

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: Christian Rubalcava

VICE PRESIDENTS:

Administration: Andres Rubalcava

Communications: Maria Silva

TREASURER: George Ortega

SECRETARY: Michelle Underwood



P.O. Box 921023, Sylmar, CA 91392-1023

Telephone: (818) 833-8737

E-mail: Board@SylmarNC.org

Website: www.SylmarNC.org

MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - MINUTES

Thursday, November 8, 2018 - 6:30 PM
Oakridge Mobile Home Park - Clubhouse
15455 Glenoaks Blvd., Sylmar, CA. 91342

Committee Chair – Diane Valencia
Vice Chair – Tom Weissbarth

Sylmar Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes are a summary, not an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript of what was said at a Meeting. The only two exceptions are the Motions shown in italics and quotes shown with quotation marks (“ ”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words. The Minutes are not, nor were they ever meant to be, a comprehensive record of what was said about an issue or project.

1. Call to Order

Diane Valencia called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM.

2. Housekeeping: Sign-In Sheets, taking of Minutes, etc.

Diane Valencia covered basic housekeeping items, indicated that Kathy Grubert would assist with taking the Minutes and thanked Linda Willeford and the Oakridge Mobile Home Park for continuing to host the Committee meetings at their facility.

3. Roll Call of Committee

Members present: Diane Valencia, Tom Weissbarth, Kathy Grubert, Bonnie Bernard.

4. Appointment and/or removal by Committee Chair of Committee Member(s)

No action taken.

5. Public Comment on non-agendized matters, within the Committee’s subject matter jurisdiction.

Armando asked how to get rid of our City officials who are unresponsive. Penny reported that # of RVs currently parked in the San Fernando Road between Cobalt and Polk is 44, and the # of RVs in the Encinitas area is 2. Kathy Ellis reported that today there was trash/homeless belongings piled up on the Sylmar Post Office property and wondered how to get it cleaned up, and members of the SNC Public Safety Committee informed her that the property owner is responsible in such cases. Another stakeholder wondered why there is no longer a security guard in the Von’s parking lot. Tom Weissbarth gave a tip on things to have on hand in case of a fire: goggles made for wildland fire fighting to protect your head, a firefighter’s hood to protect your head, and dust masks to protect your lungs. Tom also reported that there was a public safety town hall meeting in Van Nuys put on by CD6 (Nury Martinez’s district). Tom encouraged everyone to watch the video of the meeting on CD6’s Facebook page. Aleni Lopez shared that she is new to our meetings and shared her public safety concerns related to homelessness and RV parking and asked what was being done about it. Diane Valencia and other committee members spoke about the purpose and work of the Sylmar Neighborhood Council and our Public Safety Committee. Another stakeholder suggested distributing a handout with information of who/where to contact about public safety issues. Marty agreed to help compile a contact list.

6. Public Official Comments / Presentations, including Q&A.

Ann Marie Rodriguez, CD7 was unable to attend.
LAPD Senior Lead Officers were unable to attend.

7. Discussion and possible action to approve the draft Minutes of the October 18, 2018 Special Public Safety Committee meeting.

Draft Minutes not ready to present for approval; postponed until next month.

8. LAPD Mission Division Report / Updates – LAPD / Tom Weissbarth

Tom reiterated that everyone should watch the CD6 public safety town hall Facebook video.

9. Discussion and possible action regarding ongoing reports of public safety concerns / illegal activity in the area of Encinitas Avenue, between Roxford Street and Bledsoe Street - UPDATE.

Diane provided an update and shared that she continues to follow the issue.

10. Discussion and possible action regarding ongoing reports of public safety concerns / illegal activity in the area of Silver Oaks Drive (cul-de-sac) - UPDATE.

Diane provided an update on the Silver Oaks Driver cul-de-sac and the possibility of getting a “nuisance” ordinance assigned there. Apparently when report issues stakeholders need to provide an address: Diane reported that anyone reporting an issue can use the address of 16301 Silver Oaks Drive.

11. Discussion and possible action regarding open / action items of the Public Safety Committee, including a review of the Committee’s work to date.

Diane reported that she has been unable to get any response to the concerns she has raised with public officials and the Equestrian Committee regarding public safety issues at Stetson Ranch. Linda Willeford reported that Oakridge residents, with help from Captain Torres, removed a homeless encampment in Stetson Ranch. Also, Oakridge has resumed responsibility for locking the gate to Stetson Ranch at dusk each night.

12. Discussion and possible action regarding local LAFD resources in Sylmar. (Follow-up from August and October 2018 Committee meetings). Discussion to include possibly drafting a Public Records Act request regarding past payments and contracts between the City of Los Angeles and the City of San Fernando, special taxes levied (Mello-Roos) related to City of Los Angeles Community Facilities District No. 8 (Legends At Cascades), and disposition of land acquired for LAFD Station 31.

Diane shared the history and current state of efforts to get a 2nd fire station in Sylmar and how acquiring these public records could help to locate resources for a fire station.

Motion made by Tom and seconded by Bonnie to a draft a Public Records Act request regarding 1) past payments and contracts between the City of Los Angeles and the City of San Fernando; 2) special taxes levied (Mello-Roos), from its inception until now, related to City of Los Angeles Community Facilities District No. 8 (Legends At Cascades).

Motion Passed: 4/0/0

Motion made by Diane and seconded by Tom to inquire about the disposition of land acquired for LAFD Station 31 via a letter to Ron Galperin and inquiry on County Assessor’s office website, as well as asking Peter Postlmayer.

Motion Passed: 4/0/0

13. Discussion and possible action regarding the presentation of Stakeholder petitions and/or letters which pertain to public safety / quality of life issues in Sylmar.

Topics suggested were: RV parking, sidewalk clutter, illegal sidewalk vending, homeless encampments, equity among city council districts, hillside homeless encampments and associated fire risks. Diane

suggested we assist stakeholders in writing form letters for letter-writing campaigns (e.g. prohibiting vehicle dwelling and homeless encampments in Very High Fire Severity Zones). Penny agreed to write a letter on the topic of equitability of RV parking. Linda agreed to work on a letter on the topic of hillside homeless encampments and associated fire risks.

14. Committee Member Comments on subject matters within the Committee’s jurisdiction

Diane shared that there will be a Thanksgiving Community Appreciation BBQ Dinner & Concert for First Responders on Friday, November 16. The event is free and open to the public and is being held at All Nations Church, which is located at 10000 Foothill Blvd, Lake View Terrace.
Per Bonnie, Oscar will be at the Sylmar Public Library to offer services to the homeless every Wednesday between 1-3pm.

15. Future Agenda Items: Please e-mail the Committee Chair, Diane Valencia, at Diane.Valencia@SylmarNC.org

Stakeholders asked to hear from someone from Eric Garcetti’s office, Captain Moore, Captain Cortez, our new sheriff, and Monica Rodriguez.

16. Closing Remarks, Announcements, Acknowledgements, and Adjournment

Diane Valencia called for adjournment at 8:46 pm.

Committee Meeting Minutes are available on the SNC website www.SylmarNC.org