

Sycamore Square Neighborhood Association July 2018 Session Minutes

July 08, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Conrad Starr at 10:11am.

Board members present included Mr. Starr, Joshua Kirchmer, Steve Senigram. Neighbors were also present, including Jacob Ali.

Approval of Minutes

CS will reach out to Sarah Cohen for her minutes from March 8, as well as DB from June 2018. Approval of minutes from July 2017 passed unanimously.

10:12a Joy joined the meeting.

JC resigned her board seat, citing concern with the Board's lack of liability insurance. JC expressed that should the Board obtain liability protection for its members, she would be interested in coming back on. JK requested she follow up with formal letter of resignation to the Board. JC obliged and said she would send something this week (7/9/18-7/16/18).

10:20a Joy left the meeting.

JK moves to proceed direction to New Business, motion passes unanimously.

Reports

Treasury Report - Nothing new to report

SSNA LUC - CS will do his best to follow what's going on, as Giorgio's resignation has left the committee without a chair.

SSNA Traffic Committee - This committee is without a chair. JK will follow up with former chair Joy Calisoff for information. Mr. Starr informed the board that the Do Not Block Intersection / Keep Clear markings for eastbound Wilshire at Citrus have been approved by DOT, though DOT is backlogged and they could not provide an estimate of installation date.

SSNA Communications Committee - JK will grant access to SSNA Minutes to Board Members so they are available to them. JK updated the "Welcome Message" feature of Nextdoor to let new members know some information about the neighborhood. JK looking to

implement individual outreach to new members to encourage participation, including residents at 5200 Wilshire..

Community Meeting Reports --

GWNC June Meeting - Mr. Starr provided updates from the early portion of the GWNC meeting, including: GWNC Board elections are proposed to be in April 2019.

Mr. Starr informed the board that Mr. Senigram agreed to run for that GWNC board and to receive SSNA's endorsement in 2016, and that at that time the term was only to be until 2018, but that with election reform, the term was extended to 2019. Mr. Starr thanked Mr. Senigram for staying on the GWNC board longer than the original commitment.

Per Rob Fisher, the Transit Neighborhood Plan (TNP) can provide an overlay to counteract the Transit Oriented Communities (TOC)

GWNC Outreach July 7 - Motion (C. Starr): The SSNA will use its social and email resources to announce the Soft-Story Town Hall, scheduled to take place in August prior to the GWNC Board Meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

LAPD - Field Roll Call - Local LAPD Officer's gather in neighborhood, CS sought potential location and will reach out to Wilshire Crest School, Formosa Presbyterian Church, ask Leonardos Shopping Center. --

LAPD Community-Police Advisory Board Highlights:

1. Since March 15, there have been no fatalities in West Traffic Wilshire. Half of recent traffic citations in West Bureau (contains 5 divisions) were in Wilshire (where we reside). There has been a 10% reduction in overall collisions since April.
2. During summer, there is normally an increase in motor vehicle v. pedestrian collisions, which may be attributed to children playing outdoors and in the street; however, in Wilshire these collisions have gone down recently. Get the word out to drivers to watch for kids in residential areas.
3. Robberies, aggravated assaults, burglaries and burglary from motor vehicles are all up; violent crimes are spread evenly throughout the Division. Property crimes are higher at the northern end of the Division.
4. Wilshire added net 6 additional officers, allowing for a couple more cars to patrol the area.
5. Field Roll Calls have been increased to 5-6 times per week. Community members are invited to contact their Senior Lead Officer to request Roll Call in their area.
6. Tammy Rosato and Kari Garcia will begin to roll out Neighborhood Watch trainings at C-PAB. The LAPD website on Neighborhood Watch is being updated based on their efforts.

Block-by-block organization empowers citizens to secure property, utilize private patrol, and actively participate in neighborhood watch.

Unfinished Business--

1. **Street/Sidewalk repaving/repair** - postponed to next meeting.
2. **Illegal Yard Sale Sycamore at Olympic** (Wilshire Crest School) - LAPD was present on Saturday 07/07, per Giorgio's letter
3. **Annual Meeting** - CS has unanimous consent from SSNA to look for alternatives to street closure for Annual Meeting.

New Business

1. SS said Daniel Brook is suing him and the previous owner of 835 S. Orange drive on the grounds that Mr. Brook did not know of the ICO in place when he purchased the property at 835. S. Orange.

CS brought up the litigation and DB's board seat and its effects on the SSNA. CS spoke to a member of the GWNC regarding the issue of Board Members taking legal action against one another and how that could impact their ability to operate as Board Members.

CS thanks SS for making the Board aware of this information.

CS asked SS -- do you feel uncomfortable with DB on the board. SS said he did not know how he felt yet, as DB was not in attendance for the meeting today.

SS expressed concern of the optics of SySq finding out about the litigation, and CS intends to send a letter to DB addressing the litigation as it has been brought to the SSNA to inquire about DB's tenure on the Board and possible intention to resign.

SS stated that he himself has no intention to resign from the Board.

CS commented that rushing elections and not having stakeholders and SySq appropriate time to consider candidates has potentially contributed to issues with the Board's membership, and suggested a further discussion of how future elections are held. SS and JK concurred.

--- Board Resignations -- Giorgio

CS noted that at June 2018 meeting GS and had a heated discussion regarding the Illegal Yard Sale (Sycamore and Olympic Blvd), as well as his motion for a bylaws change.

--- Board Resignation / Board Vacancies -- Sarah

JK spoke about Sarah's board seat, and encouraged any stakeholders who have interest in the board to observe the Board's meetings for a time in order to understand what it means to be on the Board.

5. Cannabis Retail Application - From what CS has observed, these storefronts don't have negative impact on surrounding community.i

Board Comments

CS gained the board's support to write a letter in support of Rascal to stay open in light of new parking restrictions. CS will draft and send to Board for comments.

Public Comments

Jacob talked about homeless encampments outside the Cyber City during the late hours of the night. CS suggested writing a letter to the management of the space and the LAPD to alert them of the issue and see how they can help.

Scheduling

SSNA August Meeting is scheduled for Sunday August 5 at 10am.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:29am.