

Silver Lake Neighborhood Council – 8/22/2019 Homelessness Committee Minutes

Meeting called at 6:14 pm

Attendees: Darius Derakshan, Nithya Raman, Courtney Koak, Ben Cassorla, Samantha Gordon-Danner, Kyle Joachim, Holly Schlesinger, Marol Butcher, Aime Graham, Gordon Dupree

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: (10 minutes)

Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Committee's jurisdiction (Up to two minutes per speaker)

- Ben: Here is a rep of LA Forward, site identification across the city looking for housing, supportive and affordable, but not so focused on services. Would like to be a liaison between developers, service providers, and the city. Wants to put a notice as far as looking for locations. Focusing on East Los Angeles for now.
- Sam: Concerned about the frequency and destructiveness of Sanitation Sweeps/Cleanups. Wants the homelessness committee to issue a statement regarding.
- Darius: Municipal Code 41.18, concerned about the "Sit/Sleep" law and the effects it might have on those experiencing homelessness as well as their attempts to find housing.
- Nithya states that Homelessness Committee should issue a statement re 41.18 and 85.02 so that our position and opposition to it is on record
- Holly: Representing the neighbors of Edgewater Terrace, near The Library, community is working on plans for the Reservoir, worry that bathrooms might add to the situation regarding needles. Wants to work the neighbors and the council to find humane solutions that are a good fit for everyone.
- Pastor Kyle: On Saturday executed an arrest on a person experiencing homelessness, wants to raise concerns around homelessness and crime. Wants to make sure we are not perpetuating cycles.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS: (5 minutes)

Review and Adoption of 6/25/2019 Homelessness Committee Minutes

<https://silverlakenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/SLNC-Homelessness-6-25-2019-DRAFT-Minutes.pdf>

- No changes, Darius moves to vote, approved without objections

PRESENTATIONS: (30 minutes)

- No Parking 2 am to 6 am Situation on Riverside, North of Fletcher (Paul Emmons) – There is an adjacent city lot, might be a good place for a Pit Stop
- Safe Parking Program Update (Nithya Raman)
 - o Members of local neighborhood councils went to the Echo Park Edendale, there are 180 safe parking spots, while there are 9000 people who sleep in their cars. The Committee should send a note to Mitch O'Farrell's office asking for an update. Sam thinks we should write a letter along with Echo Park Neighborhood Council.
- SELAH Neighborhood Homelessness Coalition (Darius Derakshan & Nithya)
 - o Services Not Sweeps update: Bathrooms, Pitstop Programs, set up portable restrooms, needle drop, is open 12 hours a day. Gordon Dupree, thinks homelessness problem will become compounded with the reservoir. There is a request regarding the meadow to add a bathroom. Should liaise with Reservoir Committee.
 - o Saturday Hot Meals, Showers, & Yoga Program: Running every Saturday, 2 week hiatus, back up for the remainder of the year

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- LAHSA Silver Lake Access Point Contract: No Update
- Wednesday Dinners at Silver Lake Church: Looking for volunteer groups to take on one night every month

MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS: (20 minutes)

Darius introduces, Nithya Seconds: Discussion and possible action item to have the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council convene a Homelessness Roundtable and invite all involved parties, such as housed as well as un-housed Silver Lake residents, elected officials, Law Enforcements, Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority (LAHSA), People Assisting The Homeless (PATH), Homeless Healthcare Los Angeles (HHCLA), Los Angeles Sanitation and Environment, SELAH Neighborhood Coalition, and Silver Lake Community Church.

Discussion:

- Pastor Kyle believes that solutions for one area is different than other areas. The issue is broad and wants to break it down into a smaller, more digestible item that is more digestible. Connect activists and LAPD as well as all of the different players. Wants to generate best practices. Needs to create a safe space for all parties to share their experiences.

Ben is wondering if it is two parties talking to each other, and if so, is that the best way to go about it?

Nithya: Thinks it is a good idea, thinks Police are doing a good job in select places in like Hollywood and Pasadena. Should involve LAFD as well.

Sam: Sam suggests we invite unhoused residents. Potentially.

- Pastor Kyle introduces motion, seconded by Samantha, to amend the original motion: Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Homelessness Committee members will attend the Roundtable, coordinated and hosted by Silver Lake Community Church.
- Call Vote on amended motion: Passes Unanimously

Vote: Amended Motion Passes Unanimously

Committee Member Comments/Announcements: None

Requests/Motions For Future Agenda Items:

- Request that the Silver Lake Homelessness Committee have a person come from the firm hired to create the master plan attend. Create an agenda item that the design firm attend and discuss the bathroom and needle issue.
- Hygiene Kit Assembly

7:33 pm meeting adjourned