



# Public Safety Committee Minutes

Monday, August 4, 2014 7:00pm

Robertson Recreation Center  
1641 Preuss Rd., Los Angeles, CA 90035

## I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Michael Lynn called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

**Board Committee Members Present:** Michael Lynn, Victoria Martin, Beth Hirsch, Leo Portal, and Jon Liberman (joined at 7:45 pm).

**Community Committee Members Present:** Robyn Braun.

**Committee Members Absent:** Michael Bloom, Kenneth Lowenstein.

**Guests:** Rick Ballesteros (LAPD), Maria Grey (LAPD)

## II. General Public Comment

- a. **Street Repairs.** Leo Portal brought up the issue of street repairs, specifically, a crosswalk painted red on Robertson Boulevard near Hamilton High School that should be painted white and the process for reporting and remedying the issue. Michael Lynn suggested using the City of Los Angeles My LA 311 application to report the street repair via mobile phone. There was discussion by the Committee about whether this was a CD-5 (Koretz office) issue or a CD-10 (Wesson office). Robyn Braun stated that the topic of discussion is both a CD-5 and a CD-10 issue because it touches both sides. To conclude the discussion, Leo Portal stated he will investigate further and e-mail Michael Lynn photos of the crosswalk. Michael Lynn will e-mail Liz Carlin at CD-10.

## III. Old Business

### a. Neighborhood Watch Committee

#### 1. Crime Alert Flyer - area summary for July.

Crime Alert Flyer area summary for July 2014 as reported to the Los Angeles Times was given out to Committee Members. Michael Lynn stated that not all crimes that have occurred in the SORO community are on the flyer for various reasons and that even though a call is put into LAPD does not necessarily mean there was a crime reported. Only reported crimes are on the Crime Area Flyer.

#### 2. LAPD Briefing.

Leo Portal had questions for LAPD about the speed radar sensor request for La Cienega Boulevard between the two local schools. Officer Ballesteros said that La Cienega Boulevard is a street for speed and that the LAPD does monitor La Cienega Boulevard. The speed radar sensor may not be appropriate for La Cienega. Leo Portal mentioned having a speed radar sensor at the Airdrome intersection.

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Kevin Gres**  
Vice-President

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**Aimee Zeltzer**  
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

City of Los Angeles Certified  
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Officer Ballesteros said that the speed radar sensor will go back up in another week and then again in another two weeks. Leo Portal mentioned accidents at La Cienega and Robertson Boulevards because no one follows the speed limit and that community members are concerned. Leo Portal stated that he has photos of accidents that have occurred at La Cienega and Robertson Boulevards. Officer Ballesteros stated that he is looking into this issue.

Michael Lynn brought up a grey car that speeds regularly on Corning Street. Officer Ballesteros stated that he is aware of this.

Victoria Martin had follow up questions regarding a suspicious Latino man in his 20's-30's that has been primarily following and harassing women in the community, specifically La Cienega Heights and Crestview neighborhoods. Police reports were filed. Officer Ballesteros reported that this man's photo was put on the LAPD smart board, but no identification has been made yet.

Officer Ballesteros reported that the City of Los Angeles went down to #2 from #5 in terms of crime. There has been an increase in grand theft auto, aggravated assault, and robberies. Officer Ballesteros mentioned that four individuals who have been causing issues with female security in La Cienega Plaza (at Garth/Sawyer) have been identified by the LAPD. LAPD has met with the gang unit and narcotics unit. One individual has a warrant and others are on probation. Officer Ballesteros stated that once these four individuals are in custody there will be less crime in the community.

There was discussion about graffiti in the area and Michael Lynn stated that graffiti seems to be down. Officer Ballesteros stated that people should report any graffiti to My LA 311 application with a description and color of graffiti and include any photos.

There was discussion about an e-mail that was sent to Liz Carlin by Michael Bloom about water main breaks in the community. Officer Ballesteros was e-mailed because Liz Carlin thought Michael Bloom had written break-ins in the body of his e-mail as opposed to breaks in water pipes. Breaks in water pipes is not an LAPD issue.

Maria Grey of LAPD stated that crime in the area under Officer Ballesteros jurisdiction is down 35%.

### **3. City Attorney Briefing.**

There was no City Attorney Briefing.

## **b. Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee**

### **1. LAFD Briefing.**

There was no LAFD Briefing.

### **2. 5 Step Disaster Plan.**

Michael Lynn stated that there is a 5 Step Disaster Plan currently available, but it is not SORO specific. LANCC provided a 5 Step Disaster Plan brochure at their most recently meeting. Michael Lynn stated that there will be a subcommittee created to work on a SORO specific 5 Step Disaster Plan, which will be spearheaded by Michael Bloom. The SORO specific 5 Step Disaster Plan will be given out to the SORO community by the Outreach Committee. Volunteers to assist on the brochure will be solicited by e-mail. Beth Hirsch had the 5 Step Disaster Plan brochure in her possession that was provided by LANCC and wanted to know if she could provide the brochure to the Castle Heights Neighborhood Association. Michael Lynn said ok.



### c. Committee Priorities for 2014-2015

There was Committee discussion about the Public Safety Committee's priorities for 2014-2015 with a focus on budget. Financial needs for 2014-2015 will be brought to the Finance Committee's next meeting. The priorities for 2014-2015 in no specific order are:

1. Emergency Expo
2. CPR Classes
3. Neighborhood Watch Project
4. Emergency Preparedness Plan
5. Emergency Supplies

Neighborhood Watch Project: Victoria Martin brought up cost estimates for window decals for Neighborhood Watch project. SLB printing, a SORO business, and Merch N More both provided estimates of approximately \$500 for 1000 lawn signs and \$445 for 1000 window decals totaling \$1,000 for both lawn signs and window decals. Victoria Martin stated that the decals and/or lawn signs would be SORO branded, but have the words Neighborhood Watch on them. There was discussion by Committee as to the purpose of the decals and lawn signs. Leo Portal asked if there could be decals to replace over the older, worn out Neighborhood Watch signs members of the community have. Leo Portal also brought up that the Crestview Neighborhood Association has mixed feelings about SORO NC and that there may be an issue with SORO NC branding on public safety materials for the community. There was discussion about a preference for window decals versus lawn signs. Robyn Braun said in a previous discussion by the former Public Safety Committee yard signs were preferred to window decals. A SORO logo for the yard signs was not established because homeowners want to blend in and do not want to be targeted. Michael Lynn mentioned that we already have yard signs and stated that these decals and/or lawn signs would be for every Zone within SORO. Robyn Braun brought up potentially getting a discount or free window decals and lawn signs. Robyn Braun stated we should spend less on lawn signs and more money on the Emergency Expo. Michael Lynn brought up that the Committee is seeking corporate donations for the Expo.

At 7:45 PM Jon Liberman joined the meeting.

Emergency Preparedness Plan: Jon Liberman brought up the Emergency Safety Preparedness Plan. Michael Lynn stated that Michael Bloom is working on a brochure. Michael Lynn asked Jon Liberman about how many pages and what the cost would be. Jon Liberman provided dimensions for brochure of 8 1/2 x 14, 4 fold and would cost approximately \$500 for design and printing. Jon Liberman suggested co-sponsoring with a business or non-profit to offset Committee production costs. Deadline to print is December 2014. Committee has eight months to work on the Emergency Preparedness Plan brochure. Michael Lynn stated that Michael Bloom will be tied up with religious holidays and asked if anyone from the Committee wants to volunteer to work with Michael Bloom on the brochure. Beth Hirsch volunteered to work with Michael Bloom on the brochure. Michael Bloom and Beth Hirsch will collaborate on this and discuss with Jon Liberman.

CPR Classes: Michael Lynn stated that the actual price of the classes are \$1,750 for 50 people, but Committee paid \$1,250 for the classes. The classes are on Saturday (Music Room at SORO Recreation Center) and Sunday (Simon Wisenthal Center) and are generally full. Interested individuals who didn't enroll were turned away. There was discussion by Robyn Braun and Jon Liberman about how funding for CPR classes was almost lost last year, but Michael Lynn stated that there is



evidence that the classes are full so this shouldn't be a problem. There was Committee discussion about keeping the cost at \$1,750 for the CPR classes.

There was Committee discussion about budget estimates for 2014 - 2015 to present before Finance Committee Meeting and it was agreed that the total budget will be \$5,250 with a breakdown of costs below:

Emergency Expo: \$1,000

Neighborhood Watch: \$1,000

CPR Classes: \$1,750

Emergency Preparedness Plan: \$500

Emergency Supplies: \$1,000

Total Budget: \$5,250

#### **d. Planning a CHP car seat checking day**

1. Discussion was tabled for next meeting because Michael Bloom is absent.

#### **e. Timeline for 2015 Emergency Preparedness Expo**

Michael Lynn stated that there will be a designing games deadline of January-February 2015, a PR campaign beginning in April 2015, and Social Media campaign beginning in April-May 2015. Michael Lynn discussed and shared the potential corporate sponsorship list. Each Committee member picked 2-4 corporations to contact for potential sponsorship and/or grant money ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000. The Committee member will contact the sponsorship and/or grant person or department at the corporation. Jon Liberman stated that July 1 is the start of the fiscal year so sponsorship and/or grant money may be allocated already. Michael Lynn stated that the Public Safety Committee had no corporate sponsors for the Emergency Preparedness Expo previously and that the goal is to obtain \$10,000 to \$15,000 by December 2014. The total cost involved for the Emergency Preparedness Expo is \$15,000 to \$20,000. Michael Lynn will e-mail Committee members what they have signed up for. Committee members should contact potential corporate sponsors as soon as possible. Michael Lynn is working on a letter to send to the corporate sponsors.

### **IV. New Business**

#### **a. LADWP Water Piping Age - Safety Issues**

Michael Lynn addressed the LADWP Water Piping Safety issue and stated that there is not a lot of information about this issue as of right now. Michael Lynn contacted LADWP and is waiting on a reply. Liz Carlin (Wesson's office) has information to provide to us. Jon Liberman suggested inviting the head of LADWP to our next meeting to provide us with information regarding the water piping issues. Contact person at LADWP gets back Tuesday from vacation. Robyn Braun stated that LADWP patches the pipes, which is a temporary fix and not a long term solution. Leo Portal stated that this is a good idea and also brought up contacting someone at SoCal regarding gas lines and discussed the situation that occurred in San Bruno (Bay Area) where a gas line burst causing significant damage to the community in San Bruno.

### **V. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 pm