

SOUTH BRENTWOOD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

44th ANNUAL MEETING: THURSDAY, October 8, 2020

7:00-8:30 P.M. General Meeting and Program

7:00-7:10 Alisa Morgenthauer, SBRA President - Welcome

- Alisa presented the proposed slate of officers and directors and introduced the advisory board

ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2020-2021

- Motion to approve board of directors
 - Lauren moved to approve
 - Pam seconded
- A ballot appeared for the members to vote
 - 39 voted in favor, a 93% approval
- If you are interested in joining our board, please visit our website to fill out an application
- Merri Huang received a shout-out for organizing SBRA's first virtual meeting in its 44 year history

- Additional Business

- Alisa explained the role of SBRA
- Alisa advocated for membership and explained how to pay dues on SBRA's website

7:10-7:15 Marylin Krell, SBRA Past President, Moderator Introductions

- Marylin welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained how to ask questions if you have zoom difficulties.
- Marylin explained the timing, and how her phone would ring a bell when time deadlines for the speakers approached
- Marylin introduced Jonathan Tom and Matthew Kirk

7:15-7:25 Jonathan Tom, Captain West LAPD **Matthew Kirk, Sr. Lead Officer West LAPD**

- Jonathan Tom
 - E-Mail: 32993@lapd.online
 - Crime update
 - 13% overall reduction in 2019; 2% property crime reduction
 - increase in grand theft auto/ motor vehicle theft
 - Impact of Covid-19 and Mayor's 'Stay at Home' order has led to increase in car thefts. This is because people are home, not checking their cars, and leaving things in their cars.

- 50% of cars stolen had key fobs in the car
- party houses
 - two very public murders at homes used for short term rental (one on Mulholland, one on San Ysidro)
 - in response, LAPD has expended extra resources for dedicated response to party houses on Thursday and Friday nights
 - an increase in violations of Stay at Home order including shutting off of power
- protests
 - generally speaking, the crowds are non-violent and the areas tend to be cleaner afterward.
 - protests concern conflict regarding ancestral homeland of Armenia from what is perceived as aggression from Azerbaijan
 - on Sunday, there was a protest going to the Turkish consulate on Wilshire
- Matthew Kirk
 - Contact info
 - 34713@lapd.online; desk 310 444 0744 (leave voicemail here); cell 213 618 9559
 - He sends a newsletter regarding protests, street closures, and other information. Please send him an email to above to be added to list.
 - What is a senior lead officer?
 - He is the liaison between community of Brentwood and the LAPD. He takes in information regarding crime and quality of life from our community and figures out how to combat the issues
 - Report crimes online: LAPDOnline.org
 - He will receive a physical copy of the report and this is how they determine where to send officers
 - You cannot upload videos/ evidence. If this is the case, call front desk 310 444 0744 during business hours for an evidence link to upload a video.
 - Social media for West LA
 - Nextdoor: wlasdsc@lapd.online
 - Instagram: LAPDWestLA
 - Twitter: lapdwestla
 - Facebook: lapdwladivision
- QUESTIONS
 - What is being done regarding mail theft issues?
 - We are seeing an increase in package theft from multifamily units. Some buildings are now putting a timed lock on the building after certain hours so that you must have a special building key to get in and out. This eliminated mail theft in a building because the thieves use a basic key to break the mail locks.
 - Always pay attention. If you see someone that you do not recognize in the building? Ask them “Who are you here to visit?” Do not be rude but you are allowed to question, especially if it is an odd time of day.

- An apartment building in block of 1500 Bundy was experiencing frequent mail theft. The same suspect was returning to the location. Undercover officers set up surveillance. The suspect was ordering EDD cards in multiple names. He had over 6k in cash on him and nearly 30 EDD cards.
 - Even with limited resources, if they have enough information the LAPD can do a better job at stopping crimes.
- Is LAPD soliciting donations?
 - This is NOT LAPD. This is a SCAM. Do NOT donate money to these callers. Hang up.
 - If you would like to donate to LAPD, there is a non-profit booster association that you can donate to. Email him for more information.
- Have there been requests for an increase in police in our area?
 - Due to budget cuts, there will be 350 police officers cut from LAPD and 150 civilian employees (and officers doing civilian work)
 - How do we maintain police services at a basic level with 500 less employees? What would happen with an additional 3% budget decrease due to city's financial hardship?

7:25-7:35 Nwaoha Lumumba, LADWP Modernization

- Tarzana Olympic Lines 1A and 1B: Underground transmission cable replacement project
 - Project starts at Kenter Canyon, runs along Kenter Avenue (that then turns to Bundy Drive) until Iowa Street, and ends at receiving station K
- The current lines have lasted very long, but they need to be replaced.
- Construction will include drilling manholes on Bundy and run from 10/7/20 to 2/1/21. In total, all the work must be done by May of 2021. There will be flaggers and one lane on Bundy will remain open. Properties impacted by the work will be given 48 hours' notice.
 - Removing the oil-filled cables, and replacing with non-oil cables that are more efficient and are more powerful
- Why replace the cables?
 - Will improve power reliability
 - Modernize the transmission system
 - Will reduce replacement costs and long-term costs because the new cables are technologically advanced and more efficient
 - Improve public safety by removing the oil cables
- Factors
 - Traffic
 - Peak hour exemption
 - Blocked driveways
 - There will be flaggers to help

Projects 7:35-7:45 Michele Aronson, BCC San Vicente Business

Impact of Covid-19 on small businesses in Brentwood

- Commercial moratoriums have been passed that businesses must follow
 - Some are utilizing parking lots and other areas to help entice customers
- Can be difficult to assess who is permanently or temporarily closed

- Gyms/ studios are pivoting to outdoor class settings or are planning to reopen (SoulCycle is outdoors in Santa Monica)
- We lost our two toy stores and several restaurants
- Vacancy increases over the past 9 months
- Most of retail tenants will see their way through Covid-19
- Focus on Brentwood as a community and how we can support our businesses
 - Brentwood videos about “Small Shops Saturday”
- Shop locally! If you can get it locally instead of online, please support our businesses

Rep 7:45-7:55 Mike Bonin, LA City Councilmember, District 11

- Summarized some of the laws protecting renters
- Homelessness
 - He will defer to Zachary on questions relating to the San Vicente encampment adjacent to the VA since it is on unincorporated land
 - Has found that addressing the issue as immediately after someone becomes homeless increases the likelihood that a homeless person will become housed. Unfortunately, our current system makes people wait or ‘become more homeless.’
 - Shared housing allows for people to get off the street *today*

7:55-8:05 Zachary Gaidzik, West/Metro LA Field Deputy, Sheila Kuehl, LA District Supervisor, District 3

- Covid-19
 - County is following all scientific recommendations
 - In August, Newsom introduced blueprint for loosening restrictions. Every county assigned to a color tier to determine which sectors can operate
 - LA is Purple, and remains in Tier 1 due to adjusted case rate
 - We need two weeks of new data to then move to Tier 2.
 - If you are concerned, please get tested. Asymptomatic testing now open.
 - Monday, Oct 5th, schools can apply for waivers to open for in-person instruction.
 - October 7th indoor malls may open at 25% capacity (masks required)
- Voting
 - If you have concerns about in-person voting, voting by mail is a safe option. Ballots are already being sent and you can put them in your mailbox or place them in a ballot drop off box.
 - Please vote early!
 - Wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov
 - You can enter your information, and it will tell you when your ballot is coming, when it was received, and when it was tallied
- Homelessness and recovery (San Vicente encampment)
 - Due to Covid-19 and CDC guidelines, thorough cleanings that occurred every 2 weeks to maintain ADA compliance has become difficult
 - This has kept the number of infections very low in populations of those experiencing homelessness
 - Dumpster provided for excess debris
 - VA outreach teams visit daily, as do other teams and services

- Only 15 people living there; the other tents are unoccupied
 - Safe removal of tents possibly in future

8:05-8:15 Ben Allen, CA State Senator, 26th District

Virtual doors are open to help constituents with any hardships due to Covid-19. Please reach out!

- Voting
 - We are anxious to make it as accessible as possible
 - Many polling places, voting by mail available and drop boxes all over town
 - If you are using USPS, please send in ballot early!
 - County is in need of poll workers!
- Census
 - Washington Admin has tried to eliminate the count; please fill out census form. It is so quick and online and helps us allocate money for all our community services
- Legislature
 - State's "rainy-day fund" has really helped us during Covid-19
 - We still have \$11 billion in reserve that will help us next year and cushion the impact of the downturn
 - We have avoided any new taxes on Californians despite the recession
 - Prevented cuts to seniors and other vulnerable populations
 - Protecting tenants
 - Covid-19 impacted tenants are protected from eviction
- Homelessness
 - Before Covid-19, state had allocated funding and it is now used for occupancy projects
 - People living 'on edge' or were a paycheck away from homelessness have suffered (direct impact of economic crisis on homelessness)
 - We have passed a lot of funding at the local level to help with homelessness
 - Issue of accountability so our dollars are actually spent on homelessness
- Environmental issues
 - We were very close at phasing out non-recyclable single use plastics to move toward sustainable packaging

8:15-8:30 Lauren Cole, SBRA Vice President

Pre-submitted questions for speaker | Closing remarks

- Chalk Festival! October 18th at Brentwood Farmers Market from 9am-12noon

8:30-9:00 Lauren Cole, SBRA Vice President

Additional questions for those who want to stay

The discussion continued and previously submitted questions were asked and answered. Thank you to all attendees and our speakers!