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| **Officers:**  Ron Ziff, President Bus-6  Jeff Hartsough, 1st Vice Pres.CI-2  Sue Steinberg, 2nd Vice Pres Bus.4  Tom Capps, Treasurer, Res. 2  Avo Babian, Secretary, Bus. 5  **Board Members:**  Garett Ross, Res. 1  Levon Baronian, Bus-1  Kristin Sales, CI-1  Howard Katchen, Res. 3  Raphael Morozov, Bus.3  Richard Marciniak, CI-3  Lisa Petrus, Res. 4  Sidonia Lax, CI-4  Vacant, Res-5  Sherry Revord, CI-5  Jill Banks Barad, Res. 6  Melissa Menard, CI-6  Michael Binkow, Res. 7  Neal Roden, Bus-7  Jeffrey Kalban, CI-7 | CALIFORNIA | **SHERMAN OAKS**  **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  P O Box 5721  Sherman Oaks, CA 91413  (818) 503-2399  [www.shermanoaksnc.org](http://www.shermanoaksnc.org/)  OR CONTACT  **Department of Neighborhood Empowerment linked through our website under "Resources"** |
| **Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council**  **SONC**  **BOARD MEETING**  **Monday, June 12, 2017**  **6:30 p.m.**  **Sherman Oaks Elementary School Auditorium**  **14780 Dickens Street**  **Sherman Oaks** |

**Minutes**

1. **Meeting Called to order by Ron Ziff,** President at 6:30 pm.
2. **Roll Call:** Present: Ron Ziff Jeff Hartsough, Sue Steinberg, Tom Capps, Treasurer, Avo Babian, Secretary, Garett Ross, Levon Baronian, Kristin Sales, Howard Katchen, Raphael Morozov, Richard Marciniak, Lisa Petrus, Sidonia Lax, Sherry Revord, Jill Banks Barad, Melissa Menard, Michael Binkow, Neal Roden, Jeffrey Kalban,

Absent: Levon Baronian, Raphael Morozov.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Approval of Minutes of previous meeting:** Richard Marciniak brought the motion to accept the minutes. Tom Capps seconded the motion. *Passed Unanimously:* Minutes approved
3. **Guest Speaker – LAPD Deputy Chief Van Nuys – John Sherman:** Officer Sherman mentioned that crime is on a 12 yr downturn, with a recent uptick. The San Fernando Valley tends to be safer. Property crime is up 3%, while violent crime is down 11%. There are 700 crimes of burglary and grand theft auto this year. We also have a homelessness issue. With cameras and a litigious culture, it has become hard for the LAPD. A new system, **Predictive Policing**, guesses where crime will be and where to put officers. It has lowered crime. We cannot arrest our way out of crime. We need community support. And a high percentage of cars are stolen because people forget keys in the car. Question: by Sidonia, about burglary prevention. Kirstin Sales, asked about predictive policing. Also, there is an uptick in business crime, chamber of commerce meets to take care of that. Lisa Petrus asked, are we understaffed. We have around 10,000 officers, we need another 2,600. Michael Binkow asked about social media. Officer Sherman said we are not there yet. Next door, is not great. Howard Katchen, asked about lawsuits. Ron Ziff asked with 1.4 Million people using the Metro, there should be more bathrooms. Sue asked, what’s legal with Cannabis related products.
4. **Comments by LAPD SLO’s, Public Officials and staff**. **Officer Barry,** said fireworks are still illegal. **Emma Taylor:** Staff of Assembly Member Adrin Nazarian, Thanks the public safety committee. Please email me if you need anything. **Nikki Ezhari:** There is a study going on to clarify parkway parking rules. Please call me for comments. Ryu has a position on Home Sharing. The City Law is 180 days a year, Ryu prefers 60 days, 1 rental in the city, for residential use. Regarding Mansionization, if the garage is under 400 squ ft, it does not count, if it’s more, than it does. Also, there 10 awards, for $20,000 each, to design places where kids get to play. Friday updates are emailed out, please get on my email list. Ron pointed out that we need more than 24 hrs notice for home share memos to review. Melissa asked for the Feb 13th vote update, Nikki said no updates.
5. **President’s Report**

Tish Lawrence was sworn in for Business Seat Area 2

-We received a thank you letter from the Friends of the Library for the money we contributed to buy tables for the community room.

As part of its commitment to the community Westfield, has committed a total of $150,000 to traffic solutions for the community north of the center and Library Square to mitigate any traffic caused by the new restaurants to be added to the center. A letter will be signed by Westfield, leaders of the two communities, the council office, and myself for the Neighborhood Council.

A few committee changes:

Raphael Morozov will not be leading the Outreach committee, but will remain on the committee. We thank him for his service and look forward to his continued participation. Garett Ross has taken on the job of chairing the committee. We look forward to his leadership.

Richard Marciniak has taken on a project of working with our local schools to commemorate the 90th anniversary of Sherman Oaks. He will be doing that through the Outreach Committee.

Over the past few days I have become aware that there was a proposal to fence off a portion of Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Park for a garden where a few people would grow vegetables. A website was posted on the internet that claims this is supported by this Council. In fact it was not. Further, our standing rules require that outside communications be approved by the president before release. There was no such approval. There is a line between the work product of this council and the process to create that product. As president it's my job to make sure the process is open and transparent and protected. In line with that, yesterday I removed two members of the the Green and Beautification Committee and took action to notify the park that this project is in no way connected to the Neighborhood Council.

A few notes on our website:

At last month's Board meeting we authorized 3 Community Impact Statements. These were filed and are posted on the website under last month's date.

It is the obligation of each neighborhood council to take an annual inventory of its property for the city. We did that this month. A copy of the inventory is posted on our website under tonight's meeting.

The council publishes a monthly newsletter with a lot of information about what is going on in and around Sherman Oaks. Shared experiences are a big part of the feeling of community. The newsletter covers things from public safety to family events, activities for seniors, our committee meetings, and even where to get the best hamburgers. I encourage everyone to spend 5 minutes a month to look it over. There are several ways: It is posted on our website; you can sign up to get it by email on our homepage, and you can get a text only version by signing up for Next Door, and you can sign the list on the clipboard on the piano.

A few announcements:

Our next meeting will be July 10. It will at the Senior Center at 5056 Van Nuys Blvd in the big room inbuilding C. The Council will be dark in August.

One of our Board members has passed a milestone. This past week Sidonia Lax had her 90th birthday. Please join me in singing Happy Birthday to Sidonia.

1. **Public Comment: Comments by the public on non-agenda items within SONC’s**

**Jurisdiction:** No Public Comments

**9. Treasurer’s Report and Finance Committee– Tom Capps, Treasurer**

1. **Action Item: Approve the Monthly Expense Report for the Month Ending May 31, 2017. *Unanimously Approved.***
2. **Action Item. To Amend and approve a revision to the current budget approved on February 13, 2017 to align all budget line items to reflect the expenditures at the end of the fiscal end on June 30, 2017. *Unanimously Approved***
3. **Action Item: To Approve an expenditure of up to $5,000 for the July and August Movies in the Park from the 2017-2018 Budget and Funding – Action item. *Unanimously Approved.***
4. **Preview of Finance Committee meeting for June 29.**

**10. Committee reports**

**A. Land Use Committee Report- Jeff Kalban, Chair**

**1. Updates on pending development projects in Sherman Oaks:**

Next meeting is this 6:30 Thursday, June 15 in the Kester Avenue Elementary School Library, 5353 Kester Ave. On the agenda is Whole Foods coming to us for a vote on their project at Ventura and Tyrone, AREA 4; a small lot subdivision at 5209 Saloma Ave. just north of Magnolia AREA 1;a mural at Dog E Den at 15122 Ventura Blvd. at Noble AREA 6 and the City’s proposed Affordable Housing Linkage Fee…this fee will be added to all construction projects, $5/s.f. for commercial projects and $12/s.f. for residential (these are funds for affordable housing above what was voted on in measures H and HHH).

Support Documents for all agendized items are on the SONC web page.

 VISION

At the June 1 Vision Committee meeting we had an illustrated discussion about the history of housing development, its successes and failures and the opportunities that are available to Sherman Oaks. These are planning issues: setbacks, open space, addressing the public right of way, pedestrian zones and traffic. The next Vision meeting is 6:30 July 6 at the Sherman Oaks Library and will continue the discussion of high density development in Sherman Oaks,and how do we get ahead of the developers and demand better. This is a quality of life issue, please participate.

**B. Report of the Working Group on Marijuana Regulations for Los Angeles –**

**Action item – Sue Steinberg, Chair CF 14-0366 (see motion below).** The motion passed as written with the addition of a request to include a 90 day review period for Neighborhood Councils to review and comment on a final draft ordinance. (changes below in blue). ***Motion Passed* 15-0-2.** Yea: Garret Ross, Jeff Hartsough, Tom Capps, Tish Lawrence, Howard Katchen, Richard Marciniak, Sue Steinberg, Sidonia Lax, Avo Babian, Sherry Revord, Jill Banks Barrad,, Michael Binkow, Neal Roden, Jeffrey Kalban, Ron Ziff. Abstain: Kirsten Sales, Melissa Menard

**C. Traffic & Transportation Committee – Avo Babian**

**-**Updates on Measure M: Up to $58.9 Million will return to LA city for local use

-Next meeting is July 5th

**D. Outreach Committee- Garett Ross, Chair**

**A. Update on SONC Movies in the Park:** 3 movies playing at the Park, June 24, july 29, Aug 26

**B. Sign ups for Saturday June 24 film showing:** Looking for Volunteers

**E. Green & Beautification Committee – Avo Babian, Co-chair**

-Next meeting: June 14th, Presentation on Safe Sidewalks LA.

-LA River Path: Ideas on which side of the River it should lay

-Beautification Plan under the 405 Underpass, jointly with Encino NC

1. **Public Safety Committee – Kristin Sales & Melissa Menard, Co-chairs**

**-**Last meeting for Neighborhood Watch on June 28 at East Valley Adult Center (EVAC) in Sept it will continue. At the last block meeting, there were 37 block captains. There were booklets printed and passed out. At Map Your Neighborhood night, which was facilitated by the RED CROSSS, it was a night for disaster readiness. SONC branded items and gifts are in. CERT classes: July 11th, for 7 weeks every Tuesday thought by LAFD. Next meeting on June 21st at CD4 office.

**G. . Homeless Liaison – Rami Frankl. N/A**

**H. Purposeful Aging Liaison- Sherry Revord, SONC Liaison:** Will send out surveys, please answer them. It’s to make LA more elder-friendly. Michael Binkow asked if we need better SONC branded items.

**I. Film Liaison – Michael Binkow. N/A**

**J. Budget Advocates – Howard Katchen, SONC representative.:**  17 NCs will come to budget day. It promises to be informative, on June 24th, they will elect new budget advocate. Richard Marciniak suggested we include the Sherman Oaks 90th anniversary in the agenda.

**11. Announcements on items within SONC’s jurisdiction**

**Next Board meeting July 10, location: at East Valley Adult Center**

1. **Adjourn: at 9:01 pm**

Motion from the Marijuana Working Group: *The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council supports the implementation of a Regulatory Permit System to protect Sherman Oaks from the cultivation of marijuana, as well as the over-concentration of Marijuana Related Businesses (MRB), with an emphasis on providing protections for sensitive communities, such as schools, parks, religious institutions.*

*We are concerned about the oversaturation, proliferation and illegal operation of marijuana businesses, which is a major concern to many of our community members. We support an enhanced regulatory framework and stronger enforcement mechanisms for marijuana-related businesses. We do not support a ban on MRBs altogether because it is unrealistic.*

*A regulatory framework should include a permit/licensing system that would:*

1. *require an annual renewal;*
2. *impose safety-related operating requirements;*
3. *impose operating requirements such as:*
4. *the use of licensed security guards;*
5. *designated hours of operation from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.*
6. *prohibition against sales of alcohol and/or tobacco;*
7. *prohibition against on-site alcohol and/or tobacco consumption;*
8. *installation of adequate odor control devices and ventilation systems;*
9. *limitations on access to minors; and,*
10. *mandatory inspections by LAPD, Department of Building & Safety, and Office of Finance.*

*We support locational restrictions including zoning designation and separation requirements to avoid clustering of MRBs. This would include a robust Conditional Use permitting process to allow community stakeholders the opportunity of oversight and review of all MRB requests.*

*In particular, we support the limiting of the manufacturing and commercial cultivation of marijuana to M Zones only; and*

*We support limiting the number of MRBs in Sherman Oaks, restricting these businesses to no more than one per 2,500-foot radius of one another.*

*Additionally, we support limiting the number and type of MRB permits that are issued throughout the City of Los Angeles.*

*We request more efficient and effective enforcements mechanisms for closing illegal businesses and sanctioning non-compliant activities.*

*Further, we ask that City Council provide a 90-day review period for Neighborhood Councils to review and fully respond to the final draft ordinance.*

*The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council requests a Community Impact Statement be added to Council File 14-0366-S5 for consideration by the Rules, Elections, Intergovernmental Relations and Neighborhoods Committee in response to the October 2, 2016 letter from Councilmember Herb Wesson regarding marijuana (cannabis) regulations in Los Angeles.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

Avo Babian

Secretary