

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council



MINUTES

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

Executive Committee

Tuesday, May 31, 2011

The meeting was called to order by the President Jill Banks Barad at 6:05 p.m. at the Sherman Oaks Public Library.

Present: Quorum based on the attendance of four officers: Jill Banks-Barad, Jeff Ebenstein, Art Fields and Howard Katchen. Also present were Board members Sidonia Lax, Anthony St. John, and Ron Ziff.

Discussion of Guest Speakers for June meeting. Anthony and Jeff will contact LAPD Capt. Snell to meet the Board and discuss problems with homeless, Traffic issues, local crime and gang encroachment. We will also contact DOT Interim Head Amir Sahadadi to discuss DOT issues in Sherman Oaks, such as pedestrian safety, traffic light syncing, speeding and closure of the 405 in July.

Jeff will bring to the Board an endorsement for the re-investment in Public Works with the "Pothole Lottery" as well as sidewalk repair with a request for funding of \$1,000. for each.

Howard is concerned with how expensive sidewalk repair may be and Jeff explained that they are looking to patch with asphalt as they see fit. Jeff and Anthony to seek press coverage of these improvements brought by funding from SONC on Ch. 2 and 4.

Board members are encouraged to send pot hole locations directly to Jeff.

Also the Sierra Club may come before the Board for an endorsement for the coal fired plant ban.

Howard explained that funding for next year will be at \$40,500. with no roll-over funds available so committee chairs should put requests to Howard as soon as possible so they may be discussed in Finance Committee and then brought to the Board.

Jill explains that there may be no NC Elections held next year due to lack of funding. NC's may lose Board members due to election delays. VANC has voted unanimously NOT to have the City Clerk run the next elections. The City Charter states that City Clerk "assist with elections", not "conduct" and VANC wants NC's to conduct own elections in compliance with City election laws.

Jill also asked about the Library Square residence request for Neighborhood Watch sign funding. Anthony had asked those stakeholders for a specific figure from NW National office and figures from the residents as to their contributions and has not received a reply.
Anthony will copy Jill and Ron on the last e-mail exchange.

General discussion of Education Committee to print new brochures for stakeholders for school age children.

Discussion of state of SONC website and who will do webmaster duties.

Treasurer's Report: "A Day In The Park" expenses were \$13,282. Howard reported that some vendors are still waiting for payment, such as Walking Man and Copy Hub. There is \$15,000 remaining in the budget.

The Education Committee has requested an additional \$3,500. for A/V equipment for several SO area schools. This will come before the Board at the June meeting. Education Committee Chair to re-check each school's request for need of this equipment before funds will be allocated.

Art Fields request that if money is expended that SONC be recognized in some way. Howard suggested a sticker or banner. Sidonia asks if the schools have presented any documentation of this request.

Howard will bring Motions before the Board for the re-allocation of funds for the projects discussed as well as for a Board Retreat in next fiscal year.

Jill announced that there will be an Outreach meeting with all concerned to de-brief "A Day In The Park" event. Howard asked what the SO Street Fair expenses will be for next year.

Jill discussed the possibility of a retirement party for LAPD SLO George Auguilar. Anthony suggested SONC join with SOHA for this event to help with expenses. Jill will check with Casa Vega and Mazzarino's for costs of the event

Discussion of a SONC show of support for the LAPD Officers running for Special Olympics along Ventura Blvd. on June 7. SONC will hold banner to help cheer them on.

Ron Ziff reported on Best Buys' request to raise elevator shaft on their building to be above

previously approved height. The M. David Paul project developers have published a letter from SONC that had been edited and with signatures removed. Ron and Anthony report on information sent to Anthony from Craig Buck regarding the existence of funds from the development of the La Reina Center at Cedros and Ventura that may still exist in a dormant account. Ron has begun research as to whether the funds may be used for other purposes such as Anthony's suggestion of median maintenance since BID is no longer funded. Ron will continue in discussions with Shawn Bayless in CD5 office. Ron also reported on the Bicycle parking Ordinance pending in mid July. The Ordinance could require up to 25 racks in one block to be placed in front of storefronts.

Jill suggested that the Brown Act procedures be reviewed by all Board members so serial email discussions among Board members are discouraged.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30PM.

Submitted by Anthony St. John
for Shanna Coburn, Secretary