

November 19, 2003

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

SILVER LAKE
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
OFFICERS

Jason Lyon, Rusty Millar
CO-CHAIRS
Salvador Sanchez
VICE-CHAIR
Charles R. Wiggington
TREASURER
Martin Hittelman
SECRETARY



SILVER LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes

November 19, 2003

SILVER LAKE
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Jason Lyon at 7 PM.

2. **Roll Call**

Members in Attendance: Marian Aguilar, Roberto Haroldson, Charles Wiggington, Robin Dakin, Lewis Myers, Rusty Millar, Garry Willis, Robert Brooks, Laura Dwan, Elizabeth Bougart-Sharkov, Peter Choi, Barbara Dakin, Martin Hittelman, Jason Lyon, Jane Renahan, Salvador Sanchez

Members Not in Attendance: Sandra Emma Ruiz, Michael Locke, Luis Lopez, Darren Morton, Michael J. Horne

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The minutes of the November 10, 2003 were approved as distributed.

4. **Item for Reconsideration**

M/S/P (no opposition) (Millar) to Move Public Comment to the 4th Slot on the Agenda, after the Minutes

Stakeholder Leon Older spoke to his concern that moving Public Comment up would result in an unpredictable length of meeting. There would also be no control as to when the board would get to regular business.

5. **Correspondence**

- a. A letter from stakeholder Jered Hobbins was received stating his support of proceeding with the current Silver Lake Reservoir Master Plan, Phase 1 (planting trees on West Silver Lake Drive).

M/S/P (Lyon) (no opposition) to receive the correspondence

Stakeholder Paul Apostles spoke in opposition to the Plan. He stated his belief that there should be a safety border all around the walking path, not just some trees on West Silver Lake Drive., and that the idea was a bad one and would just result in a boondoggle.

6. **Officer's reports**

- a. Treasurer – Treasurer Wiggington discussed his proposed budget for the SLNC. The SLNC will receive \$50,000 per year from the City. A prepaid card will be available and filled by the City each quarter (\$6,500 each quarter, petty cash up to \$500). He stated that all receipts must be attached to all expenditures. He reminded the board that a budget is a guideline for spending. He noted that it may take a couple of quarters to understand how the SLNC will actually be spending as there is no history at this point. The first quarter began in October. Budgets are approved on a quarterly basis by the City. Funds can be reallocated by the SLNC as needed. Copies for the meetings will come out of the meetings category. He will

be developing some rules regarding the role of the Treasurer and the approval of actual expenditures for SLNC approval. Board members will need prior approval to spend SLNC funds. A balance sheet will be available as funds are received and spent. He will send in the budget tomorrow and will expect to receive funds beginning in approximately two weeks.

Stakeholder Jim McQuiston noted that the City is a running a deficit now so the SLNC budget should be defensible.

M/S/P (Wiggington) (no opposition, Jane and Gar4y abstain) to approve the budget as presented.

Projected Expenses	1 st Qtr	2 nd Qtr	3 rd Qtr	4 th Qtr	Total
General Operations	500	500	500	500	2,000
Office Supplies	500	500	500	500	2,000
Staffing	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,000
Communication/Tech	3,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	6,000
Postage	250	250	250	250	1,000
Outreach/Advertising	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	4,000
Elections					
Community Projects	5,500	3,000	3,000	3,000	14,500
Meeting	250	250	250	250	1000
Facilities		4,500	4,500	4,500	13,500
Total	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	50,000

7. Committee Reports

Urban Design & Preservation: Elizabeth Bougart-Sharkov presented a written report from the Committee. She reported that the Committee would only post agendas at two locations but was advised that it was necessary to post committee agendas at all of the SLNC posting spots to be in conformance with the SLNC bylaws. Will rotate co-chairs and this was accepted. The Committee will meet once per month. Elizabeth will continue to be the contact person.

M/S/P Mission Statement for the Urban Design & Preservation Advisory Committee (Dwan) (no opposition votes): This Umbrella Committee intends to co-ordinate, advise, develop alternative suggestions and provide a voice for the community with regards to Urban Planning, Design, Development and Preservation, as well as to advocate for fair distribution of designated funds in order to improve the community's environment, quality of life and social well being. Each previously established Ad-Hoc Committee and Advocacy Group is invited to participate.

8. Old Business

- a. REPORT (Regional Reps): Roberto Haraldson and Charles Wiggington scouted for a good posting spot in Region 2 but found no location that was considered optimal. The Dream Center on Waterloo is suggested as the best alternative. In addition, Silver Lake Furniture at 2624 W. Sunset Blvd. has allowed the SLNC to post in its window.
- b. M/S/P (Executive Committee) (no negative votes): No officer or member of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Governing Board or any of its committees shall represent him/herself as speaking on behalf of the Council or committee, or committing the Council or Committee to an action, unless s/he has been authorized to do so by the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Governing Board, or by the SLNC Executive Committee when approval by the full Governing Board would not be timely. Members are permitted to do research and make exploratory calls in their official capacity without express approval of the

Governing Board, so long as they do not commit the Council to action. Such authorization may be limited or revoked at any time by the Governing Board.

A question was raised as to whether a committee would need to get approval in order to arrange for the use of a facility.

A motion to table (Sanchez) until the next meeting failed (with no positive votes).

M/S/P (no negative votes) committee chairs or committee designee are authorized to arrange for meeting spaces so long as no cost is incurred.

9. New Business

- a. M/S/P (Executive Committee) (no negative votes): Lewis Myers will serve as Parliamentarian for the group, offering guidance on points of order as requested by the presiding chair.
- b. M/S/P (Executive Committee) (two abstentions): The governing board will ask for one or more stakeholder volunteers to regularly serve as Sergeant at Arms during Governing Board meetings. The Sergeants at Arms will maintain order, assist stakeholders in filling out and submitting Public Comment cards, and will perform other duties as prescribed by the Board.

A question was raised as to whether the board should develop a policy on how the Sergeants at Arms handles the position.

Leon Older volunteered to be a Sergeant at Arms.

- c. M/S/ (Sharkov): The SLNC will sign a letter to Councilman Eric Garcetti in support of designating the Fletcher Red Car Viaduct Footings a Historic landmark. (See proposed sample letter.)

Amended (Willis) and approved as the motion (no negative votes): That the following resolution be adopted:

Whereas 2004 will mark the 100-year anniversary of the Fletcher Car Viaduct, and
Whereas so little evidence of the Red Car infrastructure remains, the Fletcher Viaduct foundations are a very appropriate historic landmark for Silver Lake and the City of Los Angeles, and

Whereas while the bridge no longer stands, the concrete bridge foundations are a memorial to the Pacific Electric Red Car, and

Whereas the concrete blocks are a mystery to many who commute by car through our Silver Lake community and we see the bridge footings as an opportunity to educate current and future generations about the history of the Red Car and Los Angeles as well as open discussion on the future of mass transit for the city, and

Whereas the Pacific Electric Red Car established a horizontal growth pattern for Los Angeles by bringing settlers to the countryside and the "Big Red Cars" were embraced as an efficient, economical and popular means of transportation; allowing people to live in the suburbs and commute to work in the city. In Silver Lake, the Red Car brought settlement to the Ivanhoe Hills, and

Whereas while the Fletcher Red Car Viaduct was torn down in 1955, the concrete bridge foundations remain as a silent memorial to 20th Century Los Angeles' changing attitudes toward public transportation.

Therefore be it resolved that the SLNC supports the nomination of the Fletcher Red Car Viaduct Footings for historical landmark status.

Stakeholder Jim McQuiston made note that the Red Line was not as fast as people thought it was. He advised that the SLNC make comments to the City at the committee level as there is little chance to speak at the City Council meetings.

Stakeholder Diane Edwardson addressed the issue. She noted that Viaduct Footings serve as a piece of Los Angeles history. The Viaduct existed from 1904 until 1955. Automobiles and freeways then took over. She noted that the request for historical landmark status is going through City committees successfully at this point but that there still may be hearings held at the committee level.

- d. M/S/ (Executive Committee on behalf of stakeholder Dorit Dowler Guerrero): That the governing board create a Parks & Green Spaces Committee.

Amend to make it a subcommittee of the Planning Committee (Millar). (no negative votes)
Motion as amended passed with no negative votes.

Stakeholder Dorit Dowler Guerrero spoke to the lack of park space in the Silver Lake area and in favor of the formation of the committee.

Stakeholder Avrim Chill spoke in favor of the formation of the committee. He stated that we need to work on increasing green space.

A question was raised as to how the committee will it work with other groups. It was suggested that participation from other groups be encouraged.

Stakeholder Diane Edwardson spoke in favor of the formation of the committee but noted that we should not limit ourselves to city parks. She gave the Conservancy projects as an example of other ways to increase green space.

- e. M/S/P (no negative votes) (Executive Committee): The governing board will create a Development Committee charged with seeking alternative funding sources beyond the city's annual allotment.
- f. M/S/ (Executive Committee): The governing board will create an ad hoc committee to make recommendations to the Governing Board on all communications collateral for the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council, including but not limited to logo design, business cards, web site, database management, etc.

Amend (Aguilar) (no vote was taken) to send it to the Media Relations Committee.

M/S/P to table to the next meeting (Hittelman) (no negative votes) in order to get input from committees on which parts of the above they may wish to take on.

- g. M/S/ (Choi): The governing board will combine the Outreach and Community Liaison Committees. (NOTE: This action would require an amendment to the bylaws, by the process prescribed therein.)

Amend (Hittelman) (no vote taken) the Outreach and Community Liaison Committee are authorized to meet jointly as they prefer.

M/S/P (Willis) to table indefinitely (1 negative vote)

- h. M/S/Fails (6-9-1) (Executive Committee): In order to increase participation at all levels of the council, each individual shall be limited to chairing only one committee.

Stakeholder Linda Froiland spoke in support of the motion and stated that the governing board should limit the length the chair can serve as well as not have a person chair more than one committee.

Stakeholder Jim McQuiston suggested to change "each" to "may" so it reads "may be limited to chairing only one committee."

- i. How to handle conflicting committee meeting dates.

Various alternatives were discussed including looking at the website calendar, talking to each other, and keeping in mind what other committee dates are. Other organization meetings need to be considered as well. Committees should try to get a fixed meeting day and time each month.

M/S/P (Brooks) (No negative votes): Committees will report to the Executive Committee on committee meeting times and the Executive Committee will distribute the information the board. This will be a continuing activity.

The following items under New Business were moved to the next meeting as time for this section of the Agenda had elapsed.

- j. MOTION (Executive Committee): In order to comply with the City Attorney's interpretation of the Brown Act, no more than 5 members of the SLNC Governing Board will serve on any single committee.
- k. MOTION (Executive Committee): In order to avoid overwhelming stakeholders with announcements from individual committees, the Community Liaison Committee will send a single email to the full database a few days before the beginning of the month which will include the dates, times and locations of all Board and Committee meetings for the month and a basic summary of the committee's function. Wherever possible, this description will also include key items for discussion. Committee chairs and/or secretaries will be responsible for providing this information to the Community Liaison committee in a timely manner.
- l. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION on developing a system for discussing and adopting formal goals as a committee.
- m. RESOLUTION (Executive Committee): Whereas the Citywide Alliance of Neighborhood Councils is an association comprised of individuals active neighborhood councils; and

Whereas the mission of the Alliance is to provide a venue for neighborhood Councils from every part of the city can come together and discuss issues of common concern; and

Whereas the neighborhood councils are entering a new phase in which the councils are certified by the city; and

Whereas the Citywide Alliance of Neighborhood Councils seeks to continue to provide a forum for Neighborhood councils to help each other, provide issue training and education for activists, and launch a newsletter to assist activists are informed of the issues; and

Whereas it is necessary for the Alliance to formalize its structure to meet the needs and challenges of the next phase in the community empowerment effort,

Therefore the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council, by adopting this resolution shall become a member of the Citywide Alliance of Neighborhood Councils. (NOTE: The Alliance's Bylaws are available online at <http://allncs.org/by-laws.htm>)

- n. MOTION (Executive Committee): If previous resolution passes, elect Delegate to Alliance of Neighborhood Councils.

10. Special Presentations & Reports :

- a. The Congress of Neighborhoods

Making meetings work: Robin Dakin prepared a written report to the board. He noted that the mission should be posted and be made a part of the letter head. A Code of Conduct is suggested. He noted that the governing board is following the suggested ideas pretty well.

Public Works: Rusty Millar reported that there were suggestions for how to get a fair share of the city money (of which there is none). The SLNC should include neighborhood suggestions for public works improvement projects needed. Five governing board members attended the meeting. He noted that 90,000 trees are trimmed by the City per year.

Cooperating with the Business Community: Michael Locke provided the governing board with a memorandum on what he found out.

Brown Act: Lewis Myers explained the need to post agendas 72 hours prior to meetings. The 72 hours only count when the agendas are visible to the public. He noted that civil law suits or action by City Attorney are possible if the Brown Act is not followed.

Laura Dwan reported on the need for a resource list from the community. Questionnaires were suggested. She noted that there will be several meetings to follow up on ideas on how to map our community.

Barbara Dakin reported on the Media discussion. She got to work before a camera and advise was given on how to work on camera and how to work with the media. Barbara will type up her notes for use by the governing board.

Salvador Sanchez discussed the issue discussed around Gay issues. He noted that five of the people in the working group were from Silver Lake.

Rusty Millar reported on the workshop for treasurers. He noted that we were required to participate in such a workshop in order to qualify for funding.

Peter Choi described his meeting at the City's Channel 35. He noted that Channel 35 can publicize our activities and calendar and that they provide many opportunities for community programming. They have a web site as well. He noted that they show black and white movies on weekends, including many

that use Silver Lake as the background. It may be possible to have it noted where these sites can be found today.

Elizabeth Bougart-Sharkov spoke with regard to the reconstruction of LAX. She noted that the website is [www. Laxmasterplan.org](http://www.Laxmasterplan.org).

11. Public Comment

Stakeholder Jim McQuiston spoke with regard to the 101 Freeway working Group that he is a member of. The 101 Freeway is under investigation. The freeway and surrounding feeder streets and public transportation are being looked at. The Area I (which includes Silver Lake) group has been meeting in Garcetti's office. Two people have been selected to speak for that group. He is one of the people who has been designated to inform everyone what the 200 items are that are currently on the table. One item is a Dash line on Lucille Sunset to Bellevue. We can expect December and January decisions at various agencies. They want SLNC input. He will make sure that the SLNC gets the list of items under consideration. He noted that some make sense and other don't. His fax number for requests for information is 323-464-6792. He stated that he can give a report in December in paper form. Their next meeting will be held sometime in mid-December. Economics will determine what is doable. Neighborhood Councils will make suggestions concerning which should be done. Items under consideration will eventually go before the MTA board.

Wes Joe has been attending these meetings. It was suggested that he continue to provide us with information.

Issue should go to Planning Committee (next meeting is December 10).

12. Agenda Items for Next Meeting No new items were suggested.

13. Announcements

Elizabeth Bougart-Sharkov announced that the Chamber of Commerce quarterly newspaper will have a column in it with regard to SLNC activities. The next deadline is December 4.

Rusty Millar reminded members of the binders in the CD 13 office for committee and governance board items. He also noted a Neighborhood Watch Meeting and that there is a new restaurant in Silver Lake called Mornings and Nights.

14. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Minutes by M. Hittelman