

Silver Lake Neighborhood Council  
GOVERNING BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING Minutes - APPROVED  
Wednesday, November 2, 2016  
7:00 p.m.  
Ivanhoe Elementary School  
2828 Herkimer St  
Los Angeles, CA 90039

1. Call to Order

The meeting began at 6:59 pm with 15 Board members present.

2. Roll Call

Attending Board Members: Anne-Marie Johnson, Co-Chair Heather Carson, Co-Chair Jerome Courshon, Vice Chair Scott Plante, Secretary Patty Jausoro, Treasurer Barbara Ringuette Douglas J. Loewy Elizabeth Torres Rusty Millar Taryn Poole Bob Lisauskas Betsy Smith Isroelit Glenn Harrell Stacey Boucher Antonio Stifano Terrence Jackson Caroline Pham (arrived later)

Non-Attending Board Members:  
Nicholas Somilleda (Excused)  
Adam Somilleda (Excused)  
Jia Gu (Absent)

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

*David Wheatley, Resident*

Did research regarding 35 community plans underway (real estate in general) Hollywood plans include Silver Lake. Ongoing research. "Land Use and Governments" (USC research), land developers are looking at Silver Lake for projects. Need to find a way to circumvent their interest.

Rusty Millar brought attention to a Beverly Hills article in LA Times regarding

development fees. The City of BH will bring in \$5M over a ten-year period. He suggested the need to look into this so that Silver Lake is not left holding the bag like the City Council.

*Jessica Salans, Sergeant at Arms, and Candidate for Los Angeles City Council, District 13 (CD13)*

Announced first public event in Virgil Village and discussed guests that will be attending including teacher from LA Dist regarding search and seizure of kids in schools. Need to avoid kids feeling criminalized.

*Jerome Courshon*

3<sup>rd</sup> DWP community meeting on 11/14 at John Marshall High School re: reservoir. Was told about a town meeting initiative meeting on Saturday 11/19. They will be emailing the board about it.

*Anne-Marie Johnson*

Re: cabaret license (Tenants of the Trees). Police commission approved request but there are conditions that the board and residents can enforce the terms and stipulations laid down. Anne-Marie will keep the board updated with residents with nuisance complaints. Barlow Hospital meeting re: short-term rentals tomorrow night (11/3)

She spoke about the adherence to the sound laws and that there would be three security guards every weekend.

Small asphalt repairs in Silver Lake?

Request from LA County to pool a Civil Grand Jury (one-year commitment); Trick or treating (Halloween), larger than expected crowds.

*Rosa Max:*

Attended the Urban Agricultural Zone meeting at City Hall, large success. Will be pressed through City Hall and implemented next year. She owns [www.makeamericagreatagain.com](http://www.makeamericagreatagain.com) (domain up for sale or barter to whoever will put up the first city farm in Silver Lake).

The budget applicants have begun their applications. Attended the DOT meeting with City Planning, etc. Good showing and results that will hopefully show in upcoming community projects.

#### 4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

- Mitch O'Farrell, CD13 – Mary Rodriguez
- David Ryu, CD4 – Adam Miller
- Assembly Member Mike Gatto, Dist 43 – Eric Menjivar
- Assembly Member Jimmy Gomez, Dist 51 – Stephanie Uy
- Congress Member Adam Schiff, 28<sup>th</sup> Dist – Pam Marcello
- SLNC Budget Advocate, Barbara Ringuette

#### 5. ADMINISTRATIVE

##### 5.1. Approval of September Board Minutes

**VOTE to postpone until next month  
PASSED**

5.2 Setting of Public Safety Committee Meeting to elect new co-chairs

Nadine Trujillo stepped down from her position. Public Safety Committee needed to elect co-chair. Anne-Marie recommends calling the meeting this month.

Heather Carson & Anne-Marie Johnson will pursue.

**Motion 5.2 Passes**

Motion 5.3 - Patty recommended a rental at 1753 Griffith Park for SLNC potential office. Submitted a request and received an approx. 45-page response.

**Will put on the next Executive Committee Agenda to discuss.**

Motion 5.4. Board of Designation of Second Signatory: Brought to our attention that we need to assign a second signer to assist the treasurer (Patty), (Glenn Harrell present], Taryn took it upon herself to find out the requirements. Scott Plante nominated Taryn Poole; Stacy Boucher seconded the motion of nomination.

**With no objections, Taryn Poole was unanimously appointed as Second Signatory.**

Motion 5.5 Discuss moving the regularly scheduled January 4<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to later in the month:

**Motion passed; meeting will be held January 4<sup>th</sup>.**

6. FINANCE AND BUDGET

6.1. Discussion and Possible Action (Treasurer): Approval of September 2016 MER  
Treasurer Patty Jausoro reported that postage has been paid for the rest of the year, and "Go Daddy" charged \$119.88 which is an additional charge (questionable charge that needs to be addressed). \$34,138.71 is left in the budget.

**Motion passed unanimously**

6.2. Discussion and Possible Action (Treasurer):

Business cards, Ivanhoe Down, Music Box, AppleOne, Mailroom are all covered. Business cards are being printed currently.

Moved by Barbara Ringuette and seconded by Rusty Millar.

**16 votes unanimous. Motion passes without objection.**

All expenses discussed and voted on, there is less than \$19010 on what we have left to spend.

Rusty asked about Go Daddy charges and outreach projects. Anne-Marie advised Rusty that these concerns are not included in the Treasurer Report.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

7.1 MOTION

MOTION (Plante): Move that the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council approve an additional \$500 be paid to Craig Collins for completion of the Stair Map. (up to \$500)

Plante brought up map done by artist is illegible for printing. To make map legible would be \$500 (5-10 hours).

Opened by Scott, seconded by Patty. Rusty does not support because he feels expense is frivolous and map is readily found elsewhere; Bob supports it because significant time and money has already been spent; Jerome doesn't support because he feels the map is lacking in artistic integrity; Patty supports it as a valuable resource and can be used in the community; Betsy agrees with Jerome and feels the project needs an art director; Heather explained (Eric Brightwell, artist) was allocated \$600 for artwork and \$300 for graphic design and copyright and artist rights; Glenn brought up this is an inherited situation, and the current board needs to decide whether to pay for it or not, and feels that the Board should pay the person regardless of the current Board's feelings. Scott inherited it and the artist was paid. Scott feels that it is illegible unlike the artist's other work, and this piece is going on a 11x17 brochure, so it should be legible for that purpose as well as the website, and it isn't. The legibility is the primary issue. It has been scanned professionally and it still is not legible; Jerome readdressed and reiterated that the quality is sub-par, Barbara did not find the map very appealing and thinks maybe that more money will improve the appeal; Terry believes the Board should do right by the artist regardless;

Anne-Marie brought to attention that the Board is only (Caroline Phan has joined the meeting) to *continue* the project.

Taryn asked if the Board would be allowed to alter the artist's work. Heather suggested that the Board postpone this meeting until discussion with artist. Scott pointed out that the artist was paid already and another artist/graphic designer (Craig) has picked up the project and it will require much more time to bring up to snuff.

Anne-Marie said this motion is too convoluted and strongly recommended postponement.

Scott has postponed, seconded by Betsy.

Motion 7.1 is postponed.

## 8. CONSENT

### 8.1 MOTION

Millar moves that the Silver Lake NC send the attached letter to Nazario Saucedo Director of Public Works thanking the dept for the tree trimming on the Vendome St median.

Pulled by Barbara and up for discussion.

Should a thank you letter be sent to Nazario Saucedo, Director of Public Works for trimming of 47 trees.

Motion to accept letter with photos attached.

Rusty Millar motioned/Scott Plante seconded.

**Motion 8.1 passed.**

### 8.2. MOTION

The Green Committee recommends that the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council supports the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance's (NCSA) recommendation to commit to a renewable energy plan by 2030.

**Passes unanimously.**

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

### 9.1 MOTION

Executive Committee moves that constituent emails to the board regarding any comment on an agenda item must include the sender's name and address. Form letters and "cut and paste" letters will carry less weight than individual letters.

This disclaimer will be included on the SLNC website page.

Jerome took issue with the word "must" and suggested substituting the word "recommended".

David felt that "freedom of speech" re cut & paste...

Heather voiced concern over verbiage and comments (esp. copy & paste); Barbara felt concern over same; Doug agreed with Barbara and felt they should carry less weight since a considerable number came from non-residents; Patty felt that the constituents wants are of concern; Anne-Marie addressed that this issue was addressed at City Hall and

Anne-Marie should know if these individuals are being impacted and strongly support the motion with the substitution of "recommend" instead of "must."

Heather and Rusty also concurred about the constituency legitimacy issue; Scott also

concluded. Betsy brought up substituting “will” with “may”.

Jerome moved motion to vote:

Anne-Marie read the motion with suggested corrections.

**9.1 is unanimously passed**

**9.2 MOTION**

Executive Committee moves that the Education, Youth, & Families Committee be suspended.

If a committee remains dormant regardless of outreach, it is the right of said board to suspend committee.

Seconded by Rusty.

Rosa would like to postpone motion until next month as she has a presidential candidate she would like to discuss the committee with.

Jerome asked for clarification. A committee that has no co-chairs or council, it should be suspended until renewed interest happens.

Rusty gave a potted history about this committee and how difficult it's been to sustain in the community and it's been challenging to keep alive. Heather concurred with Rusty.

Jessica: interested in taking this up as it dovetails with her campaign concerns and issues. She was told she could submit a motion and it could be brought back to the board (Anne-Marie Johnson).

Anne-Marie called vote.

**Motion 9.2 passes unanimously.**

**9.3 MOTION**

Jausoro moves that the SLNC Governing Board provide funding of up to \$650 to purchase poly cotton safety vests for all SLNC board members. Safety vests can be worn at events when doing outreach and also during any emergency activity. The vests will ensure that members of the community are able to identify SLNC board members from a distance. (up to \$650)

Motion seconded by Jerome.

Patty believes that the board should be readily recognizable with proper safety attire.

Bob thinks it's a lot of money considering this isn't something that isn't used that often nor are they used by all of the Board.

Anne-Marie believes this is brilliant idea and that it follows along the lines of outreach. The vests will live with the Board and not individuals.

Jerome concurred with Anne-Marie. He brought up a recent car accident as an example why emergency reflective vests are needed.

Barbara felt that training trumped vests and thinks it's unnecessary.

Betsy expressed concerns about liability in accidents especially with lack of training.

Heather believes it's a good idea especially with name tags. It makes the Board members readily identifiable and a clear presence at events.

Rusty expressed concern about the custody of the vests.

Glenn said individual vests can be purchased for \$6 on Amazon.com.

Patty felt that screen-printed vests are important for identification purposes at events. She also felt that traffic-direction is sometimes required despite lack of training.

Betsy asked if the vests are allowed to be kept in board member homes.

Taryn suggested that this is a good way for the Board to brand themselves.

Caroline asked if a substitute motion can be issued to buy the amazon.com versions.

Anne-Marie affirmed.

Caroline motioned, seconded by Bob.

Jerome objected unless there is a "brand".

**Substitute motion failed.**

**Rollcall**

Heather - Yes

Anne- Marie – Yes

Jerome - Yes

Glenn – No

Scott – Yes

Doug – No

Barbara – No

Elizabeth – Yes

Rusty – No

Tracy – No

Bob – No

Caroline – No

Betsy – No

Taryn – Yes

Stacy – No

Terrence – No

**Motion fails.**

#### 9.4 MOTION

The Silver Lake Urban Design and Preservation Advisory Committee moves that the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council (SLNC) recommend support for the vesting tentative tract map of a 9-unit small lot subdivision at 2251 Duane Street.

Scott Plante explained the process of project proposal.

(Correction: project is 5-unit, not 9.)

Presentation by developer(s): First slide shows the density existing on the street. The lot in question could be built up in such a way (e.g., condos) which is probably better for the community in regards to ownership.

Slides show images of proposed projects showing space between buildings, street view and side elevations;

Affordable housing is affordable because it's affordable to build, and usually built on flat land(s). Silver Lake is very hilly but the project proposed is being built on the flatter areas. 8% of Silver Lake is "affordable" but not really, as it is a very affluent neighborhood.

Owner statement: This is a family project and has deep roots in the community and want to do projects that will serve such.

David pointed out that this is far-from-affordable housing and the proposed development is selling at \$1.5M each.

He feels that the motion should be denied.

Anne-Marie called for comments from Board:

Heather said that she felt the project was not beneficial to Silver Lake. Three people with affordable rents will be displaced.

Scott said that we have a problem in Los Angeles as it is a poorly -planned city. With lack of density, there is no chance for affordable living as developers can't afford to build them.

Barbara showed concern regarding the height issue with roof decks, styles, etc in regards to the rest of the neighborhood.

Developer wasn't sure what the height was in relation to existing buildings. They weren't exactly sure what to describe the style as.

Terry: In LA and OC is the most dense in the country. It's about demand and supply and people who can afford \$22K/month.

Stacey: How many parking spaces will be included.

Developer: 4 per unit

Jerome: This is a challenging dilemma. He feels this is somewhere in the middle of being good and bad. His concern is losing three "affordable" units; LA has lost 20K RSO houses



since 2000.

Rusty: This developer has more “guest” parking than any other development has had.

Bob: It seems to be “fashionable” to be against small lots right now. He believes the project is great and sustainable and is well thought out.

Heather: The potential profit is exaggerated.

Patty: Is flat land conjecture or fact?

Developer: Fact.

Anne-Marie called the vote:

#### **Motion 9.4 passes**

#### 9.5 MOTION

Shall the SLNC join with the EPNC and participate in the Echo Park Community Parade on December 10th, 2016.

Heather was approached to be part of the Echo Park Parade. It's 12/10 and one of the mandates is that we interact with other communities.

Betsy: Doesn't feel the expense is necessary. Thinks we should support our schools.

Anne-Marie: believes that this should be addressed by the outreach program.

Do we want to participate and if so, will refer to outreach program.

Glenn believes we should support our sister neighborhoods.

Anne-Marie recommends four volunteers to walk down the street with the banner and handouts. With candy canes wearing pink vests.

Glenn motioned, Stacey seconds

#### **Motion 9.5 passed.**

#### 9.6 MOTION

Shall the SLNC grant permission to the LA Conservancy to use excerpts from the SLNC video recording “[Black Cat Bar celebration, Silver Lake 2009](#)” to be used in a mini-documentary highlighting significant places associated with LGBTQ history in Los Angeles.

Motion was moved by Rusty, seconded by Barbara

#### **Motion 9.6 passes without objection**

### 10. REPORTS

Reports are listed

11. REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Directors lack of presence (?)

12. ADJOURNMENT

*Anne-Marie Johnson made a motion to adjourn.*

The meeting ended at 9:32pm.