

Committee Members:

Christy Adair – Chair
Penny Gilbert - Secretary
Susan Collins, provisional member
Penny Johnson
Barbara McDermott
Thelma Mericle
Jesse Smith
Cissy Varkey-Altamirano

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council



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Neighborhood Council
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Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 6:30pm

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. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or 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,
Jesse Smith, Cissy Varkey-Altamirano
Provisional Member Present: Susan Collins

3. **Introductions & City Updates** – Committee, City Officials and Staff
 - ❖ Welcome Provisional Committee Member – Susan Collins, SONC Board

Senior Lead Officer (“SLO”) Updates

- 1) Officer Romo - Northern part of SO. 818-734-2563
 - ❖ Burglaries up 28%. Be a good witness and remember details.
 - ❖ They are working to remove homeless encampments
- 2) Officer Saldana – Southern part of SO. Southern to Mulholland. 818-731-2565
 - ❖ Violent crimes are up 30% this year.
 - ❖ Burglaries are up 17%.
 - ❖ Burglaries from motor vehicles are down.

Questions/Comments

Joe Cappelletti and Stacey Segarra-Bohlinger: Please attend the SONC Board meetings.

Stacey: Citizen Arrest – there cannot be an arrest without a victim.

Susan Collins: In the police commission meetings, learned there is a minimum 6 weeks to tow.

Thelma Mericle - Isn't there a new ordinance that limits homeless individuals to stay at least 500 feet from school? There is a three-year encampment near Van Nuys Middle School.

❖ Romo: CD4 does not have the ordinance. 41E is a special location. Romo will send the Map to the Chair. Also, note that Day Cares are registered through the State.

- 3) Ryan Ahari – Field Rep for Councilmember Raman:
 - ❖ CD4 office is monitoring all abandoned buildings, nuisance properties, graffiti. If you see anything, please contact Ryan at updates.ryan.ahari@lacity.org

4. **Presentation** – **Christina Shareef**, CEO/Founder of 404 Strategic Consulting Group
 - ❖ How to become comfortable destigmatizing the use of pronouns
 - ❖ Ways to approach common situations in a gender-inclusive manner
 - ❖ Practice effective ways to recover when you don't get it right

Helpful Tips Presented:

- A way to normalize pronouns are to proactively offer my own which opens the door for others to share theirs.
- Don't assume someone's pronoun; if unsure, call by their name instead.
- When there is a plural - use They ARE not They Is.

5. Social Media Mis-Information – Barbara McDermott

Stories about "The "Da Pinchi Code," markings on curbs and streets in front of, or near, properties and purported to be a code among burglars to identify and target victims have been making the rounds on social media once again. These stories have been debunked. The markings are actually road markings used by utility firms or broadband companies to indicate planned works.

6. New Residential Humps in Sherman Oaks – Penny Johnson

Speed humps that are used in residential areas (not commercial zones) do reduce traffic and cause drivers to go slower when they are present in a neighborhood. Applications were opened for the first time in several years on October 6th; however due to the popularity of the Speed Humps program, the window closed 5 minutes later.

Applicants must meet block requirements which includes 10-block resident signatures. LA DOT will then determine if the request is feasible and necessary and then will survey the residents on the block to see if 2/3 agree the humps are necessary. The size (length/width of the street and the blocks will determine the number of humps used. Note, every Council District in LA are allotted 25 segments for their district. A segment is between 75 and 100 humps.

7. Covid-19 Update – Jesse Smith

Covid is currently contracting at 4.3% rate, deaths are declining. Everyone - get vaccinated!

8. Sherman Oaks Senior Lead Officer Update – Barbara McDermott

❖ None needed since SLOs presented earlier in the agenda.

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

❖ Not applicable

10. Committee Response to Public Comment

❖ Not applicable

11. Administrative Motions - Action Item; Vote Required.

a) Motion to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2022 Public Safety Meeting.

Motion to approve minutes, as presented: Penny Gilbert and Penny Johnson

Yes: Christy Adair, Penny Gilbert, Penny Johnson, Barbara McDermott Thelma Mericle,
Jesse Smith,

Not Present to Vote: Cissy Varkey-Altamirano

Abstain: none

b) Motion to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2022 Public Safety Meeting.

Motion to approve minutes, as presented: Penny Johnson and Jesse Smith

Yes: Christy Adair, Penny Gilbert, Penny Johnson, Barbara McDermott Thelma Mericle,
Jesse Smith,

Not Present to Vote: Cissy Varkey-Altamirano

Abstain: none

c) Motion to Record the entire PSC meetings, going forward.

Chair tabled this motion until the next month's meeting.

12. Final Committee Business and Announcements

- ❖ Emergency or timely items since the posting of the Agenda.
- ❖ October 16th – SO CERT Community Meeting on Search & Rescue (1-3pm)
- ❖ October 16th - Sherman Oaks Street Fair (10-6pm)
- ❖ October 22nd - Encino Emergency Preparedness Fair (10-2pm)
- ❖ October 29th – SONCs 20th Anniversary Party – VNSO Park Movie Night! (5-10pm)

➤ Penny Gilbert announced she will be joining the LAPD CPAB board.

13. Adjourn at 8:37pm

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE RESOURCES:

- For **LAFD CERT** information, check the www.CERT-LA.com website
- For Emergency Preparedness Continuing Education classes, sign up at join.ntp-la.org
- For **Map Your Neighborhood**, contact Barbara at Barbara.McDermott.Sonc@gmail.com
- For **Neighborhood Watch Groups**, contact Cissy at Cissy.Altamirano.Sonc@gmail.com
- To **SUBSCRIBE** to receive monthly meeting announcements and agendas, contact: 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, or call (818) 374-5420.

ONGOING RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PRACTICE OPPORTUNITIES:

Weekly Walkie-Talkie Radio Check-In: Every Sunday at 10am: Channel 20 (or Ch 16 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

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 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

PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS – Neighborhood Council Committee agendas are posted for public review at: Sherman Oaks Public Library, 14245 Moorpark Street, SO, CA 91423 and www.ShermanOaksNC.org

You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City’s Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

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.