Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, April 8, 2013

6:30 pm

Sherman Oaks Elementary School Auditorium

1. The meeting was called to order by President Jill Banks Barad at 6:30 pm.
2. Roll call
   1. Present: Bartley, Beeber, Brooks, Casavan, Ebenstein, Hutchinson, Kalban, Katchen, Marciniak, Plotkin, Preston, Revord, Roden, Ziff, Banks Barad.
   2. Absent: Calne, Lax
3. The minutes of SONC Board meeting of March 11, 2013 were approved with corrections
4. Introduction of elected officials, staff, LAPD Senior Lead Officers.
   1. Steven Butcher of Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian’s office (AD 46) announced and provided flyers for a Free Senior Car Fit Event to be held at the East Valley Adult Center. Also announced that their office has set up new web pages.
   2. Tommy Newman of Councilmember Tom LaBonge’s office gave an update on the emergency preparedness workshop held last week.
5. Public Comment: None
6. **Tax Workshop** to help prepare for federal and state tax returns
   1. Guest Speaker – Jerome Horton, the Chair of the State Board of Equalization, gave an informative presentation on the underground economy, how the tax system is being used to stop human trafficking, new legislation that is under consideration and the availability of tax preparation assistance. Information tables were set up by the State Board of Equalization and the State Franchise Tax Board.
7. President’s Report – Jill Banks Barad, President.
   1. The President appointed Sue Steinberg to the Land Use Committee. Sue introduced herself to the Board. She is a land use consultant.
   2. Matt Plotkin was appointed Chair of the Public Safety Committee.
   3. Update regarding SONC office space - May 1 is the anticipated move-in date. Councilmember Tom LaBonge’s office will be picking up the rent for the entire space with no charge to SONC.
   4. Report on VANC Mixer March 14 – 225 people attended, all 34 NC’s were represented and all six citywide office candidates in the May 21 runoff election attended.
   5. **Action Item – Recommendation that SONC sponsor the VANC Candidates Forum on April 27. Passed. 15-0-0**
   6. **Action Item – Jeff Ebenstein moved that SONC contribute $250 to the VANC Candidate Forum. Arthur Hutchinson seconded. Passed. 15-0-0**
8. Treasurer’s Report – Howard Katchen, Chair.
   1. **Action Item – Motion to approve Financial Report. Moved by Neal Roden, seconded by Ron Ziff. Passed 15-0-0.**
   2. **Action Item – Recommendation to approve revisions to SONC Expenditures and Reimbursement Policies. Passed 15-0-0.**
   3. **Action Item – Recommendation from Finance Committee to allocate $500 for Congress of Neighborhoods. Passed. 15-0-0.**
   4. **Action Item – Recommendation from Finance Committee to allocate up to $400 for 8 trees for tree planting along Van Nuys and Beneficial. Passed. 15-0-0.**
   5. **Action Item – Recommendation from Finance Committee to allocate $2000 for Sepulveda Basin Environmental Education Fund of the Audubon Society.**

**Passed. 14-0-1.**

* 1. **Action Item – Recommendation from Finance Committee to allocate $2600 to VN/SO Park youth sports league scholarships. After much discussion, it was recommended that an official clarification was needed regarding whether the NC can give money to individuals. Arthur Hutchison moved and Ron Ziff seconded that the item be referred to the Executive Committee for official clarification. Passed. 11-3-0.**
  2. **Action Item – Re-allocate $70 from OFF to AUD line item. Passed. 14-0-0.**
  3. **Action Item – Re-allocate $2000 from budget item CIP to GRT line item.**

**Passed. 14-0-0.**

* 1. **Action Item – Re-allocate $1000 from budget line item ADV, $1000 from budget item WEB and $600 from budget item OTH to budget line item GRT. Skipped because Action Item f. was not passed.**
  2. **Action Item – Allocate up to $70 to purchase microphone, stand, cord and clip. Passed. 14-0-0.**

1. Committee Reports/Updates
   1. Outreach Committee
      1. **Action Item – Recommendation that the Addendum to the Agenda for time sensitive motions from the Outreach Committee be agendized.**

**Passed. 13-1-0.**

* + 1. **Action Item – Recommendation to allocate up to $2500 (approximately 25 locations) to New Directions for Youth to pay for supplies and labor to touch-up benches and trash cans in Sherman Oaks. Passed. 13-1-0**
    2. **Action Item – Recommendation to allocate up to $500 to buy painting supplies to continue cover-up work in Sherman Oaks. No motion. Supplies are being provided by the City.**
    3. **Action Item – Recommendation to allocate up to $12,000 to print and distribute a newsletter to Sherman Oaks Stakeholders. The newsletter will be distributed by mail and walked to businesses and residents including apartment residents. Passed. 13-1-0**
  1. Land Use Committee – Ron Ziff, Chair.
     1. Il Villagio project status – Conditions endorsed by CD4. Will be heard by the City Planning Commission on April 25 at Van Nuys City Hall.
     2. Report on PLUM letter of reorganization.
     3. Update on East Valley Corridor Study – Proposed alternative would fence in part of Van Nuys Boulevard for light rail taking up 45 feet of right of way.
     4. Next LUC meeting April 18, Sherman Oaks Library.
  2. Neighborhood Services—Jeff Ebenstein, Chair. Jeff reported that approximately $5500 is left in the Pothole Lottery budget. **Suggested that if money is left at the end of the fiscal year that it be swept into the Pothole Lottery budget.**
  3. Government Affairs- Jay Beeber, Chair.
     1. Update on Administrative Code Enforcement (ACE) in committee at this time, SONC opposed.
     2. Report on state proposed red light bill AB 666, which would affect areas of the state that still have red light cameras.
     3. Jill requested that Government Affairs take up the proposed Street Repair ballot measure. Jay agreed to follow up.
  4. Green & Beautification Committee – Carolyn Casavan, Chair.
     1. Report on tree planting outreach opportunity for SONC, Big Sunday event planned by Sherman Oaks Beautification Committee on Saturday, May 4, and Sherman Oaks beautification planning.
  5. Rules and Elections- Arthur Hutchinson, Chair. Announced that 3 Land Use Committee members completed City Ethics Training.

1. The following announcements were made on subject matters within SONC’s jurisdiction
   1. VANC meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 11 will address Planning Issues, cell phones and digital billboards.
   2. VANC Candidates’ Forum for Citywide Candidates is scheduled for Saturday, April 27 at CBS Studio Center, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Board Members from VANC NC’s are asked to send questions to Jill with name and NC for Forum.
   3. Wednesday, April 24th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, Mayor Villaraigosa Town Hall Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Casavan, Secretary