

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



SHERMAN OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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Committee Members:

Melissa Menard, Co – Chair
Kristin Sales, Co – Chair

Meghan Horan
Loren Naiman
Barbara McDermott
Brandon Pender (Alt.)
Carolyn Casavan (Alt.)

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council Public Safety Committee Meeting

MINUTES

MONDAY, April 22nd, 2019

6:30pm

Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center
5056 Van Nuys Blvd – lobby
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

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AGENDA

1. Call to Order by Melissa Menard, Co – Chair – 6:36pm
2. Roll Call- Melissa Menard, Meghan Horan, Kristin Sales
3. Approve Meeting Minutes from November 27th, 2018 and from February 25th, 2019
 - a. November 27th – Table to next month
 - b. February 25th- **Approved unanimously**
4. Introduction of Committee Members, LAPD, elected officials and staff
 - a. Crime Stats, Questions and Answers specifically directed to them
 - i. No LAPD members present; Ron Ziff (Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council Board President) and Jeffrey Hartsough (Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council Board 1st Vice President) in attendance
5. Public Forum: comments by the public on non-agenda items within the Committee's jurisdiction
 - a. Kira Durbin (member of Outreach Committee):
 - i. Kira is interested in in public safety, green environmental issues, and outreach. In regards to public safety, she would like to learn more about community involvement and relationships with LAPD
 - ii. She read the Neighborhood Watch (NW) Manual for NW Block Captains and mentioned it contained great information. She also felt that when people are informed correctly, it can solve a lot of issues.
6. Response(s) to public comments by Committee Members
 - a. In response to Kira Durbin:
 - i. Melissa Menard: There are booklets on neighborhood watch where people can learn more information
 - ii. Kristin Sales: With regard to NW meetings- attendance has slowed so the committee has put a hold on scheduling meetings at the moment; With regards to community involvement and relationships with LAPD- the committee has a community police advisory board (C-PAB) liaison but he has been absent for the last few committee meetings
7. Chair's Report

- a. The public safety committee has received a "Best of Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC)" award
- 8. DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:
 - a. New Business
 - i. Discussion: cost of monthly crime stats for Sherman Oaks by Crosstown LA
 - 1. Crosstown is a nonprofit news organization based at USC. They compile data about key issues affecting communities in Los Angeles
 - 2. Melissa Menard:
 - a. Crosstown LA showed up to a monthly Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) board meeting.
 - b. They provided crimes in the SONC area over the last 6 months by category (total crime, theft from vehicle, and burglary) and top 10 crimes.
 - c. Residents can get misinformation from NextDoor. Statistics such as the ones provided from Crosstown LA can offer perspective from surrounding communities
 - 3. Cost is \$100 per month which covers the work of a journalist (4 hours) and creation of a flyer with statistics
 - a. Melissa Menard: Feels that the cost/service is justified. People associate public safety with crime stats and this is a great way to give constituents what they want. It could also help drive people to the SONC website. This would be a great way to promote NW and emergency preparedness
 - b. Kristin Sales- LAPD senior lead officers (SLOs) have a newsletter but most people do not know how to find or access information based on their SLO. The crime stats provided would need to create an action item. The flyer should also be cobranded.
 - c. Jeff Hartsough- Asks if the flyer format is customizable and how many neighborhood councils Crosstown LA is marketing to
 - i. Eva (Crosstown LA representative present)- The flyer is very flexible as far as what kind of information is in. Crosstown is in discussion with 4 other neighborhood councils including Studio City and some near USC.
 - d. Jeff Hartsough recommends that Crosstown LA reach out to the Department of Neighborhood and Empowerment to see if there is a way to provide info to all.
 - e. Ron Ziff suggests reaching out to Councilmember David Ryu to fund in a more generic way; a Neighborhood Purposes Grant
 - f. Eva: This is a pilot data project and Crosstown does not have the capacity to run statistics for all Neighborhood City Councils. Crosstown LA reached out to Sherman Oaks because we are active and responsive.
 - g. Jeff Hartsough- Mentions the measure of benefit- will this help reduce crime in the neighborhood?
 - h. Kristin Sales- Would like to see top 5 crimes and definitions of what those crimes mean.
 - ii. MOTION: The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council Public Safety Committee requests that Crosstown (xtown.la) provide monthly crime stats specific to Sherman Oaks, that can be disseminated to its constituents via fliers and the website.
 - 1. AMENDED MOTION: The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council Public Safety Committee requests that Crosstown (xtown.la) provide monthly crime stats specific to Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council geographic area, that can be disseminated to its constituents via fliers and the website at a cost of \$100 per month for a period of one year as a part of a pilot program
 - 2. **Passes as amended**
 - iii. Seeking new Public Safety Committee Members
 - 1. We've put information in the SONC newsletter, looking to recruit new members
 - iv. Fire Inspections in High Fire Hazard Zones starting May 1st – (VMS3.lafd.org)

1. Start going door to door and fining for not having correct brush clearance
- b. Old Business
9. Announcements from the Committee on subject matters within SONC's jurisdiction
 - a. Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council Election will be held on Sunday, May 19th
 - b. CERT1 Training Class – want to sign up for a future class? Visit www.Cert-LA.com
 - c. Next SONC Board Meeting; Monday, May 13th, 2019 at the Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center
 - d. Next Public Safety Meeting; Monday, May 20th, 2019 Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center - lobby
10. Adjourn – 8pm