



Serving the Silver Lake Community Since 2003

1850 W. Silver Lake Drive L.A.
Los Angeles, California 90026
Phone 323-413-SLNC (7562)
Email board@silverlakenc.org

Co-Chairs	Anthony Crump Nicholas Fox Robbins
Vice Chair	Nora Goudsmit
Treasurer Elect	Maebe A. Girl
Secretary Elect	Tina Lin

HOMELESSNESS IN SILVER LAKE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 10, 2020 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Zoom Online Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/93673497542>

or by telephone by calling **(669) 900-6833** and entering Webinar ID: 936 7349 7542#

A G E N D A

VIRTUAL MEETING TELECONFERENCING NUMBER FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely telephonically.

Every person wishing to address the Neighborhood Council must dial **(669) 900-6833**, and enter **936 7349 7542** and then press # to join the meeting. Instructions on how to sign up for public comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS – The public is requested to dial *9, when prompted by the presiding officer, to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT - As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by email: NCsupport@lacity.org or phone: (213) 978-1551.

PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS – In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at 200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 and at our website: www.empowerla.org or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Name at (213) 978-1551 or email: NCsupport@lacity.org

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.

SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN - Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte la secretaria de SLNC de la Mesa Directiva, al (323) 413-7562 o por correo electrónico secretary@silverlakenc.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.



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Notice to Paid Representatives - If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS - Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Community Bulletin Board, Silver Lake Recreation Center, 1850 W Silver Lake Drive (at Van Pelt Place) Los Angeles, CA 90026
- www.silverlakenc.org
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

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

ALL AGENDA ITEMS ARE ACTIONABLE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

- 1. WELCOMING REMARKS:** (5 minutes)
 - A. Call to order
 - B. Committee roll call
 - C. Self-Introductions of guests
- 2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** (5 minutes)

Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Committee's jurisdiction: to comment via the Zoom app, use the 'Raise Hand' function, or dial *9 via the call-in number (Up to two minutes per speaker)
- 3. PRESENTATIONS:** (5 minutes)
 - A. Updates from any City/County representatives in attendance
- 4. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:** (5 minutes)
 - A. Review and Adoption of October 13, 2020 meeting minutes [see attached]
- 5. MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:** (60 minutes)
 - A. *Discussion and possible action* to hold a joint meeting of the Homelessness Committee and Housing and Tenants Rights committee, or a meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Housing and Homelessness, in December 2020.
 - B. *Discussion and possible action* to send to the SLNC Governing Board a CIS in support of CF 20-019Z, Social Housing / International Models / Construction / Government-Owned Properties / Funding Sources [see attached draft CIS]
 - C. *Discussion and possible action* regarding Silver Lake 'community fridge' implementation as approved at the September 2020 SLNC board meeting. Possible discussion topics include location scouting, interfacing with business owners/community partners for donations, volunteer organization, and other relevant topics as appropriate.
 - D. *Discussion and possible action* regarding outreach to mutual aid organizations to highlight their services/volunteer opportunities on SLNC social media channels and in newsletter (as approved at October 2020 SLNC Governing Board meeting).



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6. **COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (5 minutes)
 - A. Co-chair or Member announcements
7. **REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** (5 minutes)
8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Homelessness Committee 10/13/2020 Meeting Minutes

1. Welcoming Remarks

a. Meeting called to order at 6:38

b. Committee Role Call

c. Committee Member Self-introductions

Samantha D. – co-chair of committee and SLNC region 1 rep

Cheryl R. – works with SELAH

Jane D. – doesn't live in Silver Lake but is a community interest stakeholder through SELAH

Maebe G. – Treasurer of SLNC and also involved with SELAH

Cathy T. – Involved in outreach with SELAH

Sarah U. – region 7 rep of SLNC, interested in working on community fridge

Zarinah W. – new to EPNC and interested in joining their homelessness/housing committee

Imran – member of SLNC governing board, committee co-chair

2. Public Comments

Cheryl - Darius (former Homelessness committee co-chair) is collecting things for recently housed people in Silver Lake

Samantha – Streetwatch is coordinating a gofundme campaign

(https://www.gofundme.com/f/family-unhoused-with-newborn?utm_source=customer&utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet&utm_medium=copy_link_all) for legal fees an unhoused couple with a newborn who was removed from them by CPS; Ianthe from SLNC Governing Board also sent a news article (<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/new-leaf-project-results-1.5752714>) to share with the committee about direct donations to unhoused people in Vancouver.

Imran – Updates on Kristal who is an unhoused person in his region; she has been taken to a hospital and is hopefully in conservatorship to protect her wellbeing (written about in LA times: <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-10-10/homeless-woman-silver-lake-mental-illness>)

Sarah – recommends sharing stories via an email to committee attendees later

Cathy - meeting with the library reconsidering budget which sunsets in December, but they are stuck with expensive security through LAPD, but want to provide services. Working on master plan. Want to have a mental health person at the library.

3. Presentations

a. Updates from City or County representatives in attendance
None

4. Administrative Items

a. Sept. 8, 2020 Minutes

Samantha makes motion, Imran seconds

No changes, minutes adopted by unanimous vote

5. Motions and Resolutions

a. *Discussion and possible action* to send to the SLNC Governing Board a CIS in support of [CF 20-0769-S2](#)

Samantha motions, Imran seconds

Jane introduces the council file: The idea for the motion, to evaluate which mental health services are available to unhoused people, was brought up by Hollywood Forward. This motion asks the county to provide a report about the status of mental health services for unhoused people. The city is not providing needed services to unhoused people with mental health needs, and the idea to have reports made is good and should be supported but we want these reports done quickly and then for real action to be taken.

Samantha – The article about Kristal mentioned earlier is a great example. Response time is too slow and COVID has made it even worse. More needs to be done for people, for example through something like a mental health emergency room.

Jane – mentions individuals in Eagle Rock with severe mental health issues. Instead of mental health services being provided, they are arrested, and in jail they don't have civil rights or access to mental health services. LAPD is not necessarily to blame but this is not a good way to deal with mental illness. Conservatorship and confinement are also issues. The system is broken.

Samantha moves for vote, motion unanimously passes. Samantha adds that she looks forward to bringing to board.

- b. *Discussion and possible action* to send to the SLNC Governing Board a CIS in support of [CF 20-1179](#)

Samantha motions, Jane seconds

Samantha – introduces the council file which proposes to use the Hollywood Rec center for interim homeless housing. Says that during COVID especially, city buildings should be used at least temporarily for a purpose like housing rather than sitting empty while taxpayers pay for the electric bill. Samantha suggests Silver Lake Rec Center to be used for this purpose as well.

Cathy – asks what happened to the St. Vincent's hospital which had been proposed as a location for homeless housing?

Jane – notes the building is owned by Patrick Soon-Shiong, the owner of LA Times. There was a bid by county to purchase the building, but it was paused during Covid.

Samantha moves for vote; motion unanimously passes.

- c. *Discussion and possible action* regarding maintenance of hand-washing stations and porta-potties at neighborhood encampments in light of complaints from unhoused residents that the City has not maintained these services during COVID-19.

Samantha motions, Sheryl seconds.

Samantha – brought up by Gabriela from Street Watch. Encampment residents complained of not having hand-washing stations or stations were out of soap, also porta-potties are not being serviced.

Zarinah – in Echo Park, bathrooms are being locked at night specifically to prevent unhoused people from accessing the area. She mentioned getting press

involved as tweets can make difference. The image issue does make it easier to get things done

Samantha – asks if anyone who has been on the Nextdoor thread about Kristal can contact Steve Lopez, author of the article about

Maebe – asked Zarinah about lights being shut off at the Echo Park Lake

Zarinah – they were put back on after demonstrations, but only after Street Watch made a lot of noise about it.

Samantha – We should get in touch with reporter

Imran – asked about locations of hand sanitizing stations in Silver Lake

Jane- handwashing and porta-potty cleaning happens on different schedules by different groups

Maebe – motions to draft letter about our disappointment and get board to sign on and send it to representatives

Jane – thinks this is a good idea and seconds

Samantha drafts letter as follows:

Dear CM Ryu and O’Farrell,

The Silver Lake NC is disappointed to hear from our unhoused neighbors in local encampments that hand washing stations and port-a-potty facilities have not been receiving adequate cleaning and maintenance, especially in light of the importance of such facilities during the Covid-19 Pandemic, this year’s devastating wildfires and the ensuing air quality emergency. We would like to see regular maintenance and cleaning of these crucial and life-saving services and we would like this maintenance to be performed consistently at least for the duration of the pandemic. We would further recommend that LA City Sanitation and any other relevant city service providers publicly release a map of available facilities and a schedule for the maintenance and cleaning of these facilities so that they may be held accountable.

Sincerely,

Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

Samantha moves to vote; letter is unanimously approved

- d. *Discussion and possible action* regarding Silver Lake ‘community fridge’ implementation as approved at the September 2020 SLNC board meeting. Possible discussion topics include location scouting, interfacing with business owners/community partners for donations, volunteer organization, and other relevant topics as appropriate.

Motion introduced by Samantha, seconded by Jane.

Samantha – talked to Catherine, a member of LA Community Fridges, who is working with the LA County Dept. of Public Health. The purpose of the meeting was to come to agreement about allowing the fridges to operate safely and legally. The county is aware that taking fridges down will be a bad look, so they are interested in working with the group to find a solution. Relevant laws include the California retail act and the Good Samaritan food donation act.

Maebe – lives near fridge east of Vermont and it seems like it is going very well and that it’s being used heavily.

Samantha – fridges are constantly running out of food, so we know we need them, but the main concern from the public health dept. is that the fridges are outside. Fridges that are inside or in more protected areas are less trafficked. One potential provision that could be made is that they may not allow homemade or prepared food.

Zarinah – one of her friends started a fridge and she would love to learn more about the laws governing community fridges, but when it becomes paper driven, it loses its “get up and go” energy.

Imran – discussed potential location of Hollywood Sunset Free Clinic. He mentioned he gives legal consulting for them.

Samantha – noted potential feasibility barriers with clinic

Sarah – Suggested area near Silver Lake Ramen as potential location

Samantha – noted that nearby there, Café Tropical was a no, but there are multiple businesses nearby that may be willing hosts. Adds that there is a Silver Lake Fridge group on the LA Community Fridge Slack and all are invited to join. Will keep this on agenda for future discussion.

- e. *Discussion and possible action* regarding outreach to mutual aid organizations to highlight their services/volunteer opportunities on SLNC social media channels and in newsletter (as approved at October 2020 SLNC Governing Board meeting)

Samantha – has come up with a list including:

- Waterdrop
- Mutal Aid LA
- SELAH
- Ktown for All
- Silver Lake Community Food pantry
- Eva Woods charity

6. Committee member announcements
none
7. Requests/motions for future agenda items
none
8. Adjournment
Adjourned at 8:05pm

Community Impact Statement

Council File 20-0197

Social Housing / International Models / Construction / Government-Owned Properties / Funding Sources

The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council is in support of the proposals in Council File 20-0197, which recommends that the city consider social models of housing similar to those implemented in Vienna, Austria, Singapore, and Finland, among other locales. The measure seeks to understand how social housing might be funded and implemented here in Los Angeles. At the 11/4/2020 City Council meeting, this item was adopted and will soon be sent to the Chief Legislative Analyst and the Housing and Community Investment Department for further study.

While the council's adoption of this item is a positive step, the need for more affordable housing in Los Angeles is dire, with more people being evicted and falling into homelessness due to lack of affordable housing every day. Beyond merely studying the issues and making reports that take months or even years to be considered, we believe action is needed right away. We would like to see the implementation of pilot social housing programs and the expansion of existing [public housing options](#) in Los Angeles, and we would like to see City Council determine other similar actions that can be taken right away.

Board Member votes: YES _____ NO _____ ABSTAIN _____

Meeting Date:

Agenda Item #: