

**Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council**

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



Officers

Howard Katchen, President, 3-R
Lindsay Imber, 1st VP, 6-R
Lielt Endashaw, 2nd VP, 1-R
Jeffrey Hartsough, Treasurer, 2-CI
El-Bethel Debela, Secretary, Y

Board Members

Levon Baronian, 1-B
Christy Adair, 1-CI
Kira Durbin, 2-R
Ryan Ahari, 4-B
David Silverman 4-CI
Sybil Azur, 5-R
Tom Materna, 6-B
Devon Jasiukonis, Y
Harold Shapiro 6-B
Jeffrey Kalban, 7-CI
Martin Stahl, 7-R
Kesavan Korand



**Sherman Oaks Neighborhood
Council**

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

Website:
www.ShermanOaksN.org

Vacant
2-B
3-B
5-B
5-CI
3-CI
7-B

Board Meeting:

Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center
5056 Van Nuys Blvd

Minutes

Monday, April 13, 2026 - 6:30pm

Public Comments: Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered, and prior to voting. 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 on Non-Agenda Items within SONC Jurisdiction 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, issues raised by the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to one minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

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, composed 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, President, called the meeting to order at **6:44 pm**

b. Pledge of Allegiance

c. Roll Call: EL-Bethel Debela, Secretary, called the roll

i. Present: Baronian, Adair, Durbin, Ahari, Silverman, Materna, Imber, Kalban, Stahl, Jasiukonis, Endashaw, Hartsough, Debela, Katchen, Shapiro, Korand, Azur **(17)**

ii. Absent: (0)

2. Administrative and Board Initiated Motions – Action Items

a. From Floor:

A motion to approve the SONC Board meeting minutes of March 9, 2026.

MOVED: Silverman **SECOND:** Kalban

YES: Baronian, Adair, Ahari, Silverman, Materna, Imber, Kalban, Stahl, Endashaw, Hartsough, Debela, Katchen, Shapiro, Korand, **(14)**

NO: **(0)** / **ABSTAIN:** Azur, Durbin **(2)** / **INELIGIBLE:**Jasiukonis **(1)** / **ABSENT:** **(0)**

Item 2a carries unanimously /14-0-2-1-0

Amendments:

Top right hand side section of vacant seats 6-c

Spell Field Deputies Name Correctly for Nithya Raman's Office.

Add etc to the motions when written

3. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items within SONC Jurisdiction

Public Comment from Attendees

4. Comments by LAPD SLOs, Public Agencies, Officials, Staff, and Council District Office Public Comment for Public Agencies, etc.

-Pursuant to the Brown Act, there will be no discussion/back-and-forth while in session.

Anthony Thornton Field Deputy for Assembly Member Nick Shultz

Updates from Sacramento

Members are busy voting on bills

Chair of Public Safety

Bills introduced:

- AB 2319 — Post-production tax credit
 - California is behind on this credit
 - State is seeing job and economic loss
 - Bill aims to help reduce those losses
 - Revenue and Tax hearing coming soon
 - Letter of support can be sent to the Revenue and Tax Committee
- AB 1603 — Ban pesticides sprayed on vegetables
 - Phases out “forever chemicals” on fruits and vegetables
- AB 1633 — Tax detention centers at 50%
 - Inclined to support the bill
 - Wants to review details before fully agreeing

District office has moved

- No longer on Magnolia
- New address: 3500 West Olive
- Phone number remains the same

New Field Deputy from supervisor Lindsey Horvath's office: Paige Hajiloo

Taleen Keuroghlian- Field Deputy CD:4

- Concerns surrounding homelessness at VNSO, hartsook st and van nuys are now cleaner, addressed location issues, reach out if more issues
- Upcoming events
- April 18 compost day la- griffith park
- April 25 cleanup with CD4 at griffith park
- May 2nd community cleanup
- May 9th placa polooza dog adoption event at griffith park

Mike Perez Senior Lead Officer for North

- Came to Introduce himself, Officer Romo is in detective school now, 3 vacant spots within senior lead office
- Please be patient will get back to you on community complaints
- Burglars are entering through second story balconies not front doors, so close your balcony door
- Lock and Secure your homes.

5. Scheduled Recess - Meeting called into Recess at—7:15

Meeting reconvened at —7:31

EL-Bethel Debela, Secretary, called the roll

i. Present: Baronian, Adair, Durbin, Ahari, Silverman, Materna, Imber, Kalban, Stahl, Jasiukonis, Endashaw, Hartsough, Debela, Katchen, Shapiro, Korand, Azur, Khazei **(18)**

ii. Absent: (0)

6. Presentation – City Attorney Hydee Feldstein-Soto

7. President's Report.

- **Ad Hoc Committees status: Planning Board Retreat**
- **Ad Hoc Committees status: By Laws**
- **Student Committee status**
- **Vacant SONC Board Seats: Area 2 Business, Area 3 Business & Community Interest, Area 5 Business & Community Interest.**
- **Come and see Howard if interested!**
- **2026 – 2027 SONC Youth Representative Board Search – April Call For Applicants Deadline April 30th**
- **Contact Howard if you know any candidates.**
- **Sherman Oaks Encino Chamber – Plan celebration(s) 100th Anniversary of Sherman Oaks in 2027.**
- **SONC Board Meeting Speaker: May 11th County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath**

8. Approval of President & Chair's Board or Committee and liaison Appointments

- **Board Member Area 7 Business – Lance Khazei**

MOVED: Katchen SECOND: Kalban

YES: Baronian, Adair, Durbin, Ahari, Silverman, Materna, Imber, Kalban, Stahl, Endashaw, Hartsough, Debela, Katchen, Shapiro, Korand, Azur **(16)**

NO: (0) / ABSTAIN: (0) / INELIGIBLE: Jasiukonis (1) / ABSENT: (0)

Item 8.a. carries unanimously /16-0-0-1-0

This item was moved to before the Reconvening,

9. President swears in new Board Member Lance Khazei and previously appointed Board Member Kira Durbin

10. Ad Hoc By Laws Committee Second Presentation to SONC Board for Discussion and possible action and approval of proposed Bylaws Amendments to Submit to DONE for review and approval.

A. Absences (Bylaw V.7) In the event a Board member fails to attend four meetings during a calendar year the Board member will be subject to removal for the remainder of their term. "Absence" is hereby defined to be a failure of a Board member to be in attendance by the time of the vote on the first order of business, unless excused by the President with concurrence of the Board members. "Absence" also occurs by an unexcused departure from the meeting prior to its conclusion. An absence will be excused when granted by the Presiding Officer with concurrence of the Board. An excuse may be requested in advance, or as a matter of personal privilege during a meeting. Late arrival, although constituting an "Absence", will not deprive a board member from acting on all matters coming before the Board subsequent to that arrival. Excused absence is defined as: 1) Board or committee member is ill, taking care of an ill family member, or death of a family member 2) religious holiday 3) declared emergency. All excused absence requests are to be submitted to the SONC President for determination and approval by board concurrence.

Motion to remove amendment A

MOVED: *Hartsough* **SECOND:** *Silverman*

YES: (6)

NO: (3) / **ABSTAIN:** (6) / **INELIGIBLE:** (1) / **ABSENT:** (1)

Item 10.a. carries /6-3-6-1-1

B. Changing Community Interest & Business Seats to At-Large (Bylaw V.1.c, Bylaw X.2, Attachment B) Bylaw V.1.c: Unlike RSBMs, BSBMs & CISMBs are elected at large from within the entirety of SONC's geographic boundaries such that three BSBM and CISBM seats are elected every four years and the remaining four BSBM and CISBM seats are elected every four years in staggered fashion. **Bylaw V.4:** Three BSBM and three CISBM seats will be elected in the same election as RSBM seats in Areas #1, 3, 5, and 7, while the remaining four BSBM and four CISBM seats will be elected in the same election as RSBM Areas #2, 4, and 6. **Bylaw X.2:** Stakeholders shall select one of the seven (7) geographic areas, based on stakeholder status, as stated in Article V, in which they will cast their vote for a RSBM to represent that geographic area, as well as three or four BSBM & three or four CISBMs (depending on election year) for atlarge representation. Stakeholders may register for one particular geographic area for each election. They may not vote for candidates in any other geographic area during the election, with the exception of the at-large BSBM and CISBM seats.

MOVED: *Imber* **SECOND:** *Shapiro*

YES: (10)

NO: (4) / **ABSTAIN:** (1) / **INELIGIBLE:** (1) / **ABSENT:** (1)

Item 10.b. carries /10-4-1-1-1

C. Selection Process Authorized in the Event of Cancelled Elections. X.6: In the event the City opts to cancel or postpone Neighborhood Council elections, SONC may adopt an alternate selection process. The board must approve the selection process by a 2/3 vote by the board members present and voting. The selection differs from an election in that an individual vote must be made public by signed ballot or specific show of hands. The selection process must preserve the goals or objectives of council, occur during the time period of the election, include a challenge procedure, and be inclusive/transparent/nondiscriminatory.

MOVED: *Imber* **SECOND:** *Silverman*

YES: (13)

NO: (1) / **ABSTAIN:** (1) / **INELIGIBLE:** (1) / **ABSENT:** (1)

Item 10.c. carries /13-1-1-1-1

D. R Vacancy Appointment Eligibility to Include Any SONC Resident. By Law [Various]: Any Stakeholder, as defined in Admin. Code 22.801.1(a), who is at least 18 years of age and who lives in or whose residence is located in the boundaries of Geographic Area [1-7] is eligible to run for the Seat or if the Seat is vacant any stakeholder who lives in the geographic boundaries of the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council may be appointed. Ad Hoc By Laws Committee Standing Rules Additions and Amendments. for Discussion and possible action and approval

MOVED: Imber SECOND: Materna

YES: (13)

NO: (2) / ABSTAIN: (0) / INELIGIBLE: (1) / ABSENT: (1)

Item 10.d. carries /13-2-0-1-1

E. Alternate Seats for Committees (Standing Rule C.4.d) Committee Chairs, with concurrence from the President and approval of the Executive Committee, may appoint a SONC stakeholder(s) to serve as an alternate member of their committee.

F. General Public Comment (New Standing Rule) To the extent practicable, the General Public Comment period shall be placed toward the start of the agenda and shall precede Comments by Elected Officials, Staff, etc. The Outreach Committee shall be charged with establishing a form on the SONC website through which to receive electronic public comment prior to each meeting of the full council. Where cumulative public comment for a particular item is no more than 10 speakers per item, public comment time offered to each speaker shall be at least one minute in length.

Referred back to Ad Hoc Committee for further consideration

G. Limit Presentations (New Standing Rule) As a guideline when crafting agendas for each regular monthly meeting of the full council, guest speakers or presentations should be limited to one per meeting. This provision shall not be applicable to board member presentations relating to motions appearing on the agenda.

H. Vice and Co-Chairs for Committees (Standing Rule C.4.c) Committees are encouraged to have appointments for no fewer than: One Chair and One Vice Chair; or Two Co-Chairs.

11. Motion from the floor, requires a second: SONC Discussion and Possible Action on LAWA's VNY Development Plans

Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) is pursuing plans to convert several vacant commercial and underused "related aviation" lots at Van Nuys Airport into newly developed and redeveloped aviation areas without environmental studies being completed before lease contracts are awarded.

ETC.

MOVED: Materna SECOND: Shapiro

YES: (15) NO: (0) / ABSTAIN: (0) / INELIGIBLE: (1) / ABSENT: (1)

Item 11.a. carries unanimously /15-0-01-1

12. Finance Motions & Committee Report Finance Committee - Jeffrey Hartsough, 2023- 25 Chair. Meets on the 4th Wednesday of the Month

FUNDING MOTIONS from the Finance Committee

a. SONC Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) February 28, 2026

A motion to approve the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council's (SONC) Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for the period ending February 28, 2025. SONC MER for period ending February 28, 2026 (SONC website meeting supporting documents)

MOVED: *Hartsough* SECOND: *Silverman*

YES: (15) NO: (0) / ABSTAIN: (0) / INELIGIBLE: (1) / ABSENT: (1)

Item 12.a. carries unanimously /15-0-0-1-1

b. Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) – Insight Center for Community Economic Development

A motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$400.00 to Insight Center for Community Economic Development (ICCED) to support ICCED's development of a Sherman oaks community Assessment Quality of Life Index – A Sherman Oaks-centered comprehensive data assessment that can strengthen safety, preparedness, and civic participation. NPG Application – Insight Center for Community Economic Development (SONC website meeting supporting documents) Motion from the floor, requires a second:

MOVED: *Hartsough* SECOND: *Kalban*

YES: (15) NO: (0) / ABSTAIN: (0) / INELIGIBLE: (1) / ABSENT: (1)

Item 12.b. carries unanimously /15-0-0-1-1

c. A motion to approve Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) – Project Breaking Barriers A motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$2,500.00 to Project Breaking Barriers to support three 2026 IGNITE programs that provide immersive experiences in career exploration and leadership development for youth aged 13-20. NPG Application – Project Breaking Barriers (SONC website meeting supporting documents)

MOVED: *Hartsough* SECOND: *Kalban*

YES: (15) NO: (0) / ABSTAIN: (0) / INELIGIBLE: (1) / ABSENT: (1)

Item 12.c. carries unanimously /15-0-0-1-1

d. SONC Human Services Committee Outreach Materials Expenditure of up to \$1,590.00 for Human Services outreach materials. These funds will directly support the committee's ability to

engage and serve our community through: Reusable SONC-branded tablecloths for visibility and professionalism at community events. Printed Resource Guide flyers for distribution at every outreach event, ensuring residents have access to vital local services. SONC-branded reusable bags filled with essential hygiene items (such as wipes, toothpaste, and toothbrushes) to provide immediate, practical support to community members in need. This motion strengthens SONC's presence at outreach events, builds trust with residents, and ensures that our Human Services Committee can both inform and assist our neighbors with dignity and care. Supporting Human Services committee 2026 Budget (SONC website meeting supporting documents)

e. SONC Community Meeting (Traffic and Public Safety Committees) Expenditure of up to \$500.00 to support a community meeting jointly sponsored by the SONC Traffic and Transportation Committee and the SONC Public Safety Committee. Participation by LADOT, Street Lighting, and LAPD is anticipated.

f. Canva Pro License 2026-2027 Renewal Expenditure of up to \$300.00 for the renewal of the 2026-2027 Canva Pro license under the EmpowerLA team account.

g. Zoom License 2026-2027 Renewal Expenditure of up to \$600.00 for the renewal of the 2026-2027 Zoom license used by the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council (SONC) to facilitate virtual meetings.

h. SONC Movie in the Park (MITP) July 2026 Event Expenditure of up to \$4,900.00 for SONC's Summer Series Movies in the Park (MITP) screening at the Van Nuys Sherman Oaks War Memorial Park on Saturday, July 25, 2026. Funds will go towards film rental/licensing fees, project services, and family friendly activities. Funding will also be used to acquire SONC branded promotional materials, SONC printed materials, and event logistical support.

i. Permits for use of the Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center (SOEVAC) Auditorium, Building A, for SONC Board Meetings Expenditure of up to \$1,000.00 for permits to use the Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center (SOEVAC) auditorium for SONC Board meetings in July 2026 through December 2026.

j. Neighborhood Council Budget Day Contribution of up to \$500.00 from the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council's (SONC) FY2026 budget for Neighborhood Council Budget Day June 27, 2026.

k. City of Los Angeles Congress of Neighborhoods Contribution of up to \$1,000.00 from the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council's (SONC) FY2026 budget to fund Congress of Neighborhoods September 2026. l. SONC Board Retreat Expenditure of up to \$1,000.00 in support of a SONC Board retreat

Consent Calendar items – one vote to approve all items

MOVED: Hartsough SECOND: Shapiro

YES: (15) NO: (0) / ABSTAIN: (0) / INELIGIBLE: (1) / ABSENT: (1)
Item 12.b. carries unanimously /15-0-0-1-1

13 . Committee Reports with No Motion [2 Minutes for Each Report]

a. Human Services Committee, Sarah Adamski & Pamela Haris, Co-Chairs. Meets on the 1st Monday of the Month

b. Outreach Committee - David Silverman, Chair. Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the Month

c . Planning & Land Use (PLUM) & Vision Committees - Jeff Kalban, Chair. PLUM Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the Month Vision Meets on the 1st Thursday of the Month

d. Public Safety Motions & Committee - Christy Adair & Susan Collins, Co-Chairs. Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the Month

e. Budget Advocates - Howard Katchen, SONC Representative

F. Green and Sustainability Committee

14. Board Member Announcements Closing announcements from Board Members.

15. Adjournment

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn approved without objection at 10:09 pm

Respectfully submitted,

EL-Bethel Debela