



Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Brian Kite
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Nick Burkhart
Secretary

**South Robertson
Neighborhoods Council**

PO Box 35836
Los Angeles, CA 90035

P: (310) 295-9920
F: (310) 295-9906
E: info@soronc.org

soronc.org



Outreach Committee Minutes

Monday, November 28, 2011, 7:00pm

Robertson Recreation Center (Childcare Building)
1641 Preuss Road, Los Angeles, CA 90034
(Corner of Robertson and Airdrome)

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairs called the meeting to order at 7:10.

Board Committee Members Present: Bette Billet, Doug Fitzsimmons, Barry Levine, Troy Richardson, Marj Safinia, Kimber Smith

Community Committee Members Present: N/A

Committee Members Absent: None

Guests: Oliver Summers, Greater LA Collective Alliance (GLACA), Christian Smith, Dominic Desmond

II. General Public Comment

Committee and guests discussed some of the central concerns around medical marijuana dispensaries. Much of focus was on the 4 dispensaries operating within a block of each other along Robertson between Beverlywood and David. Doug noted that the issue of concern is not about legalization or safe access. Rather it's about unregulated business spawning out of control and compromising the character of the community including:

- Proximity to schools and houses of worship: one of them shares a border with a synagogue and 4 of them operating within 1000 feet of Shenandoah elementary school.
- Kelly's Collective, and Westside are open 24/7, serve food and beverages, and allow smoking on premises.

Oliver runs a dispensary on Melrose and used to run a self-described "model dispensary" in SORO NC boundaries. Oliver noted that members of GLACA regulate themselves and adhere to the following restrictions: only sells to patients > 21yrs, 2oz limit, do not operate within 1000 ft or sensitive areas. GLACA is promoting an idea that would only permit the 134 licensed dispensaries operate and pay taxes. This measure would only leave one dispensary (Pure Life Alternative) in SORO.

III. New Business

A. Town Hall on Medical Marijuana dispensaries

The issue of Marijuana dispensaries has reemerged because SORO NC President Doug Simmons and SORO NC Outreach Co-chair Marj Safinia have received multiple calls from concerned stakeholders about new dispensaries opening along South Robertson. Dispensaries have also reemerged as a hot button issue in LA City Council as two Councilmembers, José Huizar and Bernard Parks recently forwarded motions to ban dispensaries until a case before the California Supreme Court provides legal clarification local municipalities' authority to regulate them. Committee and guests discussed format, tone, and timing of a Town Hall to address this important and timely issue.



Objectives – productive dialogue. Opportunity for city officials to hear from the community and provide clarity on the relevant issues.

Participants – residents/stakeholders, collectives, city attorney, city council members, patient issues spokesperson.

Timing – Mid January (9th or 16th) TBD

Location – TBD. Large turn out expected. Doug verifying if must be held within SORO physical boundaries.

Partners – Doug speaking with Westside Region Alliance of Councils (WRAC), among other potential partners.

No vote taken.

B. Mayor’s Day of Service event March 2012

Committee discussed options for participating in Mayor’s Day of Service 2012 which will focus on food policy and hunger. Ideas included coordinating with some of the great ongoing efforts of the SORO NC Green Team including fruit picks and delivery to SOVA and the upcoming community tree planting.

IV. Old Business

- a. Review of Town Hall 2011 – Robertson Rec Center
- b. We are SORO project – updates and collaborations
- c. Business Mixers for 2012
- D. Editorial Policy

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.