

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council



MINUTES

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Sept. 9th, 2011 6:30PM

Westfield Mall Community Room

Present: Anthony St. John, Jay Beeber, Janet Richmond, Det. Carlos Figueira, Nikki Ezhari, Joel Balasberger, Jesse Blasberger

Absent: Alan Taylor, Jeff Berk, Max Calne

Anthony reports on National Night Out at Van Nuys City Hall Plaza on Aug. 1st. SONC Public Safety Committee had a booth and passed out Emer. Prep. Info.

Anthony reports on the ribbon cutting ceremony at Notre Dame High School for the Speed Trailer which displays traffic speeds in the School Zone. Funding was provided by Westfield Mall and SONC. Press coverage included ABC & News and Sherman Oaks Patch.

The Public Safety Committee has also been invited to participate in the 1st. Annual Emergency Preparedness Event at the Galleria sponsored by CD5.

Janet reports on meeting Emily Rose who is trying to organize what will be the largest Neighborhood Watch Group in Sherman Oaks called "Library Square".

We were joined by two members of the Public, Mr. Joel Blasberger and his son Jesse who live on upper Benedict Canyon and have been complaining about flowing water down their street for over 30 years. Both Jay Beeber and Joan Pelico have found that the source is an underground spring near the top of the street that has been directed by the City to flow down the street which has no storm drains or drainpipe for fresh water. This constant flow breaks up the street asphalt, causes minor traffic accidents due to slippage and is a hazard to pedestrians. Residents also could use this water for irrigation if it were allowed to be collected. Joan Pelico had been working on this several years ago as the flow down to Valley Vista had been cause for the street to be constantly repaired. Will refresh Joan's memory and pass along to

Neighborhood Services Comm. With further research to be done by Jay.

Jay makes a Red Light Camera Report that finds the City still funding the system and making payments to the vendor even though the contract is void and both Police Commission and City Council voted to discontinue the program. Funding is being kept alive by Councilmember Parks for further “study”. Jay cites recent data from Loma Linda extended Yellow Study. A request is made to place this on the Agenda.

Guest Speaker: Robbery/Homicide Detective Carlos Figueira speaks about pending SLO candidates and Capt. Snell’s commitment to community involvement. We point out the apparent uptick in crimes from car break-ins to home robberies/distraction burglaries. The Det. States that there has been an uptick, but primarily in the NoHo, Sepulveda corridor. We explain to him the Neighborhood Watch’s use of the NIXLE system and request that crime alerts be more in real time in order to be effective “eyes & ears” for the police working the event. Det. Figueira explains that there are 2 SLO cars working our area 24/7 in addition to the “party car” on Fri and Sat.

The Committee also reminds the Det. of the large monetary investment the Neighborhood Council made in both the Q Star and manned Ventura Blvd. camera systems and how the systems have been unable to be maintained due to lack of funding.

He confirms that both systems are in need of maintenance and would pass or concerns along to Capt. Snell. We asked if he would be available to come to a Board meeting in Oct. or Nov. to educate the public on home crime prevention before the Holidays.

Adjournment: 8:45PM