ballot.

Phase 3 – Election Commitment Timeline – All candidate filing forms must be submitted no later than sixty (60) days prior to election day. Candidates who have filed by this deadline will have three business days to submit any additional information to establish their stakeholder status for the position they are running for. The candidate review period ends fifty (50) days prior to the election day. Fortysix (46) days prior to the election day will be the deadline for candidates to withdraw their candidacy and have their names removed from the ballot. Withdrawals after forty six days will be processed by the NC after Election Day. Forty five (45) days prior to the Election, the City Clerk will release the final certified candidate list. If there are no contested seats, i.e. only one (1) candidate for each open seat, the Department will hold a Board Affirmation town hall at the next regular meeting of the Neighborhood Council to seat the new board. If there are not enough candidates to meet a quorum of the board, the Department will use the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Loss of Quorum policy to seat a new board.

Thanks very much.

Diane

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient you are hereby notified that disclosing, copying, distributing or taking any action in reliance on the contents of this information is strictly prohibited.