



Green Team Committee Minutes

Thursday July 7, 2016 at 6:30pm
Robertson Library
1719 S. Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles CA 90035

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair called to the meeting to order at 6:50p.m.

Board Committee Members Present: Barry Levine

Committee Members Present: Paula Waxman, Saran Kirschbaum, Anne Geffner,
Kathy Lewis, Martin Epstein, Maureen Garcia

II. General Public Comment

- a. Barry Levine announced 2-4 150-year-old trees slated to be cut down as part of sidewalk repair on Cadillac. Contacted city to request notification of permit hearing.
- b. Paula Waxman described the night-before notification she was given when she requested notification for 6 large ficus trees near LA Fitness that had been selected to be cut down due to "disease". Because of the short notice she was unable to attend the meeting where a tree removal permit was issued in 24 hours.

III. New Business

- a. Attendees introduced themselves. Kathy – Canfield Garden Coordinator and previous Green Team member. Barry – SORO Board Member, Education Chair and member of other committees, Martin Green Team member and community advocate, Maureen- Canfield First grade teacher and community supporter, Saran- long time Green Team member and neighborhood cleanup advocate, and Paula- Chair of Green Team for 7 years, past SORO board member and Hamilton Garden Coordinator. The following were elected to fill these Offices: Paula Waxman – Chair, Barry Levine and Martin Epstein - Vice Co-Chairs and Kathy Lewis-Secretary.
- b. Budget for 2016-2017
\$4,000 for planting trees and tree maintenance and \$500.00 for Hamilton Garden. Total \$4,500.00
- c. Program Proposals 2016-2017
E-Waste (after Christmas), Tree Planting (no later than Feb.) Street Clean-Ups (Spring), plan SORO Festival 2017 Eco Car Expo, go on Field Trips to Sanitation Facility, High School environmental program, Solar Array, and tour LA River. Projects to consider: Turn broken and dangerous Cadillac Sidewalks into a bike path to connect La Cienega to Robertson, while also Producing Green energy with some kind of moving track, and lastly launch Green Team Newsletter.

Also, Green Team should consider partnering with Tree People to address overgrown tree/broken sidewalk issues that cause the City to panic and issue permits within 24 hours that legalize the cutting of our communities trees.

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Kevin Gres
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Beth Hirsch
Secretary

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- Everyone needs to get involved by joining a project committee.
- d. Murals on neighborhood utility boxes are prohibitively expensive and therefore probably not a realistic project.

IV. Unfinished Business

a. Tree Planting

1. Plantings: Seventeen trees were planted on La Cienega last year. Two were cut down illegally. Paula is going to talk to the businesses.

2. Maintenance: Six one hundred year old healthy ficus trees are too big for their boxes. The parkway is 22 feet wide with plenty of room to enlarge the boxes but the trees were permitted to be cut down with in a 24 hour notice. Green Team should bring this type of problem to the attention of Tree People and work with them to find a solution.

b. Green Buildings Checklist

Land use gives variances for Big Mansions. There should be trade-offs that benefit the environment: solar panels for heating pools, rain capture system and drought tolerant plantings to conserve water.

c. Any month that there is no project to plan for, speakers will be invited to come and present information about subjects like: global warming, water conservation, public school green team's projects (starting with elementary in Sept.) and Urban Forestry.

d. Cap and Trade Grant

Grants that are awarded projects that reduce carbon, such as efficient transportation to Robertson Expo Station were available parking has been reduced by half, are no longer available because of diminishing returns from the unsustainable cap and trade program.

Adjournment 7:10. Next meeting scheduled for August 4th 2016 in the Robertson Library.