



Outreach Committee Meeting Minutes

Special Neighborhood Leaders Meeting

Monday, April 30, 2012, 7:00pm

Robertson Recreation Center, Child Care Room
1641 Preuss Road, Los Angeles 90035

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Marj Safinia called the meeting to order at 7:00.

Present: Marj Safinia, Kimber Smith, Doug Fitzsimmons, Bette Billet, Barry Levine, Meredith Levine, Beth Ryan, Victoria Frankel, HarSimran Khalsa, Maria Gray, Michele Wytko, Gary Garcia, Scott Diamond, Mary Earl, Elsa Morales, Myrna Morales, David Giron, Phoebe Neil, Tiffany Ismail, Officer Hope, Officer Dela Torre, Officer Houston, Officer Ojeda

II. General Public Comment

- Tiffany Ismail from Jumpstart at UCLA announced a Literacy Fair open to all on Saturday May 12th from 10am-12pm at UCLA's Wilson Plaza. The event would include fun activities for kids and access to resources for parents. Plenty of books and ways to stimulate literacy. Jumpstart is a part of Americorps and is specifically focused on working with economically disadvantaged pre-school kids.

III. New Business

- HarSimran Khalsa – Annual Peace Picnic
 - Peace Picnic to happen mid September, avoiding Jewish Holidays. Around the International Day of Peace. Seeking some financial and community support. Current needs include \$300 for sounds system, \$215 for lawn signs, 200 printed flyers and shade structures. Request for SORO NC to help store shade structures. HarSimran will contact SoRo Inc. about possible support.
- 2012 Susan Bursk Community Service Award
 - Nominations are open for the Bursk Award. Review of criteria, request of all neighborhood associations to make nominations and to spread nomination forms to community. Also posted on soronc.org.
 - Bette has questions about email submissions being made possible for nominations. Also questions about being able to nominate more than one person (a team) for the award. Mary Earl explained process for suggesting amendments to rules was via letter to SoRo Inc.
- 2012 SoRo Festival
 - Sunday June 3rd. New Leadership. Request for community participation
- KCET Departures project
 - Community leaders briefed on collaboration with KCET/Departures project. Request for leadership to seek out great stories, current and historical, about our area. Request for help sourcing great materials. Scott has original Beverlywood document of intent. Victoria has original Beverlywood map. Gary has original Hamilton Campus map. Michele has stories about some of gang history in area. Maria Gray to follow up with story about Bob's Big Boy. Great community enthusiasm for project.
- Proposed 24-hour 7-Eleven at Robertson and Cadillac

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- SORO NC informed leadership of proposed project. Request for help disseminating information to their communities about SORO NC's May 17th board meeting. Community leaders expressed strong desire not to see a 7-Eleven here. Concerns about traffic, crime, proximity to sober living, general character of Robertson that they are hoping to revitalize. Request to check on traffic accident statistics for that corner. Some NAs to consider writing formal letters to oppose project to SORO NC. Residents from Cadillac also expressed concerns about safety for pedestrians walking there. Overabundance of bad food choices already in short walking distance. All leaders in agreement of opposing project.
- Neighborhood Association Workshops
 - Short presentation from Beth Ryan about project. Request for help from other neighborhood groups. Strong desire expressed by two attending Cadillac residents to help generate neighborhood organization in the local area. Stress on design of program to be inclusive, representative and to provide support from outside, with leadership and direction being determined by folks on the inside of each area.
- Update from Neighborhood Leaders and areas of concern
 - RVNA seem to be noticing uptick in graffiti recently. Working hard to maintain paid membership.
 - Crestview organizing annual block party. Changes to come on Crestview leadership. Beth Ryan to retire as President December 31.
 - La Cienega Heights experiencing little relief from ongoing problems. Spike in drug dealing in area. Increase in number of panhandlers at Chevron/Cadillac/La Cienega, very little LAPD presence visible on the street. Storm drains in area not being cleaned. Causing flooding behind CVS. Michele to email Marj specific locations. Accidents at Cadillac and Shenandoah. Illegal taco truck still operating at car wash on Sawyer and La Cienega into early morning hours.
 - Hamilton to celebrate 80th anniversary of first graduating class. Sunday May 20th from 12pm-6pm. All are welcome.
- LAPD officers present introduced themselves to neighborhood leadership and spoke a little about some of the work they do with youth in the area.

IV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm