

## **Sycamore Square Neighborhood Association August 2018 Session Minutes**

### **August 5, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by President Conrad Starr at 10:12am.

Board members present included Mr. Starr, Joshua Kirchmer, Steve Senigram, and Daniel Brook. One neighbor was present: Lori Nakama.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Kirchmer moved to approve minutes from July 2018. Vote passes 3-0-1.

Mr. Starr moved to postpone adoption of the June 2018. Unanimous approval.

Mr. Starr will consult his notes from March 2018 meeting, as no notes or draft minutes have been sent by Sarah Cohen

#### **Reports**

**Treasury Report** - Mr. Senigram stated that former member Sue Horwitz should be around to provide a check for deposit into the Treasury. Mr. Starr mentioned a group called Community Partner that has partnered with unincorporated neighborhood associations to aid them with various fiduciary tasks.

**SSNA LUC** - Mr. Starr briefly described the Transit Neighborhood Plan. These are complicated plans intended to densify neighborhoods surrounding future transit hubs. See attached page **\*\*attach page\*\***. Mr. Starr describe the areas that will be affected by the TNP will primarily be on Wilshire Blvd and La Brea blvd.

Neighbor Lori mentioned that since the construction of the 5150 Wilshire building, she has experience a degradation in water pressure. Mr. Starr reported power fluxuations; Mr. Senigram and Mr. Kirchmer also mentioned experiencing power fluxuations as well. LN mentioned existing traffic woes and how they could be increased by constant construction and new buildings.

Mr. Starr made a motion to have the SSNA use it's social media accounts to disseminate information and gather neighborhood opinions on the TNP and draft a letter stating the neighborhood's position to DOT. Mr. Kirchmer seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

**SSNA Traffic Committee** - The KEEP CLEAR box on the corner of Citrus and Wilshire. Mr. Kirchmer mentioned he has seen a positive effect in the morning, but Mr. Senigram and LN reported that in the afternoons it is not working. Mr. Starr recommended they capture instances so that the LAPD may take action. Mr. Senigram mentioned the “no right turn” sign is not on the correct side of the street to prevent drivers from turning on to neighborhood street.

**SSNA Communications Committee** - Mr. Kirchmer reported having updated the administrator’s “welcome message” on Nextdoor with links and board information. Since that time, he has seen a significant uptick in mailing list subscriptions. He reported that he and Mr. Starr recently met to discuss communications and outreach, and that they used data from mailing list subscriptions and from Nextdoor to figure out where outreach can be improved to get people interested in taking part in the board. – Lori Nakama was identified this way. More targeted outreach could be useful. Mr. Kirchmer proposed board members introduce themselves to their neighbors face-to-face. There was universal agreement by the Board. Mr. Starr reported that he has personally reached out to four people on Nextdoor as potential board members. The committee will find a time to meet and to create an outreach template.

### **Community Meeting Reports --**

**GWNC July Meeting** - Mr. Senigram reported that nothing affecting Sycamore Square was discussed.

**LAPD** - LAPD Community-Police Advisory Board Highlights:

- Waze - most folks use it for navigational purposes, but there is a "cop" button within the app that users can select to report police sightings in the area which sends notifications to other Waze users. Why don't residents use the tool to defend their neighborhoods? If you overuse the “drop a cop” feature, you can be marked as an abuser, so to use it sparingly.
- Homicide at Venice and Hauser gas station - both suspects have been arrested.
- On July 1st, 10 patrol cars and one helicopter were dispatched to the Midtown Crossing shopping center after reports of youths believed to be coming from World on Wheels causing general havoc, including throwing firecrackers at passersby and battering customers in the CVS. Previously there were reports of adult patrons ransacking a 7-Eleven store on Pico. The neighborhood prosecutor is preparing a report on the incident.
- Kari Garcia of Miracle Mile and Tammy Rosato of La Brea Hancock continue to build their neighborhood watch programs and are offering a roadmap to C-PAB members wishing to start programs in their neighborhoods.

**Unfinished Business--**

1. **Street/Sidewalk repaving/repair** - Mr. Brook sent email to Rob Fisher about findings of concrete repaving vs asphalt repair. Rob Fisher needs to follow up; Mr. Brook will follow up this week (08/05) if nothing new is heard.

2. **Illegal Yard Sale Sycamore at Olympic** (Wilshire Crest School) - Mr. Kirchmer reported that he didn't see them the previous day. Mr. Senigram reported that former board member, Giorgio Bosso, is still working on the issue with the City, and that all 4 vendors have been issued citations. Ms. Nakama reported that she saw police at the location on the previous weekend.

3. **Annual Meeting** - Mr. Starr moved to allow the Annual Meeting to be rescheduled to November. Mr. Brook mentioned that his schedule had changed to accommodate the Annual Meeting in October and that if it is moved to November he will be unable to attend in the first two weekends of November.

4. **Open Board Seats** - There were no nominations.

### **New Business**

1. Motion 8/5/18:

That a committee consisting of the Sycamore Square Neighborhood Association (SSNA) President and Secretary be appointed by the chair to investigate whether recent conduct by SSNA Board Member (officer) Daniel Brooks has tended to injure the good name of the Sycamore Square Neighborhood Association Board of Directors, disturb its well-being, and/or hamper it in its work, and that said committee will provide a report of its findings at the September SSNA Board meeting, or sooner if a Board meeting is called to address this matter.

Mr. Starr proposed an amendment to correct the spelling of Mr. Brook's name. The amendment passed unanimously.

In discussion Mr. Starr explained via Robert's Rules the steps that will occur.

Mr. Brook stated he feels being penalized, and Mr. Senigram should also be included in the investigatory process. Mr. Brook proposes the following amendment to the motion:

To add "Board Members (officer) Daniel Brook and (Treasurer) Steven Senigram". Mr. Senigram discussed Mr. Brook's filing of the lawsuit and its effect on recent resignations. Mr. Brook stated that there is nothing in the bylaws or Robert's rules preventing members from exercising their legal rights.

The vote on the amendment 2-2-0.

The amendment does not pass. The main motion as amended was put to a vote.

Mr. Senigram abstained from vote on main motion.

Vote is 2-1-1

The motion passes.

Resolved: That a committee consisting of the Sycamore Square Neighborhood Association (SSNA) President and Secretary be appointed by the chair to investigate whether recent conduct by SSNA Board Member (officer) Daniel Brook has tended to injure the good name of the Sycamore Square Neighborhood Association Board of Directors, disturb its well-being, and/or hamper it in its work, and that said committee will provide a report of its findings at the September SSNA Board meeting, or sooner if a Board meeting is called to address this matter.

## Board Comments

Mr. Starr reported having encountered Gem Aggabao from Conroy Commercial at Comerson, and that she reported that the Firestone brewpub was still being planned.

Mr. Kirchmer mentioned Rascal is still operating.

Mr. Starr reached out to Wilshire Crest to host the LAPD Field Roll Call at their eastern parking lot, and that the school will give consideration following the reapplication of asphalt on that lot.

## Public Comments

No comments.

## Scheduling

SSNA September Meeting is scheduled for 10am, Sunday, September 9.

## Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:28am.