BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
6PM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019
SILVER LAKE RECREATION CENTER (ART ROOM)

Members in attendance:
Lena Najarian Kaderali, Co-Chair
Samantha Danner, Co-Chair
Nora Goudsmit
Nina Sorkin

Meeting was called to order by Lena at 6:09PM

General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:
Nina Sorkin provided public comment on a number of items (1) The last board approved and encumbered money for the libraries in at least two locations. This was Heather Carson’s project. This project was last mentioned at the June 5, 2019 meeting. Are the $2000+ allocated for this project? (2) There has been discussion regarding CIP. Why not charge the almost $500.00 of the Litter Brigade to CIP? In addition, the Green Committee is considering proposing the painting of at least one set of stairs. There will be 25th Music Box Steps Day Celebration on October 19. (3) Recommend that expenditures should be equitable (4) Recommend big ticket expensed: CERT Training, Visions and Goals – which has met twice in a year, typically (5) NPG: GPACC Spring Faire (March 2020), Relay For Life (June 6, 2020), concerned about money (6) Outreach, I have questions about Outreach as it relates to expenditures.

Lena responded to Nina’s direct questions (no response to comments to avoid a back-and-forth discussion) – Lena described the history of the Library Pods as Heather Carson’s project that was funded through the Friends of the SL Library and indicated that the project was funded in June 2019. The rollover funding was approved at a recent meeting of the Governing Board, August 7, 2019.

Samantha addressed Nina’s question regarding CIP budget and Lena indicated that the Litter League was funded as an outreach event. Co-Chairs indicated that the CIP budget did not increase and should more money be needed to fund a CIP then it could be reallocated from the NPG budget.

Agenda Items:
3a. Motion to review and adopt June 11, 2019 B&F minutes was made by Lena and seconded by Samantha. Motion passes unanimously to accept minutes unamended.

4. No Committee Member Comments or Announcements were made.

5a. Lena reported on the state of the Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-20, financial standings and assessment of the budget. No reallocation proposals were heard and no need for reallocation of the budget was found to be necessary at this time. Nina asked if Committees are going to have more of a say than individuals regarding NPGs as compared to prior fiscal years. Lena described that NPGs are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Nina reported her concern regarding GPACC and provided a history of funding amounts that she has received in prior years, indicating that the previous board, for the last 2 years fiscal years, funded up to $350.00 per event and not more, while prior to that she had received funding in the amount of $500.00. Nina reported that $500.00 is what she has received in the past 2 years from the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council and the Atwater Neighborhood Council. Nina commented on the difference between NPGs and Outreach events and the relationship with the Park Foundation, as an example, she also described that historically the SLNC had a table at the GPACC Spring Faire. Nora asked when she will start looking for funding to address Nina’s concern about allocation of monies. Nina indicated that she will begin in November and intends on raising $8000.00 for GPACC. Nina reported that the location and having it booked is her main concern and that there has been 10 Spring Faire(s) so far.
5b. Lena read the motion to assess the SLNC’s ability to deploy CIP budget to present at the October 2019 Governing Board meeting. Samantha seconds and discussed CIPs and examples, art for electrical boxes. Nina asked if painting a set of stairs would be considered for a CIP, Lena affirms, Nina suggested speaking with John Wingler. Nina asked about the Litter League and their next meeting. Lena went on to describe CIPs and what the requirements are based on the City, indicating that the CIP funding is required to be attached to a specific City area/space. Discussed the money that funding the Litter League’s outreach event and that their project is beyond the scope of a CIP due to clean-up moving around SL and is not intended on one specific area. Nina asked about a CIP for Belleview and referenced the dog poop bags that were jointly funding, ¼, by the SLNC. Nora described that the SLNC would be interested in partnering with CD13 and other community groups to provide Belleview with poop bags, consistent with SLNC funding for poop bags around the Reservoir path.

5c. Lena read the motion to discuss budget reallocation for the Say Cheese Food items provided by the SLNC on September 4 at the Regular Meeting of the Governing Board, Samantha seconded. Samantha indicated that the receipt was for ~$90.00. Lena asked if Samantha paid for the food. Samantha said it is outstanding and asked how it came to be that we had food from Say Cheese and another local restaurant? Lena explained the coordination efforts and the mix-up that had followed and suggested that we pay promptly for the food. Nora agreed that we promptly pay for the outstanding money and to talk with Glen of Say Cheese directly and to thank him and apologize for any mix-up. Samantha offered to go to Say Cheese, pay, and thank Glen directly. Samantha asked if there will be one designated person to arrange food at Governing Board meetings. Lena indicated that Lorraine, due to her interest in supporting local businesses, would be a good candidate to coordinate. Samantha asked if a list can be made and maintained for the public. Nora indicated that this dovetails really nicely into Lorraine having activated the Neighborhood Business Committee recently and that it is her understanding that Lorraine will focus the committee on supporting local businesses and in Committee it would be great to get local restaurateurs involved for food at Governing Board meetings. Lena described that the total budget for food at GB meetings would cover the cost at the September 4 meeting and Nora suggested that we reallocate money, should it be necessary, as we approach the end of the fiscal year. Lena and Samantha agreed.

5d. Lena read the motion regarding the SLNC’s Inventory Report that is due to the City Clerk by November 2019. Samantha seconded. Discussed the inventory list from 2018-2019 and SLNC inventory from years prior. Nora asked about the inventory of disaster related supplies that was purchased ~10 years ago and housed in a locked shed at the local Russian Church. Nina reported that approximately 1 month ago her neighbor went to see if the supplies were intact and currently at the Church and was told by the Priest that the supplies were gone. Nina also reported that there was a location at a local Café where Outreach once stored table cloths and SLNC banners, both with logos. Samantha commented that there might be an expiration of tracking inventory depending on when it was purchased. Nina asked about sound equipment and a podium that was used historically. Lena read from the inventory list and will check with the Board Secretary about the cabinet at the Rec Center to get current inventory on SLNC items.

5e. Lena read motion regarding funding (NPG or CIP) for tutorials to be included on the website, subject to DONE and City approvals. Samantha seconded. Lena mentioned that a board member suggested a NPG submission tutorial video. Nina asked about NPG funding for Mayberry Elementary, Lena indicated that they were funded in June. Nina asked about equity in funding. Lena discussed spending money. Nina asked about spending money on the website and that Outreach has spent time on the website and that she does not use the website. Lena reported that the work on the website is to make it as approachable as possible and as accessible as possible for the community. Samantha added that it was important to update the website in the context of the outgoing and incoming board as well as explained that vendors that the SLNC is required to use to make changes to the website may play a part in the timing of Outreach’s focus. Samantha described that the goals with spending time and money on the
website for outreach is to be as inclusive as possible and holistic because it adds value. Nina commented that she does not do Facebook. Samantha reported that the SLNC is trying to reach as many people as possible. Nina began talking about Bridge housing and the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council’s role and asked if the SLNC will support this location despite it being outside of Silver Lake’s boundaries. Samantha described that Bridge Housing is being funded by the City and County and asked more about what Nina had in mind regarding the SLNC’s contribution financially. Nina said to provide money so it is clear that the SLNC is in support. Samantha described that an NPG that follows the structure and guidelines that is submitted to the SLNC can be reviewed and discussed and presented to the City Clerk who would make the determination and that due to the close proximity of LF and SL the City might support the funding even if outside of SL boundaries. Nina brought up the hygiene kits for the homeless in the past, Samantha reported that a non-profit SELAH was in charge of distributing the kits equitably and the SLNC funded SELAH’s efforts. Nina asked about the NPG for the Silverlake Community Church. Lena reported that the funding went through as an Outreach event because the City Clerk no longer accepts NPGs from Churches. Samantha added that often non-profits work within the bounds of a church and that might still apply, but it depended on the regulations and structure of the church/non-profit relationship. Samantha commented that she wants NPGs to go through Committees. Lena added that the NPG budget and Outreach budget may appear comparable in amount, but the Outreach budget line includes $6000.00 in fixed costs. Nora commented that during her role as acting Governing Board Chair she often responds to NPG requests that do not come out of Committee to go back through Committee before being considered by the Governing Board.

5f. Lena read the motion to discuss Miry’s List and possible financial support to be presented to the Governing Board. Samantha seconded. Nora described Miry’s List and her hope that we can as a Board vote to participate in the Welcome Neighbors program that Miry’s List has created. Nora commented that this program has the support of Empower LA and other NCs around Southern California. Nora described that in our current climate politically that this program and others like it are at the forefront of import and that she views being a neighbor broadly and inclusively from Silver Lake to surrounding neighborhoods and farther to our East and West. Nora described how the program works, financial support and volunteer support opportunities, as well as indicated that Miry will come back to our Board to talk specifics should we vote and approve participation in the program. Lena discussed her personal contributions to Miry’s List in the past. Nina asked about privacy and used the Department of Aging as an example of their prohibition from providing or identifying those who may be serviced by a program like this. Lena clarified that because it is private the NCs would work with Miry’s List who then works directly with families. Nora asked if we could attach a monetary value and take a vote to present to the Governing Board. Discussion of $2500.00. Vote: 4-0-0 (unanimous) to support up to $2500.00 for Miry’s List should the Governing Board approve participation with Miry’s List and contingent on unforeseen regulations regarding funding.

5g. Lena read the motion to support the annual Armstrong (Silver Lake) Halloween Trick-or-Treat event with CD4. Samantha seconded. Discussion of the history and closing of Armstrong for trick-or-treating and the draw from all around SL and beyond, CD4’s contribution and a neighbor living on Armstrong’s role. Permitting and applications are submitted and supported by CD4, SLNC funding would be to support insurance costs (or another identified related event cost) and to include SLNC on the process to gain institutional knowledge to keep this event going annually. Discussion of funding up to $300.00 for the event. Vote: 4-0-0 unanimous support. Nina commented that GPACC has an event on the 30th and the Rec Center and Belleview also have Halloween events. A funding motion to be included on the October 2, 2019 agenda.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20PM
Minutes taken by Nora Goudsmit