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**MINUTES**  
**ENCINO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Monday August 14, 2023 @ 7 pm**  
**Encino Community Center**  
**4935 Balboa Blvd.**  
**Encino, CA 91316**

***Committee members present:***

\*Pat Bates: Chair, \*Joshua Sautter \*Roy Nwaissar Varant Majarian

Committee members Absent:

\*Samuel Apikayan \* Robert Wenger

Other board and Community members present:

Kelvin Tolbert, David Yeung



1. Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM, a quorum of 4 members was present.
2. There were no public officials present. Everyone present introduced themselves and expressed their concerns about public safety citing issues of crime, fires, and lack of preparedness.
3. **Action Items: Votes may be taken on all action items.**
  - a. **Encino Disaster Preparedness and Response:** The Encino Disaster Response team which operated under auspices of the Encino Chamber of Commerce suspended operations during the pandemic. Our Encino community as well as our region is subject to disasters such as wildfires and earthquakes. Fostering preparedness of the entire community and having trained responders available is critical to our wellbeing, and all these goals need to be supported. **There was some discussion re: publicity, how to leverage the event to get community engagement in preparedness in the community. Pat briefly described the event. Due to members present without funding training the motion was presented without funding requested, a modest amount of funding for refreshments will be requested of the general board. Motion: To sponsor a City of Los Angeles CERT and Encino Disaster Response**

**Team drill at Encino Park or other Encino Location on October 8, 2023 (Pat/Varant 4/0/0)**

- b. **Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Alliance:** The [Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Alliance](#) generally meets on the fourth Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon, currently via Zoom. The Chair has an ongoing conflict with this meeting and would like one of the board members to attend and report back on items of interest to our community, and also to sign up with the NCEPA as a member if necessary. **The group discussed this and nobody was keen on attending the meetings. We concluded for the time being to see if we can obtain the meeting recordings and in the future some would attend if able to.**
- c. **Crime prevention and response:** Major concerns include residential burglaries and park safety as well as safety on the public streets and in general. Roy mentioned an effort underway in the community S. of Ventura blvd. To organize homeowners to share information and to try to hire a private security patrol. There was consensus that it is very important for community members to become acquainted with each other and to develop social media/what's app/phone tree networks., and also that this takes work and willingness of people to organize these efforts. We recognize that fostering this may be a part of the Ready Your LA Neighborhood part of our future collaboration with Neighborhood Team program - LA. Members will be thinking about future action items including possible community workshops geared at crime prevention, self defense, and Neighborhood Watch organization. Members were asked to come up with ideas for an event late October. One item discussed was that Encino actually has four LAPD Senior Lead officers - with 3 representing Area 1 (Terrazas, Bocanegra and Scoggins). SLO Walia covers most of the rest of Encino and does a great job presenting public safety information to the community. Area 1 has the unique issues with the adjacent Sepulveda Basin and LA River which are plagued with fires and encampments. Pat offered to contact SLO Terrazas (also Bocanegra and Scoggins) with an invitation to discuss Area 1 issues at the next ENC Public Safety committee meeting on 9/11/2023.
- d. **Other Encino Public Safety Issues for discussion:** These were discussed briefly - everyone would live to see goats eating our overgrown weeds.
  - i. **Brush clearance along city streets:** This is an on-going situation involving multiple agencies denying responsibility for the dangerous flammable brush along streets and in medians. The ENC filed a [Community Impact Statement](#) addressing this issue a year ago and the same brush is there with this year's new growth.
  - ii. **Goats:** There are City Council File Motions before the City Public Safety Committee [22-0600-S20](#) and before Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee [22-0600-S61](#) requesting feasibility studies on using goats to clear dangerous flammable brush. The ENC and other NCs have filed CISs strongly supporting these, yet they sit in committees.
- e. **Community Resources for Encino NC Website:** Pat explained that she can put links, and news and calendar items on the Encino NC Website, and is working on public resources and links for the Public Safety Committee page.

**4. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items – None**

**5. Committee Member Comment on Items NOT on this Agenda - None**

**6. Adjournment (8:30 PM)**

**Next Public Safety Committee Meeting: 9/11/2023 @7PM**