

Committee Members:

Susan Collins – Chair
Penny Gilbert - Secretary
Christy Adair
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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MINUTES

Public Safety Committee Meeting

August 8, 2023

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Stacey Segarra-Bohlinger, Secretaria, al stacey.segarabohlinger.sonc@gmail.com para avisar al Concejo Vecinal. 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.

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Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to **2 minutes** per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.
Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

Minutes

1. The Public Safety Committee (“PSC”) Call to Order – Susan Collins,

Chair: Call to Order: 7:05pm

2. Roll Call – Penny Gilbert, Secretary :

(Out of Order)

Present—Susan Collins, Christy Adair, Penny Johnson, Thelma Mericle,
Penny Gilbert

Absent—Cissy Varkey Altamirano, Jesse Smith, Barbara McDermott

Call to Order: 7:05pm

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 12, 2023 PSC Meeting

Vote to approval Minutes of July 12,2023 Meeting:

Approved by acclamation.

4. Introductions & City Updates – Committee, City Officials and

Staff :

Ryan Ahari updates:

- Big thanks to Penny Johnson for distribution of Compost Pails.
- CD4 working to update street lighting in Sherman Oaks which ultimately decreases crime by 30-35%
- Next 22 minutes a discussion between Ryan Ahari and Susan Collins regarding Party Houses, the lack therein of City Attorney, police and City Council involvement or concern, Air B&B irresponsibility, and a single property owner with 26 leased residences.
- Thelma Mericle asked Ryan Ahari if these new streetlights would in any way affect the historical street lighting fixtures. Ryan Ahari noted that new lights would NOT in any way damage or detract from any fixtures.

5. Sherman Oaks Senior Lead Officer Updates:

Update from SLO Saldana:

Property crimes and car break ins were up due to drivers leaving personal items visible inside their cars. Easy targets.

Police cannot respond to all calls for Party House issues due to lack of police/patrols.

Calls coming through 911 that are not emergency calls are rerouted to non-emergency and response time is delayed.

Update from SLO Romo:

- Devices are used to steal and/or vandalize Kia and Hyundai vehicles.
- Snatch and Grab/shoplifting crimes are up due to social media.
- Announcements are created in various platforms spreading word of upcoming “opportunities”.
- A felon from the State of Georgia was recently apprehended in Sherman Oaks. Due to the team efforts of Georgia law enforcement, the FBI and the Detectives, Officers of the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

- LAPD—Van Nuys Division
- Burglars in the Ernie’s Walk area of Sherman Oaks were apprehended by the quick response of the LAPD--Patrol, Detectives and Helicopters
- Susan Collins asked if there was another way to contact the police other than by 911 or non-emergency # Both SLOs indicated only by phone only.
- The Senior Lead Officers informed us that for a city with between 4 and 5 million residents, there are currently only about 9700 officers, with more retiring in the near future.
- Attendees recognized to discuss Party Houses and School Truancy.

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

Residents expressed frustration over the Air BnB Party Houses and the lack of coordination by the city to be able to take action. She stated they have called and emailed City Council member Raman, and the City Attorney, but no one acts or provides them with the information they need so they can take action.

7. Motions requested to be agenzied and presented by Sherman Oaks Resident, Thomas Carter (total time allowed to present both motions is 10 mins / or 5 min. each):

No actionable motion was presented by Mr. Carter. Attendees wanted to draw attention to the connection between Party Houses and School Truancy. 3 Attendees demanded action by the Public Safety Committee by “motion” to address both issues. The shared their frustration with the lack of support from law enforcement, City Attorney, City Council, County Board of Supervisors and the LAPD.

8. “But Did You Call?”: Presented by Barbara McDermott - Barbara was absent.

9. LAFD / CERT Updates: Presented by Christy Adair:

CERT Update by Christy Adair:

- Christy is hoping to start a new round of CERT classes this coming November or December

10. Final Committee Business and Announcements: *Emergency or timely items since the posting of the agenda. :

- Penny Gilbert requested a committee motion to stop asking the SLOs to attend our meetings when there are virtually no residents in attendance. Penny Johnson offered to second the “motion”, due to time restraints, the matter was shelved.

11. ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned: 7:59

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.

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