

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council



"SHERMAN OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (SONC) PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES February 15, 2006

The meeting held at the Sherman Oaks Branch Library was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by
Committee Chair, Zach Behrens.

Attendance: There was a quorum based on the presence of Zach Behrens, Janet Richmond,
Norm Beal, and Jay Flynn. Also in attendance was SONCE Vice Chair Ron Merkin.

OVERVIEW AND MISSION STATEMENT: This item was tabled as it was discussed further
within other agenda items.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Ron Merkin gave an update on the Area
1/Van Nuys Neighborhood Council (VNNC)/Van Nuys Blvd/Magnolia Blvd. area where there is a
traffic safety concern in regards to the various auto dealerships using side streets and use of
speeds above the limit. The following ideas were presented to help mitigate these concerns: (1)
Form a sub-committee to focus on this issue; (2) Have a Letter/Memorandum of Understanding
(MOU) between SONC and Businesses; (3) Per suggestion of Tamar Galatzan, Neighborhood
Prosecutor, collaborate with VNNC; (4) Meet with businesses.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND CERT: The committee came to the conclusion that the
communication and education of emergency preparedness is a major key to the success of
SONC preparing the neighborhood for future situations. The committee will bring back marketing
and communication ideas to the next meeting to prioritize and begin implementation. Other items
under this topic that were discussed are as follows: (1) The committee needs a detailed map of
Sherman Oaks with key points (e.g. LAFD, LAPD, EOC, etc); (2) LAPD and LAFD need to be at
the Public Safety Meetings; (3) Neighborhood Watch network is a perfect collaborative network
for Emergency Preparedness Education Communications; (4) Inform neighborhood of free CERT
Trainings available through LAFD; (5) hold a town hall style meeting on Emergency
Preparedness with guest speakers (6) Obtain OES brochures to hand out at meetings, elections,
and booths.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH/GRAFFITI/CRIME PREVENTION: The report graffiti to 311 is a very effective ways of fighting graffiti. This information needs to be put into the monthly SONC e-mail newsletter. There was a question regarding the city abating graffiti on private property (e.g. facades of businesses or residential).

SPECIFIC ISSUES WITHIN SHERMAN OAKS: The Valley Vista/Sutton case has been closed with the property owning pleading guilty on February 8 in court. The Evacuation Plan for Red Flag Days/Parking for Hills issue will be discussed at the Parking, Traffic and Transportation Committee meeting on Wednesday, February 22, 2006 at the Sherman Oaks Branch Library.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & MARKETING: This item was tabled because it was discussed within the EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS/CERT agenda item.

CALENDAR: The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 1st, 2006. Meetings will now be held on the 1st Wednesday of the Month.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by Zach Behrens at 7:31 p.m.

Submitted by Zach Behrens, Public Safety Chair

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