

Committee Members:

Christy Adair – Chair
Penny Gilbert - Secretary
Penny Johnson
Barbara McDermott
Thelma Mericle
Jesse Smith
Cissy Varkey-Altamirano

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council

Public Safety Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 6:30pm



Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council
P.O. Box 5721
Sherman Oaks, CA 91413

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In conformity with the 9/16/21 enactment of California Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) and due to concerns over Covid-19, the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council's Public Safety Committee meetings will be conducted entirely with a Call-In option or Internet-Based Service at this time.

Every person wishing to address the Committee must either dial 1-669-900-6833 and then enter 842 7040 8817 and then press # to join the meeting - or join the meeting from Zoom's landing page using Webinar ID: 842 7040 8817. If the public wishes to address the Committee on any agenda item before the Committee takes an action on an item, the Public will wait to be addressed by the presiding officer before commenting. If accessing the meeting by phone, the public is requested to press *9. If accessing by computer, public is requested to click on a "raise hand" button. 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 Committee's jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that the public brings to its attention during the Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become an item on a future committee meeting agenda. Public Comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker unless adjusted by the presiding officer.

AB 361 Updates: Public Comment is not required to be submitted in advance of the meeting; only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Committee's control, the meeting will be recessed or adjourned.

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 Section 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.

The Neighborhood Council system enables meaningful 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 stakeholder volunteers who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities.

AGENDA

1. The Public Safety Committee (“PSC”) Call to Order - Christy Adair, Chair 6:32pm

2. Roll Call – Penny Gilbert, Secretary

Present: Christy Adair, Penny Johnson, Barbara McDermott, Thelma Mericle, Jesse Smith
Cissy Varkey-Altamirano

Absent: Penny Gilbert

3. Introductions – Committee, City Officials and Staff

Per Ryan Ahari, CD4 Field Rep, May 2022 update shared:

- CD4 & PD worked together to get the walls repainted of Sugar Taco and Fit House.
- CD4 is hosting a Caltrans Clean Up at the 101 Sepulveda southbound onramp on May 18 at 9:00AM. We're always looking for volunteers.
- CD4 is hosting an LA Compost Demonstration at the Westfield Farmers Market on May 24 at 2:00PM-5:00PM.
- Funds for the Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Park Tennis Courts, the Benedict Canyon Improvement Project, a Kester Elementary crossing guard, left turn arrow at Riverside & Fulton, and crosswalk at Magnolia & Valleyheart.
- CD4 is working to keep Sherman Oaks clean and beautiful. Please help them out by flagging any abandoned buildings, trash, and graffiti.

Ryan’s cell 213-424-2412 or email ryan.ahari@lacity.org. Please share this information with residents so that they can reach me.

Homeless statistic: it takes 19 touches to get someone indoors!!!

4. Covid-19 Crisis Update – Jesse Smith

Omicron most common variant! Vaccines and Boosters Continue to Protect Against More Infectious BA.2 Subvariant and Sub-lineages.

The daily positivity rate was below 2.5% for the last 7 days

- 2,044 New COVID-19 cases (2,897,513 cases to date)
- 4 New deaths due to COVID-19 (32,000 deaths to date)
- 252 people currently hospitalized with COVID-19
- More than 11,901,000 individuals tested; 22% of people tested positive to date

With cases rising in LA County and across the country associated with the highly infectious BA.2 subvariant and sub-lineages, getting vaccinated and boosted is an important strategy to prevent serious illness, especially as there are many upcoming opportunities for celebrations and observances this month.

For the week ending April 16, Omicron accounted for 100% of all positive cases that were sequenced, with the BA.2 lineage and sub-lineages accounting for 96% of these positive sequenced specimens in LA County. For the week ending April 30, the CDC estimates that BA.2

accounted for 62% of sequenced specimens and BA.2.12.1 accounted for 37% of positive sequenced samples in the U.S.

To date, the increases in case numbers have not translated to increases in severe illness, with hospitalizations and deaths remaining low and decreasing.

5. Sherman Oaks Senior Lead Officer Update – Barbara McDermott

From April meeting: block Capt. Meeting:

SLO Saldana: Lots of mail theft. Lock your mailbox, stop mail when leaving town.

Barbara: Social Media MisInformation tip: if you find mail dumped, please return to post office/put in a postal box. It will be delivered.

At 4400 block of Woodman – indecent exposure & was arrested because someone called!!
6/23 – There is an upcoming Police Academy. Free at the Davis Training Facility in Granada Hills – 1/wk 6-9pm.

Flyer to put up on Cissy has it. 18 yrs of age.

Sign up for free USPS notifications - they send you a photo of your mail before it is delivered.

SLO Romo's Suggestions:

Burglaries from motor vehicles up by 36% - mostly underground pkg lots.

1. Make sure gate closes behind you!! It allows people into the garage.
2. Take clickers w/you! Thieves take them & then have access to underground parking lot.
3. Mail thefts – apt. complexes & buildings. Buzzed in by residents!! They go straight to mailboxes. Lock your house mailbox.

Keep car registration out of car – gps “home” – use different name like “home” actually has fire station address.

Board Q's:

Deceased person at Ventura & Van Nuys/ Union 76 station (yes, homeless person – died natural causes)

Cat converter thefts in SO a problem? Yes, increase 6-7 in South since January. Romo has had slight increase too. Thieves sell them for \$800-\$1000 for them. Serial # on them;

CA: SW Division hosting cat conv etching program.

Romo – SO Auto Detectives hosting “cat conv etching – May 13th for 50 victims.

Thelma: friend got a lock \$150 on hers!

CA: Crime mapping application – how do I get update? Romo: use the citizens app

People living in motorhomes/vehicles will be impounded. Will that happen? Saldana says they have no power to impound them. They can impound empty vehicles. No impound yard & tow truck that can easily move/store them.

Jessie: Burbank Blvd & Noble – been there from months on a restricted area (4-6pm could be a safety issue). Barbara: says to contact **Officer Gutierrez**.

6. General Committee Topics

- Discuss recording each PSC Committee Meeting in full
PJ – we can record or post only audio/video
Barbara – worried about misinterpretation
Cissy – little uncomfortable as well. Said in jest interpret wrong.
Jeffrey – no need full transcriptions of the meetings.
Christy to put on agenda for Voting next month.

7. Speaker Ideas for future Meetings and Promotion of PSC Meetings

Topic Possibilities

- Vector Control
- Map Your Neighborhood
- Kid-Safety themed Workshop

Promoting the Speaker Meetings

- SONC Newsletter (need text and/or flyer by the 20th)
- Social Media
- PSC Email Contacts Lists

Cissy will reach out for Kristin!!

Penny Johnson will contact Anais at Vector Control

Jessee & Cissy:

Back to school in August – crossing guard safety. Walk to school at Kester & SO Elementary and one north of the blvd.

partner with CD4 Office

(KMA self-defense – Nikki Fong –)

Cissy: use other SO vendors!! Spread it around. Different types of presentations!

So Cal TKD – Scott.

8. LAFD Community Emergency Response Team “CERT” Updates

- Proposed Class at Sherman Oaks Galleria – Tuesdays: June 21 through August 2
 - Parking Cost associated (up to \$525)

1st 25 who register – get free parking!!

If validate at Starbucks – then validate

- First Lutheran Church – Van Nuys
- First Presbyterian Church – Sherman Oaks

- CERT Staging Area Kits

Patrick Botz-Forbes, California Disaster Preparedness, spoke about SONC approving the first SO Disaster Staging Area Kit. He would like help locating a facility to host the Kit.

- Works with: CERT, Map Your Neighborhood, Neighborhood Watch.
- 6 session NTP lectures – disaster med; disaster prep; coms; n-hood security; leads to Drill.
- Jeffrey: knaack box needs

9. Public Comments – Comments by the public on non-agenda items within the Public Safety Committee’s jurisdiction.

10. Committee Response to Public Comment

11. Administrative Motions - Action Item; Vote Required.

- a) Motion to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2022 Public Safety Meeting.
Vote pushed to next month

10. Final Committee Business and Announcements

Studio City May 21st – planning mtg Thursday at noon.
SC Drill: 12061 Moorpark St, SC from 9:30-12:30pm

Thelma: Weddington Golf Course – if want to take action, contact CD4 office.

Jeffrey: Thank you for your service

11. Adjourn at 8:29pm

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE RESOURCES:

- For **LAFD CERT** information, check the www.CERT-LA.com website
- For Emergency Preparedness Continuing Education classes, sign up at join.ntp-la.org
- For **Map Your Neighborhood**, contact Barbara at Barbara.McDermott.Sonc@gmail.com
- For **Neighborhood Watch Groups**, contact Cissy at Cissy.Altamirano.Sonc@gmail.com
- To **SUBSCRIBE** to receive monthly meeting announcements and agendas, contact: SoncPScommittee@gmail.com
- For **Neighborhood Watch** info, contact your local Senior Lead Officer (“SLO”). To find your SLO: <https://www.lapdonline.org/> | Your LAPD | Find Your Local Police Station
- For **LAPD volunteer opportunities**, contact Officer Jason Jimenez in the Community Relations Office at 38903@lapd.online, or call (818) 374-5420.

ONGOING RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PRACTICE OPPORTUNITIES:

Weekly Walkie-Talkie Radio Check-In: Every Sunday at 10am: Channel 20 (or Ch 17 if 20 is busy), we check-in around the Valley to see how far our voices can be heard. We practice checking-in, moving locations around the home until someone can hear us. Simple radios are a good source of emergency communication with your immediate area which could help if we experience a valley-wide disaster. The PSC suggests you pull-out a walkie, put in fresh batteries, and listen to next Sunday’s net to see if you can hear anyone.

Weekly Sunday Morning Lake Balboa Amateur Radio Net: Every Sunday at 9am on Simplex 145.570 we have a weekly net for Ham Radio Operators transmitting around the SF Valley and beyond. It is a formal, but friendly, net where information is exchanged on a variety of topics. It is especially great net for NEW Hams.

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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 our website: www.ShermanOaksNC.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 email the SONC Secretary at: stacey.segarra.bohlinger.sonc@gmail.com

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RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS -- For information on the NC’s process for committee action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website www.ShermanOaksNC.org.