

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA

SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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VICE PRESIDENTS:

Administration: Christian Rubalcava

Communications: Maria Silva

TREASURER: George Ortega

SECRETARY: Marti Marshall



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**Special Joint Meeting of the Public Safety Committee and SNC Board – MINUTES**  
**Monday, February 12, 2018 – 8:00 PM**  
**Sylmar Charter High School – Auditorium (Spartan Hall)**  
**13050 Borden Avenue, Sylmar, CA**

**Committee Chair – Diane Valencia**  
**Vice Chair – Tom Weissbarth**

Sylmar Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes are a summary, not an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript of what was said at a Meeting. The only two exceptions are the Motions shown in italics and quotes shown with quotation marks (“ ”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words. The Minutes are not, nor were they ever meant to be, a comprehensive record of what was said about an issue or project.

**1. Call to Order**

Ms. Valencia called the meeting to order at 8:03 PM

**2. Committee Member Roll Call**

Ms. Valencia took roll call. Three Committee members present: Diane Valencia, Tom Weissbarth, Kurt Cabrera-Miller

Absent: Kathy Grubert, Bonnie Bernard, Robyn Farrow, Art Rocco

The Committee was one member shy of meeting quorum. Ms. Valencia shared that the Public Safety Committee had heard this item at their regular meeting on February 8, 2018 and had developed a position. While all Committee members were invited to this evening’s meeting, since the Committee had already spent a considerable amount of time discussing and developing a position already, tonight’s meeting was only necessary if the Committee members wished to alter the position. The time of the meeting was only initially advised as being 6:30 PM and the later start time did not work for some on the Committee.

**3. Housekeeping: Sign-In Sheets, Speaker Cards for Agenda Items, Recording and Timekeeper**

Most of these items had been covered by the earlier Committee meetings. Ms. Valencia would take notes with assistance from SNC Secretary, Marti Marshall

**4. Public Comment on non-agendized matters, within the Committee’s subject matter jurisdiction.**

None

- 5. Discussion**, the following motion was made during the SNC January 25, 2018 General Board Meeting – “Discussion and possible action, to approve a Community Impact Statement in Opposition to the LA City Council File (CF17-1432) relating to the Interim Motel Conversion Ordinance.” It was decided by the full Board to move this item to committee for discussion, consideration and then to report back to the full Board with a Committee Recommendation. It was further decided to move this item to multiple committees for their recommendations. (Homeless Services Committee, Planning & Land Use Committee and Public Safety Committee).

The Public Safety Committee did not draft a Community Impact Statement on this item, nor did it revise the previous document presented to the Board. Instead, they focused on developing a position with comments/suggestions that could be considered and incorporated into a Community Impact Statement if so desired by the SNC Board.

6. **Discussion and possible action**, for the Public Safety Committee to submit a recommendation to the full Board on LA City Council File (CF17-1432) relating to the Interim Motel Conversion Ordinance.

Ms. Valencia presented a few copies of the Public Safety Committee's position that had been approved by a vote of 4/0/1 on February 8, 2018. General comments made were that the Public Safety Committee is only looking at the draft Ordinance through a public safety lens and wishes to be sure that the Ordinance considers the safety and security of the program participants as well as the general community. The wording in the Ordinance is pretty vague and does not address many of the things that Public Safety was concerned with. She indicated that while she knew that Councilwoman Rodriguez had made a motion for amendments, she later retracted the motion and it was unclear what the basis of her questions/concerns were. Ms. Valencia did not have enough copies of the Public Safety's Committee position paper for everyone in attendance, so she offered to read the position which was Opposed as written, and included several suggestions as to how the Ordinance might be improved.

There was general discussion among all those present – SNC Committee members and the public. As the Public Safety Committee's position was presented, questions/comments were heard.

Les Aisenmann - suggested supporting with the exceptions as noted, instead of opposing.

When concerns were expressed about the impacts of the homeless crisis on the larger community, Kurt Cabrera-Cabrera Miller expressed concern about where else would people go.

Les Aisenmann - suggested supporting with the exceptions as noted, instead of opposing.

Janet Gibson – suggested that there might be some opportunities to look at other alternatives such as “returnment” camps, for those who don't want to live in a community and abide by rules and laws. They can do as they wish.

Sandra Corvera - suggested getting more public comment (surveys on social media, etc). Would like to see all 3 committees have something like Public Safety presented (in writing and concise). Ms. Valencia briefly explained some of the challenges that the SNC has with communicated in advance with it's Stakeholders on items which may come before the Board. Ms. Corvera asked for a copy of the position paper and Ms. Valencia indicated that she would email it to her.

Tom Weissbarth expressed concern about Sylmar's continued low level of public safety resources to adequately be able to service Sylmar's existing population.

No quorum; no action taken

7. **Committee Member Comments on subject matters within the Committee's jurisdiction**

None

8. **Closing Remarks, Announcements, Acknowledgements, and Adjournment**

Diane Valencia called for adjournment of the meeting at 8:46 PM with no objections.