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Sheriff Jim McDonnell

***Changes in the Sheriff's Department**

How Does the New Federal Consent Agreement Effect You?

COMMUNITY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 - 7:15 PM
NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL
RIVERSIDE & WOODMAN, SHERMAN OAKS

Sheriff Jim McDonnell will be our guest speaker on Wednesday evening, September 16, 2015. Sheriff McDonnell was elected Sheriff of Los Angeles County. He is a Boston native and began his law enforcement career in 1981 as a 22 year-old graduate from Los Angeles Police Academy. He served with the LAPD for 29 years, holding every rank from police officer to second-in-command. Previous to becoming Sheriff, he was the Chief of the Long Beach Police Department.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has been criticized for a number of reasons. Recently, Deputies have been indicted and some convicted. The former number two person in the Sheriff's Department Undersheriff Paul Tanaka is under Federal criminal indictment.

Find out what Sheriff McDonnell is doing to change the Sheriff's Department. How will the recent Federal Consent Agreement affect the Department and the services it provides.

The Sheriff's Department has 18,000 employees of which 9,100 are sworn officers. It has approximately 19,000 prisoners in its jails (the largest jail system in the world). As the Assistant Chief for the LAPD, Jim McDonnell has spoken a number of times at the Association's meetings. He has attended numerous of our Annual Toy Drives. Meet the new Sheriff and find out how the Department is being reformed.

Jules Feir announces that once again both Whole Foods on Coldwater Canyon and Sepulveda Blvd will be the Restaurant of the Month.

Whole Foods has a huge following of loyal shoppers who enjoy top quality foods featuring a large selection of healthy products and, of course, their popular meat and fish department and prepared foods.

Enjoy a sampling of their delicious foods during our Social Hour that starts at 6:15 p.m.

Mark your calendar, the 25th annual Sherman Oaks Street Fair is coming on Sunday, October 15. The Fair will be bigger and better than ever.

Please come by and visit the SOHA booth.

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Jeff Kalban chairs the Sherman Oaks Vision Committee. He reports that with the support of all the community groups, SONC, SOHA, Chamber, Business Improvement District, the Committee is moving forward with its many goals.

LADOT has formed a Cedros Parking Structure working Group that includes Jennifer Charles and Jeff Kalban from the Vision Committee. The Cedros Parking lot was "re-signed" with the help of Jennifer Charles working with LADOT. Newly located signs have made it more apparent that this is a public parking structure. The next phase to re-paint and re-landscape should be completed in the near future.

The traffic committee continues to meet with city officials to try and improve the I-405 southbound on-ramp by the Galleria. Bob Anderson and Maria Pavlou Kalban have met with LADOT, Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian's office, CalTrans, and Joan Pelico, chief of staff for Councilman Paul Koretz (whose jurisdiction this on-ramp is in). Everyone now seems to acknowledge the need to improve this on-ramp in order to offer some relief from the congestion on Ventura Boulevard, and we have just heard from the Assemblyman's office that the work will be proceeding in the next few months. Bob and Maria were asked by Brian Collier for suggestions to improving the on-ramp at Whole Foods on Sepulveda. The

*City Council member David Ryu invited constituents from across the district to form a Transition Advisory Team. Its first task was to propose the make up and selection process for a Discretionary Funds Task Force, which will create a framework to allocate the approximately 1.1 – 1.5 million dollars of available funds in a transparent way.

SOHA Directors Elke Heitmeyer and Jules Feir participated, as well as Neighborhood Council members and other local activists. Considering that Sherman Oaks constitutes 26 % of the electorate we were well represented.

All participants agreed that the Task Force should represent the diversity of the District.

Of course David Ryu and his team will make the final decision, but they will vet the nominations through the community and the organizations the candidates are affiliated with.

Watch carefully for the City's Mobility Plan 2035. This transportation policy was recently approved by the City Council. It seeks to emphasize dedicated bike and bus lanes. However, there is growing concern that this policy could become a requirement. The effect would be to eliminate automobile lanes and increase traffic congestion. In addition, this would create an incentive for drivers to use cross through streets into our residential neighborhoods. Although, it could be helpful to bicyclists to have the automobile lanes converted to bike lanes, the issue is how this will effect automobile traffic and the residential communities.

Marshall Long reports: As many members probably know, SOHA has a Board of Directors that divides the work according to willingness and availability of members to take on responsibility. Most of these tasks are taken on by forming Committees overseen by a board member. Other tasks are routinely done by an officer. Richard Close is the President, John Isen serves as Secretary, and Chuck Betz is the Treasurer. Jules Feir assists with the meetings and works with the restaurants and other local businesses. Elke Heitmeyer works on environmental and local infrastructure issues. The day to day work is done by the Committees which are divided up into land use and non-land use.

The non-land use committees include Beautification (Jules Feir/Chuck Betz), Membership (Matt Epstein), Mansionization (John Isen), Transportation (Bob Anderson), Helicopter Noise (Bob Anderson), and the Sherman Oaks Vision Committee (Bob Anderson).

The land use committees are organized under the chair Marshall Long. These are formed to address major projects and each has a chair and is overseen by a board member. The current land use committees and their chairs are: IVT (Marshall Long), Sunkist (Kimberlee Gerston), Buckley School (Vivian Gumbiner), Harvard Westlake School (Elke Heitmeyer), Fashion Square (Marshall Long), LA River (Elke Heitmeyer), and a car lot expansion at 14958 Moorpark (Jay Weitzler). Smaller projects are handled by the land use chair working with the Planning Deputy of the Council Office.

Augustine Wine Bar opened on Ventura Boulevard earlier this year and has quickly become one of Sherman Oaks' hot spots. This neighborhood wine bar is unlike any that you have visited. In addition to the over 50 kinds of affordable wine available by the glass, Augustine offers rare, vintage wines both by the bottle and the glass. Who doesn't want to taste a 1958 Château Haut Brion Graves (which sells for \$1900 retail) for \$100 a glass? The wine bar was created by Bar Covell partners Dustin Lancaster and Matthew Kaner, and their new partner, Dave Gibbs. Augustine is for wine lovers as well as those who want to have an evening filled with good wine, delicious food right here in Sherman Oaks.

The Village at Sherman Oaks Business Improvement District is thrilled to announce that Vicki Nussbaum, Executive Director of the Sherman Oaks Chamber of Commerce, will also become our Executive Director, effective September. Look for exciting new events and improvements in the Village!

Do you receive our email updates? If not, we do not have your email address. Email it to us at soha914@gmail.com. If you would like to see snippets from our past Meetings, go to www.youtube.com and search officialSOHAvideo to see portions of the Meeting.

Very truly yours,

Richard H. Close, President