

Committee Members

Rules & Elections
Jay Beeber, Chair
Sue Steinberg
Carolyn Casavan
Neil Roden
Ron Ziff
Lisa Petrus
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CALIFORNIA



**SHERMAN OAKS
NEIGHBORHOOD
COUNCIL**

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Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

Rules & Elections Committee Meeting

**MONDAY, April 6, 2015
6:30 p.m.**

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The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Committee on any item of the agenda prior to the Committee taking 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 is within the Committee's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the Committee Chair. 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, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request.

AGENDA

1. Call to order by Jay Beeber, Chair
2. Public comment on non-agenda items
3. **Action Item: Amend Article IV STAKEHOLDER definition in SONC Bylaws.**

Membership is open to all "Stakeholders." A "Stakeholder" is defined as any of the following:

A. Residential Stakeholder: A Residential Stakeholder is any person who lives or whose residence is in an area defined in Article III, Section 2.

Question: Shall the SONC further define "lives" or "residence" to ensure that only those stakeholders whose primary residence is in the area or who spends a significant portion of their time living in the area qualifies under this definition?

(continued)

B. Business Stakeholder: A “Business Stakeholder” is any person who works for, manages or owns a business in an area defined in Article III, Section 2.

Question: Shall the SONC further define “works for”, “manages”, or “owns” to ensure that only those stakeholders whose primary place of employment is in the area?

C. Community Interest Stakeholder: A Community Interest Stakeholder shall be defined as those who live, work, or own property in the neighborhood and also to those who declare a stake in the neighborhood as a community interest stakeholder, defined as a person who affirms a substantial and ongoing participation within the Neighborhood Council’s boundaries and who may be in a community organization such as, but not limited to, educational, non-profit and/or religious organizations. (Current Definition)

Previous Definition:

Community Interest Stakeholder: A “Community Interest Stakeholder” is any person who identifies himself/herself as a Stakeholder not solely because of their residential or business status. “Community Interest Stakeholders” include but are not limited to those who volunteer for, participate in, or are affiliated with, educational institutions, religious institutions, community organizations or non-profit organizations based in an area defined in Article III, Section 2, and also to those who declare a stake in such an area and affirm the “factual basis” for it.

Question: Shall the SONC clarify that those who only live or work in the area but do not qualify under any other definition of Community Interest Stakeholder are excluded from qualifying as a Community Interest Stakeholder?

Example: Joe lives in area 1. The current definition of Community Interest Stakeholder would qualify Joe as a Community Interest Stakeholder solely because he lives in area 1. In effect, this allows Joe to run for either a Residential or Community Interest Stakeholder seat in area 1. This also allows stakeholders who only qualify under A or B above to comprise a majority of the board.

Question: Shall the SONC clarify what qualifies as “substantial and ongoing participation”?

Proposed Amended Definition:

Community Interest Stakeholder: A Community Interest Stakeholder shall be defined as those who declare a stake in the neighborhood as a community interest stakeholder, not solely due to qualifying under a residential or business definition of Stakeholder. Community Interest Stakeholders are those persons who affirm a substantial and ongoing participation within an area defined in Article III, Section 2, and who may be in a community organization such as, but not limited to, educational, non-profit and/or religious organizations.

(continued)

2. Possible Action Item: Amend SONC Bylaws with respect to stakeholders' eligibility to vote for Board Seats.

Current Bylaws:

A. Residential Stakeholder - may vote for candidates in all three Stakeholder categories within their area.

B. Business Stakeholder - may vote for candidates in all three Stakeholder categories within their area.

C. Community Interest Stakeholder - Currently, Community Interest Stakeholders may only vote for Community Interest Stakeholder seats but not Residential or Business Stakeholder Seats.

Question: Shall Community Interest Stakeholders be permitted to vote for all three Stakeholder categories within their area or just the Community Interest Stakeholder category?

4. Action Item: Amend Attachment B of SONC Bylaws to conform to any amendments to the Bylaws.

5. Action Item: Amendments to SONC absence policy for board members and executive committee members. (Time permitting)

Amendments to our current policy have been voted on by the full board once and need a second vote to be adopted. The committee may make additional changes before sending back to the full board.

6. Announcements

7. Adjournment