

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council



MINUTES

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Westfield Mall Community Room

April 4th 6:30PM

Present: Anthony St. John, Carlos Padilla, Jeri Vergas, Ron Carter

Absent: Janet Richmond, Alan Taylor, Jay Beeber

Call to order: 6:35PM

Discussion of the surveillance cameras funded by SONC and in place at the Van Nuys Station. All appear to be working now. Report from SLO Carter about the Q Star camera systems also funded by SONC, no information available since they are now part of the Gang Detail. Will contact SLO Lucas Hamilton about them.

Discussion about several new medical marijuana clinics that have opened in the area. SLO Carter explained the dilemma that the LAPD has in closing them down or even examining their documents of operation.

Anthony and SLO Carter expressed the desire to provide HAM Radio sets to those larger Neighborhood Watch groups in order to provide information and contact with the outside world in the event of a major earthquake. Anthony said funding might exist for the purchase of this equipment if the Watch group making the request has at least one and possibly two trained and licensed operators. Also, Anthony suggested that one HAM set be in place at the Senior Center at VNSO Park as it is the dedicated Red Cross Shelter with medical supplies, a generator etc. already in place. And that during the Northridge quake over 2500 people were living in the Park for several days with nothing. SLO Carter and Anthony would contact the LA Office of Emergency Management about which frequencies the HAM radio sets should be monitoring in LA.

SALO Carter spoke about his "eyes and ears" program and the positive response he has had from area delivery drivers. And how the "lock it, hide it, keep it" program has resulted in a drop of car break-ins by 4% so far this year. Also a follow up on contact with area Valet companies about reminding patrons not to leave valuables in their cars.

Discussion of the connection between the LA County Jail's early release program and the spike in area property crimes.

SLO Carter reports that there are now 54 active area Neighborhood Watch groups in Sherman Oaks, up from 30 in 2010.

Carlos of SoCha Watch requests the DOT form for the Watch signs. Also discussed that his area has been without a SLO for sometime now. SLO Carter said that the search for a new SLO has begun and would be completed by the end of May.

Anthony discussed the new Re-Districting Maps and how the change might affect Public Safety with a new staff and Councilman coming in who is unfamiliar with our area.

Carlos asked why the Chabad at Chandler and Ethel can continue to be built when the permits have been pulled and an injunction was won by the neighbors. Will check with Land Use Committee for more information.

Adjournment: 8:15PM