

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council



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MINUTES

SHERMAN OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

MEETING SEPT. 1, 2010 6:30PM

VIVA GALLERY 13261 Moorpark at Fulton

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Present: Norm Beale, Alan Taylor, Jay Beeber, Council Deputy Pat Davenport, Max Calne, Melissa Kahn, Caroline Uhri, Anthony St. John-Chair

1. Discussion about Committee Members manning Emergency Preparedness info tables on Sept. 25th at Gelsons Market and Pavillions to dispense brochures and information in observance of Emer. Prep. Month. Times for volunteers will be from 10AM-4PM Sat. Sept. 25th.

2. Instruction on the use and implementation on the NIXLE Notification System (nixle.com) LAPD encourages citizens and Neighborhood Watch groups to use the system for early notification of emergencies in a geographically specific area. Alan Taylor will inform all Watch 2.0 groups about tthe use of the system.

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3. Anthony asked Council Deputy Pat Davenport about possibility of red light cameras being installed in Sherman Oaks. No such plans are known as of now. Jay shared his extensive research on the subject and questioned the financial viability of the City extending the contract to the present camera vendor as well as the effectiveness of these cameras in preventing violations or accidents. Max asked Jay for more information and there was discussion if the Neighborhood Council should take a position on the use of red light cameras in the City.

4. Anthony brought up the July LAPD Pedestrian "sting" operation regarding LAPD enforcement of crosswalk safety. Discussion with Pat about how we could request LAPD to set up such an operation in certain areas of Sherman Oaks. There was discussion again of the removal by DOT of a crosswalk across from Notre Dame High School yet a sign still exists indicating that it is safe to cross at the intersection. Pat said she had just heard about it and would look into it being removed. Pedestrian vs Car incidents were up 40% this year in the Valley. There was discussion of coming up with a campaign similar to the "Leave It Or Loose It" for LAPD.

Pat suggested that that campaign had not been very effective given the car break-in statistics.

5. We discussed the passage of State Assemblyman Mike Feuer's bill 2756 to outlaw un-hitched trailer billboards. Now once the details are ironed out, the City of LA can pass a City wide law forbidding un-hitched trailer billboards, then implementation and enforcement can begin. Pat said the possibility for numerous lawsuits may delay this action.

6. Update on Medical Marijuana Clinic closures. In June over 400 letters were sent out to Clinics across the City to close down. Large numbers of Clinics closed or failed to open. Now due to the large number of lawsuits pending before the Courts, the LA City Attorney's office has ceased to continue the crackdown until the cases are settled. Some Clinics have re-opened or re-started operations.

7. Local crime statistics were discussed. LAPD Crime Maps (on line) show the usual amount of car break-ins. Melissa and Max discussed the viability of calling LAPD 311 to report suspicious people parked in cars in your neighborhood. Patrol cars seldom respond to these calls. Anthony suggested that if you say to the Van Nuys Dispatch that "my Senior Lead Officer told me to call this in as there have been break-ins in my

neighborhood" that a car is more likely to respond.

8. Anthony reminded everyone about the LAPD "party car" that patrols on Fri. and Sat. nights. We are encouraged by LAPD to call in any noisy disturbance that can be heard within 100 feet of your house. Fines have been quadrupled and LAPD loves this source of revenue. Pat suggested that you call early at the first sign of a loud party because the car is busier later in the night.

Adjournment: 8:30PM