

SoRo Neighborhoods Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors

Wednesday, February 12, 2003

Attendees: Terry Delvoye, Larry DeMers, Harold Fischer, Jon Friedman, Eric Gordon, Nirinjan Khalsa, Suzanne Laff, Mel Leventhal, Stephanie Marquez, Margaret Martin, Terry Schonwald, Carole Segal, Estelle Tuvman, Lorinne Vozoff, Student Representative Morgan White, Christel Wilson, Advisor Susan Bursk from the 5th Council District, Asst. City Attorney Susan Strick, guests: Tae K. Jung owner “Joe’s Market”, Tae’s daughter, LAUSD Board Candidate Marguerite LaMotte, Patrick Luensman, Deni Mosser, Avi Schonwald & additional neighbors.

President Carole Segal called the meeting to order at 6:47p.m. Introductions were made by everyone, as we had many new guests attending our meeting.

Minutes from the prior meeting were emailed, presented and accepted as corrected.

Treasurer’s Report was made by Larry DeMers who said we currently have the same \$7,385.09.

Larry told us we are still waiting for approval status of the 501C3.

Advisors: 10th Council District was unavailable. Susan Bursk from the 5th Councilman’s Office reported the Santa Monica Blvd. Project will take approximately 2 _ -3 years, from the Beverly Hills border to the 405 Freeway and ultimately be three lanes in each direction. For more information call 310-913-8777. Los Angeles voters can use the Touch-screen method set up around the City from Feb.18 –28. The closest polling place for SoRo neighbors to use this system is the Robertson Library.

Susan reminded us of the continuation of the Shubert Theatre Replacement Project and said the L.A. Marathon is being held on March 2nd and once again will land-lock some of SoRo (Crestview). For more information call Stephanie Walters (310) 444-5544 ext. 308. Susan told us that the Jelly Fish Restaurant at 9228 W. Pico has withdrawn its proposal for a live entertainment permit.

Committee Reports

Organizing/Planning– Larry DeMers told us the committee met again with Amber Meshack from D.O.N.E. suggesting we have our Certified Election as soon as possible. The committee meets the first Wednesday of every month. Mel asked to have the meeting posted on the website.

Newsletter – Terry Delvoye said there would be a committee meeting in two weeks to plan out the next edition and hopes to have it distributed before the Festival on June 8th. Let Terry D. know if you want to write an article.

Website – Deni Mosser told us Paul was busy with floodwaters and said that the automated email delivery system is now operational. We now have auto subscribe to SoRo.org with a one time formal mailing for an invitation to get our email. We have 136 current subscribers with 260 visits a week. We have recorded thus far one quarter of a million visits. As a SoRo neighbor, you can post your business for free. Post meetings and events on the bulletin board.

Merchants – No report

Land Us – No report

LANI – Susan Bursk updated us with information regarding the pedestrian light on Olin and said there is discussion in the committee regarding bus shelters. She reminded us that Viacom Deco has a contract with the City and will service the trash cans and bus shelters purchased through them.

Public Safety – No report

Festival – Terry Schonwald reported that the committee had their first meeting and successfully have filled many of area chairs: Balloons, Flowers and Tie-shirts will be handled by Stephanie Marquez and Christel Wilson; Nirinjan Khalsa will handle Equipment Rentals; Lorinne Vozoff will chair the Vendor/Merchant Booths; Terry Schonwald will chair Music/Entertainment; We need a Food Booths chairperson and others to join the committee to organize Camp SoRo for Kids etc. Next meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 18th, 7:00pm at the Workmen’s Circle 1525 Robertson Blvd.

Candidates Forum – Terry Schonwald told us all 6 Candidates have R.S.V.P.’d to the written format for the forum. Cindy O’Connor, President of the League of Women Voters will moderate and read the written questions to the Candidates for their answers. The League will provide a “Timer” and the pencils and cards to be used on Wed. Feb. 26 from 7-9pm. in Hamilton’s Auditorium. Please email questions you may have for the Candidates to Terry S. Suzanne Laff will contact the Cable Company to cover the event. Jon Friedman will contact Channel 35. Eric and Estelle volunteered to help on the 26th.

Trees – Christel Wilson did a walking survey of the SoRo planted trees: 71 alive, 3 died, 2 car accidents. They look good – they love rain. Worm castings added to the tree’s soil work against pests and should be done in early spring and late spring - 2 applications. Christel will give us a cost proposal to vote on at the next meeting so we can try to eradicate the White Fly problem and other pests.

Traffic – Carole Segal told us Trammel Crow is available on Wednesday, March 5th to speak to us regarding the Shubert Theatre Replacement Project and not available for our regular meeting. Larry motioned to accommodate them by moving our meeting to 6:30pm, March 5th and invite Trammel Crow’s presentation at 7:30 to all Board Members of Associations under SoRo’s umbrella. Motion was seconded and unanimously supported. Motion passed.

Unfinished/New Business

La Cienega Mall Update – Terry Schonwald thanked Susan Strick and the City Attorney’s office for helping Crestview deal with the noise and food odors wafting through the Crestview Neighborhood. The Mall’s Managers meeting was well attended and needed work is proceeding.

Joe’s Market – Patrick Luensman reported to the Board that a City Zoning Hearing is scheduled for a Non-conforming Use Permit for 8874 Cadillac Ave., February 18, 2003, but there is no Public Notice posted on-site or were any of the neighbors notified. Patrick said there is no parking, double-parking, it’s in the direct path of three Shenandoah St. Schools, and that there is public view of trash-bins. He said he represents 40 owners supporting the position that they are not properly zoned to sell beer and wine, lottery, litter, have safety issues and noisy alarms. He reminded us that the person seeking a Non-conforming Use Permit is responsible for posting and sending out Public Notices. Patrick suggested that Joe’s Market move to Robertson and said Joe’s permit request is to be open 7 days a week until 10:00pm

Tae K. Jung is the owner of Joe’s Market and offered to wall off the trash-bins, so they cannot be seen. He said they have not had any safety problems and that strong winds set off the alarm. His daughter told us they have changed the alarm to a silent alarm. He said he purchased the site in 1981 and that his customers don’t need parking. He said he tells the delivery trucks not to double-park. Joe’s is open Monday – Friday 8am-7:30pm, Saturday 8am-7:00pm; closed on Sunday. Tae said his Attorney has written a letter to the Zoning commission reflecting these hours. He said he has a Beer and Wine License, but he sells mostly groceries.

Patrick said he drove the neighborhood and that there were 13 stores selling groceries in the

nearby area.

Many of the neighbors who shop at Joe's Market were at the meeting in support of the Store. They said "Joe" supports the neighborhood, supports School Community meetings, supports the Senior Citizens, accepts Food Stamps and W.I.C.K. and often gives supplies on account (to be paid later).

Suzanne motioned and Larry seconded for SoRo to write a letter in support. Motion passed with a vote of 12-4. 12 for 3 abstained 1 against.

Group Homes Issues – Eric Gordon asked that a presentation from the Alcot Center to give us better knowledge of group homes be put on the Agenda. There was a consensus to do so.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Next meeting scheduled on March 5, 2003

Minutes submitted by Terry Schonwald, Acting Secretary