

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 571016
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TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

C/O Department of Neighborhood
Empowerment
200 N. Spring St. Suite 2005
Los Angeles, CA 90012
TELEPHONE (213) 978-1551
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TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Monday January 11, 2016 at 7:00 pm
Tarzana Child Care Center
5700 Beckford Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356,
Chairman - Jeffrey Mausner

The public is requested to fill out a **"Speaker Card"** to address the Committee on any item of the agenda prior to the Committee taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Committee's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Committee. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at (213) 978-1551 or by e-mail at done@lacity.org.

1. Call to Order & Welcoming Remarks.
2. Approval of Minutes of the October 13, 2015 meeting - *Action Item*.
3. Discussion and possible motion regarding the purchase of items by the Tarzana Neighborhood Council for use by the Volunteers at the West Valley Animal Shelter, such as but not limited to the following:
 - a. Beds to keep animals off the ground and dry, to be placed in the kennels by Volunteers. The cost of each bed for large dogs is approximately \$31.39 including shipping. Proposal to purchase up to \$500 for beds.
 - b. Items for use by the Volunteers who take care of the rabbits and other small animals. \$50 to \$100.
 - c. Heavy duty slip knot leashes for Volunteers who do not have their own or whose leashes have worn out. These leashes would be kept with the keys to the kennels and could be checked out by volunteers at the same time they get their kennel keys. Up to \$50.
4. Discussion and possible motion regarding setting up School Field Trips to the Shelters and/or having the Shelters go to the schools with dogs, cats, rabbits, and other animals. Field trips and/or Shelter trips to the schools could increase adoptions and educate students and parents about spay/neuter and other animal welfare issues. Jeff spoke with a Volunteer who is also a teacher, LAUSD representative, and UTLA rep. She told him that there is no money for field trips to the shelters. Each bus costs \$300, and there is only enough money for one field trip per semester. So what we are thinking of doing is having the Shelters go to the schools. Sergio, the new Supervisor, is on board with that for the West Valley Shelter. We need to get teachers and other people who are involved with the LAUSD and private schools to coordinate this for each

school. The Shelter and Volunteers will then provide the people to bring the animals and speak at each school. We need to get people at the meeting who would like to be involved in this. If you know anyone who would like to be involved, please ask them to come to the meeting. This would include teachers and other school employees, and parents who have children at public and private schools in the area. Thank you to Larry Gross, Vice President of the Los Angeles Board of Animal Services Commissioners, for this idea.

5. Public Comments – Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Committee's subject matter jurisdiction. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker.

6. Update and discussion on the status of Rockin' Rescue's change of use/zoning change, warning to shut down.

a. Email from Brenda Barnette, General Manager of Los Angeles Animal Services, that Rockin' Rescue can continue to operate as long as they are still moving forward with their zoning request and the animals look well cared for.

b. Tarzana Neighborhood Council Resolution of support for Rockin' Rescue.

c. Email from Gary Werner of Rosenheim & Associates thanking us for our support, request that we appear at hearings regarding change of use/zoning.

d. Meeting of Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee on January 7, 2016.

7. Update and discussion on the killing of healthy adoptable animals at Los Angeles City animal shelters.

8. Update and discussion on efforts to get the City to do a CEQA review or EIR in connection with the injunction against City participation in the Trap Neuter Release (TNR) program.

9. Update on the possibility of implementing a program for nursing homes to adopt or foster dogs and/or cats.

10. Discuss getting more Volunteers for the West Valley Shelter.

11. Committee member comments on subject matter within the Committee's jurisdiction.

12. Future agenda items and other calendar events.

13. Adjournment.

For more information about the Tarzana Neighborhood Council please visit our web site at www.tarzananc.org. For information about dogs, cats, and rabbits available at the West Valley Animal Shelter, please visit our Featured Shelter Animals page at http://tarzananc.org/shelter.php?dbshelter_categories_id=1

Any materials that may be distributed to a majority of the Board less than 72 hours prior to the above scheduled meeting are available for review by the public at 19040 Vanowen Street, Reseda, CA 91335.

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the committee in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at our website by clicking on the following link: www.tarzananc.org/committees.php?committee_id=4, or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact us at tnc@tarzananc.org or 818-921-4992

Process for Reconsideration – Reconsideration of Board actions shall be in accordance with the Tarzana Neighborhood Council bylaws.

Draft
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**MINUTES of the TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 7:00 pm
Tarzana Child Care Center
5700 Beckford Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356,
Chairman - Jeffrey Mausner

Minutes of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council (TNC) Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) meeting, October 13, 2015, at the Tarzana Child Care Center, 5700 Beckford Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356.

1. Call to Order & Welcoming Remarks. The meeting was called to order at 7:12 P.M. Attending were the following committee members: Deanna Dylan Scott, Mary Aratounian, Eva Brusa, Janet Mausner, and Jeffrey Mausner. Also attending were Volunteers from the West Valley Animal Shelter and Ady Gill, who runs Rockin' Rescue. The attached documents were distributed at the meeting.
2. Public Comments. The public comments related to the West Valley Shelter and Rockin' Rescue, so they were deferred to items 4 and 6 below.
3. Update and discussion on the killing of healthy adoptable animals at Los Angeles City animal shelters took place. Draft of the letter to Councilmen Blumenfield and Koretz regarding this was distributed for comment.
4. Update and discussion on other issues regarding the West Valley Animal Shelter took place: Lack of air conditioning in trucks used to transport animals was discussed. Michael Bell and his groups are dealing with this issue. We will assist in that matter if needed. Discussion of other matters regarding the West Valley Shelter took place.
5. Update and discussion on efforts to get the City to do a CEQA review in connection with the injunction against City participation in the Trap Neuter Release (TNR) program. Draft of the letter to Councilmen Blumenfield and Koretz regarding this was distributed for comment.
6. Update and discussion on the status of Rockin' Rescue's change of use/zoning change, warning to shut down; email from Brenda Barnette, General Manager of Los Angeles Animal Services, that Rockin' Rescue can continue to operate as long as they are still moving forward with their zoning request and the animals look well cared for.
7. Discussion and motion: **Resolved that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee recommends that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council assist Rockin' Rescue in obtaining the change of use/zoning necessary to obtain a kennel permit.**

Motion to adopt the resolution was made by Eva Brusa and seconded by Mary Aratounian. The motion to adopt the resolution passed unanimously, with Deanna Dylan Scott, Eva Brusa, Mary Aratounian, Janet Mausner, and Jeffrey Mausner voting in favor. No votes against or abstentions.

8. Update and discussion on the use of live chickens in religious observances.

9. Update and discussion on the status of panleukopenia (aka panleuk), a deadly cat disease.

10. Discussion of the possibility of implementing a program for nursing homes to adopt or foster dogs and/or cats.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Draft

Jeffrey Mausner

From: Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2015 10:37 AM
To: Leonard Shaffer (l.shaffer@tarzananc.org); Eran Heissler 18 (Eran@Heissler18.com); David R Garfinkle (drgarfinkle@sbcglobal.net)
Cc: DEANNA SCOTT (deannadylan1111@aol.com); Mary Aratoni (maryarat_a@yahoo.com); Eva Brusa ebrusa@sbcglobal.net; Lynn Davis (lobalynn@gmail.com); Janet Mausner (Eehmah@aol.com); Ady Gil (ady@ady.com)
Subject: FW: The city wants to close down "Rockin Rescue"; URGENT MATTER

re: Urgent Matter; Possible Shut Down of Rockin' Rescue

To: Len Shaffer, President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council
Eran Heissler, 1st Vice President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council
David Garfinkle, Chairman, Land Use Committee, Tarzana Neighborhood Council

Members of the Animal Welfare Committee: Deanna Dylan Scott, Mary Aratounian, Eva Brusa, Lynn Davis, Janet Mausner

Please see the emails below from Ady Gil. Ady runs Rockin' Rescue, which is located at 19855 Ventura Blvd., just over the border from Tarzana in Woodland Hills. I think that Rockin' Rescue is the best rescue in the area. Tarzana and Woodland Hills residents have adopted dogs, cats, and other animals there. We adopted our current dog, Cookie, from Rockin' Rescue. Rockin' Rescue has saved many dogs and cats who were about to be killed at the West Valley Shelter, and found them homes. Animals at Rockin' Rescue are always well taken care of and well treated.

As you can see from Ady's emails below, Rockin' Rescue is in danger of being shut down because of a use/zoning issue.

Some background: Ady Gil is a world famous animal rescuer and one of the finest people I know. He spends most of his time trying to help animals. He spends hundreds of thousands of dollar of his own money to keep Rockin' Rescue open. He recently donated \$2 million to set up an animal sanctuary in Israel and save more than 1200 monkey from being sent to animal experimentation. See <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/ady-gil-pays-2-million-save-monkeys-slated-u-s-niusea>

For more background on Ady see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ady_Gil
and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My_Ady_Gil

My understanding of the issue from speaking with Ady is that the land on which Rockin' Rescue is located is zoned C1. In order to get a kennel permit or a pet store permit, Rockin' Rescue has to obtain a "Change of Use." An application is in process to get the Change of Use. There was a person in the Permit Section of the North Central Shelter (Felix Lopez) who

had been in constant communication with Ady, who assured Ady that as long as Ady kept him posted about the Change of Use application, no action would be taken against Rockin' Rescue. However, another person, Lt. Annette Ramirez, took over the matter, and Ady received an email from her on Monday advising him that further enforcement action is now going to be taken against Rockin' Rescue. Ady received a call yesterday from West Valley Shelter, advising him that he is operating without a permit and that he needs to drop the number of animals he has at the facility to 3 dogs and 3 cats (which is the number allowed by any pet owner in Los Angeles). So basically, they are telling him to shut down Rockin' Rescue.

It would be a tragedy if Rockin' Rescue is shut down. There are about 150 animals there now. Those animals would presumably be brought to the West Valley Shelter, where many of them would probably be killed; or other animals would be killed to make room for the animals coming from Rockin' Rescue. It is much better for those animals to remain at Rockin' Rescue while the Change of Use application is being considered.

Is there anything that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council can do regarding this matter?

Best regards, Jeffrey Mausner
Chairman, Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee

-----Original Message-----

From: Ady Gil [adygil@adv.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2015 7:30 PM
To: Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>
Subject: Re: The city wants to close down "Rockin Resce"

Hi Jeff,

Ventura Blvd. is a spot zone. For example. In our intersection we are C1 and Wells Fargo diagonal across the street is C2.

It is not that the street disallow C1, C2 or C4. It is just what did the original builder asked for. In my case, in 1966 my building was built as a retail C1.

To change this you need to go through a process. One of the items is traffic impact. We paid \$5,000 to do that.

The city does not see this as a "project". It is more of a technicality. So eventually we will get the C2 and get our permit.

We had no hearing so far.

Does this explain it?

Thank you,

Ady

On Sep 2, 2015, at 6:53 PM, Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com> wrote:

Hi Ady. What is the basis for trying to shut you down? What is the current zoning, and what does it have to be for you to continue? Have there been any hearings at the Woodland Hills Neighborhood Council, Zoning Commission, or City Council on this? Please send me the details.

I will see if the Tarzana Neighborhood Council can do anything on this. If you were in Tarzana, I know we could, but since you are in Woodland Hills, it is the Woodland Hills Neighborhood Council that has jurisdiction. However, people on the Tarzana Neighborhood Council might be willing to talk to Woodland Hills. Best regards, Jeff.

-----Original Message-----

From: Ady Gil [mailto:ady@ady.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2015 2:59 PM

To: Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>

Cc: Cathy Serksnas <serksnas@aol.com>; maylmary@sbcglobal.net;
such1430@yahoo.com; Victor Copino <vcopino@live.com>; Jen Turner
<alexstuart.jen@gmail.com>; A Hewitt <amchewitt@yahoo.com>; Suzanne
Mackay <shmackay@mac.com>; phsien@yahoo.com; Susan Reeves
<shelteranswers@gmail.com>; Doug Ross <Rushross@netzero.net>; Ingrid
<pajade@yahoo.de>; ReneeDisisto@hotmail.com; Brittani Berman
<brittaniberman@gmail.com>; David Cook <madbullittus@yahoo.com>;
sasha.mendez.2@gmail.com; Lynn Davis <lobalynn@gmail.com>;
Sanson.Chen@yahoo.com; Heidi Okuhara <obiemyk9@hotmail.com>;
jumana59@gmail.com; sheetalmartin@gmail.com; adele_catelle@yahoo.com;
Caryl Smith <carepiano@hotmail.com>; Michelle Cornelius
<artshapeslife@gmail.com>; Chantalle Amber <cjovillar@outlook.com>;
mcadiz@outlook.com; Bari Fiore <triedandtruerescueinc@gmail.com>
Subject: The city wants to close down "Rockin Resce"

Hi All,

The city wants to close down "Rockin Rescue" It is our rescue on 19855 Ventura Blvd.

We can not get a permit until building and safety and Zoning gives us a zoning change.

We already spent tons of money on it, and we are close to get it done. We are not doing it for profit.

If this place is closed, I will have \$400,000 in my pocket every year, so I do not need the place open for money, I do it for all the animals we took from the city shelters.

Please go to the Commission's Meeting on Monday at 7 PM at the Mission Hills shelter and speak for 2 minutes if you like to see Rockin Rescue continue saving animals.

Thank you, Ady

Jeffrey Mausner

From: Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 9:51 PM
To: 'Leonard Shaffer'
Cc: 'Ady Gil'
Subject: RE: Ady Gil and Rockin' Rescue

Hi Len. There was a Los Angeles Animal Services Commission meeting last night. About 30 people attended the meeting to support Ady and Rockin' Rescue; 10 to 15 of the supporters spoke in support of keeping Rockin' Rescue open. As you can see from Brenda Barnette's email below, LAAS has agreed to not shut down Rockin' Rescue and only monitor it, as long as the animals look well cared for and they are still moving forward with their zoning request.

Gary Werner from Rosenheim & Associates attended the meeting and spoke, saying that the zoning request was in process and could take several months. Best regards, Jeff.

From: Jeff Mausner [mailto:jeff@mausnerlaw.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 3:48 PM
To: Leonard Shaffer <l.shaffer@tarzananc.org>
Cc: Ady Gil <ady@ady.com>
Subject: Fwd: Ady Gil and Rockin' Rescue

Hi Len. Good news on Rockin Rescue! Please see the email from Brenda Barnette below. Can TNC continue to help Ady with the use change/zoning issue? I'm at the shelter now. Will send a more detailed email tonight. Thanks, Jeff

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Brenda Barnette <brenda.barnette@lacity.org>
Date: September 9, 2015 at 2:28:33 PM PDT
To: David Zaft <zaft@caldwell-leslie.com>, Larry Gross <commissioner.gross@vahoo.com>, "ROGER SAMUEL WOLFSON, J.D., M.A." <commissionerwolfson@gmail.com>, Alana Yanez <avanez791@vahoo.com>, "neuterspav@outlook.com" <neuterspav@outlook.com>, Dana Brown <dana.brown@lacity.org>, Rita Moreno <rita.moreno@lacity.org>
Cc: Ady Gil <ady@ady.com>, Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>, mark salazar <mark.salazar@lacity.org>
Subject: Ady Gil and Rockin' Rescue

Please do not use reply to all and discuss due to Brown Act.

Commissioners,

I checked into the concerns expressed by Rockin' Rescue supporters, employees and founder at the Commission meeting last evening.

What I learned is that an officer has been there on more than one occasion. Ady Gil, or someone at Rockin' Rescue, has been advised that they cannot have a kennel permit until they are properly zoned.

Basically,

1. as long as the animals look well cared for,
2. and they are still moving forward with their zoning request

the Department will monitor only.

If the animals were to be found in poor condition, or if the zoning request to use as a rescue shelter is denied, or if they halt efforts to get proper zoning, we would give them notice to comply with the 3 dog and 3 cat limit. Otherwise we will just continue to monitor as they go through the zoning process .

Brenda

--

Brenda F. Barnette
General Manager

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Administrative Office
Department of Animal Services
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Jeffrey Mausner

From: Gary Werner <gary@raa-inc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 01, 2015 4:42 PM
To: Jeffrey Mausner
Cc: Ady Gil
Subject: Re: Rockin' Rescue, Ady Gil

Hi Jeffrey,

Thank you, the Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee and the Tarzana Neighborhood Council so much for your support of Rockin' Rescue Animal Center. On behalf of Ady Gil, AGWC, Rosenheim & Associates and myself, we all appreciate your collective passion and commitment to save the lives of the many pets that would otherwise be destroyed.

The Resolutions (and minutes) you provided will be included in our application materials to the City and I trust these documents along with the other application materials we are providing will provide a persuasive argument to the decision makers.

As we move forward with this application we will eventually be meeting with the Woodland Hills - Warner Center Neighborhood Council and at public hearings to enable the City to gather the public input they seek for this type of land use entitlement application. At such times we would be further indebted to you and members of the Tarzana community for the additional support you may be willing to provide in person. As you know, the larger the number of supporters present, the better are the chances for success.

Again, thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you at future meetings.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please feel free to call me at the number listed below, or reply to this email.

Thank you,

Gary Werner
Rosenheim & Associates, Inc.
21600 Oxnard Street, Suite #630
Woodland Hills, CA 91367

P: 818-716-2659
F: 818-593-6184

gary@raa-inc.com

On Nov 29, 2015, at 4:09 PM, Jeffrey Mausner wrote:

Hi Gary. I'm a Board Member of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council (TNC) and Chairman of its Animal Welfare Committee (AWC). Although Rockin' Rescue is located in Woodland Hills (about 1 block from the border with Tarzana), we strongly support Rockin' Rescue's efforts to obtain the necessary change of use/zoning necessary to obtain a kennel permit or otherwise remain open in its current location at 19855 Ventura Blvd.

I think Rockin' Rescue is the best animal rescue in the area. Ady Gil is one of the kindest, most generous, most knowledgeable animal rights people I have known. Rockin' Rescue has literally saved the lives of many dogs and cats who were about to be killed at the West Valley Animal Shelter, and found them homes. It would be a tragedy if Rockin' Rescue is shut down. There are about 150 animals there now. If Rockin' Rescue had to close down, those animals would presumably be brought to city shelters, where many of them could be killed; or other animals would be killed to make room for the animals coming from Rockin' Rescue.

At its meeting on October 13, 2015, the TNC Animal Welfare Committee unanimously passed the following resolution:

“Resolved that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee recommends that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council assist Rockin’ Rescue in obtaining the change of use/zoning necessary to obtain a kennel permit.”

A copy of the Minutes of this meeting is attached, with this resolution, item 7, highlighted.

At its meeting on October 27, 2015, the full Board of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council unanimously adopted the following resolution:

“Resolved: The TNC approves the Animal Welfare Committee recommendation that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council assist Rockin’ Rescue in obtaining the change of use/zoning necessary to obtain a kennel permit.” The motion carried unanimously.

A copy of the draft Minutes of this meeting is attached, with this resolution, item 8, highlighted. (I will forward a copy of the final minutes to you when they are available.)

Please let us know what else we can do to assist Rockin' Rescue in obtaining the change of use/zoning necessary to obtain a kennel permit or otherwise remain in its current location.

Sincerely, Jeffrey Mausner, Chairman, Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee.

Jeffrey N. Mausner
Telephone: (310) 617-8100
e-mail: jeff@mausnerlaw.com

<Minutes of AWC meeting, October 13 2015.2.pdf><Draft Minutes for 10-27-15
Board Meeting.doc><Rockin Rescue 1.pdf><Rockin Rescue 2.pdf>

From: Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 1:34 PM
To: 'Ady Gil'; '<brad@raa-inc.com>'; '<l.shaffer@tarzananc.org>'; '<Eran@Heissler18.com>'; '<harveygoldberg@sbcglobal.net>'; '<Ornitt@aol.com>'; '<CJoyce.Greene@gmail.com>'; '<RobinCorrell848@gmail.com>'; '<deannadylan1111@aol.com>'; '<ebrusa@sbcglobal.net>'; 'Cathy Serksnas'; '<maryarat_a@yahoo.com>'; '<Eehmah@aol.com>'; 'Bari Fiore'; '<maylmary@sbcglobal.net>'; 'phsien@yahoo.com'; '<ReneeDisisto@hotmail.com>'; '<patkramerstnc@gmail.com>'; '<debbiekozin@gmail.com>'; '<jbbarad@roadrunner.com>'; '<such1430@yahoo.com>'; '<amchewitt@yahoo.com>'; '<alexstuart.jen@gmail.com>'; '<brittaniberman@gmail.com>'; '<artshapesslife@gmail.com>'; '<classyteacher4u@aol.com>'; 'Janice Hutchins'; '<jumana59@gmail.com>'; '<commissioner.gross@yahoo.com>'; '<lobalynn@gmail.com>'; '<Joshua.Mausner@lw.com>'; '<Sacthatsme@aol.com>'; '<Macyloveshershey@gmail.com>'; '<Richard@Greylaw.biz>'; '<carepiano@hotmail.com>'; '<madbullittus@yahoo.com>'; 'Arielle Bernard'; '<sasha.mendez.2@gmail.com>'; 'Susie Reeve'; 'Jasmine Mausner'; 'Jessica Mausner'; 'Brooks Ambrose'; 'Gary Werner'; 'Doug Ross (Rushross@netzero.net)'; 'Sep Omrani'; 'Gary Werner'
Subject: RE: IMPORTANT: Rockin' Rescue, Ady Gil
Attachments: Woodland Hills NC Jan 7 2016.rough transcript.pdf; Petition for Rockin Rescue.doc; Cookie w Hat 2015-7-4 001.JPG

Thank you Ady. That means a lot coming from you. I think of you as the Mother Teresa of the animal kingdom. You and what you do to help animals are truly amazing.

We want to thank everyone for their help in making last night successful. The Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council Planning, Land Use and Mobility Committee (PLUM) voted 6 to 1 to recommend approval of the variance requested by Rockin' Rescue, in what can only be described as a contentious and long hearing. The variance is to allow a pet rescue/adoption center with pet grooming and boarding in the C1-1VLD Zone, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code §12.27, including a variance for a reduction in parking from 21 parking stalls normally required to nine parking stalls. In short, if the variance is not approved, Rockin' Rescue would have to shut down.

As everyone who was there last night saw (based on what happened in our hearing and the rejection of requests in the prior matters that came before the Committee), this is not an easy process. We might not have been successful if you all had not done so much to help.

Thank you to Leonard (Len) Shaffer, President of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council. For those of you who don't know Len, he is also the President of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, so he is basically the head Neighborhood Council person in the entire City of Los Angeles. See <http://empowerla.org/commission/>

Len is also heading the preparations for all Neighborhood Councils in the City to deal with emergencies, like the upcoming El Nino (including what is going to happen to animals in any emergencies). Len sat through the entire 3 1/2 hour meeting to support Rockin' Rescue, and we are very appreciative. It is a good thing that he did, because technical matters came up regarding the findings that Len answered.

Mary Aratounian and Janet Mausner attended the meeting from the Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee (AWC). The resolutions of the Animal Welfare

Committee and the full Tarzana Neighborhood Council were presented to the PLUM Committee. One of the committee members specifically referenced this when she stated why she was voting in favor of the variance. Thank you to all the members of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council and AWC who unanimously voted to support Rockin' Rescue. Thank you also to Debbie Kozin and the Sherman Oaks NC, who collected signatures for the Petition, which I will get to below.

Thank you to Mary May and Mary Wynn, representing the Volunteers at the West Valley Shelter, and Rochelle Aflatoun and Fabienne, Volunteers at Rockin' Rescue, who sat through 3 1/2 hours to support this. One of the committee members also noted the support of the Shelter Volunteers (both at the meeting and in the Petition) for Rockin' Rescue. Not only do these Volunteers spend countless hours helping the animals at the Shelter, but they also rely on, and volunteer at, Rockin' Rescue.

The Petition was very influential. Over 200 people signed the Petition in support of Rockin' Rescue in less than a week. Several of the PLUM committee members noted how impressive that was. Bari noted that some of Rockin' Rescue's neighbors signed the Petition. Please thank everyone who signed and circulated the Petition. Special thanks to Jasmine Mausner (who got 30 signatures) and Bari Fiore and Rockin' Rescue employees (100 signatures).

Thank you to Gary Werner and Brad Rosenheim for your work in preparing reports and findings that made this possible. We all saw from the hearings and rejections of the prior matters on the agenda how difficult this is.

And of course Ady and Bari spoke and answered some difficult questions at the hearing, from what kind of flooring there is, to how food is kept, to disposal of dog and cat poop. We all appreciate the lives you have saved and everything you do for our animal friends. Attached is a rough transcript of what I said about Rockin' Rescue and Ady at the hearing.

This is a very important step, but only an early step, in the approval process. So please continue to be involved in this if Rockin' Rescue needs your help. If you have not yet signed the Petition and would like to do so, or know anyone else who would like to sign, we can still use it in later proceedings.

Have a nice weekend.

Best regards, Jeff.

From: Ady Gil [mailto:ady@ady.com]

Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2016 11:19 PM

To:

Subject: Re: IMPORTANT: Rockin' Rescue, Ady Gil

Jeff,

You are an amazing person,

Thank you,

Ady

On Jan 7, 2016, at 11:13 PM, Jeff Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com> wrote:

Hi everyone. The Planning and Land Use Committee approved Rockin' Rescue's application in a 6 - 1 vote. What everyone did, from speaking at or attending the meeting, to signing the petition, made a huge difference. Thank you all. More details tomorrow. Best regards Jeff

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 7, 2016, at 7:58 PM, Jeff Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com> wrote:

Starting number 5. We're next. Jeff

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 7, 2016, at 7:31 PM, Jeff Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com> wrote:

Just started number 4. I don't think we will start until after 8

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 7, 2016, at 6:47 PM, Jeff Mausner
<jeff@mausnerlaw.com> wrote:

Hi everyone. Meeting is just getting started, but it skipped to number 3. So we could be up soon. Jeff

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 4, 2016, at 10:44 PM, "Jeffrey Mausner"
<jeff@mausnerlaw.com> wrote:

Hi everyone. The Woodland
Hills Neighborhood Council
PLUM Committee meeting

Good evening. My name is Jeff Mausner. I'm a Board Member of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council and Chairman of its Animal Welfare Committee.

Also here are Len Shaffer, President of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council and President of the Los Angeles Board of Neighborhood Commissioners. Mary Aratounian and Janet Mausner from the Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee. Mary May and Mary Wynn, representing Volunteers from the West Valley City Animal Shelter, and Rochelle, a Volunteer at Rockin' Rescue. These are people who volunteer hundreds of hours at the City Animal Shelter helping to get animals adopted and taking them out for walks and so on. I've given to you a Petition supporting Rockin' Rescue, which contains over 200 signatures, which were obtained in less than a week.

[PLUM Committee Vice Chair reads the Petition out loud.]

I'm a retired attorney; I used to have my law office in Warner Center Towers.

Rockin' Rescue is only about 2 blocks from the border with Tarzana. Although Rockin' Rescue is located in Woodland Hills, the Tarzana Neighborhood Council strongly supports Rockin' Rescue's efforts to obtain the variance or change of use necessary to remain open in its current location.

We think Rockin' Rescue is the best animal rescue in the area. They have saved the lives of many dogs and cats who were about to be killed at the West Valley Shelter. We know this personally, because we've been there when dogs or cats were about to be killed, and we know that you can call on Ady to come pick up that dog or cat, and take it to Rockin' Rescue, and then get it adopted. It would be a tragedy if Rockin' Rescue is shut down. There are about 120 animals there now. If Rockin' Rescue had to close down, those animals would be brought to city shelters, where many of them could be killed; or other animals would be killed to make room for the animals coming from Rockin' Rescue. And if Rockin' Rescue is not operating in the future, of course, there will be less animals adopted and more animals would be killed.

It's not often that another neighborhood council will take a position on a zoning issue outside its boundaries. Based on what the Tarzana Neighborhood Council

has done, which I will tell you in a second, I think you can see how special Rockin' Rescue is. At its meeting in October, the Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee unanimously passed the following resolution. This is at pages 1 and 2 of the handout, para 7:

“Resolved that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee recommends that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council assist Rockin’ Rescue in obtaining the change of use/zoning necessary to obtain a kennel permit.”

At its meeting on October 27, 2015, the full Board of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council unanimously adopted the following resolution, which is at page 3 of the handout, para 8:

“Resolved: The TNC approves the Animal Welfare Committee recommendation that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council assist Rockin’ Rescue in obtaining the change of use/zoning necessary to obtain a kennel permit.” The motion carried unanimously.

Tarzana and Woodland Hills residents have adopted dogs and cats at Rockin' Rescue. We adopted our dog, Cookie, from Rockin' Rescue. (Show picture.) She was about 11 or 12 years old when we adopted her -- she probably wouldn't have made it if it weren't for Rockin' Rescue.

Animals at Rockin' Rescue are always well taken care of and well treated. Some of the Volunteers at the West Valley Shelter are also volunteers at Rockin' Rescue. The living quarters for animals there are spectacular. Here are some pictures. The dogs get fresh barbecued meat or chicken most days. I've had people tell me that they would like to live at Rockin' Rescue, it's so nice.

Some background about Ady Gil: He is a world famous animal rescuer and one of the finest people I know. He spends most of his time trying to help animals. He spends hundreds of thousands of dollars of his own money to keep Rockin' Rescue open. He recently donated \$2 million to set up an animal sanctuary in Israel and save more than 1200 monkeys. There is an article about this at pages 5-7 of the handout.

Rockin' Rescue is really a world class animal rescue, something that Woodland Hills can really be proud of. It is known throughout the country, and will be known in the world. It does not disturb any of its neighbors. I've been there many times, and it is always well maintained and there isn't any noise that would disturb anyone. It backs up to the 101 Freeway to the north. Ventura Blvd and a shopping center are to the south. Oakdale Ave and a commercial property are to the west. And its parking lot and commercial properties are to the east. Customers, volunteers, and employees at Rockin' Rescue frequent the businesses nearby. Bari says that some of the people who signed the Petition are the neighbors of Rockin' Rescue. I really can't say enough about Rockin' Rescue and Ady Gill, and very strongly urge you to approve their application. You can go home and tell your kids that you helped to save the lives of dogs and cats tonight. Thank you.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 571016
Tarzana, CA 91357

TELEPHONE (818) 921-4992

tnc@tarzananc.org
www.tarzananc.org



TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

C/O Department of Neighborhood
Empowerment
200 N. Spring St. Suite 2005
Los Angeles, CA 90012
TELEPHONE (213) 978-1551
Fax (213) 978-1751

MINUTES of the TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 7:00 pm
Tarzana Child Care Center
5700 Beckford Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356,
Chairman - Jeffrey Mausner

Minutes of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council (TNC) Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) meeting, October 13, 2015, at the Tarzana Child Care Center, 5700 Beckford Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356.

1. Call to Order & Welcoming Remarks. The meeting was called to order at 7:12 P.M. Attending were the following committee members: Deanna Dylan Scott, Mary Aratounian, Eva Brusa, Janet Mausner, and Jeffrey Mausner. Also attending were Volunteers from the West Valley Animal Shelter and Ady Gill, who runs Rockin' Rescue. The attached documents were distributed at the meeting.
2. Public Comments. The public comments related to the West Valley Shelter and Rockin' Rescue, so they were deferred to items 4 and 6 below.
3. Update and discussion on the killing of healthy adoptable animals at Los Angeles City animal shelters took place. Draft of the letter to Councilmen Blumenfield and Koretz regarding this was distributed for comment.
4. Update and discussion on other issues regarding the West Valley Animal Shelter took place: Lack of air conditioning in trucks used to transport animals was discussed. Michael Bell and his groups are dealing with this issue. We will assist in that matter if needed. Discussion of other matters regarding the West Valley Shelter took place.
5. Update and discussion on efforts to get the City to do a CEQA review in connection with the injunction against City participation in the Trap Neuter Release (TNR) program. Draft of the letter to Councilmen Blumenfield and Koretz regarding this was distributed for comment.
6. Update and discussion on the status of Rockin' Rescue's change of use/zoning change, warning to shut down; email from Brenda Barnette, General Manager of Los Angeles Animal Services, that Rockin' Rescue can continue to operate as long as they are still moving forward with their zoning request and the animals look well cared for.
7. Discussion and motion: **Resolved that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee recommends that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council assist Rockin' Rescue in obtaining the change of use/zoning necessary to obtain a kennel permit.**

Motion to adopt the resolution was made by Eva Brusa and seconded by Mary Aratounian. The motion to adopt the resolution passed unanimously, with Deanna Dylan Scott, Eva Brusa, Mary Aratounian, Janet Mausner, and Jeffrey Mausner voting in favor. No votes against or abstentions.

8. Update and discussion on the use of live chickens in religious observances.

9. Update and discussion on the status of panleukopenia (aka panleuk), a deadly cat disease.

10. Discussion of the possibility of implementing a program for nursing homes to adopt or foster dogs and/or cats.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

**DRAFT
TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, October 27, 2015 7:00 PM
Tarzana Elementary School Auditorium
5726 Topeka Dr., Tarzana, CA 91356

1. **Call to Order** by Len Shaffer at 7:10 p.m. with welcoming remarks and Pledge of Allegiance. **Roll Call by Eran Heisler:** Leonard J. Shaffer, Eran Heissler, Paul Lawler, Jon Reich, David Garfinkle, Esther Wieder, Joyce Greene, Robin Correll, Susan Weidman, Allan Wertheim and Jeff Mausner. (Syed Hussaini arrived at 7:30 p.m.) A quorum of 11 was established.
2. **Approval of minutes of September 29, 2015 meeting – (Heissler/Wertheim) moved to approve the minutes as amended.**
3. **Remarks by representatives of public officials** Ariel from Councilmember Bob Blumenfield's office announced two upcoming events.
4. **Public Comments:**
 - Lillian Wall, a realtor and stakeholder, asked about film crews filming in residential neighborhoods of Tarzana.
 - Varant Majarian expressed interest in a seat on the board.
 - Robert Shmaeff, who serves on the Transportation & Budget Committees, offered his experience to be appointed to the board.
5. **Committee and other Reports**
 - Outreach** – Esther attended the Emergency Preparedness meeting saying it was a great event. She also attended Taste of Encino where TNC had a booth.
 - Land Use** – David said he would like to hold community meetings for better input on the Mansionization motion.
 - Transportation** – Eran read Max's report which included a proposal by DOT to make Valley Vista one way, a relocated MBA bus stop, a proposal for a new bus stop, and a request for CalTrans to clean freeway signs.
 - Animal Welfare** – Jeff gave a report that highlighted the temperature in the back of city Animal Services trucks, which are not air conditioned. It was noted that temps reached over 100 degrees in that back area where animals are transported. A new rule has been put into effect in the shelters prohibiting visitors from using the play yards with dogs to be adopted. However, there are opportunities for volunteers to take the dogs out of their kennels to socialize them with other dogs.
 - DWP MOU** – Joyce attended the DWP MOU meeting and reported on it. She requested that letters be written to the GM of DWP, the Mayor, and Council President Herb Wesson asking that no action be taken on the rate proposal until Dr. Pickles has enough information to make an opinion. There is supposed to be a vote on the rate increase in early Dec.
6. **(Shaffer/Reich) moved that the TNC board approve the preliminary financial statements as of September 30, 2015. The motion carried unanimously.**
7. **(Shaffer/Heissler) moved approval of the September, 2015 expenditures for submission to DONE (MER). The motion carried unanimously.**
8. **(Mausner/Heissler) moved, "Resolved: The TNC approves the Animal Welfare Committee recommendation that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council assist Rockin' Rescue in obtaining the change of use/zoning necessary to obtain a kennel permit." The motion carried unanimously.**

(Shaffer/Garfinkle) moved, "Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee recommendation to the Board to waive the TNC standing rules so the Board can discuss and

vote Agenda Item 10 requesting CM Blumenfield to introduce a motion for an ICO governing mansionization in Tarzana to include the language and intent of CF- 0656 introduced by CM Paul Koretz limiting the bonuses that result in excessive FARs and applying special rules to small R-1 lots."

Kathy Delle Donne gave background on this item. She recommended that it go back to the Land Use committee for extensive discussion and maybe a Town Hall meeting, as well.

Lillian Hall also felt more discussion was needed on the impact of this motion. She is opposed to it and feels that one size doesn't fit all.

The motion failed: 0-8 (4 abstaining)

- 11. (Shaffer/Weidman) moved, "Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee recommendation that if street vending is legalized in Los Angeles that it include an "opt in" provision allowing each City Council District to determine if street vending will be allowed within its boundaries."**

David offered a friendly amendment to change the words "City Council District" to "Neighborhood Council District." The amendment was accepted but Len requested a formal request be made to the change.

(Garfinkle/Shaffer) made a motion to change the words "City Council District" to "Neighborhood Council District." The motion to amend carried 10-0 (2 abstaining).

The amended motion carried unanimously.

- 12. (Shaffer/Heissler) moved, "Resolved, The TNC Board approves Executive Committee recommendation that the Board appoint Jeff Mausner the TNC Animal Welfare Representative." The motion carried unanimously.**
- 13. (Shaffer/Heissler) moved, "Resolved: The TNC Board approves Executive Committee recommendation that the Board accept the resignation of Board Member Linda Safarian." The motion carried unanimously.**
- 14. (Shaffer/Wieder) moved, "Resolved: The TNC Board approves Executive Committee recommendation that the TNC November and December meetings be combined and be held on December 2, 2015." The motion carried 11-1 (Hussaini)**

19. President's Remarks

September VANC meeting – Len talked about the number of DWP staff attended the last VANC meeting, encouraging their support on the proposed rate increase. He talked about Councilmember Fuentes (CD7) who evicted STNC from using the municipal building for their office and meetings. VANC supported a motion that NCs be given preference for vacant city office space over other entities seeking to rent space. He also talked about a light rail proposal for the Orange Line by MTA.

Regional Emergency Preparedness Fair Oct 3, 2015 – Len spoke about the fair.

Regional Budget Day Oct 17th Braude Center – Len and Harvey attended.

20. Board Member Comment -

- Eran announced that this was Susan's last meeting and wished her well, thanking her for her service.
- Joyce talked about a presentation she attended on sustainability.
- Len announced the formation of the Alliance for Emergency Preparedness on Nov. 21.

- 21. Adjournment at 8:50 p.m. - Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One-**



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NEWS FEB 14 2015, 12:54 PM ET

Ady Gil Pays \$2 Million to Save Monkeys Slated for U.S. Laboratories

by DAVE COPELAND

SHARE



TEL AVIV, Israel — More than 1,200 monkeys have been saved from the horrors of laboratory testing after a U.S.-based conservationist paid \$2 million for them, activists said.

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Businessman Ady Gil purchased the 1,250 long-tailed macaques from the secretive Mazor Farm in Israel, which had planned to shift its operation to Florida after Israel's laws governing wild animal exports changed in January.

Animal-rights activist Anat Refua battled for 16 years to save the primates. "These monkeys are now saved from such a cruel, cruel destiny, and I'm so happy," she told NBC News. "They will never separate a baby from a mother, which they've been doing here so many

years."

The Israeli-born Gil said Mazor Farm, which is located near Ben Gurion airport, had shipped around 6,000 monkeys to laboratories worldwide at a price of \$3,500 each since it began operating in the early 1990s.



Two of more than 1,200 monkeys saved from of laboratory testing sit in an enclosure in Tel Aviv, Israel. Gil purchased the 1,250 long-tailed macaques from the secretive Mazor Farm, which had planned to shift its operation to Florida after Israel's laws governing wild animal exports changed in January.  Dave Copeland / NBC News

Hidden behind a security fence topped by barbed wire and shielded by a massive row of bougainvillea, the farm operated in secrecy for nearly a decade before it was exposed in 1999.

The end of the line was signaled two years ago when Israel's environment minister, an animal-rights sympathizer, announced changes to the country's wild animal export laws.

Gil said the operation had plans to sell the monkeys to laboratories in the U.S. More than 125,000 primates are kept in U.S. laboratories, according to animal-

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Gil said the macaques — which have a lifespan of 30 years — cost \$1 a day each to care for.

"Do the math," he added. "That's 350,000 times 30 — we're looking at close to \$10 million. So the question is: how do you raise that money?"

DAVE COPELAND 
NEWS DEC 30 2019, 8:53 AM ET

TOPICS WORLD, MIDEAST

(Please return to Jeff@MausnerLaw.com)

To the Woodland Hills Warner Center Neighborhood Council - Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUM)

We, the undersigned, very strongly support Rockin' Rescue's efforts to obtain the variance/change of use/zoning necessary to remain open in its current location at 19855 Ventura Blvd.

We think Rockin' Rescue is the best animal rescue in the area. Rockin' Rescue is a non-profit organization that is mainly funded by Ady Gil. It serves the community of Woodland Hills and the entire city of Los Angeles, by taking dogs and cats from the Los Angeles City Shelters, and finding them loving homes. Rockin' Rescue has saved the lives of many dogs and cats who were about to be killed at the West Valley Shelter, provided medical care for them, and made sure that they were adopted. It would be a tragedy if Rockin' Rescue is shut down. There are about 120 animals there now. If Rockin' Rescue had to close down, those animals would be brought to city shelters, where many of them could be killed; or other animals could be killed to make room for the animals coming from Rockin' Rescue.

Thank you for your consideration.

Signature and Name

Neighborhood

Contact Information

**OVER 200 SIGNATURES OBTAINED IN LESS THAN A WEEK.
SUBMITTED SEPARATELY.**