

Silver Lake Neighborhood Council
GOVERNING BOARD
MEETING Minutes APPROVED
Wednesday, August 1, 2018
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. Eight (8) votes are required for a motion to carry, said Silver Lake Neighborhood Council (SLNC) Co-Chair Anne-Marie Johnson.

2. Roll Call

Attending Board Members:

Anne-Marie Johnson, Co-Chair
Darius Derakshan, Vice Chair
Terrence Jackson, Treasurer
Betsy Smith Isroelit, Secretary
Hanna Anderson, Assistant Secretary
Antonio Stifano, Sargeant-at-Arms (left early)
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman (arrived late)
David Valdez
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell (arrived late)
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon

Non-Attending Board Members:

Scott Plante, Co-Chair
Kathleen Hudson
Melissa Samuels
Bob Lisauskas

3. Welcome and rules of action on agenda items

Co-Chair Johnson discussed how the meeting will run and how to protect yourself in an active shooter situation. This is not the new normal. Silver Lake is not unique. Every community in the world will be faced with situations like this. The goal is to be as prepared as possible.

We reached out to the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD). The LAFD is not here yet. Everyone gets two minutes to speak. This is not a conversation.

(Note: There are television crews here from 3 networks. Channels 2, 4 and 11.)

4. Presentation from Los Angeles Police Department Northeast Division and Los Angeles Fire Department: Updates regarding the tragic events of Saturday, July 21 2018

LAPD Captain Arturo Sandoval, North East Division and Senior Lead Officer Lenny Davis ((213) 793-0763, 26028@LAPD.LACITY.ORG):

Captain Sandoval:

He offered condolences to the families, the Trader Joe's employees and the community. This was a tragic incident. It's amazing to see the community come together to provide support. I've seen many of you at services and candle light vigils. We really appreciate that.

We appreciate Glen Harrell from "Say Cheese" for reopening and providing normalcy.

This was an incident involving an individual and a vehicle. He was armed and dangerous. We'd attempted to pull him over. We began a pursuit. In front of Trader Joe's the individual was involved in a traffic accident. Shots were fired. He entered store and held people hostage.

Captain Sandoval commended the Trader Joe's employees. There were several heroes there.

The suspect was booked on multiple murder charges.

The question is how to protect ourselves in these events? If you hear gunshots what do you do? Run, hide, or fight. Those are your options. Fight is the last resort.

On that day, Glen Harrell from “Say Cheese”, was a hero. He brought customers into his store and sheltered them for hours. They heard additional gunshots and communications between responders.

The best thing to do is stay in place and wait for officers to come and get you. Most of us have cell phones. Put out a text message. Let people know where you are and what’s going on. Harrell and his employees were texting. The residents were texting too. We passed that information to the division officers.

SLO Lenny Davis:

He thanked the community for its support. Regarding run, hide, and fight, we encourage you to keep it in the back of your mind. Know where exits are. It’s a new world, a reality that sadly came here.

Mandy Crystler, Office of Mayor Garcetti:

She said that she’d been invited by Glen Harrell. She offered a handout about reactions from tragic events and trauma. Any reaction is a normal reaction to a horrible event. She mentioned the Victim Assistance Program of the City Attorney’s Office. Anyone in the vicinity of the shooting is eligible for mental health help, she said.

Rebecca Rubin:

She mentioned that Silver Lake gives pro bono therapy services.

(Note: Lee Sherman arrived at 7:13pm.)

Jan:

I work at King and Marshall. I live in the Crenshaw district. This is not an isolated incident. The LAPD in April put many lives at risk. Don’t let them sweep this under the rug. The video has been released. There was fire coming from the LAPD as he entered the store. They should have taken time to make the community more safe before firing. She mentioned that in previous incidents the LAPD killed two people at a homeless shelter in Van Nuys. Also, a woman was killed with a knife to her neck.

Adam:

We're here to hear about this traumatic incident and no one has mentioned her name. It's really terrible that you guys can't even mention her name. It's dangerous for the community to speak the language of the LAPD. The LAPD kills more civilians than any other police department in the country. Getting back to normal isn't our best response.

Also in June, a man was arrested in the Hollenbeck Division. He was shot to death in the hospital during an altercation with the LAPD. We need to look at ways to prevent this from happening.

"Melyda Corado! Say her name!" was chanted by part of the audience as the two LAPD officers finished their presentation.

5. Public Comments On Non Agenda Items

Maria Elena Durazo, Candidate for California State Senate, District 24 (www.mariaelenadurazo.com, info@mariaelenadurazo.com):

He introduced herself and said that she's running in the November election as a candidate for the state Senate, District 24.

She has a community organizer background. Referring to the tragic shooting at Trader Joe's, she said that what happens at the community level is the most important thing to be done.

She believes in what the community does. She has a history of organizing working people for things we care about: healthcare; housing; good jobs, etc. We must stop inequality between communities. That's not fair.

She has lived in El Serrano. She has two sons.

Johnson announced that the Glendale Boulevard project has been postponed. However, Ryan wants to speak about this.

Ryan:

I went to City Hall and they said to come here. I want to understand why this housing project was approved. It was denied 12 years ago. I'm opposed. There is already too much traffic on Glendale Boulevard. Everyone is using side streets to get home. Putting houses there will create more of a problem.

Johnson told him to come again as the agenda item for the Ivan Hill project has been postponed.

Hugh:

I was at the Los Angeles County Arboretum today. It was 119 degrees with the heat spell. We're more likely to die from heat than from bullets. He discussed trees and people huddled behind poles to get some shade. He mentioned the City using the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as a reason for cutting down trees. The City has promised to replace every removed tree with two new ones. He brought flyers about this.

6. Special Presentations and Reports: City and state representatives

Rachel Fox, Field Deputy for Council Member David Ryu, Council District 4, Rachel.fox@lacity.org, (213) 473-7004, (323) 957-6415):

It's been difficult two weeks. This is also my community. I felt it. I appreciate the community coming out for a candle light vigil. She didn't know Melyda Corado but heard her family and friends discuss her life. Fox offered condolences to her family.

Separately, regarding the Department of Water and Power (DWP) and recent power outages, Council Member Ryu has introduced a motion with along with Council District 13 to hold the DWP responsible for the outages. We want to know what happened and what they will do. Also, there was a communication issue.

Finally, she mentioned that Silver Lake will participate in the National Night Out next week. Council Member Ryu will be attending from 6-9pm on August 7.

Mary Rodriguez, Field Deputy for Council Member Mitch O'Farrell, Council District 13 (CD13), mary.d.rodriguez@lacity.org, (213) 207-301:

That is my Trader Joe's. It was a frightening experience for everyone. It's wonderful to see the coming together of the community.

Separately, she mentioned that there will be two ribbon cutting ceremonies for two recreation centers, including the Silver Lake Recreation Center's new playground structure. The Silver Lake Mom's Club is involved.

She mentioned that problems with squatters have been reported at homes in Silver Lake. These are mostly homes awaiting demolitions. We are working with the LAPD and the Department of Building and Safety to address these matters.

She is proud to say that Glendale Boulevard got resurfaced near the library. We had to wait for pipelines and water mains to be installed. Other streets are also being resurfaced. Also, there are new stop signs.

Jerome Courshon asked about the intersection of Silver Lake Boulevard and Glendale. That wasn't repaved. Why? Rodriguez explained that that's our border. We're working on that.

Vice Chair Darius Derakshan thanked Rodriguez for cleaning up that stretch of Glendale Boulevard. Are there any updates on the bridge housing projects in Hollywood, Silver Lake, and Echo Park?

Rodriguez replied that the Council Member O'Farrell is looking at several sites including Echo Park and other locations.

(Note: Glen Harrell arrived prior to 7:32pm.)

Glen Harrell asked Rodriguez for her email address. Heather Carson asked whether cameras can be required for the empty buildings.

Andrea Aramayo, Central Area Representative, Mayor's Office of Public Engagement; and Treasurer for the Central Hollywood Neighborhood Council (angie.aramayo@lacity.org, (213) 978-0430):

She is the Mayor's new area representative for Silver Lake. She just started last week. She will attend SLNC meetings quarterly. She will send emails to the SLNC Chair each month.

What happened with Trader Joe's shouldn't have happened. Her first time coming out to Silver Lake was for the vigil. She has worked for State Assembly member Adrin Nezarian, 46th District, in the valley. She is familiar with the neighborhood council system.

The office defers to the Council District. We handle the larger portion. With the DWP outages, we defer to what City Council is doing. We reach out for the Mayor's Office. Feel free to reach out to anyone of us.

Jerome Courshon commented that every once in a while, the Mayor sends mass email about office hours. Once I received it. I responded and got no response back. There might be a better way for the mayor to do this. Not everyone gets to sit down with the Mayor. There has to be a better way for the Mayor to do this. Feel free to call me about the good and the bad. Aramayo said that she'll relay that to the staff.

Barbara Ringuette, Budget Advocate:

We had a retreat two weeks ago where we planned our year. We're working to change our name to include "services". This will reflect our charge to report on services. We expect to meet with the Mayor this month. We're planning for the next year's budget for the fiscal year beginning July 2019.

7. Administrative:

a. Treasurer's Report

b. Approval of May, June and July 2018 MER,

Treasurer Terrence Jackson said that he has 101 pages of documentation for the May and June Monthly Expense Reports (MERs) that we will vote on tonight. *Secretary Betsy Isroelit seconded the motion to approve the May minutes. Rebecca Rubin seconded the motion for June.*

VOTE for May MER
Unanimous
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
David Valdez
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

VOTE for June MER

Unanimous

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson

Darius Derakshan

Terrence Jackson

Betsy Smith Isroelit

Hanna Anderson

Antonio Stifano

Taryn Poole

Rebecca Ruben

Lee Sherman

David Valdez

Douglas Reed

Janis Purins

Douglas J. Loewy

Glen Harrell

Barbara Ringuette

Heather Carson

Jerome Courshon

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

Jackson said that he won't have the July MER until August 10.

c. Reimbursement to Betsy Isroelit in the amount of \$75.00 for Mail Chimp payment

David Valdez seconded Jackson's motion.

VOTE

Unanimous

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
David Valdez
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

d. Reimbursement to Anne-Marie Johnson in the amount of \$250.00 for SLNC T-Shirts

Darius Derakshan seconded Jackson's motion.

VOTE

Unanimous

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole

Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
David Valdez
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon

No Votes:
None

Present, Not Voting:
None

8. Old Business*

8.1. (Cetrone & Smith-Goodin). Letter of support regarding historical and cultural recognition of the El Cid building.

There are no speakers.

Johnson explained that a letter was drafted about the historic significance of the building. It was a 1915 silent movie theatre. Later it was home to one of the first themed restaurants in Los Angeles. We want to impress upon the tenants to have the integrity of the building maintained.
Courshon seconded Johnson's motion.

VOTE
Unanimous
PASSED

Yes Votes:
Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman

David Valdez
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

8.2.(Elections Commt) 2019 NC Election "STIP" Sheet. to submit to DONE

Elections Committee Chair Lee Sherman said that there were two obstacles, including a compliance issue. The Virgin Mary Cathedral is not ADA compliant. Also, we don't know the date of the election so it's hard to check availability of locations. We haven't heard back from all locations.

There is April 27 availability for one location. Other Saturdays are available later in the day. We're still waiting to hear from the Silver Lake Community Church.

Ivanhoe Elementary School is available, according to the principal, said Johnson, who added that that has not yet been cleared by the City.

Sherman said that our recommendation for election hours is 9am to 3pm with facilities at Ivanhoe and Saint Francis. There should be translation to Spanish. There could be optional vote by mail but we are not spending \$5,000 to do that. We want to have two locations for the election. *David Valdez seconded Sherman's motion.*

Courshon asked about ADA compliance for the locations. Johnson replied that the City Attorney has said all public locations for neighborhood council elections have to be ADA compliant. We're working on it, she added.

Derakshan asked have we talked to the Silver Lake branch public library? They are ADA compliant. Their community room can handle 40-50 people. Johnson said the issue will be parking. Derakshan said there is parking across the street at the Bank of America and Citibank.

Derakshan offered a substitute motion to add the library to the list of locations. Jackson seconded.

Doug Loewy said it's not feasible. We have transportation meetings there. There is no real parking. I don't think it's the best location. It's not really set up for an election. Isroelit said I tend to agree with Loewy. Parking is better at the school.

VOTE on substitute motion

8-9

FAILED

Yes Votes:

Heather Carson
Darius Derakshan
Antonio Stifano
Barbara Ringuette
Douglas Reed
Rebecca Rubin
David Valdez
Lee Sherman

No Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Jerome Courshon
Glen Harrell
Hannah Anderson
Doug Loewy
Betsy Isroelit
Taryn Poole
Janis Purins
Terrence Jackson

Present, Not Voting:

None

Courshon suggested using Saint Francis of Assisi. He expressed concern about disenfranchising much of the community if we hold elections here at Ivanhoe. Our location for voting should be as close to the center of Silver Lake as possible. The only location is Saint Francis of Assisi. Micheltorena Elementary School is not ADA compliant, he added.

Heather Carson said I wrote the motion to move the meetings to here. The meetings were supposed to be here and at another location. The

Church is great. It's near the farmer's market. We can position people at at the farmers market.

Rebecca Rubin recommended the Silver Lake Recreation Center. There is parking. There is easy access. Sherman said we discussed that but they have lots of events happening. Rubin said that could be a good thing. It might attract new people.

Taryn Poole asked how many parking spaces are available at St. Francis vs. Ivanhoe? Johnson replied that the problem is we need to find our date. There is ample parking at St. Francis, she said.

Rubin made a substitute motion to add Bellevue Park to the list. Carson seconded.

Johnson said that Bellevue had been dismissed as a location. Courshon asked about parking availability at Bellevue. Johnson said we don't know. Sherman said I run there. There is not a lot of parking, maybe 30 spots. Carson said they can open the gate and there are 6-7 more spots. Ringuette said Bellevue Park parking is terrible. There are kids there playing games on playground.

Janis Purins asked how much parking do we need? Courshon commented that 1,000 people voted in the last election. Sherman said we had two parking lots at Saint Francis and at Micheltorena. Isroelit added that lots of people couldn't park. At peak hours, there were over 100 people. Jackson said that some people didn't vote because they couldn't find parking.

Johnson said that the gym at Bellevue Park is a high use facility. Bellevue is a very active park. Their parking lot is not sufficient as we anticipate doubling the number of voters. I would vote against this substitute motion.

VOTE for Bellevue Park polling location
4-13-0
FAILED

Yes Votes:

Heather Carson
Darius Derakshan
Rebecca Rubin
Lee Sherman

No Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole
David Valdez
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Jerome Courshon

Present, Not Voting:
None

Courshon said that the time of the polling station should be tied on with the location availability. Sherman said that he will add an asterisk about subject to availability

Purins suggested that the time be for 6 hours between 9am to 5pm. Language translation is suggested. Locations should be Ivanhoe Elementary and St. Francis Church. Sherman said that he wants St. Francis Church to be the preferred location. He also wants Spanish translation and a Vote-By-Mail option if the City pays for it. Johnson said that it would be incredible if we can have two locations.

VOTE
Unanimous
PASSED

Yes Votes:
Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
David Valdez
Douglas Reed

Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon

No Votes:
None

Present, Not Voting:
None

9. Consent Calendar: None

10. New Business *

10.1.(UDP) Support for a 3 home small lot project to be located at 1262 Hyperion Ave

Doug Loewy seconded. David Valdez recused himself for this agenda item.

Huya, a project representative:

He said that this is a subdivision project located at Fountain and Hyperion in front of Pep Boys. There would be three 3-bedroom units with 2 parking spaces each. There would be a 1.5 floor area ratio. Rd1.5 is the zoning. There are roofdecks that are designed to be enclosed. You can't see down towards your neighbors. About 25% of the roof is for roofdecks. Greenery surrounds the roofdecks. The project is as green as possible. The driveway is grasscrete.

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What is there now, asked Johnson. Will any long-term tenants be displaced?

Ringuette said that the Urban Design and Preservation Committee thought that this was very well designed. People are in favor of this project. I congratulate the developer and owner.

Poole asked what are the price points? Huya said that he lives there now in a bungalow. No long-term tenants to be replaced. He guesimates that each of the 3-bedroom units would sell on the market at around \$1.1 or \$1.2 million per unit. Jackson said that the current price for a 2 bedroom

and one bath unit now in Silver Lake is about \$1.3 million. Huya clarified that the price will be decided by the market.

VOTE

16-0-0-1

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

Recusals:

David Valdez

10.2.(Housing & Tenants Rights) Submit CIS in support of Tenants Rights to Counsel Program CF 18-0610

Poole seconded.

Jane Demian, SLNC:

This was proposed by Council Member Koretz. Some tenants don't have money for council. This is a pilot program. It can pay for eviction and other related cases.

There is a 120-day study period. There are many tenants being evicted illegally. Because they don't have legal representation they lose in court.

The number of evictions have increased in the last three years. There were more than 30,000 last year. Homelessness is rising. Koretz is putting these things together. The City's Housing Committee will vote this month.

Courshon said I hope that City Council passes this. This is really important. The new Housing Agency that's supposed to help people is not that helpful. Derakshan said that from cost aspect, saving homes is more effective than trying to help people in the street. He supports the measure.

VOTE
16-0-0-1
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

Recusals:

David Valdez

10.3.(Elections Commt) Formation of an Election Committee in accordance with SLNC Bylaws Art. X, sec 6.

Courshon seconded Sherman's motion.

Sherman said that at the last meeting we selected 5 of 7 Election Committee members. *Sherman nominated Katie Smith. Courshon seconded.*

Katherine Smith said that this is my first time volunteering. I appreciate the opportunity. I'm not sure what I'm doing but I'm sure that Lee Sherman will tell me.

VOTE for Katherine Smith
Unanimous
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon
David Valdez

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

Eric Kissack, Co-Chair of the Elections Committee, nominated Daniel Berson to represent Region 6. He is not here tonight but Eric Kissack said that he has two daughters who use the Silver Lake playground every week. Berson is a long term Silver Lake resident. Heather Carson seconded.

VOTE for Daniel Berson
Unanimous
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon
David Valdez

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

VOTE to elect all seven members of Election Committee: Mary Anne Hattener, Nicolas Fox Robbins, Eric Kissack, Manuel Celedon, Daniel Berson, Katherine Smith, and Lee Sherman

Unanimous
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson

Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon
David Valdez

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

10.4.(Elections Commt) Submit CIS in support of CF 18-0467 re: neighborhood council system

10.5.(Gov't Affairs) Submit CIS in support of CF 18-0467 re: neighborhood council system

Johnson said these are competing Community Impact Statements (CIS's) referring to same council file. There is no physical CIS for 10.5 so Johnson is ruling 10.5 out of order. Strike that, she said.

The motion to approve agenda item 10.4 was made by Sherman and seconded by Courshon.

Sherman said that for the election post mortem, it was recommended to improve voter access and make elections more accessible. He wants to incorporate Government Affairs Committee suggestions. Some of them are already incorporated into the motion.

Barbara Ringuette said we discussed all of Council Member Ryu's recommendations. Two of them made after we made recommendations are pretty much the same. Look at #4,#5, #7 and #8.

Johnson mentioned that we have a word count limitation of 300 words for the CIS. It is already at 278 words. We will not wordsmith during this meeting. When will City Council address this motion? Sherman said they put a 90 day limit on it from May 25

Johnson said I recommend that the Elections Committee call another meeting and invite the Co-Chairs of the Governmental Affairs Committee. The Board will now vote on the content of the CIS. If there are significant changes, the Executive Committee will meet before the 90-day limit.

Carson asked can you approve the CIS with a caveat? Johnson said it's very cut and dry. We can support or not but they like feedback. We can support with a caveat.

Courshon suggested a tweak. If we can vote on various points and then suggest that the two Committees meet. If there are significant changes, it should come back to the Board. He disagrees with #5. We changed bylaws to require an age limit of 18 for Board members. I don't agree with the funds rollover issue either, he said. He also mentioned accepting in kind or monetary donations.

Johnson responded that she ruled 10.5 out of order. We are only dealing with 10.4. Any Board member who wants to write on their own behalf, should please do so.

Johnson said I rescind my recommendation. Let's vote on this. I'm not calling a special Board meeting for this. We are now only discussing 10.4. Courshon said that the credit for 10.4 goes to Derrick and Lee Sherman, not me. It supports Ryu's motion. Ryu is one of the few council members who cares about neighborhood councils.

VOTE
Unanimous
PASSED

Yes Votes:
Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben

Lee Sherman
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon
David Valdez

No Votes:
None

Present, Not Voting:
None

10.6.(Transportation & Neighborhood Safety) Submit CIS is support of sustainable infrastructure CF 17-1311

Tony made the recommendation. Courshon seconded.

Tony referred to a report by a consultant about infrastructure reform. Put the Transportation Committee under the Public Works Committee. It doesn't function effectively now. We want to make the City more efficient. Several neighborhood councils made a CIS regarding the 400-page report. It has lots of good information. It is a great thing to do.

Johnson commented that I attended the meeting and Lila's presentation. Isroelit said that she is very much in favor of this. Ringuette said Lila also presented to the Budget Advocates. It was an excellent presentation. Some things need further study but I would support this.

VOTE
Unanimous
PASSED

Yes Votes:
Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole

Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon
David Valdez

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

10.7.(Transportation & Neighborhood Safety) Letter in support of banning mylar balloons in Los Angeles County

Tony made the motion. David Valdez seconded.

Tony said that he went to a Dodger game a few days ago and there was a power outage because of a mylar balloon. Assembly Member Friedman supports this. However, this banning is opposed by lobbyist. There will be warning statements on balloons.

Hannah Anderson said this is great. There are many power outages caused in Los Angeles by mylar balloons. Janis Purins asked how enforceable will it be? This looks really complicated.

VOTE

Unanimous

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Antonio Stifano
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben

Lee Sherman
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon
David Valdez

No Votes:
None

Present, Not Voting:
None

(Note: Antonio Stefani left the meeting at 8:49pm.)

10.8.(Johnson) Motion to Reconsider 7/11 Board agenda motion item 9.8
re:”Slow Down SL” yard signs per Art VIII sec 4

Johnson read the motion. Vice Chair Derakshan is now leading the meeting.

Johnson said that she can present this because she was on the prevailing side of the motion from the last meeting and this is a regularly scheduled meeting. The motion is on the agenda and permitted by our bylaws. I sent to the secretary a copy of the motion to consider. Heather Carson has requested public records. That has been sent to the City Attorney. They have 10 days to respond. Do we reconsider? *Betsy Isroelit seconded.*

This is about process not content, added Johnson. Valdez commented that I sit on a separate committee where we had the chance to do something similar. It is sometimes necessary to reconsider.

Courshon expressed concern that money has already been spent. The signs have been made. Can we reconsider this? It’s already gone forward. Carson said that’s my understanding too. I made the public records request because I don’t see anything in the motion that says why it’s being reconsidered. I would ask, what did you learn after you voted that would cause this reconsideration vote?

Johnson said the reconsiders are in two issues: does it fit the description provided by the bylaws. It does. This has nothing to do with the actual motion. This is all about is the member who submitted the motion allowed to do so. Carson said that's not correct. There must be a reason to change the vote submitted to the secretary.

Sherman said that in his business, as an attorney we have to show that there is a new fact in the courtroom. I am curious about whether there is a new fact. Johnson said that it's in the second motion. Courshon said what we voted on is done. I don't know how we can find an answer to that. I suggest we table the motion until we know. Valdez said that from a process standpoint, it's important to look at facts.

(Note: John Darnell, advisor from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) arrived at 8:56pm.)

Janis Purins said we may want to clarify what equitable means. I didn't fully consider that when we voted. So I might want to go back and clarify what equitable means.

Courshon asked Darnell we passed a motion last month to spend \$800 for more yard signs. The yard signs have been made. Now there is a reconsideration motion on that issue. Can we reconsider it because the money is already spent?

Johnson read the bylaws (article 8, section 4) to Darnell. She then said that submitting a motion for reconsideration has nothing to do with the content of that motion. I don't talk about striking the funds, I talk about a word that was added to the motion, which was "equitable". That is what I want to discuss. I believe that I am in my proper right to submit this motion to reconsider.

How is it different from last month, asked Darnell. Johnson said we are now reconsidering the word "equitably". Am I in my proper right to do this? I'm not here to argue the content of the motion.

Darnell said the City Attorney would ask what does "equitably" mean? It's a public event. People can't be excluded geographically because of the use of taxpayer funds. That is a question for the City Attorney, even if the vote had been unanimous and if your intent is right. If you're following your bylaws, it is not a bylaws violation it's more about what you do with the signs.

Valdez said we're conflating the issues. Agenda item 10.8 is just a motion to revisit it. If that happens then there is a discussion. Derakshan concurred that first we must vote on the legality of this. Courshon said that's the question. It's not the content. We are concerned that the Co-Chair is following the bylaws.

Johnson said the money spent is irrelevant. Darnell said this is more of a City Attorney question. Maybe the word equitably shouldn't have been in there in the first place. Derakshan said to forget equitable and the next motion. Derakshan said that according to Darnell this motion complies with the bylaws. We should move to a vote.

Carson said you have to send a note to the secretary with the reason for requesting a reconsideration. What that means to me is that usually that's because you've learned a new fact. We don't know why she wants to reconsider. Otherwise, every goddamned motion could be reconsidered every month. Darnell said you can't ask why. Carson said in our bylaws, we can ask. Darnell said that under Roberts Rules, you don't have the right to ask the Board member why.

Sherman said that the answer to that question was relevant for my vote. Was there a request from the City Attorney? Did they object to the language? That would inform my vote on both measures.

Darnell said if there's a violation, the City Attorney would ask for the motion to be re-agendized for a correction. No one will die or go to jail.

Johnson said the motion was submitted in a timely fashion. I provided the motion to the Secretary in a timely fashion for the following regularly scheduled meeting.

Derakshan said these are very good comments. Most people who joined the neighborhood council did not want to debate these things for 20-30 minutes, so let's vote. Johnson read the motion again.

VOTE to Reconsider, agenda item 10.8

9-6-1

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson

Hannah Anderson

Doug Loewy

Douglas Reed

David Valdez
Betsy Isroelit
Taryn Poole
Janis Purins
Terrence Jackson

No Votes:

Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon
Darius Derakshan
Barbara Ringuette
Rebecca Rubin
Lee Sherman

Present, Not Voting:

Glen Harrell

10.9.(Johnson) Move to remove the word “equitable” from 7/11 Board agenda motion item 9.8

Jackson seconded Johnson’s motion.

Johnson said it’s an unnecessary requirement and was made based on misinformation and the promulgation of an inaccurate assumption. The availability of yard signs and how to secure those yard signs was shared on a variety of social media platforms, the SLNC newsletter and the Los Feliz Ledger.

Board members were encouraged to approach their people about the availability of yard signs. Because of great demand, the yard signs were distributed on a first come, first serve basis.

To now deny a request for a sign in a region that already has signs based on an unscientific formula of equitability is unreasonable, a poor use of time and funds and may open the Board to claims of discrimination. It’s a question about what is equitable, said Johnson.

As of yesterday, Region 6 has received 40 signs, region 7 has received 24 signs, region 1 has received 22 signs, region 4 has received 14 signs, region 5 has received 6 signs, region 2 has received 11 signs, and region 3 has received 4 signs.

Johnson then looked at voter tallies by region. The distribution reflects voter participation, she noted. So, I’d like to remove the obligation of

equitable. It's a question for the City Attorney about the use of tax payer funds. We cannot discriminate. The information about how to distribute the signs was distributed equitably.

Isroelit said that she replied to over 100 people who requested signs. We drove to every region to deliver signs. It took more than 60 hours. All requests and deliveries were documented. There have been no criticisms from the community. The Atwater Village Neighborhood Council, which originated the campaign, supported our coordinated efforts. They want to meet with us to encourage all neighborhood councils to have slow down signs.

Perins said equitable sounded like a good idea. When I thought about it, I didn't know what that meant. It opens a can of worms. Ringuette said I regret using the word equitable at the last meeting. I saw two signs very near each other on Silver Lake Boulevard but no signs on Sunset.

It occurred to me that maybe we were missing the boat. We need to slow down traffic everywhere. I'm disappointed that we are discussing first come first serve because we represent all people of this community. Congress apportions funds based on populations and specific needs. We should consider that as we move forward, said Perins.

Taryn Pooile said you cannot force equitable participation. That's not logical. Jackson said we don't want to have quotas. Information is available to everyone on an equal basis. This is discrimination.

Courshon commented on the idea of first come, first serve. We are here to engage everyone in this community, not just where we live. The fact that other regions had less voting means that we need to do more to engage people. We voted on this believing that we would all receive signs to distribute in each region. Our Board members didn't get those signs. If the word equitably is taken out there should have been put in place a mechanism for Board members to get signs, for people who didn't get signs.

He proposed an amendment: Any board member who wants signs and didn't receive them, should be allowed to receive some from the new batch before they are gone. Carson seconded.

Johnson objected saying that the Board was notified that signs were available, we got no takers. We need the email address of the person requesting. We need their written permission. This process has worked

beautifully. Every request has been honored. We've kept track of this. We should continue the process until the signs run out.

Glen Harrell said that moving forward, have the Board in their region disperse them equally. If they aren't able to do this, they can ask at-large representatives to disperse them.

Isroelit said every Board member was given the opportunity. I begged people to take signs. Some people did. Courshon spread a falsehood that people weren't asked to participate. This was an extremely successful campaign. You can't distribute signs without permission, said Isroelit. This bitterness is destroying something that was very successful. Jackson commented that people didn't step up to do it. You had your chance. You get one bite at the apple.

Douglas Reed said this issue came up after a very successfully executed project that is showing results. He said he saw the signs and thought they were cool. There was no problem in his area so he didn't request signs. We didn't work as a Board for the first approval and move on. Some people who didn't get their way, now think that they should. This is not Board comradery and this is not Silver Lake.

Carson said I was not aware that we'd been contacted multiple times that signs were ready for distribution. I had a difficult month. I went back and searched through my emails. I can't find one. I didn't feel inundated and I didn't feel like I dropped the ball. Signs can be brought to a meeting and handed out.

It sounds like you wanted to keep control. Your numbers confirm that in your area, region 7, I see a ton of signs, in my area I don't see any. Bellevue is a massive corridor to the freeway.

I reached out and I'm waiting to find people. I'm working on that. Benton way is a disaster right now, for example. I'm doing outreach there to find out who might want signs. When I say equitable, I mean distribution in a balanced manner by region. When government distributes, they do it on bodies, not on voting. This is not right, said Carson.

Rebecca Rubin said this is heartbreaking. This is a social justice issue. First come first serve is not equitable. We have stakeholders everywhere and dangerous traffic everywhere. I thought that equitable meant equitable distribution. I second Glen Harrell's idea. I'm appreciative of work that you have done.

Isroelit asked how many signs are left? Johnson said 20.

Sherman said the more I hear about this, the more concerned that I am. There is board disfunction. It breaks my heart. This is a social justice issue. I was under the impression that signs would be available at meetings and that we could pick them up.

The attitude that I've heard tonight is to the victors go the spoils. That is not consistent with our mandate. Because fewer people voted in certain regions, it's okay that they get fewer signs. That is a self fulfilling prophecy. Those regions will continue to lack participation, said Sherman. Isroelit said that was not what was said. The engagement from certain regions is reflected by voting. Some people are more engaged.

Courshon said this is really simple. We're now changing the rules. That's unethical. Not every board member will want 2-3 signs. Regions that don't have enough should have some. This is a social justice situation. I appreciate the work that you've done.

I never received an email that the signs are in. The only time I knew that signs were ready was when Johnson said at the meeting that they have been distributed. We should make the remaining signs available to people who haven't received them before other requests are fulfilled, said Courshon.

Darnell urged to put the signs on private property. There can be a fine for placing the signs on public property.

Carson asked were the signs handed out already equitably distributed? We can't vote on amendment until we know how many signs are left. Isroelit said probably about 20 signs. The signs have always been available to Board members. I've asked people to please come to my house to pick up the signs. I don't understand.

Derakshan moved to a vote for 10.9 amendment: Board members who haven't received any signs should be given an opportunity to receive a few signs from the new batch.

VOTE for amendment to 10.9
6-10-0
FAILED

Yes Votes:
Jerome Courshon

Heather Carson
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Rebecca Rubin
Lee Sherman

No Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Hannah Anderson
Doug Loewy
Douglas Reed
David Valdez
Betsy Isroelit
Taryn Poole
Janis Purins
Terrence Jackson

Present, Not Voting:

None

Jackson said the word “equitable” is undefined. It has no meaning.

Courshon said first come first serve is bullshit. We’re changing the game after this has been done. People should get signs to feel that their regions are represented which is what I did the other day. We should have some representation where it needs to be.

Changing the rules is a reconsideration motion. It was bullshit to begin with and it’s bullshit right now and it shouldn’t happen. This is dividing the Board. The leadership should bring us together. If that’s not happening then this Board will disintegrate. I’ve seen it happen over the years. I’m pissed off, said Courshon.

Carson said we have a bigger problem. The signs were not handed out in an equitable way. If there was a question about the meaning of equitable after the vote, bring it back to the Board for clarification. You don’t start handing out the signs. I wrote to Jay Handal about this. Darnell said that Handal doesn’t work for DONE anymore.

Carson said that Handel said that if an action has already happened, there can be no reconsideration. If you didn’t know what equitable meant and you handed them out, you’re in violation. That would deserve a censure.

Derakshan reminded the Board that these are yard signs that we are talking about. Carson said no we're not. Valdez said I was against spending because of the difficult fiscal year. Metrics have not been established. I'm in favor of us removing "equitable". There is no defined measure. Poole noted that the distribution of information was equitable. Some Board members chose to get signs, others did not. You cannot force equitable distribution. It's illogical.

Purins said it wasn't established to me that anyone who wanted a sign from the second batch was denied a sign. For logistics, it's simpler to have a single point of contact. I would personally like to know that I can go to one place for sign.

Ringuette said I did request a sign. I didn't get it. I really would like to see signs along Silver Lake Boulevard south of the reservoir. We really need something. Isroelit replied I asked you to stop by my house.

Glen Harrell said I don't understand. Why are we throwing these two ladies under the bus? This was their time as volunteers. They are doing something that's good right? The kids at this school could come to a solution faster than we can. What are we going to do with the remaining 20 signs right now?

Douglas Reed said it is a power grab. This is an outreach opportunity too. Find those neighbors who are interested and distribute them. Carson said I asked for two signs but I was told that I needed an address.

Rebecca Rubin said this is such a successful project. It's not a power grab. I hope we can come to a conclusion with the rest of the signs. It's sad that we are fighting about signs. I am grateful for everyone's work. I thought that equitable was discussed last month. Sherman said we needed a term to guide this.

Derakshan re-read the original motion. Carson said the motion was not re-agendized. She submitted a revised motion. We must re-debate the original motion, not a proposed solution. Darnell said the definition of equitable wasn't clear after the last meeting. I should have stepped in. Deralkshan noted that we've debated Johnson's two agenda items for an hour, so we should move to a roll call vote.

VOTE for 10.9
10-5-1
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Darius Derakshan
Hannah Anderson
Doug Loewy
Douglas Reed
David Valdez
Betsy Isroelit
Taryn Poole
Janis Purins
Terrence Jackson

No Votes:

Jerome Courshon
Heather Carson
Barbara Ringuette
Rebecca Rubin
Lee Sherman

Present, Not Voting:

Glen Harrell

10.10.(Gov't Affairs) Submit CIS in support of CF 18-0002-S76 re reunification of children separated from parents.

Johnson said we are adjourning at 10pm. She would not entertain a motion to extend.

Barbara Ringuette read the motion. Valdez seconded.

Perins said I sympathize with it but I don't understand the role of the neighborhood council.

VOTE

13-2-1

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Darius Derakshan
Terrence Jackson
Hanna Anderson
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman

Douglas Reed
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon
David Valdez

No Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
Janis Purins

Present, Not Voting:

Betsy Isroelit

10.11.(Gov't Affairs) Submit CIS in support of the Budget Advocate White Paper and CF 18-0600.

Valdez read the motion. Reed seconded.

Sherman read Nina's statement. I have concerns with it. There are several recommendations targeted towards public employees. I cannot support this, he said.

Valdez withdrew the motion.

11. Approval of the July 11, 2018 draft minutes:

Jackson seconded.

Courshon offered one correction: everything after "thank you" in his public statement should be struck. Carson wants approval of the minutes postponed until next month. Johnson said we don't postpone because an individual didn't have the time to review the minutes.

Courshon made a motion to extend the meeting by 15 minutes. Poole seconded.

VOTE
10-4-2
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Darius Derakshan

Hanna Anderson
Taryn Poole
Lee Sherman
Douglas Reed
Janis Purins
Douglas J. Loewy
Glen Harrell
Heather Carson
Jerome Courshon

No Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson
David Valdez
Betsy Isroelit
Terrence Jackson

Present, Not Voting:

Barbara Ringuette
Rebecca Rubin

Carson began to quote Johnson from agenda item 9.8 in the minutes about picking up signs. Johnson interrupted to say that the meeting had lost quorum as several Board members had left the room. Courshon noted that several missing members had left their things here.

16. Adjournment *: This August 1, 2018 SLNC Board Meeting will be adjourned in the memory of Ms. Melyda Corado

Johnson said that we'd like to adjourn this meeting in honor of the woman who died tragically during the Trader Joe's hostage situation.

The meeting ended at 9:59pm without quorum.