

Committee Members:

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

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council

Public Safety Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 6:30pm



Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council
P.O. Box 5721
Sherman Oaks, CA 91413

Website:
www.ShermanOaksNC.org
General Email:
SoncPScommittee@gmail.com

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 6:35pm

2. Roll Call – Penny Gilbert, Secretary

Present: Christy Adair, Susan Collins, Penny Gilbert, Penny Johnson, Barbara McDermott, Thelma Mericle, Jesse Smith

Absent: Cissy Varkey-Altamirano

3. Introductions & City Updates – Committee, City Officials and Staff

Ryan Ahari, Sherman Oaks Field Rep for CD4, Councilmember Nithya Raman

Brief updates included:

- Emma Taylor & Joshua Scarzella met w/all the SLOs’ regarding 41-18E – implementation of Child Care Centers and Schools.
- Request to be informed where new graffiti is found
- If you see trash cans full - - contact LA Sanitation who will help!
- Helped clear out a couch on underpass near 101 freeway
- Plans are underway with the Dept of Cultural Affairs to beautify underpasses by creating murals & art displays and additional lighting so that communities can feel more safe & secure!

Ryan’s general update presentation can be found here: https://youtu.be/Co_hVvUE0dE

Ryan’s presentation on How to Request Street Lighting Improvements can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/jIOBRJFgnH0>

4. Presentation – Porch Pirates Are The Worst – Penny Johnson

- Latest Tips / Tricks to keep your packages safe

Penny’s full presentation can be found here: <https://youtu.be/MSVcksw-KQs>

5. Social Media Mis-Information – Barbara McDermott

- If you hear sounds of distress, e.g. someone screaming – that’s a 911 call, even if you don’t see the person or have an exact address.
- If you hear gunshots, call 911.
- If you see suspicious activity or a crime in progress, call police *at the time you’re seeing it, or as soon as possible*. Don’t wait.

Calling 911:

- Landline: if you call 911 from a landline and are unable to speak, police are dispatched with lights & sirens, as there is an exact address for the landline.

Calling 911(cont.):

- Cell phone: because of the high volume of accidental calls and pocket dials to 911, if you call from a cell phone and are unable to speak, the 911 Operator will listen for signs of distress, to try to determine if it's accidental dial or an emergency. Calls from cell phones don't always provide an exact location, so if officers are dispatched, it may not be with lights and sirens.
- If you accidentally dial 911, don't hang up on the Operator. Let them know it was an accidental call.
- Text-to 911 is available, but should only be used for life-threatening emergencies when a voice call is not possible or not safe. If you text 911, text the address/location you need help, and then whether you need police, fire or medical.

6. Sherman Oaks Senior Lead Officer Update

- Updates will be recorded and posted to the SONC website

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

Question: How can I get more involved in Neighborhood Watch around the area of Coldwater & Riverside Drive?

8. Committee Response to Public Comment

Answer: That is Officer Romo's **jurisdiction**, and she can help. Email her at: 40229@lapd.online

9. Administrative Motions - Action Item; Vote Required.

- a) Motion to approve the minutes of the November 8th Public Safety Minutes

Motion tabled until next month.

10. Final Committee Business and Announcements

- Emergency or timely items since the posting of the Agenda.

N/A

11. Adjourn at 7:25pm

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.