

Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council

**Green & Sustainability
Committee**

Drew Johnstone, Chair
Amanda Martin
Elizabeth Meshes
Harold Shapiro
Mihran Kalaydjian
Sarina Klemes

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



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

Website:
www.ShermanOaksNC.org

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council

Green and Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 19, 2025, 6:30 pm
14245 Moorpark St, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423

1. **Call to Order** - Meeting called to order at **6:30pm** by Chair Drew Johnstone.
2. **Roll Call** - Present: Drew Johnstone, Amanda Martin, Harold Shapiro
Absent: Elizabeth Meshes, Mihran Kalaydjian, Sarina Klemes
Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Councilmember present: Howard Katchen
Public present: D'Aundrea Williams
3. **Comments by Public Officials**
4. **Chair's Report** - Chair Drew Johnstone welcomed those in attendance.
5. **Committee Business and Discussion, Potential Motions**
 - a. Committee Priorities and Website Updates

Attendees held a brainstorming session around

Amanda:

- Work with LADWP to spread awareness about building electrification incentives and financing
- Spread awareness about gas leaf blower ban and promote incentives to swap to electric equipment

Harold:

- Welcome to Sherman Oaks signs with plants around it
- Co-sponsor a tree and succulent giveaway
- Recruit and coordinate volunteers to help clean litter
- Promote SONC at street fair and movies in the park - good to invite vendors/LADWP
- Noise pollution reduction
- Nature conservancy
- Budget for Beautification project
- Banners along street (think of a nice message)
- Tree planters
- Council Dist. 4 sponsors cleanups (Colleen is the field deputy, Emma is Field Dir.)
- Brainstorm survey ideas to the community about happiness/anger/why littering/welcome to Sherman Oaks sign/slogan

Drew:

1. Water Conservation and Drought Resilience

- Updates on LADWP water conservation programs.
- Promotion of drought-tolerant landscaping and native plants.
- Encouraging adoption of greywater systems and rainwater harvesting.

2. Urban Heat Mitigation

- Tree planting initiatives to increase canopy coverage.
- Promoting cool roofs and reflective pavement to reduce heat islands.
- Community education on reducing energy usage during peak heat.

3. Waste Reduction and Composting

- Expansion of community composting programs.
- Encouraging residents and businesses to participate in food waste reduction.
- Promoting alternatives to single-use plastics.

4. Renewable Energy Adoption

- Promoting solar panel and battery storage installations for homes and businesses.
- Exploring community solar programs to make renewable energy accessible.
- Discussing local incentives for energy efficiency and electrification upgrades.

5. Sustainable Transportation Options

- Advocating for safer bike lanes and pedestrian pathways.
- Promoting electric vehicle (EV) adoption and expanding EV charging stations.
- Supporting carpooling and public transit incentives.

6. Emergency Preparedness and Climate Resilience

- Educating the community on wildfire prevention and safety.
- Creating emergency response plans that account for climate change risks.
- Encouraging the use of sustainable building materials for fire resistance.

7. Urban Agriculture and Community Gardens

- Identifying vacant lots for potential community gardens.
- Partnering with local schools to establish educational gardening programs.
- Promoting backyard gardening and sustainable food systems.

8. Green Business Certification and Incentives

- Supporting local businesses in obtaining green certifications.
- Encouraging participation in sustainability practices like zero waste.
- Recognizing sustainable businesses in the community.

9. Community Education and Outreach

- Organizing sustainability workshops and events.
- Promoting youth involvement through eco-clubs and school programs.
- Engaging diverse communities to ensure inclusivity in sustainability efforts.

10. Policy Advocacy and Funding Opportunities

- Exploring available grants for sustainability projects.
- Advocating for local and state policies that promote sustainability.
- Collaborating with neighboring councils to amplify efforts.

The committee discussed tools that can be used for scheduling meetings and community outreach, such as Doodle/Google Drive/IG/Nextdoor/Constant Contact.

Harold informed the committee that the Chair can write articles/blurbs in the SONC newsletter.

The committee discussed spending more time at the next meeting prioritizing goals and initiatives that may require fiscal year 24-25 funding.

b. Schedule for Future Meetings

First and third Wednesdays are available at the library and could work for committee members. First week of April would be ideal.

Harold suggested asking Lindsey Imber about collaborating with other committees like the Outreach Committee.

6. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items Within Committee Jurisdiction

7. Closing Remarks by Committee Members

Discussion followed.

8. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned (unanimous consent) at 7:45 pm.

THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

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, assisted listening devices, or 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 by contacting

the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: NCsupport@lacity.org

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: stacey.segarrabohlinger@gmail.com.

PUBLIC AGENDA POSTING – Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Sherman Oaks Public Library, 14245 Moorpark St, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423.
- www.ShermanOaksNC.org
- Via e-mail subscription with L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS -- For information on the NC's process for board 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.