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|  | City Seal - B&W **Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council**  **Monday April 7, 2014**  **Board Meeting** |  |

**Minutes**

1. The meeting was called to order by President Jill Banks Barad at 6:30 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll call**

Present: Banks Barad, Beeber, Brooks, Casavan, Gervais, Kalban, Katchen, Lax, Marciniak, Plotkin, Revord, Roden, Ziff Absent: Bartley, Calne, Preston

1. The minutes of the SONC Board meeting of March 10, 2014 were approved unanimously.
2. **Introduction of elected officials, staff, LAPD Senior Lead Officers** 
   1. Councilmember Tom LaBonge announced plans for three new, artificial turf soccer fields at Van Nuys-Sherman Oaks Park. Funding for the fields will come from Quimby fees and bond monies.
   2. Carolyn Ramsey of Councilmember Tom LaBonge’s office announced the grand opening of the 72,000 sq. ft. Ralph’s Supermarket on April 10th, and welcomed Ralph’s officials Greg Peters (vice president, real estate) and Yosh Provanda (real estate manager, San Fernando Valley).

1. **Public Comment:** Comments by the public on non-agenda items within SONC’s jurisdiction
   1. Ralph’s Vice President Greg Peters invited the Neighborhood Council to the ribbon cutting ceremony at 8 a.m. on Thursday.
   2. Sherry Lake announced Sunday, May 4th is Car-Free Day in San Fernando Valley. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at LA River path at Valleyheart Drive and Radford Ave in Studio City for a bicycle ride/walk at 10 a.m.
2. **Presentation – to Outgoing Board Members,** presented by Councilmember LaBonge.
   1. Outgoing board members Alicia Bartley (Res-2), Linda Brooks (Bus-4), Sherry Revord (Res-4), and Max Calne (CI-2) were thanked for their hard work and service to the Sherman Oaks community.
   2. J. Banks Barad thanked those board members who are leaving the Neighborhood Council.
3. **Oath of Office to newly Elected Board Members**, presented by Councilmember LaBonge.
4. Councilmember LaBonge administered the oath of office to new members following the March 20 election for board members in Areas 2, 4, and 6: Tom Capps (Res-2), Daniel Crisci (Bus-2), Cindy Wu Freedman (CI-2), Lisa Petrus (Res-4), Sue Steinberg (Bus-4), Rachel Tash (CI-6) and returning board members Sidonia Lax (CI-4), Jill Banks Barad (Res-6), Ron Ziff (Bus-6). New board members take their seats.
5. **Election of SONC Officers, 2014-2016**
6. Motion to elect Jill Banks Barad to President of SONC. M. Plotkin moved, seconded by N. Roden. *Motion approve*d*: 13-0-1* (J. Banks Barad abstained)
7. Motion to elect Ron Ziff to 1st Vice President. C. Casavan moved, seconded by J. Beeber.  *Motion unanimously approved.*
8. Motion to elect Jay Beeber to 2nd Vice President. R. Maciniak moved, seconded by N. Roden. *Motion unanimously approved.*
9. Motion to elect Sue Steinberg to Secretary. R. Ziff moved, seconded by J. Kalban. *Motion unanimously approved.*
10. Motion to elect Howard Katchen to Treasurer.T. Capps moved, seconded by M. Plotkin. *Motion unanimously approved.*

Officers take their positions.

1. **President’s Report**, J. Banks Barad
2. **Ethics Training** (in person) on Saturday, April 26 at Braude Bldg., Van Nuys. All board members are required to have completed Ethics Training and submit verification to J. Beeber before being allowed to vote. Ethics Training is required for all board members every two years.
3. **Committee Sign-ups** for Board Members. Each board member should participate on at least one committee. Board members can create their own committees if they have a particular cause they would like to forward.
4. **SONC Retreat:** Tentative date is Saturday, May 17th. A sign-up sheet was passed around for alternative dates.
5. **VANC Mixer:** Thursday, April 10 at CBS Studios. Candidates for LA County Supervisor will debate.
6. **Eligibility to Vote:** J. Beeber reiterated that only those newly elected board members who had completed the Ethics Training were allowed to vote on SONC funding. They include: C. Wu Freedman, R. Tash, and S. Steinberg.

**10. Consent Calendar (taken out of order**)

* 1. *Action Item*: Approve Board Member reimbursement of $6.49 to Ron Ziff for Land Use Committee certified mailing from Budget line item postage/mail.
  2. *Action Item:* Approve Board Member reimbursement of $20.00 to Jill Banks Barad for parking fee paid to meet with IMT regarding Sunkist development from budget line item General Operations.
  3. *Action Item*: Approve $41.34 ex-post facto expenditure paid to Ralphs on March 20, 2014 for poll worker refreshment for SONC elections on March 20, 2014 from budget line item Election Outreach.
  4. *Action Item:* approve expenditure $250 for the Congress of Neighborhood Councils to be held at City Hall this fall from budget line item Outreach.
  5. *Action Item*: Approve expenditure $250.00 for Budget Advocates to be used for outreach to neighborhood councils and various operational expenses from budget line item Outreach.

*Consent Calendar unanimously approved*.

1. **Treasurer’s Report/Finance Committee**, H. Katchen
   1. Review, discuss, and approve current financial reports and monthly reconciliation for March expenditures. Motion to approve financial report, moved by R. Marciniak, seconded by N. Roden. *Motion unanimously approved*.
   2. *Action item:* Approve expenditure $2,000 for San Fernando Valley Audubon Society Sepulveda Basin Environmental Education Program from budget item Outreach. Patricia Bates from the SFV Audubon Society explained the request. Board discussion ensued regarding the use of the expenditure to provide field trips to LAUSD students only.

* Motion to delay the item until May meeting to hear from the Audubon Society about providing field trip support to students outside of LAUSD also, including private and parochial schools. Moved by R. Marciniak, seconded by R. Ziff. Vote:

Ayes: Beeber, Kalban, Lax, Marciniak, Ziff, Barad. Nays: Casavan, Wu Freedman, Gervais, Katchen, Plotkin, Tash, Roden, Steinberg. *Motion fails: 6-8-0*

* Motion to approve expenditure of $2,000 for SFV Audubon Society. Vote:

Ayes: Casavan, Wu Freedman, Gervais, Katchen, Lax, Plotkin, Tash, Roden, Steinberg. Nays: Kalban, Marciniak, Ziff, Barad. Abstain: Beeber. *Motion approved: 9-4-1*

c) *Action Item*: Approve expenditures of $4,950.00 to trim, prune trees in the commercial area along Ventura Boulevard, east of Van Nuys Boulevard from budget category Community Improvement and reallocate $950.00 from Election Outreach to Community Improvement. Discussion ensued. Motion made to approve expenditures as stated. Vote:

* Ayes: Beeber, Casavan, Gervais, Kalban, Katchen, Lax, Marciniak, Plotkin, Tash, Roden, Steinberg, Ziff. Abstain: Wu Freedman, Banks Barad. *Motion approved: 12-0-2*

d) *Action Item*: Approve expenditure of $1,500.00 to the BID contingent upon the BID’s board approving $900 in matching funds for a total of $2,400 to steam clean the sidewalks on Van Nuys Boulevard between Ventura Boulevard and Hortense Street from budget line item Outreach. BID Executive Director Lorena Parker spoke in favor of the item. Discussion ensued. Motion unanimously approved.

e) *Action Item:* Approve expenditure up to $20,000 from total remaining fiscal year funds for the Bureau of Street Services, allocated equally to trim, prune trees, fill pot holes and repair sidewalks in Sherman Oaks commercial and residential areas subject to an agreement that a quarterly accounting report is submitted to SONC showing amount used and for what purposes. Discussion ensued. *Motion unanimously approved.*

f)Fiscal year end deadlines – Demand warrants due May 15, purchase card deadline June 13.

g) Update on Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates.

h) Payment to vendors, strategic plan.

1. **Committee Reports/Updates**
   1. Rules and Elections **-** Jay Beeber, Chair.
      1. SONC Election was held Thursday, March 20, 4-8 pm for EVEN numbered seats.
      2. Had challenges at the election, and leading up to the election. Need to make improvements on how DONE handles the election. Will call a meeting of Rules and Elections Committee to review SONC by-laws, definitions of who can vote, and polling place operations.
   2. Land Use Committee–Ron Ziff, Chair.
      1. Report on the City’s Mobility 2035 Plan. LUC has raised concerns that the plan does not address morning traffic through Sherman Oaks and the Sepulveda Pass, and the plan includes an approximate increase of 20% of intersections with grade D or grade F.
      2. Action item: Motion to oppose the Mobility 2035 plan as written. Motion unanimously approved.
      3. Report on the City’s RIO District. LUC favors the Plan with the revised maps provided by the Planning Department. However, the City should have written policy that when trees and plants on City-owned land within RIO District are replaced for any reason, the replacement must be done only with trees and plants that are listed as approved within the RIO plan.
      4. *Action item:* Motion to request the City have a written policy that replacement flora on City-owned in the RIO District is to RIO standards. *Motion unanimously approved.*
      5. Next LUC meeting April 17 at the Sherman Oaks Library to hear an application for a cell tower at 14748 Burbank Blvd., and a liquor license for Ralph’s Supermarket to allow wine tasting events.
   3. Government Affairs Committee: Jay Beeber, Chair
      1. Brief update regarding Save our Streets LA.
   4. Green and Beautification Committee—Carolyn Casavan, Chair.
      1. Will be having a forum or debate about Save our Streets LA. Time and place to be determined.
      2. Meetings of the committee will be held the fourth Wednesday of every month.
2. Announcements from the Board on subject matters within SONC’s jurisdiction.
   1. VANC Anniversary Mixer, April 10, CBS Studio Center, 5:30-9:00 pm. County Supervisor Candidates Forum during the evening.
3. Adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by:*

Sue Steinberg, Secretary