

**Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council**

Finance Committee

Jeffrey Hartsough, Chair, CI-2
Levon Baronian, B-1
Howard M. Katchen, R-3
Lisa Petrus, R-4
Cheryl Shapiro, Stakeholder

CITY OF LOS
ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council



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Neighborhood
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DRAFT Minutes

Regular Finance Committee Meeting (Virtual)

Wednesday, March 29, 2023, 6:30 PM

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 stakeholders who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities.

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

- a. Call to Order by Jeffrey Hartsough, Chair
Meeting called to order at 6:35pm.
- b. Roll Call
Present: Baronian; Katchen; Petrus; Hartsough
Absent: Shapiro

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MOTIONS

A motion to approve the Minutes of the Wednesday, February 22, 2023, Finance Committee Meeting.

[DRAFT Minutes February 22, 2023, Finance Committee Meeting](#)

Howard Katchen moved to approve the minutes as submitted.

Seconded by Lisa Petrus

Discussion: None

Roll Call Vote:

Approved: Baronian; Katchen; Petrus; Hartsough

Absent: Shapiro

Motion passes 4 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

III. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

None

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT -- Comments by the public on non-agenda items within the Finance Committee's jurisdiction.

None

V. TREASURER'S REPORT

- a. **The end of the FY23 year is fast approaching. Last day to submit check payment requests is June 1, 2023.**
- b. **This is the last virtual Finance Committee meeting. April's meeting will be in person.**
- c. **The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at the Sherman Oaks Public Library. The meeting will begin at 6:30pm and will need to conclude by 8:00pm when the library closes.**

VI. FUNDING MOTIONS

a. SONC Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) February 28, 2023

A motion to approve the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council's (SONC) Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for the period ending February 28, 2023.

[SONC MER February 28, 2023](#)

Howard Katchen moved to approve the SONC Monthly Expenditure Report for the period ending February 28, 2023.

Seconded by Jeffrey Hartsough

Comments from the Public: None

Discussion by Committee:

Lisa Petrus asked if the \$10,000 budgeted for Neighborhood Purposes Grants (NPG) restricted the amount available for NPGs. It was clarified that the \$10,000 was a budget figure not a limit.

Roll Call vote:

Approved: Baronian; Katchen; Petrus; Hartsough

Absent: Shapiro

Motion passes 4 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

b. NPG Neighborhood Purposes Grant – Kester Ave Elementary PTA

A motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$5,000.00 to the Kester Ave Elementary PTA in support of the school's Kester Farms gardening program.

[NPG Application Kester Ave Elementary PTA – Garden Program](#)

Lavon Baronian moved to approve the Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$5,000.00 to the Kester Ave Elementary PTA in support of the school's Kester Farms gardening program.

Seconded by Howard Katchen.

Introductory remarks by the Chair included a summary on anticipated expenses that totaled \$15,500, the current funds shown as available on the February MER (\$21,000) and asked that both the Committee and those presenting NPG applications be aware of the limits of funds that may be available for NPGs.

Presentation of NPG Application:

Jessica Raymondjack, representing the Kester Avenue Elementary PTA, presented the NPG for the Kester Farms gardening program.

Public Comments:

Joe Cappelletti, Chair of the SONC Education Committee: Supports the NPG application.

Fran Kerzner: Supports the NPG application.

Public Comment is closed.

Discussion by the Finance Committee:

Lisa Petrus: Expressed concern that limited funds are available and a desire to support each of the NPG applications that are on today's agenda.

Chair Hartsough tabled Item 6b, allowing for consideration of Items 6c and 6d.

c. NPG Neighborhood Purposes Grant – Sherman Oaks Chamber Foundation

A motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$2,762.50 to the Sherman Oaks Chamber Foundation in support of the Foundation's graffiti control program of painted utility boxes in Sherman Oaks. [NPG Application Sherman Oaks Chamber Foundation – Graffiti Program](#)

Lisa Petrus moved to approve Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$2,762.50 to the Sherman Oaks Chamber Foundation in support of the Foundation's graffiti control program of painted utility boxes in Sherman Oaks.

Seconded by Howard Katchen.

Presentation of NPG Application:

Fran Kerzner, representing the Sherman Oaks Chamber Foundation, presented an overview of the NPG.

Public Comments:

None offered.

Time for Public Comment is closed.

Discussion by the Finance Committee:

Lisa Petrus expressed concerns about available funding and priorities. Hartsough identified a few administrative issues with the application that need to be addressed.

Chair Hartsough tabled Item 6c, allowing for consideration of Item 6d.

d. NPG Neighborhood Purposes Grant – Los Angeles Responsible Pit Bull Owners (LARPBO)

A motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$4,577.50 to the Los Angeles Responsible Pit Bull Owners in support of LARPBO's dog owner training program at the Van Nuy Sherman Oaks Park.

[NPG Application LA Responsible Pit Bull Owners – Dog Owner Training](#)

Lisa Petrus moved to approve the Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$4,577.50 to the Los Angeles Responsible Pit Bull Owners in support of LARPBO's dog owner training program at the Van Nuy Sherman Oaks Park.

Seconded by Jeffrey Hartsough

Lisa Petrus, speaking on behalf of the Los Angeles Responsible Pit Bull Owners (LARPDO) presented an overview of the NPG. In addition to the dog training programs LARPDO provides, LARPDO supports the Los Angeles City Animal Shelters in socializing and training Animal Shelter dogs.

Public Comments:

None offered.

Time for Public Comment is closed.

Discussion by the Finance Committee:

None

Chair Hartsough tabled Item 6d.

Finance Committee Discussion:

Regarding Items 6b, 6c, and 6d, the Finance Committee discussed how to allocate a target amount of \$6,000 among the three NPGs – 6b, 6c, and 6d.

Item 6b - NPG Neighborhood Purposes Grant – Kester Ave Elementary PTA

With unanimous approval, Item 6b is brought back before the Finance Committee for consideration.

Lisa Petrus moved to amend the NPG amount for the Kester Avenue Elementary PTA, Item 6b, be \$2,500.

Seconded by Howard Katchen.

Public Comments:

Tara Kroeger: Supports the NPG. Kroeger did question the granting of funds for personnel expenses.

Joe Cappelletti: Supports the NPG and developing relationships with Sherman Oaks' local schools.

Time for Public Comment is closed.

Returned to Committee for discussion:

No Discussion

Roll Call Vote on Amendment to Item 6b:
For: Petrus, Katchen, Baronian, Hartsough
Against: None
Absent: Shapiro
Motion passes 4 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Roll Call Vote on Item 6b as amended:
A motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$2,500.00 to the Kester Ave Elementary PTA in support of the school's Kester Farms gardening program.
For: Petrus, Katchen, Baronian, Hartsough
Against: None
Absent: Shapiro
Motion passes 4 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Item 6c: NPG Neighborhood Purposes Grant – Sherman Oaks Chamber Foundation

With unanimous approval, Item 6c is brought back before the Finance Committee for consideration.

Lisa Petrus moved to amend the NPG amount for the Sherman Oaks Chamber Foundation, Item 6c, be \$1,300.

Seconded by Howard Katchen.

Public Comments:
None offered.
Time for Public Comment is closed.

Returned to Committee for discussion:
No discussion.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment to Item 6c:
For: Petrus, Katchen, Baronian, Hartsough
Against: None
Absent: Shapiro
Motion passes 4 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Roll Call Vote on Item 6c as amended:
A motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$1,300 to the Sherman Oaks Chamber Foundation in support of the Foundation's graffiti control program of painted utility boxes in Sherman Oaks.
For: Petrus, Katchen, Baronian, Hartsough
Against: None
Absent: Shapiro
Motion passes 4 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Item 6d: NPG Neighborhood Purposes Grant – Los Angeles Responsible Pit Bull Owners (LARPBO)

With unanimous approval, Item 6d is brought back before the Finance Committee for consideration.

Lisa Petrus moved to amend the NPG amount for the Sherman Oaks Chamber Foundation, Item 6d, be \$2,200.

Seconded by Howard Katchen.

Public Comments:

None offered.

Time for Public Comment is closed.

Returned to Committee for discussion:

No discussion.

Roll Call Vote on Amendment to Item 6d:

For: Petrus, Katchen, Baronian, Hartsough

Against: None

Absent: Shapiro

Motion passes 4 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

Roll Call Vote on Item 6c as amended:

A motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$2,200 to the Los Angeles Responsible Pit Bull Owners in support of LARPBO's dog owner training program at the Van Nuy Sherman Oaks Park.

For: Petrus, Katchen, Baronian, Hartsough

Against: None

Absent: Shapiro

Motion passes 4 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

e. NPG Neighborhood Purposes Grant – Sherman Oaks Friends of the Library

This NPG Application has not been received.

f. 2023 SONC Movies in the Park (From the Outreach Committee)

It is hereby moved to approve up to \$4900 for SONC's Summer Movie Series at the Van Nuys Sherman Oaks War Memorial Park. Funds will go towards film rental/licensing fees, projection services, children's activities possibly including Bubble blowing services, face painting and other family friendly activities. Funding will also be applied to acquiring SONC Branded promotional materials.

Motion from the Outreach Committee:

Moved to approve by: Lisa Petrus

Seconded by: Howard Katchen

Public Comments:
None offered.
Time for Public Comment is now closed.

Discussion by the Finance Committee:
Lisa Petrus: Petrus would encourage SONC to invite community organizations to participate and perform at SONC's Summer Movie Series.

Roll Call Vote on Item 6f:
For: Petrus, Katchen, Hartsough
Against: None
Absent: Baronian, Shapiro
Motion passes 3 yes, 0 no, 2 absent

VII. FINANCE COMMITTEE BUSINESS

a. Policies for Expenditures and Reimbursements – For Discussion and Recommendations

The SONC Rules Committee has asked for a review of the SONC Rules, Item 4. Policies for Expenditures and Reimbursements.

[SONC Standing Rules, Section 4. Policies for Expenditures and Reimbursements \(April 8, 2013\)](#)

Upon its review, the Finance Committee approves the policies for Expenditures and Reimbursement (as revised and approved by the SONC Board, April 8, 2013) as presented.

VIII. FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The Finance Committee meeting adjourned at 8:38pm.