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**SILVER LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD  
COUNCIL**

Serving the Silver Lake  
Community Since 2003

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**SILVER LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS**

**AT-LARGE REPS:** Heather Carson / Amy Clarke / Jerome Courshon / Anne-Marie Johnson / David Modern / Kinoka Ogsbury / Scott Plante

**REGIONAL:** (1) Helen De La Paz Dion & Joshua Gomez (2) Georgene Smith Goodin & Annie Sperling (3) Anthony Crump & Seamus Garrity (4) Jay Bennett & James Bigelow (5) Jeff Wayne & Christine Kantner (6) Matthew Desario & Joe Ferrell (7) Hope Taylor-Arnold & John Wingler

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## **GREEN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, October 20, 7–9:00 pm

Lyric-Hyperion Theatre & Café (patio) • 2106 Hyperion Avenue • Los Angeles, CA 90027

*The mission of the Green Committee is to engage and empower stakeholders in Silver Lake through the creation of community mechanisms for sustainability and green spaces.*

In attendance: Stephanie Bartron (arrived after minutes were approved), Heather Carson, Leonardo Chalupowicz, Craig Collins (arrived after minutes were approved and left during stairway discussion), Lisa Hart, Anne-Marie Johnson, Genelle Le Vin, Lucia Marano, David McArthur (left during stairway discussion), Dorrie McArthur (left during stairway discussion), Stacey Nelson (arrived after minutes were approved), Nina Sorkin

**Approval of 9/15/15 Minutes**

Approved without objection by Heather Carson, Leonardo Chalupowicz, Lisa Hart, Anne-Marie Johnson, Genelle Le Vin, Lucia Marano, David McArthur, Dorrie David McArthur, and Nina Sorkin

**Announcements and Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

- GP Adult Community Club will have a Halloween party 10/30
- Bellevue Rec and Park Center will have a Saturday Halloween celebration—SLNC has a house with a door...kids 8 to 12 can knock and get a treat
- CERT training in Silver Lake is starting Jan 4, in English and Spanish—the classes are free
- There will be a special board meeting this Thursday
- The Silver Lake Improvement Association will have a holiday celebration early December and invite stairway adopters, likely with potluck desserts

**Report on SLNC Governing Board Meeting and Updates**

The water filter wasn't heard, and will be revisited tonight.

The motion to fund the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance climate change forum motion didn't make it onto the agenda—Lisa has not been able to find out what happened and does not know how to ensure that items make it onto the agenda.

**Discussion and Possible Action: Planning for the “seed-bombing” program in Silver Lake to help restore the native ecosystem**

The event is Saturday at the Micheltorena Garden from 10 to 3, to help reestablish the native ecosystem that we have been encroaching on. Theodore Payne Foundation is doing much more than just providing the seeds. If you can bring food, please do. There will be another day to pick up and distribute the seed bombs. The seed mix is of seeds that have been seen growing in Griffith Park. The idea is to create a magic moment in the spring.

**Discussion and Possible Action: Spending up to \$500 on a stainless water filter and small paper cups to use at community meetings and events instead of purchasing bottled water, and a ban on the use and purchase of single-use plastic bottles and on all polystyrene (Styrofoam) products by the SLNC at all SLNC functions, and inviting participants to bring their own receptacles to functions**

<http://www.berkeyfilters.com/berkey-water-filters/travel-berkey.html>

**(requested by Ann Bradley, Heather Carson, and Seamus Garrity)**

Last month the Green Committee agreed request up to \$300 for the filter and cups, but it turns out \$300 is not enough to get the most appropriate filter and the paper cups—the total comes to \$445—so the issue is before the committee again, with the higher request.

Nina—at a recent Bellevue event, Christine had a decanter that she brings, as well as small cups—they probably went through 5 4-oz cups per participant. Reusing cups is not sanitary, as the edge can touch the spigot

Heather—this filter would filter river water, and be good for a disaster

Lucia—a lot of sustainability is about behavior modification—people will need to learn not to bring receptacles and to use them properly

Cups are an outreach tool

We could run the spigot contamination issue by the city attorney

Stacey—create something around the spigot so that can't be contaminated—it's a design flaw

Genelle—the cost is too high—what about bringing Britta pitchers?

Anne-Marie—what if there are two events at the same time?

In support: Stephanie Bartron, Heather Carson, Leonardo Chalupowicz, Craig Collins, Lisa Hart, Lucia Marano, Stacey Nelson

Opposed: Anne-Marie Johnson, Genelle Le Vin, Nina Sorkin

Abstained: David McArthur, Dorrie David McArthur

**Discussion and Possible Action: New Adopt-a-Stairway program signs**

Craig said he wanted something more durable for the signs.

**Discussion and Possible Action: Eligibility criteria for stairway adoption, communication about stairway adoption, how to credit adopters and donors, and how to support maintenance and improvements of our stairways**

Lisa wondered if the email that Heather sent before this meeting was a violation of the Brown Act. If it is, we might not be able to act on this discussion.

Anne-Marie—businesses need to come to the board—what if violating policies?

Heather—concerned regarding a developer and Los Globos. Developer has built a small lot in Silver Lake. Melvin said could acknowledge a business, but then must open door to all. Committees have no authority.

Leonardo--what if they do as individuals?

Nina—the stairs belong to the city, we haven't been given the responsibility to shepherd them.

Genelle—we have an oversight committee.

Lucia—take the question to the board.

Lisa—we need to make a recommendation to the board.

Anne-Marie—we say yay or nay to businesses every month.

Heather—said Melvin was nervous about the website.

Craig—this is a miniscule pinhead, community doesn't care, let's focus on doing good for the community, we're bogged down in process, preventing us from doing the good work—there is a distinction between adoption and donation.

Stephanie—offended—businesses sponsor stuff—that's how things work—we could let the SLIA and the SLRC run the program.

Lisa—also talked to Melvin, who affirmed the importance of public-private partnerships and, when Lisa asked about language to use on the website, referred her to Porter Ranch NC, which provided her with the following disclaimer: *The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council does not endorse businesses, non profit organizations, and events unless otherwise stated.* The board's yays and nays to businesses are recommendations only. What criteria would you use to choose businesses? How does limiting the program to individuals change things? What criteria would you use for individuals? What about pedophiles?

Leonardo—Micheltorena doesn't accept money, he doesn't agree with thanking—never said yes—take the program to the board—let the board decide.

Heather—doesn't know how we got a webpage.

Lisa—reason to thank them is transparency, fine with taking it to the board. Recalls that we got the website through Teresa, the board secretary at the time.

(David, Dori, Craig, and Nina left during the discussion.)

The committee agreed to ask the board to support the Adopt-a-Stairway program as outlined on the website. Lisa will add language along the lines of what the Porter Ranch NC uses and change the language about the \$3,000 donation from the developer back to the original (which named the firm) so that it is clear and transparent.

In support: Stephanie Bartron, Heather Carson, Leonardo Chalupowicz, Lisa Hart, Anne-Marie Johnson, Genelle Le Vin, Lucia Marano, Stacey Nelson

#### **Discussion and Possible Action: How to open closed stairways**

Someone has opened the Effie stairs (at least temporarily) in Echo Park. Stacey is ready to canvass the neighborhood—just wants an email with all the pertinent information, which Lisa can provide.

#### **Discussion and Possible Action: Applying for a Smart Growth America workshop, application due 10/21**

Lisa asked for approval to submit an application, to be approved by the board if the award is won.

In support: Stephanie Bartron, Heather Carson, Leonardo Chalupowicz, Lisa Hart, Anne-Marie Johnson, Genelle Le Vin, Lucia Marano, Stacey Nelson

#### **Discussion and Possible Action: Tree-care project with TreePeople and support by the SLNC of tree-related events**

Lisa asked Mary Rodriguez of Councilmember O'Farrell's office who planted the struggling trees on Sunset. The Bureau of Street Services did. Only one was requested. Owners were not contacted, and watering was not arranged. More trees will be planted once the streetscaping is done, maybe in early November, and the ones that have died can be replaced then.

The Micheltorena Garden will involve their Saturday volunteers with watering the adjacent street trees on Sunset and Micheltorena.

#### **Discussion and Possible Action: New meeting location**

Love the location, loud, hard to park

Lucia—call Dangerbird Records

**Next Meeting and Agenda Items**

**Announcements**

**Meeting Debrief/Feedback/Suggestions**

Time-keeping could be improved

Great meeting

Repeating ourselves, going around and around

*Minutes submitted by Lisa Hart*