

**Sherman Oaks  
Neighborhood Council**

**Officers**

Lindsay Imber, President 6-R  
Howard Katchen, 1st VP 3-R  
Jeffrey Hartsough, Treasurer, 2-CI  
Stacey Segarra-Bohlinger, Secretary 5-R

**Board Members**

Levon Baronian, 1-B  
Christy Adair, 1-CI  
Thelma Mericle, 1-R  
Carter Ranshaw, 3-CI  
David Silverman 4-CI  
Ryan Ahari, 4-B  
Kylee Peña, 5-R  
Tom Materna, 6-B  
Row Zadeh, 6-CI  
Neal Roden, 7-B  
Jeffrey Kalban, 7-CI  
Susan Collins, 7-R  
Dylan Shea, Y  
El-Bethel Debela, Y-alternate

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA



**Sherman Oaks  
Neighborhood Council**



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

Website:  
[www.ShermanOaksNC.or](http://www.ShermanOaksNC.or)

*Vacant*

1-R  
2-B  
2-R  
3-B  
4-R  
5-B

**Board Meeting:**

Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center  
5056 Van Nuys Blvd

**Minutes**

Monday, February 10, 2024 - 6:30pm

*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.*

**1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call**

**a. Call to Order:** Howard Katchen, First Vice President, called the meeting to order at **6:37pm**

**b. Roll Call:** Stacey Segarra-Bohlinger, Secretary, called the roll

**i. Present:** Adair, Mericle [tardy], Ranshaw, Silverman, Peña, Zadeh, Ahari, Roden, Kalban, Shea, Debela, Hartsough, Katchen, Segarra-Bohlinger (**14**)

**ii. Absent:** Baronian, Materna, Collins, Imber (**4**)

**2. Comments by Public Agencies, Officials, and Staff**

**Meredith McGowan, Senior Librarian, Martin-Pollard Sherman Oaks Branch Library**

“Happy New Year”

Teen Guerrilla Gardening

seed bombs, Feb 11th

Baby Sign Language Feb 21st  
Knitting Club (monthly) next meeting Friday March 14th  
Valley Plaza and Van Nuys library hosting tax prep assistance  
may submit NPG request for hygiene / cycle kits

**Taleen Keuroghlian, Field Deputy, Council District 4 (Raman)**

L.A. “homelessness count” postponed to Feb. 18th due to fires  
last friday of every month L.A. City Council Meeting held at Van Nuys City Hall  
Remote Comment: “translation services CF23-0039”  
“will continue to push for this”  
“what events or workshops you’d like to see”  
question re: Homeless Liaison, Patrick Siggins  
contact info on other CD4 staff  
lack of general comment during “special” meetings

**Diane Rana, State Assembly, 44th District (Shultz)**

818-558-3043: [diane.rana@asm.ca.gov](mailto:diane.rana@asm.ca.gov)  
Feb. 1st Community Swearing In Ceremony  
recorded, available on website  
Chair of Assembly Public Safety Committee  
Member of Budget Committees and subcommittee 6  
Natural Resources  
Utility and Energy  
Armenian, Environmental, L.A., Tech, Progressive  
5 bills introduced  
AB43  
AB44  
AB306 - building regulation, freeze on certain “standards  
AB321 - misdemeanors  
AB361  
working on tax and film credit bill  
Fri. Feb. 21st deadline for bills  
job opening in district office  
reach out to district office for assistance with state agencies

**3. Guest Speaker: Jodie Francisco, Homeless Count (Feb 18) Coordinator for Sherman Oaks**

*brief presentation followed*  
*need more volunteers*  
*new Sepulveda Basin count*  
*site starts at 7pm*  
[theycountwillyou.org](http://theycountwillyou.org) / <https://count.lahsa.org>

**4. Guest Speaker: North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry**

*brief presentation by President: Rev. Dr. Louise Goben  
and Secretary: Barbara Javitz*

**5. General Public Comment**

*remarks from public*

**6. President's Report [Imber absent, report provided by Katchen]**

NEA currently Serving as DSW

2025 election cycle, filing period has begun, no 2nd VP (ipso facto Election Committee Chair)

Treasurer (Hartsough) leading ad-hoc election committee

significant outreach needed

email President Imber or Treasurer Hartsough to join committee

reach out to President Imber to seek 2nd VP appointment

new term begins in July, Elections info page to be added to website

areas 1, 3, 5, 7 up for election

info for both candidates and voters

vote-by-mail only

Traffic & Transportation, and Green & Sustainability seeking interest from potential chairs/members

majority of SONC business passes through committees

stakeholders encouraged to serve

**7. Administrative motions**

**a. A motion to approve the minutes of January 2024 SONC regular and special board meeting**

**MOVED:** Katchen **SECOND:** Ahari

**YES:** Adair, Mericle [tardy], Ranshaw, Silverman, Peña, Zadeh, Ahari, Roden, Kalban, Shea, Debela, Hartsough, Katchen, Segarra-Bohlinger **(14)** / **NO:** **(0)**

**ABSTAIN:** **(0)** / **INELIGIBLE:** **(0)** / **ABSENT:** Baronian, Materna, Collins, Imber **(4)**

**item 5a carries unanimously 14-0-0-0-4**

**8. Motions from Floor [Committee Reports where Applicable]**

**a. Finance Committee - Jeffrey Hartsough, Chair.**

Meets on the 4th Wednesday of the Month

openings to join Finance committee

**i. MER**

*A motion to approve the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council's (SONC) Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for the period ending December 31, 2024.*

NOTE: This motion is presented by committee and does not require a second

**MOVED:** Finance Cmte      **SECOND:** N/A

**YES:** Adair, Mericle, Ranshaw, Silverman, Peña, Zadeh, Ahari, Roden, Kalban, Hartsough, Katchen, Segarra-Bohlinger (12) / **NO:** (0) / **ABSTAIN:** (0)

**INELIGIBLE:** Shea, Debela (2) / **ABSENT:** Baronian, Materna, Collins, Imber (4)  
**item 8a.i carries unanimously 12-0-0-2-4**

**ii. NPG: LA Responsible Pit Bull Owners From Committee: Finance**

*A motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$3,800.00 to the Los Angeles Responsible Pit Bull Owners (LARPBO) in support of LARPBO's program that provides scholarships and classes to animal fosterers and adopters. LARPBO also provides trained volunteers that support the work of the Los Angeles East Valley Animal Shelter.*

NOTE: This motion is presented by committee and does not require a second

**YES:** Adair, Mericle, Ranshaw, Silverman, Peña, Zadeh, Ahari, Roden, Kalban, Hartsough, Katchen, Segarra-Bohlinger (12) / **NO:** (0) / **ABSTAIN:** (0)

**INELIGIBLE:** Shea, Debela (2) / **ABSENT:** Baronian, Materna, Collins, Imber (4)  
**item 8a.ii carries unanimously 12-0-0-2-4**

**iii. Spring Tree Giveaway From Floor: Jeffrey Hartsough, Treasurer. Requires a second.**

*A motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$1000 to support SONC's Annual Hello Spring Tree Adoption event to be held on March 22, 2025 (target date) at the Van Nuys Sherman Oaks War Memorial Park. Funds will be used for event promotional, SONC branded items, refreshments, and outreach materials.*

**MOVED:** Segarra-Bohlinger      **SECOND:** Kalban

**YES:** Adair, Mericle, Ranshaw, Silverman, Peña, Zadeh, Ahari, Roden, Kalban, Hartsough, Katchen, Segarra-Bohlinger (12) / **NO:** (0) / **ABSTAIN:** (0)

**INELIGIBLE:** Shea, Debela (2) / **ABSENT:** Baronian, Materna, Collins, Imber (4)  
**item 8a.iii carries unanimously 12-0-0-2-4**

**b. Government Affairs - Lindsay Imber, Chair.**

Meets on the 4th Tuesday of the Month

**i. Remote Public Comment at Council Meetings**

MOTION:

*Whereas the Los Angeles City Council meets during regular business hours when stakeholders tend to be at work or in school; and*

*Whereas regular meetings are held at City Hall, located at 200 N. Spring Street, which is a considerable commute for the vast majority of Los Angeles residents; and*

*Whereas many stakeholders have disabilities that limit their mobility; and*

*Whereas infrastructure and standard operating procedure for telephonic public comment has been well established and implemented in recent years until January, 2025;*

*Therefore the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) respectfully requests that Councilmember Nithya Raman of District 4 take immediate action to reinstate the option for members of the public to give comment remotely via telephone during regular City Council Meetings.*

*We also request that a District 4 representative report back to SONC on the status of this proposal at the next regularly scheduled board meeting, or within 30 days.*

NOTE: This motion is presented by committee and does not require a second

**MOVED:** Gov't Affairs      **SECOND:** N/A

**YES:** Adair, Mericle [tardy], Ranshaw, Silverman, Peña, Zadeh, Ahari, Roden, Kalban, Shea, Debela, Hartsough, Katchen, Segarra-Bohlinger (14) / **NO:** (0)

**ABSTAIN:** (0) / **INELIGIBLE:** (0) / **ABSENT:** Baronian, Materna, Collins, Imber (4)  
**item 8b carries unanimously 14-0-0-4**

*suggestion to forward motion to City Council as a whole,  
Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils*

## 9. Committee Reports

### a. Planning & Land Use (PLUM) & Vision Committees - Jeff Kalban, Chair.

PLUM Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the Month - February 20th

community plan update, next steps, zoning

keeping tabs on State bills regarding land use

Vision Meets on the 1st Thursday of the Month - March 6th

community plan update, SE Valley region

### b. Human Services Committee - Pamela Harris and Sarah Adamski, Co-Chairs.

Meets on the 1st Monday of the Month [*chairs not present, no update*]

### c. Outreach Committee - Kylee Peña and David Silverman, Co-Chairs.

Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the Month

mention of "homeless count", volunteers needed

next outreach meeting Friday, February 21st at 4:30pm, Virtual

tree giveaway

filing period for elections open until March 24th

special registration required  
ballot request begins April 11th  
all vote-by-mail  
[SONCElections@gmail.com](mailto:SONCElections@gmail.com)  
clerk.lacity.gov

**d. Public Safety Committee - Susan Collins, Chair.** *[report provided by Adair]*

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the Month - February 11, Virtual

CERT graduating Thursday, 2/20/25 beginning at 6:30, Sherman Oaks Galleria

**e. Airport Committee - Bob Bramen, Chair** *(no update)*

Meets as called by chair

**f. Budget Advocates- Howard Katchen, SONC Representative** - [budgetadvocates.org](http://budgetadvocates.org)

meets on the 1st Monday (evening, 7pm), 3rd Saturday (morning, 9:30am) on ZOOM

dedicated group elected by NC board members to provide “watchdog” services over city budget  
meets with city departments, budget & finance staff, GMs, etc

budget requests, recommendations, efficiency of use of funds, staffing, etc.

annual “white paper” report presented to City Council Budget and Finance Committee

distributed to various city departments, all Councilmembers

Chief Administrative Officer has referenced “white paper” with feedback

leading to adoption of recommendations

March 6th, City Budget Webinar hosted by Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

**10. Board Member Announcements**

Roden: please recycle

Adair: question regarding board member “summit”

Hartsough: practice kind deeds, recognize them

**11. Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn approved without objection at 8:21pm**

Respectfully submitted

