



Serving the Silver Lake Community Since 2003

P.O. Box 26385
Los Angeles, California 90026

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HOMELESSNESS IN SILVER LAKE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, January 30, 2018, from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Silver Lake Public Library, 2411 Glendale Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90039

Co-Chairs: Darius Derakshan & Nithya Raman, dderakshan@gmail.com/nithyawriting@gmail.com

MINUTES

The City's Neighborhood Council system enables civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, comprised of volunteer stakeholders who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities and bringing government closer to us.

The Committee does not take action on behalf of the full Neighborhood Council Board. It considers proposals and forwards Committee-approved recommendations as proposed motions to the full Board. The Board will consider the Committee's recommendations at a future public Board meeting and may take final action on the recommendations.

1. **WELCOMING REMARKS:** (5 minutes)
 - A. Call to order
 - B. Committee roll call: Darius, Nithya, Dorit, Cathy, Michael, Hayes, Nicole
 - C. Self-Introductions of guests
2. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** No public comment
3. **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:** None
4. **PRESENTATIONS:** (15 minutes)
 - A. 2017 Hygiene Kit Drive Update: Darius provided an update, over 500 kits produced, and being distributed to homeless folks in the area via SELAH - Darius
 - B. 2018 Homeless Count – Dorit provided an update
 - C. SELAH (Silver Lake, Echo Park, Los Feliz, Atwater Village, and Hollywood) Neighborhood Homelessness Coalition update + SELAH Coat Drive update – Dorit and Nithya provided an update
5. **MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:** (20 minutes)
 - A. Discussion and possible action regarding the signing of a letter asking that Measure H funding only goes toward the services and programs voters intended, not to the LAPD and increased policing.
Jessica Salans and John Motter provide presentation, asking that SLNC sign on to a letter, asking that Measure H funds are not used for LAPD policing. Wording in measure H specifically states that the funding be allocated to homelessness solutions, not LAPD. Dorit, while not wanting to downplay the work of the HOPE Team, thinks that when Law Enforcement is done right can be one of our best tools, but all that aside, Measure H was not meant for funding politicking.
Jessica lists the other neighborhood councils that have signed on, and mention several have reworded their letter. She states the LAPD takes up 54% of the general fund and is statistically the most violent police force in the nation.
Nithya states that the HOPE teams might be trained but from her experience many LAPD do not have the proper training, and hopes that all LAPD be trained accordingly.



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Sally David doesn't think they have training. However, according to a Rampart SLO, LAPD gave about 170 offenders opportunities to find housing but had no takers which is concerning.

John Motter – Wants LAPD to have crisis response teams, and does not want Charlie Africa situation to be repeated.

Darius agrees that the Measure H funding should go to non-profits, not the LAPD, but agrees with Dorit that the adversarial tone towards LAPD in the letter can be avoided.

Darius moves to table the motion until the next meeting, when a reworded letter can be submitted.

Dorit seconds the motion.

- B. Discussion and possible action item asking the SLNC Governing Board to submit a letter to the city requesting a walk-in access center available to homeless and other vulnerable members of our neighborhood. The access center should be walking distance or one bus ride from most of the encampments in our neighborhood. The access center should be open to residents who need assistance at least during normal working hours.

Nithya Raman Introduces Motion: Homelessness in Los Angeles is reaching a crisis point, with measure H and HHH funds, there is a need for walk-in services. There are zero walk-in access services in Silver Lake and surrounding neighborhoods.

Dorit Dowler-Guerrero: This should be city funded and city partnered

Mike O'Shea: SELAH has been going since July and it's been great, but it's hard for the homeless folks we meet to be at the right place and the right time to meet with outreach workers several days later.

Nithya: Additionally, during the recent rain storm, the closest emergency shelters were in either Highland Park or Skid Row, Weingart Center, and there were no pickup points in our neighborhood.

Additionally, the nearest emergency shelter is full every night and they turn people away.

Nicole Federici: What about churches, there churches in this neighborhood that are underutilized and can serve as a temporary shelter in addition to the access center.

Sally David: Churches can serve that purpose, and I can help strong arm them into it

Dorit: There are 6 churches in the SGV that offer temporary shelters, rotating every 2 weeks at a time, could serve as a model for here.

Cathy Takemoto: For the access center, what about a place to pick up mail? You need a place to get mail for important documents.

Daniel Ciarfalia: I work in Silver Lake, and I live in Hollywood, but I think it would be very important if there were access to showers, because this [neighborhood] is a dead zone for showers.

Darius Derakshan moves to discuss adding revising the motion to include the following text: The access center should be within the boundaries of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council, should offer mailing address services onsite, laundry services onsite, and should be staffed with case managers and a nurse practitioner.

Dorit Seconds

Group discussed the need for it to be within Silver Lake, the need for laundry, and the need for mailing address services.

Motion unanimously passes, 10-0

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

7. REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Mike O'Shea – Connect with CD4 and CD13
- Brigid Kelly – PATH is looking for hygiene kits, lunches, granola bars, and non-perishable items



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- Daniel – There are virtually no showers in Silver Lake area, wants to have access to showers

8. **ADJOURNMENT:** Darius moves to adjourn, Nithya seconds

Time allocations for agenda items are approximate and may be shortened or lengthened at the discretion of the Chairperson.

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For information on the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council’s process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the SLNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and on our website: <http://silverlakenc.org/about/bylaws/>

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