

Standing Rules of the Reseda Neighborhood Council

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Section I) Absences

As per RNC Bylaws, ARTICLE V, Section 7, Absences "...whereupon the Board shall determine the validity of the absences as specified in the RNC Standing Rules before taking action to remove the Board Member." Circumstances under which the Board may determine the reason for an absence as "valid" will be as follows;

Item A: Absences that require advance notice in writing to all board members as noted below;

- i) Business or Work commitment require 48 hours advance notice and examples are shift changes, new project hours, newly scheduled deadline, client appointment, and other determined similar circumstance. Business or Work DOES NOT include work needed to complete your responsibility to the RNC (e.g. failing to attend a board meeting when there are actions on the Board agenda in order to plan your committee work will be deemed an invalid circumstance for an absence, regardless of advance notice to the Board.)
- ii) Scheduled Vacation – as a courtesy, please notify the Board as soon as scheduled, but no later than five (5) days prior to departure.
- iii) Family Obligation – require 5 days notice, and examples are scheduled caretaking, reunions, weddings, "Milestones."
- iv) Scheduled Personal Commitment - require 48 hours advance notice and examples are medical appointments, surgery, jury duty, funerals, baby sitting.
- v) RNC Obligation assigned by the Board – No advance notice required since absence has been requested by the Board. Examples are scheduled City events, conferences, town halls, hearings, or data gathering from a specific source only available at a time that conflicts with the Board meeting. These circumstances are only valid if the Board has authorized sending the member for such purposes, and would not be valid if the member privately chooses to forego Board responsibilities to attend something the member determines is of more interest.

Item B: Absences that do not require advance notice;

- i) Medical, Family, Work, Personal emergencies - Do not require prior notification, but the circumstances of the absence should be submitted to the board within five (5) days of the emergency being resolved. Examples are accidents, loss, sudden illness.

Section II) Agendas

Item A: General Meeting Agenda

- i) Procedure for agenda setting for Regularly Scheduled Meetings-
 - 1. Draft Agenda. Agenda items for regularly scheduled RNC meetings may be submitted to either the Secretary, Assistant Secretary, President, or Vice President. The Secretary (or in their absence, the Assistant Secretary, President, or Vice President) shall compile all items requested by RNC Board members, RNC committees, items submitted by stakeholders and approved by the RNC Board at previous meetings, and items held over

from previous meetings no later than eight (8) days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting. Items expected to take longer than 20 minutes are subject to scheduling at a future meeting.

2. The Secretary, Assistant Secretary, President, or Vice President (or their designees) shall prepare a draft agenda based on these submissions. This draft agenda shall be distributed to all Officers of the Board and simultaneously posted publicly as a highly visible view-only Google Doc on the front page of the RNC website no later than six (6) days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting.

3. Agenda Review Options:

a. Any two (2) officers (not including the Assistant Secretary, who is not an officer) may trigger an agenda review meeting by notifying all officers within 24 hours of draft agenda distribution. This meeting must be held between six (6) and four (4) days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting.

b. If no agenda review meeting is requested, officers may submit feedback on the draft agenda within 24 hours of its distribution.

4. Agenda Modification Rules:

a. Additional items may be added to the agenda if requested by an officer and approved by the President or Vice President (or their designees), or passed by committee prior to the four (4) day deadline.

b. No items may be removed from the agenda once included, except at the specific request of the board member who originally proposed the item.

c. The order of agenda items may be modified for meeting efficiency.

5. The finalized agenda shall be submitted to the ENS system and distributed through other required outreach methods by the President, Vice President, Secretary, or their designees no later than 72 hours before the regularly scheduled meeting.

ii. Procedure for agenda setting for Special Meetings-

(1) A minimum of three (3) Board Members shall be required to create an agenda and call a Special Meeting of the RNC. The contents of the Agenda shall be entirely determined by the Board Members calling the meeting and once finalized will be immediately distributed to all Board Members, submitted to the ENS system and distributed through all other required and voluntary outreach outlets. In no case shall the agenda be distributed any later than seven days prior to the special meeting.

Item B: Committee Agendas;

i) All Committee Chairs are responsible for timely posting of agendas as required by the Brown Act and DONE regulations.

ii) All Committee Agendas shall be sent to all members of the committee and all RNC Board Members 72 hours in advance of any regular committee meeting, and 24 hours in advance of any Special Committee Meeting.

iii) All Committee Chairs shall maintain a record of the past agendas for their committee as digital records accessible to all Board Members.

Section III) Meetings

Item A: Written Public Comment

The Reseda Neighborhood Council shall announce a summary of the written public comment (email and snailmail) received from our stakeholders regarding any item scheduled for a vote on our agenda before the vote is called. This includes the total number of written comments, the total number received in support of, and the total number received against any agenda item. All written comment about an agenda item shall be made available for review to any board member or interested stakeholder upon request.

Item B: Board Actions

- i) CIS Filings
 - (a) All motions brought before the Board that require a Community Impact Statement (CIS) shall have a draft of said CIS and a link to the relevant council file number included with the proposed motion at the time that motion is first considered by the Board.
 - (b) All motions brought before the Board that require a Community Impact Statement whose language was authored or requested by an elected official or by the office of an elected official shall have that information clearly noted on the agenda.
 - (c) The Reseda Neighborhood Council shall file Community Impact Statements (CIS) to the City Clerk portal within 24 hours of being approved by the Board. When a Community Impact Statement is passed, the Board shall designate one of our CIS filers to be tasked with filing the Community Impact Statement through the portal. In the event that the filer is unable to file the CIS due to problems such as internet outages or emergency, the designated filer shall immediately notify the Executive Committee of the Board, at which point the Executive Committee as a whole is authorized and required to designate a new qualified CIS filer for the item, at its sole discretion.

Section IV) Minutes

Item A: General Meeting Minutes

General Meeting Minutes shall be completed and supplied to all Board Members at least 72 hours prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting, or made available as an online draft via the RNC website or app.

Item B: Committee Minutes

- i) All Committee Minutes are required to be sent to the RNC Secretary or approved on the RNC website or app within 72 hours of committee approval. However, if any committee recommendation is sent to the RNC Board and placed on an agenda for action, the Committee Chair shall send minutes (either approved or draft) that cover said recommendation to all Board Members 7 days prior to scheduled regular meeting.
- ii) All Committee Chairs shall maintain minutes of the past meetings for their committee in digital records accessible to all Board Members.

Section V) Officers

Item A: Duties, Responsibilities, and Powers

- i) Best Practices – In the event of any officer resignation, said officer shall have all necessary paperwork and documentation completed, and shall return all RNC and City property by the date of resignation.

ii) President

- (a) The President has the power to delegate duties to any board member during a meeting as needed and appropriate.
- (b) All correspondence sent out by the President using the RNC Name shall simultaneously be emailed (via CC or BCC) to all RNC Board Members in addition to the concerned parties.

iii) Vice President

- (a) Responsible for oversight of Committee Record Keeping. Design and maintain a system for organizing physical or digital record keeping of committees and make sure it is used.
- (b) Responsible for facilitating population of committees by doing active outreach amongst board members and Reseda Stakeholders, and announcing at each General Board meeting the names of Board members not serving on minimum required number of committees.
- (c) Responsible for ensuring committees properly produce and post agendas and forward them to all Board Members.
- (d) Responsible for ensuring committees meet minimum scheduling requirements, and should they fail to do so, shall enact provision VI) C: (i) (c) of the Standing Rules.
- (e) As a member of the Executive Committee, the Vice President shall participate in the development of strategic plans for the RNC and assist in the enforcement of these Standing Rules as provided in the RNC Bylaws.
- (f) Conflict of Interest and Dispute Resolution – In the event that the Vice President has a potential conflict of interest in overseeing a specific committee's activities, the Vice President shall disclose this conflict to the Board and the President shall designate another Officer to perform the oversight function for that committee. The Vice President shall serve as the first point of contact for resolving disputes arising within or between committees and shall report any unresolved disputes to the full Board for action.

iv) Secretary

- (a) Authorized Keyholders – The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining a record of who is an authorized keyholder, and who currently is in possession of keys. Secretary shall coordinate key distribution and retrieval whenever any individual's authorized keyholder status changes. Secretary may assign this task to the Assistant Secretary, should there be one, or any other designee.
- (b) It shall be the responsibility of the Secretary to monitor the Council mailbox and pick up and distribute any mails received, as necessary. Secretary may assign this task to the Assistant Secretary, should there be one, or any other board member or DEPARTMENT designee.
- (c) It shall be the duty of the Secretary to make sure that any draft minutes under consideration for approval at any General meeting shall be supplied to all Board Members 72 hours in advance of such meeting, or made available as an online draft via the RNC website or app. If these minutes are approved as amended, the Secretary shall distribute the amended minutes within 7 days after approval or alert the board that they have been made available as an online draft via the RNC website or app. Secretary may assign this task to the Assistant Secretary, should there be one, or any other board member or DEPARTMENT designee.
- (d) The Secretary shall keep the RNC Bylaws and Standing Rules up to date following any Board-approved amendments, and shall maintain an official list of all Board

Members, Officers, and Committee Members including their terms, addresses, and contact information. Secretary may assign this task to the Assistant Secretary, should there be one, or any other board member or DEPARTMENT designee.

- v) **Parliamentarian**
 - (a) The Parliamentarian shall serve as the RNC's Compliance Officer, ensuring all actions taken at meetings of the Board comply with the RNC Bylaws and applicable law.
 - (b) The Parliamentarian shall ensure meetings are conducted in an expeditious and orderly manner in accordance with the parliamentary authority adopted by the RNC.
 - (c) The Parliamentarian shall automatically serve as a member of the Bylaws and Standing Rules (BASR) Committee upon assuming office.
- vi) **Sergeant-at-Arms**
 - (a) The Sergeant-at-Arms shall preserve order at all meetings of the Board and shall act as timekeeper.
 - (b) The Sergeant-at-Arms may be called upon by the President to assist with the stakeholder sign-in process at meetings.

Section VI) Board Members

Item A: Duties and Responsibilities

- i) **Committee Membership** – All Board Members with the exception of the Youth Board Members (YBM) and the Young Adult Board Member (YABM) shall serve on a minimum of ONE (1) committee. At each General Board meeting the Vice President shall announce the names of every Board Member not serving on the required number of committees.
- ii) **Email** – All Board Members shall use the official RNC Email System for all official RNC business. Board Members are encouraged to avoid using the “reply all” option when replying to any official communication.

Section VII) Committees

Item A: Structure

All Standing Committees shall be structured with one and only one Chair, a Vice-Chair who shall act as chair in case of chair's absence, and a Secretary.

- i) The Executive Committee, as established in the RNC Bylaws, shall consist of all six (6) Officers of the Board: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Parliamentarian, and Sergeant-at-Arms. The Executive Committee is responsible for developing strategic plans for the RNC and enforcing these Standing Rules. The Secretary shall automatically serve as a member of the Executive Committee upon assuming office.

Item B: Membership

- i) Any Committee Member who misses 3 consecutive regular committee meetings is subject to removal from the committee at the Committee Chair's discretion, subject to Board Appeal.
- ii) **On Leave Status** – Any non-Board Committee Member who requires a temporary leave of absence from a committee for health or other personal reasons must submit the request in writing to Committee Chair, who may grant the status at their discretion. This status is granted in 4 month increments, and any extensions of this status must be reviewed by the entire

committee and results recorded in Meeting Minutes. While holding this status, member may not vote in any committee matters, and they do not count towards the quorum.

iii) Member Emeritus Status – Any non-Board Committee Member who has performed valuable service to a committee, but is unable to continue to participate in the committee for an extended period of time (longer than 4 months) may be given the status. This status may only be conferred by committee discussion and vote, and the results recorded in the minutes. This is a non-voting status, and does not count towards the quorum.

Item C: Meetings

i) Scheduling

(a) All Standing Committees shall be required to meet at least once a quarter, with the exception of the Outreach & PR Committee and the Budget & Finance Committee, which shall meet at least monthly. If any committee fails to meet this requirement, the RNC Vice President shall cause to be put on the next General Meeting held after such failure a recommendation that the Committee Chair be removed subject to Board Approval.

(b) Committees shall establish a set day of the month and time for regular meetings which meet their Committee's minimum meeting requirements, for example every third Wednesday of the month, 6 PM, or the fourth Tuesday of every other month at 7 PM.

(c) Failure to meet minimum scheduling requirements may subject committee chair to removal, and possible disbanding of committee as allowed by Article VII Section 3 paragraphs F & G of the RNC Bylaws.

ii) Calling Meetings – The Committee Chair may call a meeting by preparing an agenda and properly posting it as per mandated guidelines. In the event a Committee Chair is derelict in calling a meeting, any two committee members may create an agenda, cause it to be posted as per mandated guidelines, and then hold the meeting.

iii) Supplemental Notification – All Meeting Agendas and supporting documents shall be delivered to all Board Members either directly, or via electronic link by Committee Chair or their designee.

Item D: Ad Hoc Committees

i) Six (6) months after creation of any ad hoc committee, the Board shall review the committee and decide if the ad hoc committee's activities warrant disbanding the committee, renewing its ad hoc status, elevating it to a permanent RNC committee, or merging it with an existing committee.

Item E: Training

Where possible, and as allowed by DONE policy, the Reseda Neighborhood Council shall require all Committee Members who do not also serve as Reseda Neighborhood Council Board Members to read, sign, and be subject to the rules and regulations of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners' Code of Conduct. Every Committee Member shall be required to review and re-sign these rules every two years in accordance with the guidelines set by BONC. Each Committee Member shall have 45 days from appointment in order to read and sign the BONC Code of Conduct which Code of Conduct will be supplied to the Committee Member by the Committee Chair. A Committee Member shall not be able to vote on a committee matter if they have not read and signed the BONC Code of Conduct. Failure to complete the Code of Conduct shall result in agendized removal from the committee.

Failure to adhere to the rules set forth in the BONC Code of Conduct shall subject the member to an agendized removal from the committee. The RNC Secretary shall keep a record of Committee Member's completion of the Code of Conduct.

Item F: Duties and Responsibilities

- i) All Committees shall come up with a mission statement and a plan of action to implement it. The plan of action shall include yearly and quarterly goals.*
- ii) Outreach & PR Committee;
 - (a) Events – The Outreach & PR Committee shall maintain a packet to explain and guide how to have an event with RNC involvement. That packet shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - (1) A list of RNC committees, the current Chairs and their contact information, and the types of events that would be under each committee’s purview.
 - (2) An approximate expected timeline and chain of contact the process will require to achieve approval for events that don’t require RNC funding, as well as ones that do.
 - (3) Samples of completed event applications and itemized budgets.
 - (b) Branding – The Outreach & PR Committee shall ensure cohesive branding for the Council, providing templates when necessary for Committees and Events when needed, and ensuring any flyers and advertisements include necessary requirements.
- iii) Budget & Finance Committee;
 - (a) All financial requests shall be made to the Budget & Finance Committee before being presented to the full Board. All properly completed and filed/submitted Neighborhood Purpose Grants (NPG) for qualifying organizations shall be promptly agendized within 45 days in the Budget and Finance Standing Committee upon receipt for review and input from our Board members and community stakeholders.
 - (1) When finance requests come via a committee motion, the Budget & Finance Committee shall make its decision based upon funds being available in the appropriate budget category, and not judge the merits of the item for which funds are being requested.
 - (2) When finance requests come via Stakeholder, the Budget & Finance Committee shall direct Stakeholder to appropriate committee to evaluate request. If there is no appropriate committee then the Budget & Finance Committee shall judge the merits of the request in addition to determining if sufficient funds are available before forwarding recommendation to the Board for approval.
 - (3) In the case of NPG requests, the Budget & Finance Committee shall vet the legitimacy of all requests and other technical merits before sending to RNC Board for community evaluation, provided funds are available. In no case shall an NPG be approved if applicant is not in attendance at Finance or Board meeting where it is being heard.
 - (4) Only NPG applications from organizations registered with the Department of Justice and the State of California, and that include all required documentation—including a current Statement of Information—be considered. Furthermore, applications shall only be agendized if the Board or Budget & Finance Committee indicates interest in moving them forward, to avoid agendizing incomplete or non-compliant applications.
 - (b) P-Card Usage – The P-Card Holder must be present at time of purchase for any charge to be made to the P-Card. No “after-the-fact” exemptions shall be allowed.

Section VIII) Procedures

Item A: Disputes –

In the event of any dispute concerning any Board action, the concerned Board Member shall follow the grievance process as outlined in Article XI of the RNC Bylaws. Per the Bylaws, all grievances must be submitted through the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) Grievance Portal as specified therein, before any further escalation.

Item B: Stakeholder Agenda Item Requests

- i) Should a stakeholder make a request outside of a General Board meeting that an item be placed on a regular general meeting agenda, whenever possible, the item shall be sent first to be heard by the appropriate committee. If necessary, it shall then go to the finance committee. It shall then be placed onto a regular Board agenda with the committee(s) official recommended Board action.
- ii) Should a stakeholder make a request at a General Board meeting, the request shall be handled as per Bylaws protocol (Article 8, Section 2). Should there be no concurrence by the Board to place the item on a future General Board agenda, the Board President shall direct the stakeholder to the appropriate committee to consider the item.

Item C: Record Keeping

- i) Certifications – Any certifications received after required Board Member trainings, including, but not limited to, Ethics, Finance, Conduct, shall be supplied to the Parliamentarian.
- ii) Committee duties;
 - (a) Minutes – Approved minutes shall make a note of all Board Members present and shall be forwarded to the Secretary within 72 hours or made available on the RNC website or app.
 - (b) Agendas – Finalized agendas shall be sent to President, Vice President, Secretary, Newsletter Editor (if any), and submitted to the LA City ENS system no later than 72 hours prior to any meeting.
 - (c) Speaker Cards and Sign-in Sheets – It shall be the responsibility of the Committee Chair to take possession of any sign-in sheets or Speaker Cards, if any, completed at their meetings, and supply same to the Secretary as soon as possible. They shall maintain an electronic copy of same in their own records of the meeting.

Sections IX to XCVI) [reserved]