

**Sherman Oaks Neighborhood**

**Council**

Drew Johnstone, Co-Chair

Elizabeth Meshes, Co-Chair

Amanda Martin

Harold Shapiro

Mihran Kalaydjian

Sarina Klemes



**Sherman Oaks**



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

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

**Green & Sustainability Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

6:30 P.M.

Zoom Meeting

**Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone**

**Dial +1 669 444 9171 to Join the Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87489661726> OR

**Enter This Webinar ID: 874 8966 1726 and Press #**

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE OCTOBER 6, 2023 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 411 (PORTANTINO) AND LA CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL ON NOVEMBER 1, 2023, THE SHERMAN OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL GREEN & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY.

When prompted by the presiding officer, to provide public input at the Neighborhood Council meeting the public will be requested to dial \*9 or use the Raise Hand option, to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. 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 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. If you are on Zoom, you will see a timer graphic indicating your time remaining to speak. If you are on a telephone, you will be told when 10 seconds remain in your allotted time. Public comment for this meeting will be heard during each eligible agenda item.

**SB 411 Updates:**

If a Neighborhood Council has a quorum of board members in a physical location, board members who wish to join the meeting via teleconferencing must adhere to AB 2449 rules and regulations. If a Neighborhood Council does not have a quorum of board members in a physical location, they must adhere to SB 411 rules and regulations.

In the event of a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the eligible legislative body's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments

using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the eligible legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the eligible legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

The eligible legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and shall provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comments in real time.

Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the eligible legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

(i) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph , to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(ii) An eligible legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to subparagraph (D), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(iii) An eligible legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to subparagraph (D), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

## **I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

### **a. Call to Order by Co-Chair**

Meeting called to order by Meshes at 6:31 p.m.

### **b. Roll Call and the Establishment of Quorum**

Drew Johnstone, Co-Chair - Present

Elizabeth Meshes, Co-Chair -Present

Amanda Martin -Present

Harold Shapiro- Present

Mihran Kalaydjian -Present

Sarina Klemes-Absent

## **II. ADMINISTRATIVE MOTIONS**

### **a. Motion (Meshes) to approve Green and Sustainability Committee meeting minutes for June 18, 2025**

Second: Martin, Kalaydjian

Favor: Johnstone, Martin, Shapiro

Abstain: Meshes,

## **III. CO-CHAIR'S REPORT**

- **Welcome back**
- **Johnstone had a child;**

## **IV. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS WITHIN COMMITTEE JURISDICTION**

- **Hana Weinstein- Operations Associate of Water and Power**
- **Interested in joining the Green & Sustainability meeting**

## **V. NEW BUSINESS**

a.Community member request regarding clean-up & beautification project

- i. Relevant resources:
    1. <https://mayor.lacity.gov/ShineLA>
    2. <https://plan.mayor.lacity.gov/sites/g/files/wph2176/files/2023-07/Final-CommunityCleanUpToolkit-v2.pdf>
    3. <https://www.facebook.com/LACityOCB/>
    4. <https://laocb.org/>
  - ii. Nithya Ramen has budget; Introduce Barbara to Field Deputy, Taleen, to request resources
  - iii. Connect Barbara Lewis with group that does the community clean-up (information is available in SONC newsletter; information to be added; Volunteer Community Clean-Up (Jill@vcc.org)
    1. Action Item: Meshes will connect Barbara with these resources via email
- b. Appointment recommendation
1. Martin Stahl
    - a. On the SONC Board and needs to be added to a committee
  2. Hana Zoe Weinstein
    - a. Shared information about herself
  3. Barbara Lewis
- ii. Discussion
1. Move Barbara Lewis to next month
- iii. Motion to vote to add Hana Weinstein
1. Shapiro Motions to approve
  2. Kalaydjian Seconds
    - a. Unanimous approval
- iv. Motion to vote to add Martin Stahl
1. Shapiro Motions to approve
  2. Kalaydjian Seconds
    - a. Unanimous approval
- c. Motion: Green & Sustainability Committee request that when SONC purchases and obtains logoed merchandise to be used as giveaways to the public at events such as the Movies in the Park, the Spring Tree Giveaway, and the Sherman Oaks Street Fair that these items be made of biodegradable or recycled materials whenever possible, and also be chemical free and free of harmful materials to living organisms. The items should always include labels that indicate whether they are made of recycled materials, whether they are safe, or present potential hazards. We prefer that plastic items such as beachballs and glow sticks only be acquired if they meet these simple requirements and so that they will not wind up in landfills for the rest of eternity, or present a hazard to sea life should they wind up in our oceans.

Shapiro Motions to approve  
 Kalaydjian Seconds

Discussion:

- It would be beneficial to make it more specific.
- Motion to amend: Johnstone; second: Meshes
- Recommended revisions
  - The Green & Sustainability Committee recommends that when SONC purchases branded merchandise for public giveaways at community events—such as Movies in the Park, the Spring Tree Giveaway, and the Sherman Oaks Street Fair—these items should be made of biodegradable or recycled materials whenever possible, and be free of toxic or hazardous substances to people or the environment. All items should include clear labels indicating whether they are made of recycled content, whether they are considered safe, and free of any potential hazards.

Vote to approve amendment: Unanimous

Vote to approve the motion as amended: Unanimous

- d. Motion: The Green & Sustainability Committee requests Finance Committee approval for funding not to exceed the amount of \$300 to cover the costs of the following items: Labelling materials (e.g., stencil, stamp, etc.) that will facilitate the placing of the SONC Green & Sustainability Committee brand and logo on planters/liners. The acquisition of planters/liners. The acquisition of potting soil. These supplies will be utilized to begin plantings of seedlings and cuttings and for provision of free plants by the Green & Sustainability Committee at any future SONC Events, including the Movies in the Park, the Spring Tree Giveaway, the Sherman Oaks Street Fair and any SONC Committee or Council meetings.

i. Shapiro Motions

ii. Kalaydjian Seconds

iii. Discussion

1. Add text around the logo if added
2. Considerations for eco-friendly
  - a. Stencil & Stamp

iv. Vote: Unanimous

- e. Motion: It is hereby moved that the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) is in favor of [Council File 25-0962](#) ShadeLA / Shade Expansion / Heat Action and Resilience Plan and the Sustainability Plan. The planting of additional shade trees and the implementation of shade structures by the City of Los Angeles is an essential and impactful undertaking for several key reasons:

Temperature Regulation:

Shade trees reduce ambient temperatures by blocking direct sunlight and releasing moisture through transpiration, creating cooler and more comfortable environments across neighborhoods.

Energy Savings:

Well-placed shade trees help lower cooling costs for homes and businesses by reducing heat absorption, decreasing reliance on air conditioning, and ultimately reducing utility expenses.

Wildlife Habitat:

Trees play a vital role in supporting local biodiversity by providing shelter, nesting sites, and food sources for birds, insects, and other wildlife.

Air Quality Improvement:

Trees absorb carbon dioxide and airborne pollutants while releasing oxygen, contributing to cleaner, healthier air for residents.

Soil Conservation:

Strong root systems stabilize soil, reduce erosion, and enhance groundwater retention, improving the health of local ecosystems.

Aesthetic and Community Value:

Shade trees add beauty, structure, and character to streetscapes and public spaces, enriching the visual appeal and overall livability of our neighborhoods.

Climate and Community Resilience:

Investing in shade trees and shade infrastructure strengthens the City's ability to adapt to rising temperatures, supports long-term sustainability goals, and creates safer, more resilient communities.

Shapiro motions

1. Kalaydjian Seconds

2. Discussion:

a. Vote: Unanimous

- f. City council file **CF 24-0602** Titled - Synthetic Grass / Artificial Turf / Polyflouroalkyl Substances (PFAS) / Forever Chemicals / Health and Environmental Risks / Drought-Friendly Landscaping
  - i. Relevant resources
    - 1. [CEMO 24-0602 Artificial Turf/Synthetic Grass Report back-final02192025](#)
    - 2. Motion for favor CF 24-0602
      - a. Shapiro; second, Kalaydjian
      - b. It is hereby moved that the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) is in favor of City council file **CF 24-0602** Titled - Synthetic Grass / Artificial Turf / Polyflouroalkyl Substances (PFAS) / Forever Chemicals / Health and Environmental Risks / Drought-Friendly Landscaping.
    - 3. Vote: Unanimous
- g.
- h.

i. **Tabled remaining items**

- i. **CF 25-0002-S89**, United States Department of the Interior / Oil and Gas Exploration and Expansion / Leasing and Drilling / California Coastline and Atlantic Coastline (McOsker - Nazarian - Park - Hutt) Introduced November 4, 2025 and referred to the Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee.
  - 1. The Resolution is requesting that the City of Los Angeles include in its 2025-2026 Federal Legislative Program OPPOSITION to any action by the United States Department of the Interior to open or expand oil and gas exploration, leasing, or drilling in federal waters off the California coastline, and the Atlantic coastline.
  - 2. Relevant resources:
    - a. <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=25-0002-S89>
- ii. Recommendations for invited speakers for the SONC Board & Committee Meetings
- iii. Garden (e.g., Cactus/Plant) Request for Stern & Ventura Intersection
- iv. Studio City Neighborhood Council Sustainability & Beautification Committee
  - 1. Relevant resources:
    - a. <https://www.studiocitync.org/assets/documents/15/meeting69097220a4b78.pdf>
- v. Discussion on priorities

**VI. ADJOURNMENT** (End time is approximately 7:45 p.m. or shortly thereafter)

**Meshes Motion to close**

- j. **Second:** Kalaydjian
- k. Unanimous approval; motion closed at 8:07 p.m.

**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 on the basis of 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 [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 contact Elizabeth Meshes, Co-Chair, [Elizabeth.Meshes.SONC@NeighborhoodCouncil.org](mailto:Elizabeth.Meshes.SONC@NeighborhoodCouncil.org).

**PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS** – Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- The Sherman Oaks Martine Pollard Branch Library; 14245 Moorpark St, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423
- <https://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>

**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](https://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)

**RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS** - For information on the NC's process for board 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 <https://www.shermanoaksnc.org/>