

SILVER LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
SPECIAL GOVERNING BOARD VIRTUAL MEETING
Draft Minutes
Wednesday, July 1, 2020
7pm

Zoom Online Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/95991766504>
or by telephone by calling (669) 900-6833 and entering Webinar ID: 959 9176 6504

1) Call to Order

The meeting began at 7:01pm with 21 Board members present.

2) Roll Call

Attending Board Members:

Anthony Crump, Co-Chair
Nicholas Fox-Robbins, Co-Chair
Nora Goudsmit, Vice Chair
Maebe A. Girl, Treasurer
Tina Lin, Secretary
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Mark Duncan (left early)
Ilanthe Zevos
Lorraine Getz
Jeremy Black (left early)
Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali
Joanna Pawlowska (resigned during meeting)

Non-Attending Board Members:

None

3) Welcome/Co-Chair Comments

Co-Chair Nicolas Fox-Robbins welcomed the audience. He said “today we mourn the loss of Silver Lake resident and fellow human Timothy Stirtin as a result of a very preventable accident. We mourn the loss of hundreds of thousands of people who have lost their lives to COVID19. We share the pain of the millions who have been impacted. We mourn the loss of countless black lives at the hands of our own government, those in power, and the police. And we share the pain of the millions of black families who continue to suffer at the hands of institutionalized racism. We must act boldly and selflessly in support of the black community. Structural change must occur and we must demand it. Personal changes must occur and we must enact it. We must act boldly and selflessly in our efforts to battle COVID. Wear a mask. Wear a mask. Wear a mask. It is incredibly important that we as Silver Lakers and Angelinos carry ourselves with intentional compassion. This is especially critical in the presence of people whom we wholeheartedly disagree with. It’s easy to be nice to those we agree with us. It is those that we disagree with that we must ensure that we bring our higher selves. Getting the desired outcome we want, while important, has to come second to treating everyone in our community with decency and compassion.”

4) Rules for Action on a Virtual Meeting, Agenda Items, and Public Input

Co-Chair Anthony Crump explained how the meeting and public comment would work. He reminded the Board of the Brown Act. All discussion should take place at meetings. He warned against serial communications. There should be no emails outside of a meeting addressing items that may come before the body. These need to be limited to meetings. See DONE (Department of Neighborhood Empowerment) training on the Brown Act. Even sending an email to the entire Board, for which there is no response, can constitute a Brown Act violation. There can be five Board members maximum on any single communication. Eleven Board members are required for a quorum, so 6 to have a meeting. Be careful about your communications. The action subject to violation can be invalidated. Also, the body can be prohibited from addressing that action in the future.

5) General Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

Alex Crow:

He said that he is a volunteer with Nithya Ramen’s City Council campaign. We are working with volunteers to create a neighborhood resource guide. What should we include? We want to educate residents about issues. We support Black Lives Matter to end police brutality and also the People’s Budget. Divest from the LAPD and invest in our cities.

David Wheatley:

About the Black Lives Matter movement, I printed out their goals. I agree with many of them. However, it excludes other groups, including white people and other ethnic groups, therefore I'm opposed to the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council affiliating with this group. It's proved itself to be violent with the arson that we saw. They put on events without proper permits, insurance, or security. And they mock and taunt the security there. So, I think we should be very very careful about affiliating with any group that can arbitrarily change their manifesto to make it even more violent than it already is. They are opposed to nuclear families. They are opposed to fathers and families. I think we need to really not associate with this group. And all these posters are violations of the Brown Act and transparency. They all need to come down right now.

Sam Newmark:

He thanked the Board for prioritizing the discussions about COVID19 and the Black Lives Matter movement. He said that there has been an increase in coyote activity. They killed one of my cats last week. Several neighbors have lost pets too to coyotes. What actions can be taken without removing coyotes from the area? Nicholas Fox-Robbins offered condolences for the death of the cat. Anthony Crump told him to email the Board. We can get back to you with more information.

Genelle LaVin:

She sent an email to the Board this morning with an update on funding. She thanked the Board for \$500. We really appreciate your help. Power washing will be scheduled as soon as the LA Beautification Team gets back to me. They are having a telecommunications issue right now.

Joanna Pawlowska:

She announced her resignation from the Board for a variety of reasons. It's been a great opportunity to participate in the neighborhood council system and learn how it works. She thanked Mary Rodriguez and Rachel Fox. They work tirelessly. She encouraged stakeholders in Region 7 to run for her seat. She is leaving now. Her resignation is effective now.

(Note: There are 20 Board members remaining at 7:18pm.)

6) Announcements/Updates

*Rachel Fox, Field Deputy for Council Member David Ryu, Council District 4,
Rachel.Fox@lacity.org, (213) 473-7004, (323) 957-6415:*

She said that Joanna Pawlowska will be missed.

It has been a crazy week. She mentioned the budget process and a City Council vote. The Council Member supports the revised budget. However, the City Council voted against this. So, the Mayor's proposed budget automatically takes effect. Keep in mind that the budget is a living document that can be amended. City Council voted to delay furloughs and the LAPD (Los Angeles Police Department) budget to be repurposed for other public safety efforts.

While dining in restaurants is no longer permitted, restaurants can have sidewalk dining. We are open to Board ideas to support businesses. These are trying times.

She invited the Board and stakeholders to Los Feliz for updates on the homeless bridge housing project on Riverside Drive. There will be a Zoom meeting with the service provider. The project is 98% complete. Residents can move in later this month. A muted ribbon cutting ceremony is coming. With the help of the Bureau of Engineering, there will be a Zoom tour of the project on July 7 at 6:30pm. Register in advance. The Hyperion family housing project and Project Roomkey will also be updated.

Regarding the utility box art program, she said that some have not been painted or have graffiti. We are still offering funds to paint utility boxes.

5) General Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items) -- REVISITED

Teresa Padua, Hollywood Sunset Free Clinic:

She said we're grateful for your support. We bought masks and protective equipment. We've continued to provide services during this time. We've done telemedicine. Also, during the Black Lives Matter marches, we passed out masks to everyone. We feel strongly that it's important for people to wear masks no matter what.

6) Announcements/Updates -- REVISITED

Scott Gamzon asked Rachel Fox about a Region 6 issue. They are re-doing all the street lights via a subcontractor. There are numerous complaints from neighbors about workers not wearing masks. Can pressure be applied? My neighbor across the street is in remission for cancer. She is very upset.

Barbara Ringuette said that on July 8, there will be an Urban Design and Preservation Committee meeting. This will be at the same time as Congressman Adam Schiff's forum meeting. Will that be recorded? Rachel Fox said that she is not sure. She'll ask the field representative.

Maebe A. Girl asked about utility boxes applications from artists. How can they get in touch with you? Rachel Fox said there is a link.

Nora Goudsmit asked a question for Lorraine Getz, who was having technical difficulty. She wanted to know about the al fresco initiative. The Business Committee has been trying to get the word out to restaurateurs. We want to help support that. Anything that can be done with Council District 4, we would be very happy to have support. There is a fast permitting application that only takes 15 minutes. We want to get the word out to Silver Lake restaurants.

Rachel Fox asked have any businesses started that in Silver Lake? Many businesses don't know about the program. We want to see how businesses can remain open and successful.

Paul Emmons asked whether al fresco dining is permitted. Is that affected by Governor Newsom's new order? Rachel Fox said not yet, adding that Mayor Garcetti said it's an alternative to in-room dining.

Jeremy Black said that a couple of businesses have an issue with cumbersome restrictions on small restaurants regarding the number of employees that can be used and al fresco dining. Can the regulations be softened? Rachel Fox said I'd have to ask. I'm not sure about public health guidelines. I'll get back to you and the Board.

Mary Rodriguez, Field Deputy for Council Member Mitch O'Farrell, Council District 13 (CD13), mary.d.rodriguez@lacity.org:

She announced that there was a Silver Lake Boulevard fatality a couple of weeks ago. She met with the DOT (Department of Transportation) this morning. We discussed many things to mitigate speeding and accidents from Dwayne Street to Berkeley Avenue.

The suggestions that we discussed included changing the pedestrian signal to a full traffic signal at Van Pelt Place. The DOT recommended a Hawk, a blinking red light, instead of a pedestrian crossing signal.

At Silver Lake Boulevard and Effie, we are asking for a speed table, which was just implemented on Temple Street. She asked for speed feedback signs and raised pavement markers to show how the street is curving. She suggested to add curve signs at Berkeley. Also, we want ballers installed on the sidewalk near the oyster restaurant near Effie. I got a lot of suggestions from people over the past few weeks.

I met with Jose Mange about the Silver Lake Dog Park. We talked about changes but we don't have funding. Maybe they will happen someday through

the Master Plan. There is some money to do small things. Can we move the small dog park to the top of the hill where it's flat and shady?

The Bureau of Engineering completed the sidewalk replacements through Safe Sidewalks LA on Maltman Avenue.

Parking restrictions were to be re-implemented July 6 but Council Member O'Farrell made a motion today to extend them for one more month. That will now begin in August.

Regarding Sunset Triangle Plaza, I had a meeting with the DOT, the City Clerk, and DONE representative Jackie Kim about the neighborhood council taking on maintenance for the plaza. The City can't contract with the City. You can apply for a community grant to pay a contractor. If you want to take over maintenance that is something that you can do. There is a way for the neighborhood council to take on some of that responsibility for power washing. The Silver Lake Improvement Association (SLIA) will continue with other maintenance aspects.

We are working with Dulce Stein and Ianthe Zevos about senior resource postcards. We will be a sponsor. We will send them out hopefully in the near future.

Our office gave \$10,000 to the Hollywood Sunset Free Clinic, which almost had to close as they waited for grants. If they need more, we will discuss it.

The Bureau of Street Services gave us a list about resurfacings. I will send you a list.

David Wheatley:

He asked can fees to artists for painting utility boxes be raised?

Marsha Delux:

Can you shut down traffic around Silver Lake to allow for local traffic? There needs to be more space for pedestrians and going the wrong way. We need to be socially distanced.

Mary Rodriguez mentioned the Slow Streets project. Work with Angie Aramayo from the Mayor's Office. She should be able to help you.

Teresa Paddock:

She said thanks for the food drive this spring. We gave services to 50 people. Can you provide that service again because of increased unemployment? Mary

Rodriguez said that was sponsored by the Dodgers. If I hear of anything, I'll keep you in mind.

Paul Emmons thanked Mary Rodriguez on behalf of the Transportation Committee. There were quick actions after the accident. Keep the Committee updated with improvements.

Regarding Slow Streets, he said we submitted 9 streets for that program. Mary said I didn't know that. We want to set up a committee to work with the community. I would like to work with you. I want the neighborhood council, businesses, and resident representatives for that.

Sarah Ullman commented that Gordon had said more tents were not a possibility. Was that discussed with Jose? That is at the top of the priority list. Mary Rodriguez said I did discuss it with Jose. I'm not sure where that will go. I'll speak with Gordon.

Nora Goudsmit, speaking for Lorraine Getz about the al fresco dining initiative, asked about outreach initiatives? We've been working with the Chamber. Restaurants are not aware of the program. We want to get the word out.

Mary Rodriguez asked when will Natalie have a Silver Lake Chamber meeting to discuss that? Nora Goudsmit said tomorrow. It will be open to members and nonmembers. Mary Rodriguez said that she has a commitment then but she will discuss it with her office staff. Christine Peters has worked on that for restaurants like the Black Cat.

Elaine Roark asked a dog park question. We had discussed extending the lower dog park rather than the flat portion of the upper dog park. Is that still on the table? She expressed concern about the most used section of the dog park. Mary Rodriguez said I have to go out there to see how it can be configured so that there is adequate space for the small dog park.

Elaine Roark mentioned that people at the dog park felt tents will be temporary solutions but dogs would destroy them immediately. Mary Rodriguez said that's a problem. Elaine Roark said people felt they would be too flimsy. Mary Rodriguez said then we're back to square one. Better structures would cost a lot of money. I was shocked.

Barbara Ringuette referred to the last email from Council District 4 and the path forward for racial justice town hall on July 8 with Congressman Adam Schiff and Council Member Mitch O'Farrell. Many people active in the Urban Design and Preservation Committee would like to see this. Will it be recorded? Mary Rodriguez said she would look into that.

Ilanthe Zevos thanked Mary Rodriguez and Rachel Fox for their help with the senior outreach project.

Dulce Stein asked about the art boxes. There is a program for Council District 4. Do you have a program too? Mary Rodriguez said every Council District has this program.

Anthony Crump thanked Mary Rodriguez and Rachel Fox for their involvement.

Jackie Kim, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), (213) 978-1551, jackie.kim@lacity.org:

I will email you all my updates. Highlights include a discussion of Roberts Rules, part two of that training will be in late July. You also have to approve the new administrative packet for the new fiscal year.

David Wheatley said I never got an answer about how much artists will be paid. Also, can we hear more about the emails that Jackie Kim has? I'd love to know how Silver Lake is being run so I'd like to know more about the emails that you mentioned. Jackie Kim said it's mostly about administrative things for Board members. She said that she can send a copy of the emails to him as well.

7) Presentation(s)

a) People's Budget LA - Reverend Eddie Anderson - McCarty Memorial Church / Black Lives Matter

He thanked Nicholas Fox-Robbins for inviting him.

For the last 5 years, we've advocated for a more democratic budget process for Los Angeles County. People's Budget LA comes out of that. During COVID19 we saw the crushing number of African Americans being affected by COVID19. We came up with Black LA Demands representing 50 black organizations across Los Angeles. People's Budget LA came from that. Some 54% of the LA City budget went to police. Why is that the case during a pandemic when other things being are being cut? We've worked with a variety of groups to organize and push for more funding in our communities. We surveyed 24,000 residents about their priorities for the budget, all from the City of Los Angeles. It's a significant number of folks in the City of Los Angeles.

Priorities in Council District 13, where about 200 people participated, included (in descending order):

Housing security: Homelessness and how to pay the rent.
Public health and healthcare: we need more testing, more healthcare

Mental health and wellness
Family health (public health)

What did people not want more money for (in descending order):

Parking Enforcement
Police
City Attorney

What do we do with this data? How does it inform the larger narrative?
We want investment in care. Over 400,000 people have visited the website from 200 countries.

David Wheatley said that he wants to know about the survey. How do you know that the sampling is statistically accurate? Reverend Anderson said about 50 organizations sent out the survey. There is a sliding scale. There was no prompt. People answered on a scale of 1 to 5.

Maebe A. Girl said I'm 100% for the People's Budget LA. How can someone now working for the City perhaps listening to this meeting, how can they promote awareness? Reverend Anderson said to amplify the voices. Share the report and the data. Call the City Council people.

Ben Cassorla said we will vote on a motion to support the People's Budget. What else can be done to support the People's Budget? How can we build momentum and pressure the City Council? Reverend Anderson said to get the neighborhood councils together. Today, they divested \$150 million from the LAPD to invest \$100 million in communities of color. We need more money than that.

Teresa said that she has a question but Reverend Anderson has left the meeting. Nicholas Fox-Robbins said that he'd try to get the Reverend back to the meeting.

Anthony Crump said that the next item is committee reports. Keep reports to a minimum. Also, we'll dive into administration and then unfinished items and then new business. We will not discuss a Nicholas Fox-Robbins item, agenda item 11.n has been withdrawn.

Teresa, of the Sunset Hollywood Free Clinic, thanked Reverend Anderson for his presentation. We believe that healthcare is a right. How can we get a copy of what you just presented? Go to www.peoplesbudgetla.com for more information.

8) Committee Reports

a) Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Committees:

Transportation Committee: Paul Emmons said that there was a Committee meeting last Wednesday. We discussed the fatal accident on Silver Lake Boulevard. We organized a candle light vigil.

We discussed other unsafe intersections. We discussed the Slow Street survey. We also discussed COVID19 and wearing masks.

He added that the Slowdown Silver Lake signs agenda item should be tabled. That's a low priority. He also attended the hi speed rail townhall.

Silver Lake Reservoir Committee: Sarah Ullman said we discussed the Silver Lake Reservoir Master Plan last week. Team members were introduced. It will be funded, hopefully, through a variety of sources. It would be done in phases over years.

Homeless Committee: Samantha Danner said we elected new cochairs: me and Imran Syed. I'm excited to work with Imran Syed. We have a couple of agenda items tonight, including a letter about the homeless count results. Also, we have an item about law enforcement involved in the homeless clean up.

Budget and Finance Committee: Maebe A. Girl said we met last week and elected cochairs: Samantha Danner and me. Lena Kaderali stepped down from the treasurer position. We discussed the old budget and the new budget. This will be discussed later.

LGBTQIA Committee: Maebe A. Girl said there was no virtual meeting yet. However, many committee members are working with the LGBTQ Alliance.

LGBTQ Alliance: Maebe A. Girl said that the next meeting will be July 15 at 7pm. We are seeking another member. Contact us at lgbtqia@silverlakenc.org for more information.

Business Committee: Lorraine Getz said we've been working with the Chamber of Commerce doing outreach about al fresco initiative. Many restaurants are unaware of the program. We want to get the word out to help businesses survive.

David Wheatley asked whether we have a diversity and inclusion and equity committee? If so, it will be the broadest committee that anyone can ever imagine for our amazing area. Anthony Crump replied that we don't have such a committee. However, several committees do cover that.

Budget Advocates: Barbara Ringuette said that Budget Representative Seth Copenhaver was elected to be a Budget Advocate. She is also a Budget Advocate. Connie Acosta of the Echo Park Neighborhood Council is third Budget Advocate from Region 7. We're now working on officer elections.

Lorraine Getz suggested to David Wheatley and other stakeholders to get involved on a committee to have that representation.

9) Administrative

a) (Co-Chair/Crump) Discussion/Review of Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Bylaws/Standing Rules regarding Governing Board Member absences

Bylaws regarding member absences.

Anthony Crump said that stakeholders have asked about absences by certain Board members. We did discuss the policy at the last Executive Committee meeting. There is some ambiguity about Section 9 of the Bylaws, which says on the website that it's on hold, under review. We got clarification from Jackie Kim. She clarified that this is the policy that is in place at present.

He read Section 9a, Subsection 7 about absences: if you miss 3 meetings in your first year or any successive year, you are subject to dismissal after missing a fourth meeting. Special meetings do not count.

Our stakeholders expect us to participate regularly in Board meetings. Nicholas Fox-Robbins and I will review attendance records. At the next Executive Committee meeting, people who've missed more than 3 meetings in last year will be asked to come and explain their absences.

Nicholas Fox-Robbins commented about serious extenuating circumstances. We don't have a working definition of what that is. DONE said the window to change our Bylaws is closed and will remain closed for the next two years. However, we can create Standing Rules, so long as they don't contradict the Bylaws. We need to have a Bylaws Committee meeting to enact that. The City Attorney and DONE are working to clarify their policy for neighborhood councils Citywide.

Anthony Crump said that previously, we did have an excused absence definition but it was removed. That was item 37 in the Standing Rules. It's an endless loop.

Nora Goudsmit asked anyone who's missed 3 meetings must attend the Executive Committee meeting to explain their absences? Anthony Crump

said yes. People can explain their absences. We will determine circumstances.

Nora Goudsmit asked about the next step. Does that mean that leads to a process of removal? Anthony Crump said that could happen.

Nora asked Jackie Kim, this has to be determined by the neighborhood council at large? Is that correct? Jackie Kim said that removal policy allows neighborhood councils to have their own policies. That's what is being addressed in the new Bylaws.

Paul Emmons said that as a cochair of the Bylaws Committee, is there a time frame for this meeting? The Committee meets on an ad hoc basis.

Nicholas Fox-Robbins said it would be useful for that Committee to meet before the Executive Committee meeting. The sooner the better so we'll have a definition of extenuating circumstances. Anthony Crump said the Executive Committee meeting will happen before the August Board meeting.

b) (Secretary) Move to approve minutes from June 1, 2020 Special Meeting of the SLNC Governing Board (<https://silverlakenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/SLNC-june-1-2020-special-meetingSChanges.pdf>)

Tina Lin made the motion. Ianthe Zevos seconded.

David Wheatley commented that the meeting was improper. It was not noticed. There was not a 72-hour window for agenda posting. There were no emergency items. It should not be counted in any way. Anthony Crump said you did email DONE with similar question. The Brown Act noticing requirement is only 24 hours notice for special meetings. We gave more than 72 hours notice.

David Wheatley responded saying I did not see any emergency to justify a special meeting. It looked like bad planning. Anthony Crump replied that it was properly noticed and well in advance of the Brown Act. Paul Emmons added that a special meeting does not require an emergency.

VOTE to approve June 1, 2020 special meeting minutes

20-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anthony Crump

Nicholas Fox-Robbins

Nora Goudsmit

Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Mark Duncan
Ianthe Zevos
Lorraine Getz
Jeremy Black
Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali

No Votes:
None

Present, Not Voting:
None

c) (Secretary) Move to approve minutes from June 3, 2020 Regular Meeting of the SLNC Governing Board (<https://silverlakenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/SLNC-GOV-Brd-Mtg-june3-2020-Draft-Minutes.pdf>)

Tina Lin made the motion. Barbara Ringuette seconded.

**VOTE to approve the June 3, 2020 regular meeting minutes.
Unanimous
PASSED**

Yes Votes:
Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Nora Goudsmit
Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark
Ben Cassorla

Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Mark Duncan
lanthe Zevos
Lorraine Getz
Jeremy Black
Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

d) (Secretary) Discussion and possible action on committee lists from Mailchimp

Tina Lin sought information from committee chairs about email lists. It could be a great way to reach out to constituents who may be interested. The neighborhood council's Mail Chimp account was inherited from previous secretary Seth Copenhaver who also didn't know what it was for.

Samantha Danner said I wasn't aware that this existed. I just inherited a list from the previous Homelessness Committee. If we're paying for this, I'd like to make use of it. If we're not using, we should not be paying for it. Tina Lin said we pay \$85 a month for Mail Chimp. It would be great to use the other email lists.

Maebe A. Girl said in future, go through all committees to see the level of activeness and whether they've used that feature. LGBTQIA is a new committee. Seth Copenhaver said all email addresses were in use. So, we're not a part of that.

Nicholas Fox-Robbins suggested that perhaps this should be solved in the Outreach Committee? Seth Copenhaver and I are chairs. We haven't had a meeting in awhile but we can make this a priority.

lanthe Zevos said it would be great to do outreach to people who might be more interested. Paul Emmons said I was not aware of this. In the Transportation Committee we conducted 3 surveys over the past year. I'd like to look into this.

e) (Secretary) Discussion and possible action on providing SLNC Zoom Account information to committee chairs/co-chairs

Tina Lin said the Zoom account was assigned from DONE. Anthony and I have been signing people up for webinars for committee meetings. We are seeking ideas to better handle this for committees. Also, there is a technical issue as one of us must be the host as a meeting begins. Then other hosts can take over. Maybe give committee chairs their own passwords to begin their own meetings? Sarah Ullman suggested to maybe follow the calendar system?

Samantha Danner asked Jackie Kim is it possible for neighborhood council Board members to have institutional zoom licenses for all of us? Maybe DONE could manage this for us? Anthony Crump said there is one license for the neighborhood council. There is the ability to have associated accounts but that is blocked. Tina Lin has been logging into every committee meeting. It's a rather serious issue. It's too much work for Tina Lin. We are getting Board consensus to give logins to cochairs.

Jackie Kim said thanks for the Zoom ideas. DONE does not have plans to change structure. Currently this is under the EmpowerLA umbrella. Zoom's official policy is that only person who holds the account can use it. No sharing is permitted. We are supportive of what needs to be done for committee meetings. Supportive accounts might be a really good idea. I'm not sure why they are locked. You can also buy your own licenses.

Nicholas Fox-Robbins made a motion to provide the login to committee chairs. We can always change the password if the privilege is abused. This is a temporary solution. Tina Lin seconded.

Samantha Danner said I have looked into buying Zoom. It's pretty expensive. Our budget is reduced. See if it's possible for a City entity to sponsor our license.

VOTE
19-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:
Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Nora Goudsmit
Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark

Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Mark Duncan
lanthe Zevos
Jeremy Black
Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

(Note: Lorraine Getz didn't vote.)

f) (Najarian Kaderali/Outgoing Treasurer) Fiscal Year 19-20 Financial Wrap Up: The outgoing Treasurer shall provide a brief report of the finalized FY 19-20 financials, including outstanding obligations to be paid in the new fiscal year, update on LAUSD facilities billing for Ivanhoe Elementary School's Auditorium, anticipated rollover balance to FY 20-21 and other noteworthy items.

In her final words as Treasurer, Lena Kaderali said "I want to express one last time that it has been a privilege serving as Treasurer over the last 14 months. Thank you for entrusting me with that honor. At the start of fiscal year 19-20, this Board made a commitment to transparently and responsibly invest in our community and I'm proud to say that, in my view, we've accomplished just that. I'm especially proud that our fiscal responsibility throughout the year enabled us to come to the aid of some of our most vulnerable neighbors in a time of unprecedented crisis.

Before I highlight some of our accomplishments, I also want to take this opportunity to share some administrative items. Our anticipated rollover balance from FY 19-20 to 20-21, which begins today, is approximately \$4,700. This rollover is comprised of various factors but primarily the up to \$1,750 we had budgeted to pay for use of Ivanhoe Elementary School's auditorium in FY 19-20, however, LAUSD unfortunately determined in June to not invoice Neighborhood Council's for use in fiscal year 19-20 and it should be noted that they haven't determined the process or fee structure for the coming fiscal year. Another \$1000 is from the unfunded commitment to Dynamic Girls which terminated at fiscal year-end. The City Clerk's Office also made an exception to apply the \$500 refund from American Cancer Society's Relay for Life to SLNC's rollover budget even though the refund arrived after the June 8th deadline. Lastly, we anticipate a bill this month from AppleOne of approximately \$1,500 for services

rendered in June 2020. The rollover balance, to be finalized in August 2020, combined with our \$32,000 annual budget allocation from the City, will result in an approximately \$36,000 budget for this new fiscal year. While I recognize that may not seem like a large sum of money, invested thoughtfully, it can nonetheless be very impactful. To that end, I'd like to take a moment to highlight what our Neighborhood Council accomplished in the fiscal year 19-20 with approximately \$40,000 deployed in the budget year.

We deployed nearly 60% of our total budget in Neighborhood Purpose Grants and Emergency Relief related to COVID-19. We deployed more than 10% to direct outreach events and initiatives including our first annual Dia De Los Muertos event. We increased investing in our community while also reducing operational expenditures year over year.

I'd like to share a few additional specific examples of how we invested in our community...

- We deployed \$3,080 in COVID related Emergency Funds Relief including \$750 to the Hollywood Sunset Free Clinic to aid in assisting their mission of providing no-cost healthcare through the COVID crisis, \$750 to provide support services to Silver Lake stakeholders through Ground Game LA and more than \$1,500 in meal delivery service to local seniors.
- Additionally, \$15,500 in NPGs were awarded to directly assist low-income families of our local public elementary schools

These are just a few examples of this Board's financial successes in FY 19-20. I've posted complete details of these and other expenditures on our website.

I look forward to continuing to serve our Community as a Region 6 Representative to our Governing Board and to serving as a resource for Maebe A. Girl, our incoming Treasurer. I've been proud to serve alongside Maebe on the Council and have admired the passion, dedication and integrity she brings to all she does for our community. With that, I'd like to officially welcome Maebe A. Girl to take her post as SLNC's Treasurer."

g) (Maebe A. Girl/Treasurer) May Monthly Expenditures Report (MER) - Motion to approve May 2020 MER (<https://silverlakenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/May-2020-MER.pdf>).

Maebe A Girl said she thanked Lena Kaderali for helping her to thoroughly prepare for this. She left our finances in a transparent and organized manner. Our Administrative packet has been submitted. It should have a \$4,700 rollover. Don't consider that for tonight's motions.

We have had \$8,527 in total spending. There is \$18,413 remaining. The net available is \$7,000.

Maebe A Girl made the motion. Lena Kaderali seconded.

David Wheatley said this is a great report. However, these amounts seem low. Maybe have them ask for more? Keep up the good work.

VOTE
20-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Nora Goudsmit
Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Mark Duncan
Ilanthe Zevos
Lorraine Getz
Jeremy Black
Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

h) (Secretary) Election of Assistant Secretary

Tina Lin explained that the assistant secretary provides help with a variety of roles related to the secretary, including outreach, the social media

program, and recapping Board meetings. *Tina Lin wants to table this discuss until the next meeting. Paul Emmons seconded.*

Nicholas Fox-Robbins thanked Sarah Ullman for being the assistant secretary to this point.

i) (Secretary) Move that the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Executive Committee automatically be allowed to obtain a Community Impact Statement (CIS) login from Empower LA in order to file CIS' with the Secretary as the primary filer. If this passes, we submit this to DONE so that we can switch off Samantha, Seth and Sarah to Anthony, Nick, Tina and Maebe.

Tina Lin made a motion to allow the Executive Committee to obtain a CIS (Community Impact Statement) file login from EmpowerLA. The Secretary would be the primary filer.

Samantha Danner, Seth Copenhaver, and Sarah Ullman do it now. I want to shift that to the Executive Committee instead with Anthony Crump, Maebe A. Girl, and myself. Barbara Ringuette seconded.

Seth Copenhaver asked should this be address via the Standing Rules? Nora Goudsmit offered historical context, saying we didn't have cochairs. They are automatically filers. There can be five filers total so we can have 3 more. This is already taken care of by the Standing Rules. It doesn't have to be the Executive Committee.

VOTE
11-6-3
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Barbara Ringuette
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Mark Duncan
lanthe Zevos

No Votes:

Lorraine Getz
Nora Goudsmit

Elaine Roark
Jeremy Black
Lena Kaderali
Scott Gamzon

Present, Not Voting:

Samantha Danner
Seth Copenhaver
Sarah Ullman

10) Unfinished Business

a) (Lin) Motion to approve NPG for up to \$5,650 to Pueblo Nuevo Education & Development Group for the Camino Nuevo Charter School.

Tina Lin commented that she is listed as someone on the neighborhood council that they had spoken with. She is not affiliated with the organization. She is introducing the motion. She is not recusing herself.

This is similar to past motions for elementary schools for grocery cards. This school is close to our border but not within our boundaries. However, 113 families that are low income that live in Silver Lake have kids attending that school. This program doesn't help the school. It identifies low income families in need of assistance. They have been vetted. *Maebe A. Girl seconded Tina Lin's motion.*

Amber Skrumbis, Director of Development for the school said we are supporting schools of the academy. About 96% of the students we serve are eligible for food assistance. About 17% of our families in Silver Lake live in poverty. Letters of support have been submitted. Tina Lin is not affiliated with our organization.

Seth Copenhaver said this is a great cause. We have about \$14,000 in Neighborhood Purposes Grants to vote on tonight. Given our budget cut this year, can we lower the amount?

Tina Lin said this request is about \$50 per family. That's lower than other schools where we've donated about \$85 per family. We aim to raise the rest privately.

Maebe A. Girl said the dollar amount reflects the number of families, 113 of them. She stated that the total amount we are voting on tonight is \$14,070 which is more than we have allotted for NPGs for the entire year. Some people will be disappointed tonight, she cautioned.

Samantha Danner said this is a great cause to support, as we have supported other area schools. For grocery cards, will they be prioritized for accessible stores? Can families receive more if they have multiple students at school?

Amber Skrumbis explained that all identified families are in the Silver Lake area. They will receive one gift card per family. There are 157 students attending the school from those Silver Lake families.

Samantha Danner asked are the gift cards from accessible stores?
Amber Skrumbis replied yes, Vons.

Lena Kaderali asked how many charter schools serve the Silver Lake community? Given our budget constraints, I don't know if I can approve it. Tina Lin said we do have the rollover. There are several charter schools in our area but not within boundaries.

Ben Cassorla noted that at the other schools, we just went by the number of families. We gave one card per family. Reach out to other neighborhood councils to help with funding.

Imran Syed asked about the demographics of the families. Amber Skrumbis said kindergarten to 8th grade.

David Wheatley said this is a pretty cool project. Charter schools are quasi private schools. I'd like to know more. Can we have a link to the school? Hold this for another month, he suggested. Nicholas Fox-Robbins said this money does not go to the school. It goes to student's families only.

VOTE
14-5-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons

Ilanthe Zevos
Jeremy Black
Scott Gamzon

No Votes:

Lorraine Getz
Nora Goudsmit
Elaine Roark
Seth Copenhaver
Lena Kaderali

Present, Not Voting:

None

(Note: Mark Duncan did not vote.)

11) New Business

r) (Copenhaver / Fox Robbins) Move that the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council form an Ad Hoc Committee on Police Reform.

Elaine Roark proposed moving agenda item 11.r to the top of the remaining agenda. There are several items on this agenda that could fall within this committee should it pass. Jeremy Black seconded.

VOTE to move agenda item 11.r to the top of agenda

18-0-1

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Nora Goudsmit
Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Ilanthe Zevos
Lorraine Getz
Jeremy Black

Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali

No Votes:

Anthony Crump

Present, Not Voting:

None

Seth Copenhaver made the motion to support agenda item 11.r. Lena Kaderali seconded.

Seth Copenhaver explained that there is a City Council version of this which has been around for awhile. We should have a committee to review these motions in tandem with the City and allow the community to weigh in. Reach out to other neighborhood councils.

Debbie Slater asked why was agenda item 11.n dropped? It's the main reason that I'm attending this meeting. I was highly disturbed at the last Board meeting by the Silver Lake Improvement Association motion. Anthony Crump said there was a request to remove the item from the agenda by the author and that request was granted.

VOTE

19-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Nora Goudsmit
Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
lanthe Zevos
Lorraine Getz
Jeremy Black
Scott Gamzon

Lena Najarian Kaderali

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

(Note: Mark Duncan has left the meeting and did not vote.)

i) (Fox Robbins) Move that the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council adopt and send the attached letter endorsing the People's Budget, as well as the actual People's Budget, to the City Council and Mayor's Office. (The People's Budget is attached with the letter).

j) (Lasher) Motion to condemn the police violence that has happened in our city and calls on the City Council, Mayor Garcetti and Rep. Schiff to immediately investigate the treatment by police of members of the public during recent protests against police brutality.

k) (Goudsmit) Motion to submit a letter to Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Superintendent Austin Beutner [LAUSD Board Members and Stakeholders], Mayor Garcetti, Los Angeles City Council Members, advising to terminate LAUSD contract(s) with the LAPD and abolish the LA School Police Department (LASPD).

t) (Girl) Move that the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council submit the attached Community Impact Statement (CIS) opposing Councilmember Joe Buscaino's motion to arm park rangers.

Elaine Roark made a motion to move agenda items 11.i, j, k, and t into committee and table them. They require further discussion. Jeremy Black seconded.

Ilanthe Zevos said there is no co-chair for this committee. We have to set up the committee. Maebe A. Girl said I object to placing those motions in committee. Time is of the essence, especially for the People's Budget.

Anthony Crump said that at the first committee meeting, you can agendize those items and assigning co-chairs. Paul Emmons asked since we're combining multiple agenda items, is there an objection to a specific motion? Nicholas Fox-Robbins said they can make a motion to amend if they oppose.

VOTE to refer 11i, j, k, and t to the yet to be formed Police Reform Commission

**3-14-1
FAILED**

Yes Votes:

Elaine Roark
Tina Lin
Jeremy Black

No Votes:

Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Nora Goudsmit
Maebe A. Girl
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
lanthe Zevos
Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali

Present, Not Voting:

Paul Emmons

(Note: Lorraine Getz did not vote.)

*Nicholas Fox-Robbins made a motion to extend the meeting to 10:30pm.
Anthony Crump seconded.*

VOTE to extend the meeting to 10:30pm.

18-0-1

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Nora Goudsmit
Tina Lin
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark

Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Ianthe Zevos
Lorraine Getz
Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali
Maebe A. Girl

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

Jeremy Black

a) (Urban Design and Preservation) Motion to recommend the approval of the demolition of existing building for the construction of six (6) small lot homes located at 2822 Waverly Drive.

Barbara Ringuette seconded the motion.

David Wheatley said that small homes are being destroyed to create luxury units. I oppose this. I think environmental review is required. Vote no! Seth Copenhaver asked what building is being demolished? Are people being displaced?

Debbie Slater said the vote was 7-3 at the Urban Design and Preservation Committee meeting. The developer is taking over Waverly Drive. Three small buildings are to be demolished for luxury homes. Waverly is seeing crazy construction now so I vote no. Carol Cetrone noted that there was water damage and the property was purchased empty.

VOTE

12-6-1

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anthony Crump
Nora Goudsmit
Tina Lin
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark
Ben Cassorla

Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Jeremy Black
Scott Gamzon

No Votes:

Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Lorraine Getz
Seth Copenhaver
lanthe Zevos
Maebe A. Girl
Lena Kaderali

Present, Not Voting:

Imran Syed

b) (Urban Design and Preservation) Motion to recommend the approval sending a support letter to designate Taix Restaurant in Echo Park as a Historic Cultural Monument.

Barbara Ringuette seconded Carol Cetrone's motion.

Carol Cetrone said we, Friends of Taix, appreciate your support. Debbie Slater said to preserve more of our heritage. It's a beautiful building. Please support this motion. Annie Sperling, a representative of Friends of Taix, said we hope you will support this. Everyone goes to Taix. We don't want a gigantic mall sized building to take its place.

Paul Emmons asked the current owner is opposed to this? Annie Sperling said that the owner has joined with the developer. The original plan was to save Taix. The new plans are different. The structure will be seven stories and the developer will ask for a density bonus.

Sarah Ullman said I oppose this motion. We are in desperate need of housing. We need this housing desperately. The owner is opposed to preserving this.

Samantha Danner asked will the historic status affect future high density building in the area. She is concerned about community red lining.

Carol Cetrone commented that the TOC (Transit Oriented Communities) ordinance doesn't apply to this. Sunset Boulevard does not have the transit infrastructure yet. Traditional Echo Park zoning is in place. They are trying to manipulate the zoning.

Christine Kantner said we are no anti-density. We're just asking that the building and façade be preserved. The developer can build a high density building behind it. They have shifted gears.

Maebe A. Girl said that she is looking at the renderings. We definitely need more housing. This will raise rents for surrounding area. What are the rents? Will there be low income housing? Annie Sperling responded that there is affordable housing but not low-income housing. It looks more like The Americana than a housing development.

Tina Lin, a former architect, said that the preservation of use as a French restaurant will continue.

VOTE
5-7-7
FAILED

Yes Votes:

Richard Emmons
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Barbara Ringuette
Anthony Crump
lanthe Zevos

No Votes:

Elaine Roark
Samantha Danner
Tina Lin
Ben Cassorla
Jeremy Black
Scott Gamzon
Sarah Ullman

Present, Not Voting:

Lorraine Getz
Nora Goudsmit
Dulce Stein
Seth Copenhaver
Imran Syed
Maebe A. Girl
Lena Kaderali

c) (Zevos) Move that the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council recommend the planting of two native street trees in the sidewalk in front of L & E Oyster bar in memory of Timothy Stirton who was tragically killed there in a traffic incident on June 17, 2020.

Ilanthe Zevos made the motion and said that the Green Committee hasn't had a chance to meet. There are two street trees. These are native trees to commemorate the lost of a community member, an early member of the Green Committee who was passionate about native plants. *Barbara Ringuette seconded.*

VOTE

19-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Nora Goudsmit
Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Ilanthe Zevos
Lorraine Getz
Jeremy Black
Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

d) (Danner/SELAH) Motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$1620 for SELAH Neighborhood Homeless Coalition to distribute prepared meals at a cost of \$6/meal to approximately 90 low-income and unhoused community members at the Silver Lake Community Church in July 2020 (NPG application attached).

Samantha Danner said this will fund \$6 per meal for 3 weeks. These would be hot meals. This is very popular. We make about 90 of the meals. SELAH, a coalition of nearby neighborhood councils, is very appreciative. The need is greater than ever. This is available to anyone in the community. *Paul Emmons seconded Samantha Danner's motion.*

Ilanthe Zevos commented that we funded a SELAH motion last month too. Will this be ongoing, given our budget cuts? Samantha Danner said we couldn't fund items that would be paid for in the new fiscal year. This is funding that was already discussed.

VOTE
18-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Nora Goudsmit
Maebe A. Gil
Tina Lin
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Ilanthe Zevos
Lorraine Getz
Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali

No Votes:

None

Present, Not Voting:

None

(Note: Jeremy Black left the meeting and didn't vote.)

e) (Neil Spears/SLIJCC) Motion to approve Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) to Silver Lake Independent Jewish Community Center (SLIJCC) for up to \$2,500.

Lena Kaderali seconded.

Neil Spears, Jewish Community Center, said we want to support the community during the pandemic. This is anti-racism training for white members of our community to make the community more welcoming. This is for staff time and expenses. We are aiming to reopen in mid-August.

Lorraine Getz said that she is recusing herself.

Ilanthe Zevos asked you're distributing farmers' market boxes? How does that work? Neil Spears said it's pick up and they are paid for. They are not free.

Tina Lin noted that according to the organization's website they raised about \$68,000 against reopening costs of \$265,000. Is this towards that same effort? Neil Spears said yes. Neil Spears said we've updated our numbers. That's why there is a discrepancy.

Seth Copenhaver said this is a great cause. Imran Syed asked what is the website? Neil Spears said sijcc.net is the website. Nora Goudsmit asked can the amount be reduced to \$500? Neil Spears said yes.

Maebe A. Girl informed the group that we've allocated \$7,270 in NPGs out of an annual total of \$12,500. We have \$5,230 to vote on. *Nora Goudsmit made a motion to amend the proposal to \$500. Barbara Ringuette seconded.*

VOTE for \$500 amendment

17-0-0-1

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Nora Goudsmit
Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein

Paul Emmons
lanthe Zevos
Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali

No Votes:
None

Present, Not Voting:
None

Recusals:
Lorraine Getz

**VOTE for amended motion of \$500
17-0-0-1
PASSED**

Yes Votes:
Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Nora Goudsmit
Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Elaine Roark
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
lanthe Zevos
Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali

No Votes:
None

Present, Not Voting:
None

Recusals:
Lorraine Getz

Paul Emmons made a motion to extend the meeting to 11pm. Barbara Ringuette seconded. Paul Emmons said to schedule a special meeting for a week from tonight at 7pm. See which agenda items can wait until then to table.

VOTE to extend the meeting to 11pm

8-8-2

FAILED

Yes Votes:

Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Barbara Ringuette
Ben Cassorla
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Lena Najarian Kaderali

No Votes:

Lorraine Getz
Nora Goudsmit
Elaine Roark
Samantha Danner
Seth Copenhaver
lanthe Zevos
Scott Gamzon
Sarah Ullman

Present, Not Voting:

Anthony Crump
Imran Syed

Anthony Crump said we should have a special meeting. He expressed concern that stakeholders may be here for agenda items that we didn't have time to discuss. Nicholas Fox-Robbins said tonight we should vote on the Nina Sorkin motion and the People's Budget motion, which is time sensitive as the City will vote on it soon..

Sarah Ullman said if we do address these two motions tonight, we must allow people to speak for the two motions.

Anthony Crump made a motion to extend the meeting for 15 minutes for. Nicholas Fox-Robbins offered an amendment to only consider the Nina Sorkin motion tonight.

Maebe A. Girl said we should discuss this as a Board. Nicholas Fox-Robbins said he is tabling his motion. We're doing just the Nina Sorkin motion now and then adjourn.

Nicholas Fox-Robbins called for a special meeting for next Wednesday night. Barbara Ringuette said that that would conflict with the monthly Urban Design and Preservation Committee meeting next Wednesday. Anthony Crump said we will schedule a meeting for sometime next week.

VOTE for 15 minute extension just for the Sorkin Motion

16-1-1

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Anthony Crump
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Nora Goudsmit
Maebe A. Girl
Tina Lin
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Barbara Ringuette
Ben Cassorla
Imran Syed
Dulce Stein
Paul Emmons
Ilanthe Zevos
Lorraine Getz
Lena Najarian Kaderali

No Votes:

Elaine Roark

Present, Not Voting:

Scott Gamzon

I) (Sorkin) Moves that the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council send a letter to Mayor Eric Garcetti and the Los Angeles City Council, with copies to Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell and Councilmember David Ryu, and Park Equity Land Trust indicating that current funding be redirected and future funding for green space and recreation areas be allocated to park-poor areas. (Letter attached).

The Nina Sorkin motion involves a letter to Mayor Garcetti et alia about green space funding. Dulce Stein seconded.

Ben Cassorla read a statement from Nina Sorkin: “Parks play a critical role in creating a decent quality of life, especially in dense urban communities like Los Angeles. Cleaner air quality, improved health and fitness, safer neighborhoods and greater overall well-being comes from living close to or within sight of green open space. In many neighborhoods, there is no place for children to play, no place for residents to gather and relax, and no place where adults and children can experience nature.” This is the opening paragraph of the 2008 Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust report. Green space should be more accessible and equitable to all families to ensure that every child live close enough to walk to a park.

Lisa Hart said she’d like to discuss a climate emergency issue. She wanted to discuss that. She’d had her hand raised earlier and has waited over 2.5 hours for her motions. Nicholas Fox-Robbins apologized for not noticing her raised hand earlier. He said the motions would probably be moved to the special meeting.

Ilanthe Zevos said equity in green space is very important. The Planning Department has been working on this for a long time. This should go to the Reservoir Committee first. It’s not appropriate to vote to take funding away without outreach to the community first.

Sarah Ullman said I’m voting no.

“Thank you to Nina for writing the letter, for your passion on equity, and for the opportunity to opine on my favorite subject, equity at the Silver Lake reservoir

I will be voting no on this letter, and I want to tell you why.

1. This letter pays lip service to ideas of equity, but in reality it would entrench the inequitable status quo at the Reservoir
2. The letter is factually inaccurate and lacks crucial context.
3. The letter misunderstands the funding process for a project like the Master Plan.

The Reservoir is a beloved community and recreation space but it is also a public park, owned by the taxpayers of Los Angeles, that lacks amenities and functionality necessary to serve the public who do not live near the reservoir. If you have young children, you can stay at the Meadow for as long as your kids can hold it because there are no bathrooms. If you use a wheelchair, you will need to wheel down the street at some points on the perimeter path. If you live in very high need and park poor South Silver Lake, well, there’s limited bike parking at the Reservoir, no protected bike lanes, and limited bus service.

As a community, we have decided to address these issues by participating in an inclusive, community-focused Master Plan process, which this letter wants us to put on hold indefinitely.

This letter quite literally asks for equity but “Not in OUR back yard.” That’s not who we are. I know that’s not who we want to be.

Secondly, The letter is factually inaccurate and lacks crucial context.

- In 2019, the Board of Supervisors approved a motion authored by Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, that ensured funding guidelines for Measure A dollars would guarantee equitable funding for neighborhood parks in communities categorized as having a very high and high park need. The concerns about equity in park funding are already being addressed with this motion.
- The letter asserts that Silver Lake is not a park poor community, but according to the Parks Needs Assessment conducted in 2016 in advance of Measure A funding distribution, South Silver Lake is a “very high need” park poor area. Though the letter does not acknowledge them, those people, our constituents, are Silver Lakers too!
- We should be focused on making the Reservoir easier for our whole community to access, travel to, and use.

Lastly,

- The letter misunderstands the funding process for a project like the Master Plan.
- The implementation of the Master Plan will be funded by a combination of private sources (assessments, donations), foundation grants, and potentially some public money, but the funding sources will be diverse, done in stages over time
- IF we apply for and are granted measure A funds, they will be granted to us from the appropriate allocation, per Supervisor Solis’s motion
- Not applying for future public funds for the Master Plan will not automatically divert money to go to Westlake or another community specifically, that’s just not how this works.

Again, thank you to Nina for creating space for this crucial conversation about equity in our public parks. However, this letter would further entrench and inequitable status quo, and for that reason, I will be voting no and urge my colleagues to do the same.”

Elaine Roark said that public access and open space is very important. We’re supposed to advocate for the neighborhood. This letter does the opposite. There are factual inaccuracies. The Department of Water and Power (DWP) has already invested \$2.9 million in the Master Plan that we’ve worked tirelessly on. We’re very excited about that. There is an education component. We’ve been working with the LAUSD. Schools

would have a place to learn about the environment. There are inequities across the board. Find ways to increase public access to green space.

Lena Kaderali said we did receive numerous emails in support of this motion. However, much of the support came from the same community members who previously expressed a desire to maintain status quo at the reservoir. This motion would make the reservoir merely a water feature to be enjoyed by the multi-million homes above it. The rest of us would merely peer through the fences.

Paul Emmons said that Los Angeles needs more green space and community park land. We have less parkland than any other major city. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to develop the reservoir. Don't take money away.

Anthony Crump said that Nina Sorkin is on the right track. I will abstain. This is how systemic inequities becomes entrenched. The people with access to foundations and master plans are the people who get the resources. The letter is fatally flawed. He wants equity in equal opportunity. This process is part of the examination of systemic racism. We need to take a hard look at how we eliminate that inequity.

Rachel Fox mentioned recommendations from the Master Plan. The City and the City Council will have to be supportive of grant applications. We are early in this process to make the reservoir more accessible to people. We will need community level support. This is a long-term project.

David Wheatley said I'm a big fan of parks. They are too important. Push this back and vote on it another time. How we use our public parks is a very important decision. Where is the money coming from?

VOTE
0-11-7
FAILED

Yes Votes:
None

No Votes:
Nora Goudsmit
Maebe A. Girl
Seth Copenhaver
Samantha Danner
Sarah Ullman
Elaine Roark
Paul Emmons

Ianthe Zevos
Lorraine Getz
Scott Gamzon
Lena Najarian Kaderali

Present, Not Voting:
Nicholas Fox-Robbins
Dulce Stein
Tina Lin
Barbara Ringuette
Ben Cassorla
Anthony Crump
Imran Syed

13) Adjournment

The meeting ended at 10:49pm.