

## Committee Members

### *Green and Sustainability*

Avo Babian, Chair  
Kira Durbin  
Sidonia Lax  
David Levinson  
Harold Shapiro  
Gregory Wright (Alternate)

CALIFORNIA



## Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council Green & Sustainability Committee

June 2nd 2021  
8:00 pm

## SHERMAN OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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## Minutes

1. Meeting called to
  - a. Order by Avo, Chair, at 8:02 pm
  - b. Roll Call: **Present:** Avo Babian, Kira Durbin, David Levinson, Harold Shapiro, Gregory Wright
2. Reviewed and approved minutes of April meeting. Harold brought the motion to the floor. David 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. **Passed Unanimously**
3. Comment by Public Official: Nicole Alaverdian from CD4 office attended. Updates from the CD4 office. On June 10th, the councilmember is hosting our second CD4 Conversations about Affordable Housing from 6-7. Also on June 10th, from 6-7:30. The Department of City Planning is having a Wildlife Ordinance Online Workshop Thursday, June 10, 2021 6:00 p.m in their efforts to support the City's sustainability goals to conserve and protect important habitats and the connections between them. On June 15th the Councilmember will be participating in a tree giveaway at the Sherman Oaks Farmers Market from 4-6pm. On June 18th, we are hosting a Ventura Blvd cleanup from 9-1 in partnership with Notre Dame High School and our CD4 Volunteer corps. Also our California Climate Action Corps team will begin in the next month. They are able to host and plan community based sustainability projects like, preparing land and building composting bins, tree inventory and Carbon reduction projects, and food insecurity and anti-waste projects.
4. Chair's report: We are still successful regarding passing CISs every meeting
5. Presentation:
  - a. AGZA: Dan Mabe, Founder and President of American Green Zone Alliance (AGZA), He presented how we can transition from gas powered landscaping to electric and people powered equipment which helps to reduce air and noise pollution. To learn more about AGZA. [www.agza.net](http://www.agza.net)
  - b. There are over 200 bans on gas leaf blowers and counting, but we still have Noise pollution and harmful pollutants. So we worked on solutions: South Pasadena in 2016 became an AGZA Certified Green Zone. First in Garfield park then the whole city. We have Community Workshops and field workshops to get places and people to be Certified by AGZA. What steps can we take to help, we need to Lower Gas usage, create more Mulch, and create more savings for parks and gardens. **Question:** Kira: The electric leaf blowers don't last as long. David: we need to change mindsets. Harold also asked about funds. Dan said you can do with less power, longer lasting batteries and leave some leaves as Mulch.
  - c. Next step, Dan will send us steps to get AGZA Certified. Then we can ask for help form the city councils to implement AGZA zones. Usually a city needs to assign a zone for AGZA certification. Local Schools could benefit. USC is AGZA certified.
6. Motions
  - a. To Support City Council File #17-0447 and write a CIS: No Oil Extraction in the City and write a CIS: Land Use Codes/ Oil and Gas Development/ Impact on Resident Health and Safety/ Code Change Proposals. Avo brought the motion to the floor. Harold 2<sup>nd</sup> the Motion. **Passed Unanimously.**

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=17-0447>

- i) Public Comment: Kathy Schaeffer spoke in support
  - b. To Support City Council File #21-0352 and write a CIS: **LA100/Strategic Long Term Resource Plan/2035 100% Carbon-Free Energy/Los Angeles Department of Water and Power**. Harold brought the motion to the floor. Avo 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. **Passed Unanimously**.  
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=21-0352>
    - i) Public Comment: Kathy Schaeffer: It is Doable, it is Essential and the rest of the country is looking to us to lead the way.
  - c. To Support City Council File #21-0002-S100 and write a CIS: Break Free From Plastic Pollution Act / Single-Use Plastics / Corporation Responsibility. David brought the motion to the floor. Kira 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. **Passed Unanimously**.
    - i) Public Comment: Kathy Schaeffer: This will Nationalize what we do in Ca, making Producers Responsible. 21 Congressman Federal and State have co-signed.
7. Public comment on non-agenda items.
8. Discussion items:
- a. Sustainable Garden Promotion Pamphlet: A zoom Garden Tour. List of previous volunteers for a Garden Tour was given to Harold. Harold called all 12 and 4 were interested. He recommended a Video Tour with Voice Over. He asked committee members to do so, to be posted on our YouTube Channel. Then we can post emails to answer questions.
  - b. List of Green Business. Green Ambassador. Avo will follow up with Sustainability Alliance regarding the Green Ambassador and list of Green Businesses
  - c. Welcome to Sherman Oaks Sign: Project Rajan: Property LADWP pumping station. We were looking for who owns it, and funding, and partnership. Dept of Public works owns the patch of Land. And Harold said a fence has been posted so it's now safer. The committee members decided to look for another location. Rajan will join next time.
  - d. Sidewalk Trees issues: Regarding the Latest CFAC meeting-David. List of Trees in need of removal. David gave an update. There is an inventory of all trees being done in LA. David looked up the inventory in Sherman Oaks and it says TBD. Urban Forestry is watering the trees with Tree Alligators. They are also just cutting trees but leaving the stumps. It's well worth a try to make a lists of trees that we in the SONC will prioritize for trimming or removal. If Sherman Oaks people complain enough then it will get done. Greg wanted people to take responsibility for tree well garbage.
  - e. LA River Update LA River Master Plan. Avo will ask Melanie Winters to offer a more in depth analysis.
9. New Business– Harold Shapiro asked what are the options about tree removal at development sites. Avo said we can stop them if they have not filed the proper paperwork. And questions came up regarding Community Gardens in Sherman Oaks, which will be discussed further in the future.
10. The next Green Meeting will be July 7<sup>th</sup> at 8 pm.
11. Meeting adjourned at 9:59 pm