**TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday February 27, 2018

Tarzana Elementary School Auditorium

5726 Topeka Dr., Tarzana, CA 91356

1. **Call to Order** at 7:05 p.m. by Eran Heissler, 1st VP of TNC. **Roll Call** by Jeff Mausner: 14 board members present. Barry Edelman, Max Flehinger, David Garfinkle, Joyce Greene, Eran Heissler, Susan Lord, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Susan Rogen, Terry Saucer, Ken Schwartz, Richard Silverman, Jennifer Varela, and Esther Wieder. (Absent: Len Shaffer, Pam Blattner & Harvey Goldberg). Welcoming Remarks and Pledge.
2. **Remarks by representatives of public officials**. Councilman Bob Blumenfield talked about the ordinance that came off the Rockin’ Rescue situation; a new tree planting process with drippers; the fact that crime is down; the process of updating the Ventura Specific Plan; and the creation of new regulations and enforcement for 3 illegal areas: (Pot Shops, Air B&B, and Sidewalk Vendors).

* **Pot Shops:** Measure D created prosecutorial immunity but under new regulations, it will be easier to regulate and shut down those pot shops that are not legally operating or are not licensed. Councilmember Blumenfield is also behind an effort to require all pot shops to only use electronic payment systems to remove nuisances and issues.
* **Short-term rentals**: In the City of L.A., it is illegal to operate Air B&Bs. Under new regulations, Air B&Bs would be allowed but limited to primary residences (so they don’t compete with hotels). They would also only be allowed to rent for 120 days a year unless they got a special permit.
* **Party Houses**: Party Houses are still illegal and a new ordinance passed by the City Council now increases penalties for operating party houses.
* **Sidewalk Vending**: The Councilmember said that L.A. is currently the only city that doesn’t have an ordinance directed at sidewalk vending. A new proposal would license vendors and limit them to two vendors per block. It would also allow property owners to weigh in on whether or not vendors can operate on their properties as well as limiting vendors’ proximity to schools.
* **The Homeless Issue:** Councilmember Blumenfield hasn’t seen the numbers but suspects they have gone up. More apartments/transitional housing are being built and outreach is increasing, but he said all the different aspects of homelessness need to be looked at. Regulations are being worked on that would allow people to be committed against their will who are now out on the streets. He additionally talked about the option of having designated parking areas for people who are living in their cars.

In answering board questions he spoke about the rate hike for sanitation services, who is responsible for repairs to sidewalks (the property owner), and improvements to the 405 via Measure M, which will fund two additional paid lanes and an extension of the Orange Line. He invited everyone to a forum on Domestic Violence at the Senior Center in March and talked about his appreciation for the board who serve in a volunteer capacity.

**Raffy Astvasadoorian, City Attorney’s Office**: Neighborhood Prosecutor: Raffy talked about the Town Hall meeting on March 29, 6 – 7 p.m. at the West Valley Police Station, where they will review all the programs that the City Attorney’s office offers.

Sharon \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (unknown person): LAPD West Valley Station.

**Daryl Scoggins** returned to the TNC, having had Bell’s Palsy previously. He said that crime is down with 108 victims of violent crime last year, compared to 78 this year. Burglaries are still high because people are leaving doors and windows open/unlocked. On March 31, 2018 there will be an Easter Egg Hunt in the Park from 9 – 11 a.m. next to the West Valley Police Station.

1. **Public Comments**:

**Ray Bishop and Ankur Patel,** candidates for the 45th District Assembly, talked about their agendas if elected.

1. **Budget Advocate Report,** Howard \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ gave his report. They will present their White Paper to the Mayor on March 9, 2018.
2. **(Heissler/Wieder) moved approval of the minutes of the board meeting held on January 23, 2018. The motion carried.**
3. **(Flehinger/Wieder) moved approval of January 2018 expenditures for submission to DONE (MER). The motion carried unanimously.**

**Eran noted that board members must have a valid financial training to vote on items that involve money as well as the ethics training.**

1. **(Flehinger/Polonsky) moved approval of the Financial Statements as of January 31, 2018. The motion carried unanimously.**
2. **(Flehinger/Polonsky) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Budget Committee’s recommendation regarding the request from the Chair of the Events Committee to budget $750.00 for our participation in the May 19, 2018 Senior Symposium. To be classified Outreach, Events, Senior Symposium and come from Unallocated.” The motion carried unanimously.**
3. **(Flehinger/Rogen) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Budget Committee’s recommendation regarding the request by Budget Committee Chairperson to increase the budget for Outreach, Events, Earth Day, Poster Labels (Certificate Paper) by $10.15 to $110.15 for over budget spending by the Events Committee Chairperson. Funds to come from Unallocated.” The motion carried unanimously.**
4. **(Flehinger/Greene) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Budget Committee’s recommendation regarding the request of the President to increase the budgeted amount for our Speaker System repair to $320 based on analysis of problems, an increase of $70. To be classified as Operations, General, Sound System Repair. Funds to come from Unallocated.” The motion carried unanimously.**
5. **(Flehinger/Polonsky) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Budget Committee’s recommendation regarding the request of the Beautification and Budget Committee Chairpersons to authorize amounts not to exceed (NTE) $495 for pole banner repairs and $1,945 for banner permits, removal/relocation and route maintenance from AAA Flag & Banners. Funds to come from prior credit of $2,514.08 obtained from AAA.” The motion carried unanimously.**
6. **(Flehinger/Wieder) moved, “Resolved: Based on approval of the above agenda items 9, 10 and 11 the TNC Board approves a revised budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018 to include each of those items.” The motion carried unanimously.**
7. **(Garfinkle/Polonshky) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Land Use Committee’s recommendation to approve the application for renewal of the Conditional Use Permit for on-site sale of alcohol at the Whole Foods, 18700 Ventura Boulevard.” The motion carried unanimously.**
8. **(Garfinkle/Flehinger) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Land Use Committee’s recommendation to oppose a 10 ft 3 inch over height front yard wall at 4101 Vanalden Ave, Tarzana.”** The property owner of the application spoke about her 8-year old autistic con, Sebastian. She stated that she is worried about her son’s safety and wants to protect him. David explained that the Land Use Committee opposed this request because residents need to adhere to the regulations. The applicant then suggested she would alter the request so that only the gate would be higher than the wall.

**(Mausner) moved to amendment the motion to approve a fence that is 6’ in height with the door to be no higher than 7’ 10”. The board voted 12 – 2 to amend the motion). (Garfinkle, Flehinger opposed).**

**(Mausner/Polonsky) moved to** **approve a fence that is 6’ in height with the door to be no higher than 7’ 10” at 4101 Vanalden Ave., Tarzana. The motion passed unanimously. (There was an inconsistency in what I heard and what was written on the notes from the meeting as to the height of the gate).**

**15. (Garfinkle/Lord) moved, “Resolved: The TNC approves the Land Use Committee’s recommendation to file a CIS in support of CF# 18-0002-S13, the proposed City Council Resolution opposing SB827 that proposes to override all zoning within ½ mile of certain transit routes including the Orange Line and Ventura Blvd. Further, a letter is to be sent to State Senator Henry Stern informing him of this action.” The motion carried unanimously.**

**16. (Garfinkle/Flehinger) moved, “Resolved: The TNC opposes the Berggruen Institute’s proposed extended Scholar Campus on approximately 450 acres of protected open space west of the 405 freeway and south of Mulholland Blvd, between the Getty Center and the Mountaingate Community.” The motion carried unanimously.**

**17. (Heissler/Schwartz) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee’s recommendation to hold a retreat during the month of May 2018. The location TBD.” The motion carried unanimously.**

**18. Committee and other Reports**

**Outreach** – Jennifer Varela reported the committee’s Facebook “likes” are on the rise.

**Events** – Esther Wieder announced a meeting on March 6th at Tarzana Childcare and another meeting March 20th for Earth Day.

**Land Use** – David reported that the City Planning Commission approved the Tarzana/Costco Plan. He also talked about a proposal mixed-use project (where the car wash is) for a 4-story building with 59 units. He talked about the decision to postpone a decision until a traffic plan is available. The project’s developer will put together a community meeting to discuss.

Budget – No report.

**Transportation** – Max talked about congestion at Reseda/Ventura, tree roots raising the pavement on some streets (the Bureau of Street Services will get involved), a paving project on Van Alden, a request to Metro about the pooling of water at Van Alden and Ventura, once a year pothole repairs and the Metro’s request to get input from the public on how to make public transportation more attractive.

**Public Safety –** Susan \_\_\_\_\_ talked about Neighborhood Watch signs to be installed around the perimeter of Tarzana. The city wants to hold a Map Your Neighborhood presentations to the board and stakeholders.

Rules – No report.

Government Action – No report.

**Animal Welfare** – Jeff Mausner said the Jefferson Park Animal Shelter got final approval from the City Council. He talked about how and TNC’s efforts to make this happen with former City Council President Herb Wesson. This new facility will save 100’s of cats and dogs every year. The city has not reached ‘no kill’ status at their shelters for cats. He says more work need to be done on the “track, neuter, return” measure.

**DWP MOU** – Joyce Greene talked about the Groundwater Deviation Project to restore and protect water for all of L.A.

**VANC Report** – Eran announced the VANC annual mixer on March 8th at CBS Studios.

**Beautification –** Iris Polonsky reported on her committee’s efforts to use the credit that the TNC had with Triple A Banners for Ventura Boulevard and the process of replacing the Welcome to Tarzana sign. Barry Edelman said he would like to join her committee as well as Susan and Jennifer.

**Homeless Representative –** Joyce talked about the recent meeting with United Way as well as Proposition H.

**Executive Secretary Report** on Attendance – Max announced board attendance requirements.

**19. President’s Remarks:** Eran gave this report on behalf of Len:

TNC will celebrate its 15 year anniversary on March 6th in Canoga Park.

Committees need budget requests for next FY by May.

TNC has $20,000 available for projects – must be submitted by May.

20: **Board Member Comment** - None.

21. **Adjournment:** 9:30 p.m.

Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One.