

SEPTEMBER 21, 2022 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order at
7:04 p.m.

Roll Call (1 min)

Kim Clements:	Present
Dean Cutler:	Present
Randall Fried:	Absent
Ira Gold:	Present
Jeff Hartwick:	Present
Julie Houlihan:	Present
Scott Mandell:	Present
Chip Meehan:	Absent
Brandon Morino:	Present
Richard Niederberg:	Present
Karen Sarrow:	Absent
Adam Summer:	Present
Alexa Steinberg:	Absent
Abigail Velasco:	Absent

Quorum: **YES**

2. President's Comments

President made some introductory comments and stated that public comment would be extended to 1-1/2 minutes. He then moved to item 2(a), the vote on applicant Peter Cole to fill a Board vacancy for the Business Representative Seat.

Peter Cole was given the opportunity to make a statement. Peter talked about comments made by Richard Niederberg and discussed Nimbyism, Weddington, Sportsmen's Lodge, generating public participation, the former land use chair, the former president and his criticism of a stakeholder. Peter Cole then stated he had no interest in serving on the Board.

The president stated that the candidate has withdrawn and no further public or Board discussion was required. Brandon stated he wants to continue the discussion on Peter Cole's candidacy.

No vote was taken.

The president continued with discussion of the Land Use Committee chair vacancy, and the Youth Member seat.

On Item 1(d), the president moved to appoint himself, Randy Fried, and Richard Niederberg to Civic U 1.0. Brandon Morino seconded. Public and Board discussion was made.

Vote on 2d:

Kim Clements:	yes
Dean Cutler:	yes
Randall Fried:	absent
Ira Gold:	yes
Jeff Hartwick:	yes
Julie Houlihan:	yes
Scott Mandell:	yes
Chip Meehan	absent
Brandon Morino:	yes
Richard Niederberg:	yes
Karen Sarrow:	absent
Adam Summer:	yes
Alexa Steinberg:	absent
Abigail Velasco:	absent

TOTAL: 9 Yes, 4 absent

MOTION: PASSES

Secretary's Report: Abigail Velasco is absent so the Corresponding Secretary gave a brief report. The minutes from the August Board meeting were unanimously passed.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: All CISs/motions have been filed with the except of the DWP matter.

Treasurer's Report: Kim Clements moved for approval of the monthly Expenditure Report for August 2022 (**Motion 5(a)**). Richard Niederberg seconded.

Vote on 5a:

Kim Clements:	yes
Dean Cutler:	yes
Randall Fried:	absent
Ira Gold:	yes
Jeff Hartwick:	yes
Julie Houlihan:	yes
Scott Mandell:	yes
Chip Meehan	absent
Brandon Morino:	yes
Richard Niederberg:	yes
Karen Sarrow:	absent
Adam Summer:	yes
Alexa Steinberg:	absent
Abigail Velasco:	absent

TOTAL: 9 Yes, 4 absent

MOTION: PASSES

Motion 5(b): The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council approves reimbursement to Board Member, Richard Niederberg, in the amount of \$301.05 for the purchase of beverages and snacks for the September movie night event (postponed). Purchase was made at Costco which would not accept use of the Los Angeles City credit card. Seconded by Jeff Hartwick. Barry Johnson made a public comment. There was no Board comment.

Vote on 5b:

Kim Clements:	yes
Dean Cutler:	yes
Randall Fried:	absent
Ira Gold:	yes
Jeff Hartwick:	yes
Julie Houlihan:	yes
Scott Mandell:	yes
Chip Meehan	absent
Brandon Morino:	yes
Richard Niederberg:	yes
Karen Sarrow:	absent
Adam Summer:	yes
Alexa Steinberg:	absent
Abigail Velasco:	absent

TOTAL: 9 Yes, 4 Absent

MOTION: PASSES

6. Vice President's Report: Brandon Morino discussed the up-coming movie in the park.

7. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: Stakeholder Patrice Berlin discussed Brandon Morino's behavior earlier in the meeting. Stakeholder Barry Johnson discussed public comment on items 2a-e. Stakeholder Peter Cole requested that everybody be muted if arriving early to a meeting and talked about leaf blowers. Stakeholder Patty Kirby mentioned Randy Fried had personally apologized to her about an issue at the last Board meeting. Stakeholder Ruth discussed an e-mail regarding Valley of Change and mentioned lights being out along the river.

8. Announcements by Government Representatives: Jorge Plascencia from Nithya Raman's office gave an update about CD4's efforts in the community, including promoting the upcoming movie night at Beeman Park. No public comment. Ira Gold asked a question about fixing lights. Jorge mentioned LADOT is opening up input for potential speed bump locations. Julie Houlihan asked about 41.18 enforcement and Jeff Hartwick requested an update on the Greenway revitalization. Stakeholder Ruth asked about light servicing via 311. Brandon Morino asked about speed bumps and Kim Clements also asked about the BSL.

9. Transportation Committee (Barry Johnson)

Motion 9(a): The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) opposes Council Files 20-1536, 20-1536-S1 & 20-1536-S2 for a Sidewalk and Transit Amenities Program (STAP) due to safety, liability and aesthetic impacts of digital advertising screens in bus shelters. Studies have shown that changing digital ad screens are particularly dangerous as they are designed to distract drivers and result in harm to traffic safety. The SCNC further opposes provisions for cell phone tracking in bus shelters that can be shared with the contractor for ad targeting.

This motion is also to be submitted as separate Community Impact Statements (CIS) to [CF 20-1536, 20-1536-S1 & 20-1536-S2].

A Proposed Accompanying Letter for Transportation Committee Motion 9(a) will also be provided.

Discussion.

Vote on 9(a):

Kim Clements:	yes
Dean Cutler:	yes
Randall Fried:	absent
Ira Gold:	yes
Jeff Hartwick:	yes
Julie Houlihan:	yes
Scott Mandell:	yes
Chip Meehan	absent
Brandon Morino:	yes
Richard Niederberg:	yes
Karen Sarrow:	absent
Adam Summer:	yes
Alexa Steinberg:	absent
Abigail Velasco:	absent

TOTAL: 9 Yes, 4 Absent

MOTION: PASSES

10. Government Affairs Committee (Barry Johnson)

Motion 10(a): The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) opposes Council Files 20-1074-S2, 20-1074-S3, 20-1074 & 20-1074-S1 unless all pre-Covid required private parking spaces and all pre-Covid street parking spaces are returned to their original pre-Covid status. While the SCNC in no way opposes legitimate ADA compliant sidewalk dining, the lack of required private parking spaces and street parking spaces are causing severe parking impacts in adjacent residential neighborhoods. While we understand the need for dining in the street during the pandemic, the time has now come to resume pre-Covid parking requirements.

This motion is also to be submitted as separate Community Impact Statements (CIS) to [CF 20-1074-S2, 20-1074-S3, 20-1074 & 20-1074-S1].

Discussion.

Vote on 10(a):

Kim Clements:	yes
Dean Cutler:	yes
Randall Fried:	absent
Ira Gold:	yes
Jeff Hartwick:	yes
Julie Houlihan:	yes
Scott Mandell:	yes
Chip Meehan	absent
Brandon Morino:	yes
Richard Niederberg:	yes
Karen Sarrow:	absent
Adam Summer:	no
Alexa Steinberg:	absent
Abigail Velasco:	absent

TOTAL: 8 Yes, 1 No, 4 Absent

MOTION: PASSES

11. Public Safety (Jeff Hartwick)

Motion 11(a): The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) supports Council File 22-0002-S101, Title: AB 1740 (Muratsuchi) / AB 2407 (O'Donnell) and SB 1087 (Gonzalez) / Used Catalytic Converter Sales. There has been a rash of automobile catalytic converter thefts throughout the City of Los Angeles. Criminals steal them for their precious metal content. Many residents of StudioCity have been victims of these thefts, and replacement parts are expensive. Currently, there are three bills in the state legislature that address this problem. AB 1740 would require a core recycler accepting catalytic converters to maintain a written record that contains the year, make, and model number and requires the owner to enter into a transaction. AB 2407 would require a recycler to report information on the purchase and sale of catalytic converters to law enforcement and to obtain the thumbprint of sellers. SB 1087 would require a traceable method of payment for these special parts, and permit the purchase of converters only from specified sellers. Collectively, these bills will help stop this epidemic of thievery and prevent criminals from profiting from selling stolen converters.

This motion is also to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to Council File [22-0002-S101].

Discussion.

Vote on 11(a):

Kim Clements:	yes
Dean Cutler:	yes
Randall Fried:	absent
Ira Gold:	yes
Jeff Hartwick:	yes

Julie Houlihan:	yes
Scott Mandell:	yes
Chip Meehan	absent
Brandon Morino:	yes
Richard Niederberg:	yes
Karen Sarrow:	absent
Adam Summer:	yes
Alexa Steinberg:	absent
Abigail Velasco:	absent

TOTAL: 9 Yes, 4 Absent

MOTION: PASSES

Motion 11(b): The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) supports Council File 22-0797, Title: Illegal Dumping / Multi-Jurisdictional Locations / Los Angeles County / California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) / Memorandum of Understanding. The City of Los Angeles Sanitation Department (LASAN) not only collects residential waste but also abandoned and illegally dumped trash. Waste items left outside of City jurisdiction presents problems of coordination with county and state areas, which can result in lack of timely collection. This has been evident at local homeless encampments and near freeway on/off ramps. It therefore makes sense for the City to have LASAN report on (1) efforts to coordinate trash collection with CalTrans; and (2) the feasibility of entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Los Angeles County and CalTrans to facilitate illegal dumping removal.

This motion is also to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to Council File [22-0797].

Discussion.

Vote on 11(b):

Kim Clements:	yes
Dean Cutler:	yes
Randall Fried:	absent
Ira Gold:	yes
Jeff Hartwick:	yes
Julie Houlihan:	yes
Scott Mandell:	yes
Chip Meehan	absent
Brandon Morino:	yes
Richard Niederberg:	yes
Karen Sarrow:	absent
Adam Summer:	yes
Alexa Steinberg:	absent
Abigail Velasco:	absent

TOTAL: 9 Yes, 4 Absent

MOTION: PASSES

Motion 11(c): The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) supports Council File 22-0930, Title: Compton Avenue / Nevin Avenue / Metro Right-of-Way/ Official Police Garage (OPG) /Vehicle Towing and Storage Services / Excess Storage Lot / Lease Agreement. Official Police Garages (OPGs) provide vehicle towing and storage services for 19 Service Areas located throughout the City of Los Angeles. OPGs provide space for the City, including the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Department of Transportation (LADOT), to impound vehicles to await release, transport, salvage, or disposal. Recently, these facilities have faced challenges relating to the storage of impounded vehicles, with several areas experiencing great service volume relative to capacity. If there is insufficient storage space, abandoned vehicles, such as broken-down RVs, will be left on our streets and pose a safety hazard. To help alleviate this problem with capacity, the SCNC supports the acquisition of additional excess vehicle storage areas across the City. This includes the Metro Right-of-Way property located at Compton Avenue and Nevin Avenue, which has already been cleared by the Board of Police Commissioners.

This motion is also to be submitted as a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to Council File [22-0930].

Discussion.

Vote on 11(c):

Kim Clements:	yes
Dean Cutler:	yes
Randall Fried:	absent
Ira Gold:	yes
Jeff Hartwick:	yes
Julie Houlihan:	yes
Scott Mandell:	yes
Chip Meehan	absent
Brandon Morino:	yes
Richard Niederberg:	yes
Karen Sarrow:	absent
Adam Summer:	yes
Alexa Steinberg:	absent
Abigail Velasco:	absent

TOTAL: 9 Yes, 4 Absent

MOTION: PASSES

Motion: Draft LAPD Support Letter by SCNC President: RE: Studio City Neighborhood Council Support for Los Angeles Police Department
Dear Mayor Garcetti and Los Angeles City Councilmembers: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (SCNC) writes to declare its strong support for the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and to request certain actions from you. The brave officers and diligent staff of the LAPD provide our community with something that is at times taken for granted—our safety and security. We thank you and our Councilmembers for restoring previous LAPD funding. We also support the \$87 million operational increase in funding to the LAPD for the 2022-2023 fiscal-year city budget of \$11.8 billion. We request that you identify away forward to achieve full staffing of the LAPD, which is significantly understaffed at this time, especially by national standards. Lack of adequate staffing results in fewer crimes investigated and the inability of the police to respond to criminal activity in a timely manner, which endangers us all. We request that you support the work of the LAPD to enhance your

public communications acknowledging the important job the LAPD does and to build relationships with local communities. We declare our appreciation for LAPD SeniorLead Officer Shawn Smith. He is a valuable and dedicated crime fighter whose extensive knowledge and awareness of our community’s crime issues have contributed immensely to the safety and well-being of Studio City. We need more officers like Shawn Smith in Los Angeles. We request that the City Attorney support equal and full enforcement of all laws and ordinances, and that the City Council oppose any politicized special ordinances and/or policies that hinder or prevent the ability of the LAPD to enforce the law. Police enforcement duties should be predictable and consistent. There should not be a blanket policy of non-prosecution of misdemeanors and quality-of-life infractions. Non-prosecution will only encourage further law-breaking. We request these actions from the City Council because Studio City residents and stakeholders strongly believe that additional police support and resources are essential to help the LAPD and to keep our neighborhoods safe.

Respectfully,

Scott Mandell, President, Studio City Neighborhood Council

Discussion.

Vote on 11(d):

Kim Clements:	yes
Dean Cutler:	yes
Randall Fried:	absent
Ira Gold:	yes
Jeff Hartwick:	yes
Julie Houlihan:	yes
Scott Mandell:	yes
Chip Meehan	absent
Brandon Morino:	yes
Richard Niederberg:	yes
Karen Sarrow:	absent
Adam Summer:	yes
Alexa Steinberg:	absent
Abigail Velasco:	absent

TOTAL: 9 Yes, 4 Absent

MOTION: PASSES

12. Good of the Order. The president explained that this was the time for Board members to bring up items of concern. Ira Gold made a comment about graffiti removal and a burned-out vehicle. Stakeholder Goat Puppet also made a public comment.

13. Adjournment by Scott Mandell.

Adjourned at 9:03 p.m.