

Committee Members:

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

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



Sherman Oaks
Neighborhood Council



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

Website:
www.ShermanOaksNC.org
General Email:
SoncPScommittee@gmail.com

Public Safety Committee Meeting
July 12, 2023 @ 7:00pm

MINUTES

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Stacey Segarra-Bohlinger, Secretària, al stacey.segarabohlinger.sonc@gmail.com para avisar al Concejo Vecinal. 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.

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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.

Public Safety Committee Meeting

Minutes

1. The Public Safety Committee (“PSC”) Call to Order – Susan Collins, Chair

2. Roll Call – Penny Gilbert, Secretary Call to order: 7:05pm
Susan Collins, Christy Adair, Barbara McDermott, Penny Johnson,
Penny Gilbert

Absent:

Jesse Smith, Thelma Mericle, Cissy Varkey-Altamirano
(No Attendees)

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from PSC Meeting held on May 27th, 2023 by acclamation

4. Introductions & City Updates – Committee, City Officials and Staff: No Committee Introductions, No City Updates

5. Sherman Oaks Senior Lead Officer Updates: SLO Update by Susan Collins:
Increase in crime against the elderly. Retail stores victimizing elderly by selling them expensive products and / or services they do not need. The stores making these sales usually have policies stating All Sales Final / No Returns or Exchanges. Christy Adair would like to post notice of these crimes throughout the community.

Our Senior Lead Officers suggested not to intervene if we see a transaction like this taking place, but note it and call the Police Department and report it.

SLOs also advised of an increase in phone scams.

6. Public Comments: Comments by the public on non-agenda items within the Public Safety Committee’s jurisdiction:
No Public Comments

7. Items for Discussion by the Committee - Susan Collins: proposed hosting PSC Outreach events every 2-3 months. Meetings would be held at commercial establishments on varying days and times.

8. “But Did You Call?” - Barbara McDermott: There have been numerous social media posts regarding people hearing or witnessing the theft of catalytic converters but not calling police at the time they hear or see it. There have also been posts where someone has seen a stranger running through a backyard hopping fences, or has heard someone screaming in distress, but the police weren't called. These things should be reported to LAPD at the time of the incident or as soon as possible when the person might still be in the area. Even if suspects have just fled, information provided in a call to police at the time of the incident can be broadcast to area officers, possibly resulting in police being able to catch the suspects. For someone screaming in distress, call 911, even if you don't have an exact location for the person.

Text-to-911 is available. Give the address/location where help is needed, and whether you need police, fire, or paramedics, then answer the operator's questions, if possible. Text-to-911 should only be used in emergencies when it's not possible or not safe to call 911. Texts are handled by the same operators who answer 911 phone calls, and an operator answering a text-to-911 is not able to answer other calls during the text session.

9. LAFD / CERT Updates - Christy Adair: Christy is anxious to get another class started before the end of this year.

In January 2024 there will be the first Spanish language CERT class in the Valley.

10. Final Committee Business and Announcements: None

11. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting Adjourn: 7:55pm

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 16 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.

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 based on 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 the SONC Secretary at: stacey.segarr.bohlinger.sonc@gmail.com

PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS – Neighborhood Council Committee agendas are posted for public review at: Sherman Oaks Public Library, 14245 Moorpark Street, SO, CA 91423 and www.ShermanOaksNC.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>

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.