Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, February 11, 2013

6:30 pm

Sherman Oaks Elementary School Auditorium

1. The meeting was called to order by President Jill Banks Barad at 6:35 pm.
2. Roll call
   1. Present: Bartley, Beeber, Brooks, Calne, Casavan, Ebenstein, Hutchinson, Kalban, Katchen, Lax, Plotkin, Preston, Revord, Roden, Ziff, Banks Barad.
   2. Absent: Marciniak
3. The minutes of SONC Board meeting of January 14, 2013 were approved.
4. Introduction of elected officials, staff, LAPD Senior Lead Officers.
   1. Senior Lead Officer Trent for northern Sherman Oaks, spoke and provided his contact number 818-731-2563.
   2. Steven Butcher of Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian’s office (AD 46) invited everyone to attend an Open House at the Van Nuys State Office Building on February 21. Flyers were handed out to the Board and the public.
   3. John Alford of Congressman Brad Sherman’s office introduced himself and welcomed everyone to contact their office with any federal issues.
   4. Greg Bartz of LADWP presented information regarding the upcoming work on Coldwater Canyon and provided a FAQ document regarding the Smart Grid Regional Demonstration Project. There was extensive discussion regarding the planned closure of Coldwater Canyon for construction. There will be full closure in both directions from 8:30 am – 7:00 pm from March 23 to April 26. Jay Beeber raised concerns regarding the decision process. Greg noted that LADWP worked closely with CD2 regarding planning. Traffic control will be provided at Coldwater Canyon. Carolyn Casavan requested traffic control be extended to the other canyon roads in Studio City and Sherman Oaks and Ron Ziff recommended that notice of the closure be posted on the 101 to alert drivers before exiting at Coldwater Canyon.
5. Public Comment: None
6. President’s Report – Jill Banks Barad, President. Jill announced Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian’s open house.
   1. She reminded everyone of the VANC Candidate’s Forum being held at Valley College on February 23 with City Controller and Mayoral Candidates.
   2. Jill was appointed to the Neighborhood Council Plan Review and Reform Initiative process that is in progress and will be taking place during the next four months. A summary sheet of their topics was handed out to the Board and the public.
7. Treasurer’s Report – Howard Katchen, Chair.
   1. Howard encouraged everyone to take the Budget Survey and attend the Regional Budget Day on March 16.
   2. **Action Item – Motion to approve Financial Report. Moved by Neal Roden, seconded by Linda Brooks. Passed 16-0-0.**
   3. **Action Item – Motion from Finance Committee to approve disbursement of $250 for the VANC Mixer. Passed 16-0-0.**
   4. Howard noted the funding request deadline for this fiscal year is May 15, 2013. This applies to Demand Warrants and Neighborhood Purposes Grants. Unspent money will not roll over into the next fiscal year.
8. Committee Reports/Updates
   1. Land Use Committee – Ron Ziff, Chair.
      1. The Il Villagio project will be heard on February 19 at 10:30 am in Van Nuys City Hall.
      2. The committee approved a project with 30 unit condos and 7 single family homes at 14615 Magnolia.
      3. The Buckley Neighborhood Committee considered uses for the $50,000 Improvement Fund. Three community requests that were made could not be accommodated. These included additional crosswalks at Stansbury and Valley Vista, speed bumps on Valley Vista near Camino de la Cumbre, and a signal at Beverly Glen and Valley Vista. It was decided that $25,000 would be loaned to the Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy toward the downpayment on the acquisition of a piece of property that will complete the wildlife corridor from Malibu to Griffith Park. These funds would be paid back in about 2.5 years with Proposition HH funds.
      4. Working on getting DOT and Metro out to the SONC to talk with the Board about transportation issues. Jay will contact Bruce Gillam at DOT. Ron will contact Carolyn Ramsey at the CD4 office to see about having a Town Hall on transportation.
      5. There will not be an LUC meeting on February 21.
   2. Neighborhood Services—Jeff Ebenstein, Chair. Jeff reported that the committee is proposing reinstating 50:50 payment program for sidewalk repairs. Will give an accounting at next Board Meeting.
   3. Government Affairs- Jay Beeber, Chair. Jay reported that the City is proposing a new Economic Development Department that would be associated with a non-profit economic development organization.
   4. Rules and Elections- Arthur Hutchinson, Chair.
      1. **Second Reading: *Action Item* from R&E Committee: MOTION to add the following language to SONC Bylaws, Article XIV Compliance, Section 2: Ethics Training**

**“Continued failure to complete the required Ethics Training, may result in removal from the SONC Board.”**

**Passed 15-0-0.**

* + 1. Gave an update of Board Members’ ethics training since October 2012 – 8 have taken, 5 are planning on attending the live training on February 21 and 4 remain to either take the training or obtain documentation of their training within the last 2 years.
  1. Green Committee—Carolyn Casavan, Chair.
     1. Kris Ohlenkamp of the San Fernando Valley Chapter of the Audubon Society gave a presentation regarding the Army Corps of Engineers recent vegetation clearing activities in the Sepulveda Basin South Wildlife Area. Kris reported the habitat destruction that has taken place, that the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board has submitted a list of 26 items to the ACOE for them to report back on and that they are meeting with the City Bureau of Sanitation regarding $60,000 in City improvements. Councilmember Jan Perry has also made a motion regarding the issue.
     2. **Action Item: Motion from Green Committee: That the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers provide adequate notice to Neighborhood Councils in the Sepulveda Basin, (Encino, Lake Balboa and Sherman Oaks) at least 60 days prior to any proposed actions and projects in the Sepulveda Basin whether or not an Environmental Impact is anticipated. Passed 14-0-0**
     3. **Action Item: Motion from Green Committee: That the Army Corps of Engineers provide restoration of the 48-acre wildlife area, mitigation for habitat removed and compensation to the City and County for money expended for improvements in the wildlife area that was destroyed. Passed 14-0-0.**
     4. Provided an update of activities with the Sherman Oaks Beautification Committee.

1. Arts Committee—Matthew Plotkin, Chair. Matt reported that the Arts and Outreach Committees are looking at participating in a Memorial Day event being held by City Parks and Recreation at Sherman Oaks Park. He and Sherry Revord will attend a Parks and Recreation Board meeting to follow up.
2. The following announcements were made on subject matters within SONC’s jurisdiction
   1. Ashley Meachem from Los Angeles County Metro noted that the next meeting regarding the Metro East Valley Transit Corridor will be held on March 19, at the Aquatic Center in Sylmar.
   2. Jill announced the VANC Candidates’ Forum for Mayoral and City Controller Candidates, will be held on Saturday, February 23 at L.A. Valley College, 9 a.m. -12:30 p.m.
   3. Jill also announced that the VANC 10th Anniversary Mixer, will be held on March 14, at CBS Studio Center.
3. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.