

**Committee Members:**

Christy Adair – Chair  
Penny Gilbert - Secretary  
Penny Johnson  
Barbara McDermott  
Thelma Mericle  
Jesse Smith  
Cissy Varkey-Altamirano

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA



Sherman Oaks  
Neighborhood Council



Sherman Oaks  
Neighborhood Council  
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**Public Safety Committee Minutes**

Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 6:30pm

**Online:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84270408817>

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In conformity with the 9/16/21 enactment of California Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) and due to concerns over Covid-19, the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council’s Public Safety Committee meetings will be conducted entirely with a Call-In option or Internet-Based Service at this time.

Every person wishing to address the Committee must either dial 1-669-900-6833 and then enter 842 7040 8817 and then press # to join the meeting - or join the meeting from Zoom’s landing page using Webinar ID: 842 7040 8817. If the public wishes to address the Committee on any agenda item before the Committee takes an action on an item, the Public will wait to be addressed by the presiding officer before commenting. If accessing the meeting by phone, the public is requested to press \*9. If accessing by computer, public is requested to click on a “raise hand” button. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Committee’s jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that the public brings to its attention during the Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become an item on a future committee meeting agenda. Public Comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker unless adjusted by the presiding officer.

AB 361 Updates: Public Comment is not required to be submitted in advance of the meeting; only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Committee’s control, the meeting will be recessed or adjourned.

**Notice to Paid Representatives**

If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org).

*The Neighborhood Council system enables meaningful civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, comprised of stakeholder volunteers who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities.*

## AGENDA

**1. The Public Safety Committee (“PSC”) Call to Order** - Christy Adair, Chair at 6:34PM

**2. Roll Call** – Penny Gilbert, Secretary

**Present:** Christy Adair, Penny Gilbert, Penny Johnson, Barbara McDermott, Thelma Mericle

**Absent:** Jesse Smith, Cissy Varkey-Altamirano

**3. Introductions** – Committee, City Officials and Staff

**4. Covid-19 Crisis Update** – Jesse Smith

The numbers are decreasing, but everyone should be aware of the variants.

**5. Sherman Oaks Senior Lead Officer Update** – Barbara McDermott

Romo: Car thefts are on the rise – Toyota and Hondas specifically for their palladium. To prevent theft, use a garage, add cameras to outside of your home, get a Catalytic converter cage protector. If you are a victim file a police report on-line.

Saldana: Communicate with your neighbors and protect each other. Keep your eyes open. Van Nuys Station needs volunteers. [www.lahsa.org](http://www.lahsa.org) – if see homeless.

Thelma wanted to know about pricing for secure catalytic converters. Christy suggested talking to your auto mechanic.

Barbara says if there is a strap or cage thieves might look for other cars that are easier to steal.

**6. SONC Tree Give Away April 23, 2022** (10am to 1pm @ 14201 Huston Street)

- Request entrance to CD4 Office before April 23<sup>rd</sup>!
- 2020 CERT Bags Giveaway x ~15 Kits.

**7. SONC PSC Mission Statement Review**

- Community Outreach Communication and Education
  - Crime & Safety
  - Emergency Preparedness

**8. Planning Ideas / Goals for 2022**

- CERT Class in North Hollywood, Fire Station 89 (5/3 thru 6/14 6-8:30pm)
- CERT Staging Area Kits – possible NPG to support
- Discuss recording each PSC Committee Meeting in full

Christy looking for location for a SO CERT class. Grads get Certificates of Appreciation and CERT bags.

Christy discussed Disaster Kit Staging Area locations and equipment.  
Question: how big the area each kit covers – each one covers 1 to 2 mile radius of homes.

Barbara asks about Senior Center at Park for CERT meetings. Christy has had no luck in getting permission for CERT classes.

Should we record full committee meetings? There is a rule that if a meeting is recorded, then no minutes are necessary.

**9. Public Comments** – Comments by the public on non-agenda items within the Public Safety Committee’s jurisdiction.

Owen Zabo noticed a homeless encampment that popped-up so he called 311 but got Sanitation. He also reported to Cal Trans & was able to drop a pin.

**10. Committee Response to Public Comment**

PSC mentioned the following for anyone who sees a homeless encampment: 1) SLO Romo’s email; 2) CD4 Office: ryan.ahari@lacity.org Ryan’s Office Line: 818-728-9924; 3) Information for LASHA - www.lahsa.org

**11. Administrative Motions - Action Item; Vote Required.**

- a) Motion to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2021 Public Safety Meeting.  
Motion passes 5 yes; 2 absent
  
- b) Motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2021 Public Safety Meeting.  
Motion passes 5 yes; 2 absent
  
- c) Motion to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2022 Public Safety Meeting.  
Motion passes 5 yes; 2 absent
  
- d) Motion to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2022 Public Safety Meeting,  
Motion passes 5 yes; 2 absent

**Each vote above was as follows:**

Approved: Christy Adair, Barbara McDermott, Penny Johnson, Thelma Mericle, Penny Gilbert—absent/DNV; Jesse Smith, Cissy Varkey Altamirano

**10. Final Committee Business and Announcements**

**Possible Upcoming Speakers:**

Mosquitos / vector control  
SOS / Jeff Edelstein  
Valley Traffic  
Kristin / Map Y Neighborhood and Neighborhood Watch  
CAL Fire introduce them. / CHP help w/homeless  
Swimming season coming up / pool safety & red cross CPR for Parents (ped).

Mayor's Office Rep –  
Hands Only CPR – meet N greet – lead up to it.

Christy mentioned to Barbara that there is a need for SLOs to attend due to rise in crime.

Alana asked how she could become more involved in Neighborhood Watch. She also wants to take a CERT class and participate in radio training.

Christy has suggested getting a walkie-talkie set and join the Sunday group—channel 20, 10am  
Barbara informed her that has a Block Capt. Manual she can provide and to contact SLO Romo's office to get a N-Watch started.

11. **Adjourn** at 8:37pm

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE RESOURCES:

- For **LAFD CERT** information, check the [www.CERT-LA.com](http://www.CERT-LA.com) website
- For Emergency Preparedness Continuing Education classes, sign up at [join.ntp-la.org](http://join.ntp-la.org)
- For **Map Your Neighborhood**, contact Barbara at [Barbara.McDermott.Sonc@gmail.com](mailto:Barbara.McDermott.Sonc@gmail.com)
- For **Neighborhood Watch Groups**, contact Cissy at [Cissy.Altamirano.Sonc@gmail.com](mailto:Cissy.Altamirano.Sonc@gmail.com)
- To **SUBSCRIBE** to receive monthly meeting announcements and agendas, contact: [SoncPScommittee@gmail.com](mailto:SoncPScommittee@gmail.com)
- For **Neighborhood Watch** info, contact your local Senior Lead Officer (“SLO”). To find your SLO: <https://www.lapdonline.org/> | Your LAPD | Find Your Local Police Station
- For **LAPD volunteer opportunities**, contact Officer Jason Jimenez in the Community Relations Office at [38903@lapd.online](mailto:38903@lapd.online), or call (818) 374-5420.

ONGOING RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PRACTICE OPPORTUNITIES:

**Weekly Walkie-Talkie Radio Check-In:** Every Sunday at 10am: Channel 20 (or Ch 17 if 20 is busy), we check-in around the Valley to see how far our voices can be heard. We practice checking-in, moving locations around the home until someone can hear us. Simple radios are a good source of emergency communication with your immediate area which could help if we experience a valley-wide disaster. The PSC suggests you pull-out a walkie, put in fresh batteries, and listen to next Sunday’s net to see if you can hear anyone.

**Weekly Sunday Morning Lake Balboa Amateur Radio Net:** Every Sunday at 9am on Simplex 145.570 we have a weekly net for Ham Radio Operators transmitting around the SF Valley and beyond. It is a formal, but friendly, net where information is exchanged on a variety of topics. It is especially great net for NEW Hams.

**THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate based on disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org)

**PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS**

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: [www.ShermanOaksNC.org](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.org) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please email the SONC Secretary at: [stacey.segarra.bohlinger.sonc@gmail.com](mailto:stacey.segarra.bohlinger.sonc@gmail.com)

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**RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS** -- For information on the NC’s process for committee action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website [www.ShermanOaksNC.org](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.org).