

Silver Lake Neighborhood Council
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Approved Minutes
Wednesday, October 4, 2017,
7:00 p.m.
Ivanhoe Elementary School
2828 Herkimer St
Los Angeles, CA 90039

1. Call to Order

The meeting began at 7:02 pm with 17 Board members present. 9 votes needed to carry.

2. Roll Call

Attending Board Members:

Anne Marie Johnson, Co-Chair
Scott Plante, Co-Chair
Terrence Jackson, Treasurer
Betsy Smith Isroelit, Secretary
Hanna Anderson, Assistant Secretary
Patty Jausoro
Douglas J. Loewy
Elizabeth Torres
Rusty Millar
Bob Lisauskas (arrived late)
Glenn Harrell
Stacey Boucher
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben (arrived late)
Lee Sherman
Kathleen Hudson
Caroline Pham (arrived late)
Antonio Stifano

Non-Attending Board Members:

Jerome Courshon, Vice Chair

3. Welcome and rules for actions on agenda

4. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items*

AJ, www.lawmaker.io:

He said that he is a West Silver Lake Drive resident. This is a weird year politically. People feel they don't have a voice. People felt like no one is listening to them. So he has created a new website called lawmaker.io. This is a micro lobby that promotes to publicize ideas for new public policies. We launched today after two years of work. It goes out to press tomorrow. There are no ads. It's totally free.

We will partner with Council Member David Ryu's office and other politicians. We want to be in all 50 states within 12 months.

(Note: Caroline Pham is here at 7:07pm.)

Genelle LaVin:

She said that she's brought flyers for the Laurel and Hardy event. The information is in both English and Spanish. She thanked the neighborhood council for promotion and printing. There is money left over for social media.

She is seeking volunteers on the day of the event. Equipment delivery begins about 9am. Former Board members will also help out. She thanked the Board again for its donation.

Rusty Millar asked whether Dick Van Dyke will attend? LeVin replied I don't know. We don't have his number. It was a real plus last year.

We show the movie "The Music Box", an Oscar winning short film that was shot across the street from the event. Also, children will perform the violin. They also performed at the congress of neighborhood councils.

(Note: Rebecca Ruben is here at 7:09pm.)

5. Special Presentations: City/State Rep reports

Brett Schears, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE):

He spoke about the results of the City Council vote on Tuesday regarding neighborhood council elections. This debate had been continued from the week before. There was some reasons. Two Council Members, including

Paul Krekorian, were opposed. Schears explained that the Council prefers consensus votes.

He added that there will be a November 1 deadline for neighborhood councils opting for a selection process in 2018.

Assuming that the elections will be rescheduled to 2019 once the City Council reaches consensus, the neighborhood council bylaws moratorium will be lifted because elections will be pushed back. Information about this will be in newsletter on Friday. Your bylaws will be available for change for 6-8 months.

Schears also mentioned that Civic University is coming up at City Hall. The mayor also have a separate but similar event in October called "Days of Compassion". All neighborhood council people are invited. These will both be 3-day events. They will include site visits.

Schears also said that he is the host of the Empower LA podcast, which interviews people involved with the neighborhood council system. He offered an invitation to participate. The theme of the program is to bring on guests who have a perspective of dealing with the neighborhood council system. (i.e. Thomas Soong, the former DONE representative for the Echo Park Neighborhood Council)

Schears said that he is also actively involved in cannabis regulation, which is the wild wild west right now. They are struggling to put together regulations. We encourage you all to look into it.

(Note: Heather Carson is here.)

Budget Advocate, Barbara Ringuette: the video is on our neighborhood council website. It discusses City government and organizational charts. It's complex but breaks down departments and bureaus. I think the video turned out well.

This month we are beginning meetings with department and bureau representatives. To meet with airport and seaport people this month as well.

(Note: There are now 20 board members present, 11 votes are needed to carry.)

6. Legal: Motion to designate SLNC co-chairs as legal liaisons to DONE and City Attorney

Co-Chair Anne-Marie Johnson read the motion. Betsy Isroelit seconded.

This came from a conversation with City Attorney Elise Ruden, who covers Region 7 (this one). In 2014, they recommended that each neighborhood council designate a liaison to communicate with the City Attorney's office. From then, the co-chairs were designated as that liaison. This doesn't preclude other Board members from interacting with the City Attorney. The liaison sends their requests to the City Attorney who will speak with specific Board members. This doesn't apply to recusals.

Johnson explained that the City Attorney doesn't want to be burdened with dealing with each neighborhood council member. This is a way to manage communication. You will be guaranteed a response. This could be a living breathing motion. It can be part of our standing rules but I don't recommend that. This can be changed at any moment. We have to designate a liaison.

Rusty Millar said I support this motion. The Co-Chair should get back to the person and get back to them and not ignore them, when there are queries. Johnson added that the response from the liaison to the Board member should be within 24 hours.

VOTE
20-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne Marie Johnson
Scott Plante
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Patty Jausoro
Douglas J. Loewy
Elizabeth Torres
Rusty Millar
Bob Lisauskas
Glenn Harrell
Stacey Boucher
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben

Lee Sherman
Kathleen Hudson
Caroline Pham
Antonio Stifano

No Votes:
None

Abstentions:
None

6.1. Review of DONE required Code Of Civility (visit www.silverlakenc.org for document)

Johnson said this is an FYI. Some of us have been on the Board since 2016. We need to dust off our Code of Civility, especially for new members and those who never read it. It can be easily accessed on our website.

Everyone should review and be familiar with it. It covers your behaviour all around. You represent the board at all times. You are an elected member representing the community. Understanding and empathy are required. People assume that you represent the Board. Grievances can't be filed against individual Board members, only the entire Board.

Terry Jackson said that God didn't anticipate the internet: so, do the right thing. Don't be a jerk.

Johnson continued, for all social media platforms, even as you speak as a private citizen, people will target you because you are elected. You have to be respectful.

5. Special Presentations: City/State Rep reports -- REVISITED

Adam Miller, Neighborhood Advocate for Council Member David Ryu, Fourth District (CD4) (adam.miller@lacity.org 323-957-6415, 213-473-7004):

He spoke of tweets, paints, and trees, new trash cans. He also mentioned concrete streets. Repairing them has been a priority. With legislation 16-0395-S1 we funded a small study. The Bureau of Street Services had repeatedly told us that concrete streets are very expensive to repair. The study found that they were less expensive to repair than we'd been led to believe.

Regarding online neighborhood council elections, Council File 04-1935-F1 is still in committee. Put it on your radar.

Lee Sherman asked about the elections being postponed. What about online voting? Adam Millar didn't know. He said send me an email and I'll search.

Betsy Isroelit asked about the concrete study? Millar said the study is done. They'd said it was 15 times more expensive. It's actually far less expensive.

He said that we requested Measure M returns. The Council Member wanted 60% of Measure M funds to be used for concrete streets.

Patty Jausoro asked about a neighborhood council file, grievances against whom? Millar said he doesn't know yet.

Rusty Millar said that about 12 years ago. The Department of Street Services did a Silver Lake survey. We had some of the worst streets in the city. Where are we now with that?

Adam Miller said that Council District 4 has the lion's share of concrete streets in the city, including Hancock Park and Los Feliz. The city hasn't worked in concrete in 80-100 years. Griffith Park Boulevard and Micheltorena Street are among the priorities.

Betsy Isroelit asked him please don't repair Lower Angus.

Johnson said I spoke with the Department of Water and Power (DWP) today. They are replacing pipe from Dwayne to Fletcher Streets. I'll cc you on the information that I have.

7. Administration:

7.1. Treasurer Report and Approval of September MER

Terrence Jackson said the the City website is automated. The City is not requiring a line item budget but we must identify all vendors and how we track our time. Surveying overall budgets for all neighborhood councils, we're in the middle. We have some \$2,700 uncommitted at this point. This is discretionary. Think about it.

Jackson made a motion that we are going to have a regular report in an accounting format to track where we are with line items. Millar seconded.

VOTE for August MER (Monthly Expense Report)

20-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne Marie Johnson

Scott Plante

Terrence Jackson

Betsy Smith Isroelit

Hanna Anderson

Patty Jausoro

Douglas J. Loewy

Elizabeth Torres

Rusty Millar

Bob Lisauskas

Glenn Harrell

Stacey Boucher

Barbara Ringuette

Heather Carson

Taryn Poole

Rebecca Ruben

Lee Sherman

Kathleen Hudson

Caroline Pham

Antonio Stifano

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

7.2. (Budget & Finance Committee) Motion to approve the detailed Fiscal 2017-2018 Budget by Category detail

Approval of June line item budget. Jackson made the motion. Millar seconded.

VOTE

20-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne Marie Johnson
Scott Plante
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Patty Jausoro
Douglas J. Loewy
Elizabeth Torres
Rusty Millar
Bob Lisauskas
Glenn Harrell
Stacey Boucher
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Kathleen Hudson
Caroline Pham
Antonio Stifano

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

8. Consent: NONE

9. Old Business: NONE

Johnson commented that there is no Consent Calendar (Agenda Item 8) and no Old Business (Agenda Item 9).

10. New Business:

10.1 (Urban Design) Approval of Silver Lake Wine's CUP for extended hours.

Scott Plante made the motion. Doug Loewy seconded.

Randy, the representative for the applicant, said that this is an opportunity to expand. When the extra space was offered to us by the landlord, we

said yes. We want to add sq footage. We want to keep operations the same. They want to add a new Type 86 license for tastings of ½ once pours of spirits. We want to do this. We've lived in Silver Lake for our entire adult lives. That's almost 15 years. We are thankful. I love Silver Lake.

Stacey Boucher said that Silver Lake Wines has helped immensely. They do all kinds of fund raisers.

Johnson asked about the extended hours? Randy said we are open 10am to 10pm. During holidays there is lots of business so we want another legal hour, to have a buffer. We have no intention to expand hours.

Taryn Poole asked you want to allow more people? She mentioned that they have a much larger floor area.

VOTE
19-1-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Scott Plante
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Patty Jausoro
Douglas J. Loewy
Elizabeth Torres
Rusty Millar
Bob Lisauskas
Glenn Harrell
Stacey Boucher
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Kathleen Hudson
Caroline Pham
Antonio Stifano

No Votes:

Anne-Marie Johnson

Abstentions:

None

10.2 (Outreach) Motion to fund up to \$250.00 for replacement of stolen/damaged “No Dogs Allowed” signs.

Plante made the motion. Millar seconded.

Taryn Poole asked, is it illegal to remove this signs. Johnson said yes. Can we state that on the signs? Isroelit said that not all banners were removed. One disappeared. The recreation center required that one be placed in the meadow. So, only one is lost.

Doug Loewy said I was confused by the sign. It looks like something that will constantly be taken down. Rancho Park had this issue too. The LAPD came periodically and passed out expensive tickets. I’d rather talk to our LAPD Senior Liaison Officer and ask him to patrol occasionally and ticket.

Johnson said I spoke with the LAPD. They want the signs there because it makes their lives easier. There is no argument for tickets. There has been an uptick in dog bites. I’m in constant communication with Joe Harris at the LAPD. It will take a year to break people of the habit of breaking the law.

Loewy said the sign should be different. He expressed concern that they will be stolen. Isroelit said the recreation center staff really likes the signs. They make it easier to approach people.

Elizabeth Torres thanked Loewy for mentioning the Rancho Park example. The Silver Lake Recreation Center staff are not the LAPD who give tickets. It’s going to keep happening. The signs are large. She is a dog owner. She said that she is reluctant to spend more on this banner.

Jausoro said the signs may have been removed because they are so large. She wants the signs to say something more positive. Isroelit said that barefoot wording was discussed. However, the City doesn’t want to encourage that liability, added Johnson.

Heather Carson raised a procedural issue. There are different dollar amounts to the request on the long and short forms of the agenda. Johnson said we can all it an error of \$25.

Rusty Millar made an amendment for the short form agenda to match the language of the posted agenda, pushing the amount requested to \$275. Plante seconded. Brett Shears commented that what is on the notice form is a cap. It's not a huge deal. If there are challenges that would be for the City Attorney.

VOTE for Millar's amendment

20-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne Marie Johnson
Scott Plante
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Patty Jausoro
Douglas J. Loewy
Elizabeth Torres
Rusty Millar
Bob Lisauskas
Glenn Harrell
Stacey Boucher
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Kathleen Hudson
Caroline Pham
Antonio Stifano

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

VOTE for amended motion

16-4-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne Marie Johnson

Scott Plante
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Patty Jausoro
Elizabeth Torres
Rusty Millar
Glenn Harrell
Stacey Boucher
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Taryn Poole
Lee Sherman
Kathleen Hudson
Antonio Stifano

No Votes:

Doug Loewy
Rebecca Rueben
Bob Lisauskas
Caroline Pham

Abstentions:

None

10.3.(Outreach) Motion request of \$300.00 to help fund the Bellevue Park Halloween Event.

Plante made the motion. Jausoro seconded.

Isroelit said this is a request from Nina Sorkin. We've done this for years. We would have a little house. She has requested granola bars. The Outreach Committee felt this was a reasonable amount. Elizabeth Torres asked about more nutritious alternatives?

VOTE for \$300 for granola bars

20-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne Marie Johnson
Scott Plante
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit

Hanna Anderson
Patty Jausoro
Douglas J. Loewy
Elizabeth Torres
Rusty Millar
Bob Lisauskas
Glenn Harrell
Stacey Boucher
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Kathleen Hudson
Caroline Pham
Antonio Stifano

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

10.4. (50+) moves that SLNC join in support of engaging the community in a beta testing program called “NeighborGenie”.

Plante said this is postponed to next month.

10.5. (Friends Of Ivanhoe) NPG request of \$500.00 for the Ivanhoe Elementary School “Ivanhoedown” event.

Jausoro said this is their largest event. Every parent is involved. They’ve asked for neighborhood council participation. They would feature the neighborhood council on posters and their logo. It’s a huge deal.

Johnson made a substitute motion to lower the amount to \$300. Millar seconded.

Jausoro explained. Why does Ivanhoe Elementary ask for so much? They have to raise over \$500,000 per year. Other schools don’t. Ivanhoe has too few students. This pays for the library and lots of necessities. They really do need all the money. She suggests not reducing the amount. We use this space.

Johnson said we pay them for the space and time. We have to be very prudent with our funds as they are limited. We can provide more funding to other elementary schools within our boundaries. That's why we need to be more laser sharp. That's why I requested the lower amount.

Rebecca Ruben asked what over schools have we given to? Jausoro said that other schools have different structures and different funding. Heather Carson pointed out the the Micheltorena Elementary School will also lose funding because of lost property values.

VOTE for Johnson's amendment to \$300

14-6-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne Marie Johnson
Scott Plante
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Douglas J. Loewy
Rusty Millar
Glenn Harrell
Stacey Boucher
Barbara Ringuette
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Kathleen Hudson
Caroline Pham

No Votes:

Heather Carson
Patty Jausoro
Antonio Stifano
Elizabeth Torres
Lee Sherman
Bob Lisauskas

Abstentions:

None

VOTE for amended motion of \$300

20-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne Marie Johnson
Scott Plante
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Patty Jausoro
Douglas J. Loewy
Elizabeth Torres
Rusty Millar
Bob Lisauskas
Glenn Harrell
Stacey Boucher
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Kathleen Hudson
Caroline Pham
Antonio Stifano

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Johnson asked will this be discussed between now and the next meeting?

10.6 (Handal) Motion to send a letter of complaint regarding public statements made by Senator De Leon Video link: http://www.nbclosangeles.com/on-air/as-seen-on/NewsConference-Californias-HistoricLegislative-Session_Los-Angeles-447419693.html

Plante said that this is from Jay Handal, DONE representative. *Plante made the motion. Millar seconded.*

Lee Sherman asked has the State Senator ever attended these meetings? Does this motion encompass sending a letter to the State Senator? He's trying to position himself for higher office. He's trying to scapegoat the neighborhood councils for housing. Invite him to our meetings and face constituents face-to-face.

Barbara Ringuette said I've met with his office. I've talked to him about housing, etc. I felt very well received. I find this puzzling and extremely disappointing. I suspect he has no understanding of what we do.

Millar said that Senator De Leon is kind of a jerk. There are a lot of places where you can build affordable housing, just not in Southern California. Not everyone needs a home in Southern California.

Jausoro asked can you clarify what he said? Johnson summarized that Senator De Leon said that neighborhood councils are nimbys (Not In My Back Yard) and we follow nimby policies that prevent development of housing.

Rebecca Ruben added that it was a short two sentence uttering. Ringuette added that he said he'd been told by Council Members that we'd been handcuffed by nimbyism from within our own community.

Johnson said I'm trying to set up an on-air counter against Senator De Leon. I will announce to the Board if that happens. Jackson commented on the high cost of the new properties being developed in the City, about \$6,000 month for a 3-bedroom apartment.

Johnson said we'd like to move forward with Jay Handal's letter. Sherman asked can we send out our own letter as a neighborhood council? Johnson said sure. Can Lee Sherman draft the letter and send it to the Board, she asked. We need to send this to him as soon as possible. You will use Handal's letter as a template and can add what you've stated publicly, she advised.

Isroelit said that Jackson's point about expensive housing is very important. Plante noted that it costs about \$300,000-\$400,000 to build a unit. It's a very complicated issue.

VOTE for a letter to the Executive Committee
20-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anne Marie Johnson
Scott Plante
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson

Patty Jausoro
Douglas J. Loewy
Elizabeth Torres
Rusty Millar
Bob Lisauskas
Glenn Harrell
Stacey Boucher
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Kathleen Hudson
Caroline Pham
Antonio Stifano

No Votes:
None

Abstentions:
None

11. Approval of SLNC September 6, 2017 Draft Minutes. See attached.

Heather Carson noted a spelling error: it's "Carol Kravitz", not "Carol Kravits".

Lee Sherman noted that on page 11, he asked for the budget template, he didn't make a statement about it.

VOTE to approve the September minutes
20-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:
Anne Marie Johnson
Scott Plante
Terrence Jackson
Betsy Smith Isroelit
Hanna Anderson
Patty Jausoro
Douglas J. Loewy
Elizabeth Torres
Rusty Millar

Bob Lisauskas
Glenn Harrell
Stacey Boucher
Barbara Ringuette
Heather Carson
Taryn Poole
Rebecca Ruben
Lee Sherman
Kathleen Hudson
Caroline Pham
Antonio Stifano

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

12. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Johnson said that Plante and I will send an email to the board with new requirements for putting the agenda together to get the agenda to nc support sooner. Our current system is not working for the last committee meetings before the Board meeting. Look out for an FYI email by next week.

13. Announcements

Sherman said that at the last meeting a Region 3 person expressed concern about crossing the street around Hoover. Rebecca Rubin and I met with Council District 13 representative Mary Rodriguez about this and trash cans. Rodriguez is on it. Johnson said this should be placed on the agenda as an update through the Transportation Committee. Then the community can participate.

This will take awhile, she warned. Sherman said that Rodriguez said it could take about 6 months. Johnson said that timetable is not acceptable. She suggested 3 months. Millar said that there is a procedure for putting in a crosswalk there. There is a process.

14. Adjournment *

Plante made the motion to adjourn. Millar seconded.

The meeting ended at 8:22pm.