Silver Lake LGBTQIA Advocates Committee Meeting Minutes
January 21st, 2019

In Attendance:
Danny Deza (Co-Chair)
Maebe A. Girl (Co-Chair)
Chris Taylor
Matt Farrell
Dylan Cotter
Aman Chaudhary
John Paul Drayer

6:00pm Meeting Called to Order

1. Welcoming Remarks

2. General Public Comment

Chris Taylor came to discuss two elderly Silverlake residents who are being unjustly evicted by their landlord, Dr. Matt Deleva. The couple lives in an apartment which is shared by Dr. Matt Deleva private practice. They have lived in their rent stabilized apartment for 25 years. Recently, the apartment flooded when their washing broke, and Dr. Deleva is using this as a reason to evict them. Although their lease does not mention having a washing machine is forbidden, he is trying to use the “nuisance” clause to evict them. Chris Taylor stresses that this is not the first time this has happened. Chris says he believes this eviction has no legal merit and Dr. Deleva wants new tenants so he can raise the rent. Chris is upset their landlord wants to evict an elderly couple who suffer from disabilities and AIDS. He comes to the committee for help.

Maebe A. Girl suggests going to the tenant’s rights committee and a neighborhood council meeting.

Dylan Cotter suggests reaching out to local media.

Danny Deza recommends getting in touch with Reprehensive Hayden Connor Ashworth who works closely with renter’s rights.

3. Motions & Resolutions

   A. Discussion about the new LGBTQ+ Alliance organized through the Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils and how the committee and council can get involved.

Maebe A. Girl discusses a recent launch meeting for the city-wide LGBTQ+ Alliance. The first meeting held on Wednesday, 1/15 and 15 to 20 people attended. The LGBTQ+ Alliance strives to connect the LGBTQ+ community and all neighborhood councils. In the meeting, members laid out the ground work for the alliance. Maebe says the Silver Lake LGBTQIA committee is the first queer
committee out of all 99 councils. The community needs better representation. How can the committee help the newly formed alliance?

Maebe suggest a LGBT liaison for every neighborhood council. The liaison can be appointed by their own council and go to alliance meetings and provide updates and representation on behalf of their neighborhood. Maebe suggests we can draft up a letter to send too all neighborhood councils.

Aman Chaudhary says getting the word out that the alliance exists is the most important.

Dylan Cotter says someone should make a press kit and someone should go to all the councils and follow up.

Maebe says reaching out and then see if they are interest and if not then we can go in person.

Matt Farrell– do you have to put in a public comment in person or can people do it online?

Maebe say she will look into it.

B. Discussion and Possible Action about installing a permanent, rainbow crosswalk in Silver Lake. Discussion about where it might be located and who to collaborate with to make it come to fruition

Maebe believes installing a crosswalk is important for visibility and would love to see it replicated throughout the city. The Neighborhood Council was interested in it and she wants to add an agenda item to their next meeting for council support. She wants to meet with the Urban Design committee for support as well.

Aman reached out to CD 13 and talked to Mitch O Farrell and their communications team. They are willing to work with the committee and Aman will follow up with their communication team and see what our next steps should be. Aman also suggests we reach out to the LA department of transportation.

Chris Taylor asks how do we pay for it and thinks that Lyft sponsored the Venice rainbow walk and that we could get some sort of sponsor.

Dylan says maybe Happy Socks. Also, we should have some back up because it might not happen. Perhaps a welcome sign at the beginning of the road.

Aman mentions his follow up with Mitch O'Farrell about the fundraiser with El Jardin and will ask about how to allocate money.

Maebe says we might have to find another venue or ask the council for more funding. Since it is a fundraiser in Silver Lake, the council may approve it.

Chris suggests a fundraiser at Faultline
Maebe will get it on the agenda for the next meeting and request funding for the venue and advertising.

C. Discussion and Possible Action on the creation of a pride event in Silver Lake which would collaborate with local LGBTQIA advocacy groups and businesses. Discussion will include when and where could such an event take place, and which advocacy groups and business to collaborate with.

Danny Deza feels pride should be more accessible and Silver Lake can help take a stand. He suggests a pride festival in the triangle where advocacy LGBTQ groups and restaurant pop ups can be featured, as well as a drag show at night or a queer short film screening.

Maebe says we can reach out to the farmer’s market and ask how they do it and see if they own the booths and if we can use them.

Chris Taylor mentions Echo Park Rising and that there was a similar idea floating around but with an LGBTQIA theme.

Maebe makes a motion to support the idea of a Silver Lake Pride event after Labor Day, and to seek the support of the Council. Danny seconds the motion.

The committee agrees on tentatively having the event after Labor Day and to host it in the Triangle. All vote yes.

The committee votes to let Maebe and Danny draft a letter to the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council for support. All vote yes.

4. Committee Member Comments and Announcements

Maebe A. Girl announces the Latinx committee is looking for a Co Chair.

5. Request/Motions for Future Agenda items.

6. Adjournment:
Maebe makes a motion to adjourn, Danny seconded, meeting is adjourned at 7:45 pm.