

# Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council



**MINUTES OF  
BOARD MEETING  
SHERMAN OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (SONC)  
Monday, May 9, 2011  
Sherman Oaks Elementary School Auditorium**

- **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:45 P.M by President Jill Banks Barad.
- **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ron Ziff.
- **ATTENDANCE:** There was a quorum based on the attendance of 12 members of the Board: Jill Banks Barad, Jeff Ebenstein, Howard Katchen, Arthur Hutchinson, Jay Beeber, Sherry Revord, Kristin Ellington-Stiles, Michael D. Preston, Richard Marciniak, Ron Ziff, Max Calne, and Neal Roden.

The following 6 members were absent: Arthur Fields, Shanna Coburn, Kiumars Arzani, Greg Martayan, Sidonia Lax, and Anthony St. John.

- **MINUTES:** Motion to approve April 11, 2011 Minutes as written made by Ron Ziff. The Board approved the minutes as written by unanimous vote.
- **REPORTS FROM STAFF of OFFICIALS and SLO:** The President introduced the following people:
  - Pat Davenport, Councilman Krekorian's CD2 office, discussed potholes and the new Senior

Center in Sherman Oaks/Van Nuys Park and damage done by the rain.

- **Wess Hernandez, Councilman Koretz's CD5 office**, discussed Councilman Koretz's support for the protection of fiscal year rollover funds for Neighborhood Councils.
- **Tamar Galatzan, Neighborhood Prosecutor for Van Nuys/N. Hollywood**, discussed miscellaneous recent activity such as Sherman Oaks transients, noisy parties, etc.
- **Stephanie Gillette, CA State Assemblyman Mike Feuer's office**, announced upcoming "Job and Resource Fair" to be held from 9am-1pm May 20, at the Woman's Club of Hollywood, 1749 N. La Brea Ave., LA. Job Fair is free and open to the community.
- **Jason Levin, CA State Senator Fran Pavley's office**, discussed budget concerns, and various bills in progress regarding health & safety, elder abuse, streamlining CA regulations, etc.
- **Battalion Chief Stephen Ruda, Los Angeles Fire Department**, announced upcoming "Open House" for all Fire Stations to be held 10am-4pm, May 14. Also that one division is closing in San Fernando Valley.
- **George Aguilar, LAPD Senior Lead Officer** discussed burglary of motor vehicle contents; recommended that you don't leave valuables in plain sight because it is easy for the thief to break the window and steal the contents from your motor vehicle. Officer Lisa Garrison, (818) 644-8023 for City traffic issues; deploying speed measuring equipment. Discussed daytime burglaries occurring in the Sherman Oaks hills; report suspicious activity in the neighborhood; recommend setting up Neighborhood Watch.
- **Aguilar** also announced upcoming "Law Enforcement Torch Run" to be held from 3:45pm to 5pm on **June 7**. LAPD Van Nuys Police Officers will carry the Special Olympics Torch along Ventura Blvd. starting at Sportsman Lodge at Coldwater to 405.

- **PUBLIC FORUM:** The President introduced the following speakers:

- **Aziz Banayan:** Spoke *in favor of* Agenda Action Item 9a.1) SONC Land Use Committee to recommend an application for beer & wine license and to construct a car wash at 4822 Van Nuys Blvd. given certain conditions are met regarding, hours of operation of the car wash, hours of sale of beer & wine, alcohol content, level of noise of the car wash, etc.
- **Oscar Ensafi:** Spoke *in favor of* Agenda Action Item 9a.1)
- **Susan Dukow:** Spoke *against* Agenda Action Item 9a.1)
- **Sonia Frounjan:** Spoke *against* Agenda Action Item 9a.1)
- **Harma Maghakian:** Spoke *against* Agenda Action Item 9a.1)
- **Lisa Sundstedt:** Spoke *against* Agenda Action Item 9a.1)
- **Andrea Saavedra:** Spoke *against* Agenda Action Item 9a.1)
- **Mikie Maloney:** Spoke *against* Agenda Action Item 9a.2) [City Planning Commission Modified Parking Requirement (MPR) to be heard at City Council May 12, 2011.]

- **PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jill Banks Barad**

- a. Announced upcoming Habitat for Humanity "We Build" weekend, to be held from 9am-3pm

on May 14-15. Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) organizing team of NC members for Saturday, May 14.

- b. Action Item: From Executive Committee: that SONC formally request that the LA City Council Public Safety Committee allow Jay Beeber to make an extended presentation at the next meeting of the Committee at which a discussion of City photo red-light program is scheduled and that Jay Beeber be allowed to make a formal presentation at the next LA City Council meeting (Council file No. 11-0125).**

All in favor. None opposed.

● **TREASURER'S REPORT/FINANCE COMMITTEE: Howard Katchen**

- Reviewed Budget and Committed Funds
- Reported on Demand Warrants submitted

- a. Action Item: From Finance Committee: to approve Education Committee request for \$4,000 to purchase audio-visual equipment for Sherman Oaks Public Schools.**

All in favor. None opposed.

- b. Action Item: From Finance Committee: re-allocate funds from the following budget line items: \$500 from Emergency Preparedness, \$1,000 from LAPD purchase, \$1,000 from Library purchase, \$1,000 from meeting expense, and \$500 from Administrative Ass't for total amount of \$4,000 to budget line item LAUSD/educational support.**

All in favor. None opposed.

● **COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES:**

**A. Land Use Committee (LUC), Ron Ziff, Committee Chair**

- **Action Item 9a.1): LUC to recommend an application for beer & wine license and to construct a car wash at 4822 Van Nuys Blvd. given certain conditions are met regarding, hours of operation of the car wash, hours of sale of beer & wine, alcohol content, level of noise of the car wash, etc.** Ron Ziff read aloud the detailed list of conditions developed by LUC that would be included in a formal letter sent to the Zoning Commission if the Board agreed, including some of the conditions summarized above. The SONC Board then discussed the situation given the feedback received from the public during the public forum. After discussion, Neal Roden made a motion, seconded by Jeff Ebenstein, that the letter sent to the Zoning Commission state that SONC can not support the approval of the application for the car wash until after an adequate noise study is conducted on the car wash equipment and structure to determine the level of noise that would impact the neighborhood. **The motion passed by a 6-4**

**vote with 1 abstention. (1 member had to leave the meeting early). Voting yes: Ebenstein, Hutchinson, Stiles, Ziff, Calne, Roden. Voting no: Barad, Beeber, Preston, Marciniak. Abstention: Katchen.**

- Jay Beeber then made a subsequent **motion, seconded by Michael Preston, to accept the LUC recommended conditions regarding the sale of beer & wine; but if time allowed that SONC would also request delaying approval of the beer & wine license by the Zoning Commission to allow additional time for a community impact study to be conducted so that SONC could make an informed recommendation. The motion passed by a 10-0 vote with 1 abstention. Voting yes: Barad, Hutchinson, Beeber, Stiles, Preston, Marciniak, Ziff, Calne, Roden. Abstention: Katchen.**
- **Action Item 9a.2): City Planning Commission Modified Parking Requirement (MPR) to be heard at City Council 12 May 2011. Ron Ziff made a motion to oppose, passed unanimously by the SONC Board.**
- **Action Item 9a.3): City Planning Commission Bicycle Parking Ordinance to be heard May 12, 2011. Ron Ziff made a motion to oppose the Ordinance as written, passed unanimously by the SONC Board.**

#### **B. Neighborhood Services Committee, Jeff Ebenstein, Chair**

- Possible street improvements in the neighborhood are being considered and the next Neighborhood Services Committee meeting to continue the planning will be held at 6:30pm on Tuesday, May 24 at the Sherman Oaks Library. A representative from Bureau of Street Services will be present. The Puppy Mill issue and the Sierra Club coal issue will also be discussed.

#### **C. Outreach Committee: Sherry Revord, Co-Chair**

- "A Day in the Park" is scheduled to be held from 2-6pm on Sunday, May 29. Board member Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet was passed around.

#### **D. Education Committee: Max Calne, Chair**

- The Education Committee request for funds was made and voted on by the Board. Also was announced that Tamar Galatzan to speak in the Fall at an upcoming SONC Board meeting regarding Education.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE BOARD ON SUBJECT MATTERS WITHIN SONC'S JURISDICTION**

VANC meeting, Thursday, May 12, 2011: Agenda includes LA redistricting, update on NC funding and rollovers.

- **ADJOURNMENT: 10:15 PM**

Submitted by Arthur Hutchinson  
for Shanna Coburn, Secretary