

TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 27, 2012
Providence Tarzana Medical Center
18321 Clark Street, Tarzana, CA 91356

1. **Call to Order** at 7:07 p.m. by Kathy Delle Donne, TNC president. **Roll Call:** Mathew Austin, Susan Blauner, Kathy Delle Donne, Eran Heissler, Varant Majarian, Eileen Maronde, Len Shaffer, Denyse Selesnick, Evan Levi, Paul Lawler, Harvey Goldberg, David Garfinkle, Barry Edelman, Jason Hayes, Doug Sarver, Max Flehinger, Jon Reich, Deanna Scott, Esther Wieder and Sue Weidman. Pledge of Allegiance. **Quorum established.** Absent: Joyce Greene.

2. **Councilmember Dennis Zine:** Recognition of Tarzana Neighborhood Council Board Members and Community Volunteers by Dennis P. Zine, Councilman, Third District. Repaving on Reseda Blvd. and tree trimming. Portable cameras to be installed in West Valley in Dec. 2012. Monies are coming in from the Bus Shelters. A news conference will be taking place on the surveillance cameras in the 3rd Council District. Property tax – in March voters will decide on an increase to the sales tax raising it to 9.75%. Prop H. passed so taxes will be in place for residents south of Ventura Blvd. Power rate increase to take place. He recommended dual meters for water. Medical Marijuana – no resolution till the courts make a final determination. It's open season once again. This is a continual saga that has not worked well.

3. **Carmen Trutanich, LA City Attorney,** gave an update on community issues handled by the Office of the City Attorney. There are over 7,000 open law suits, 250 attorneys in civil liability branch and have tried 132 cases winning 114 cases and saving city over \$235 million dollars. Had 647 lawyers when he started; now have in the 400s. 70% of all arrests come through the CA's office. File about 50,000 cases per year. He talked about the Reserve Deputy City Attorney Program which the American Prosecution Association" awarded him the Innovation Award for Prosecutor of the Year, last year. This program provides training in the courtroom for future prosecutors. It provides about \$2.5 million savings on salaries. He said the state of the City Attorney's office is great.

4. **Remarks by representatives of public officials. LAPD Officer Daryl Scoggins** gave crime stats: Majority of break-ins due to people leaving valuables in their cars. Police are doing Toys for Tots on Dec. 2nd. Eran Heissler announced Police Appreciation Day and asked for volunteers to work the phones.

5. **Public Comments:**

- Amaris Bryer: President of TCCC, thanked TNC and talked about their goals.
- Tony Hashemi: owner of Sharkey's Restaurant, has been asked to get a permit for tables and chairs for sidewalk dining. He expressed frustration with city permitting process, fees and graffiti.
- Stan Saucier: spoke about a residential construction project in Melody Acres that threatens equine status for homeowners. Asked TNC to review and support them in their fight against this project.

6. **Approval of minutes** from October 23, 2012 board meeting. **(Garfinkle/Reich) moved to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion carried.**

7. Treasurer's Report by Evan Levi gave an update on the status of transfer of financial records. He said he is in the process of doing the transition to the Treasurer's seat with the City. His first meeting for Budget Committee will be in January.

8. Designate TNC President as Second Signatory for financial responsibilities required by the DONE. **(Selesnick/Heissler)** moved that **Kathy Delle Donne be given financial responsibilities as Second Signatory for TNC. The motion carried unanimously.**

9. Appointment of Second Budget Representative for 2012 – 2013. Jon Reich was previously appointed first Budget Rep. **Susan Barney, CPA**, volunteered to serve as TNC's second budget rep. Len pointed out that Jon is also the alternate Budget Advocate for the Region. Susan was appointed by the board to this position.

10. New Standing Committee- Animal Welfare Committee. (Delle Donne/Hayes) moved to form the **Animal Welfare Committee as a Standing Committee.** Deanna Scott spoke about the need for this committee and the lack of resources in providing animal welfare. She suggested ways to motivate stakeholders to participate in this committee. **The motion carried unanimously.**

11. Ad Hoc Committee on Tarzana Crossing. (Delle Donne/Majarian) moved to form an **Ad Hoc Committee on the issues surrounding Tarzana Crossing. The motion carried unanimously.**

12. Appointments: As chair, Kathy appointed:

- **Deanna Scott** as chairperson for the Animal Welfare Committee.
- **Joe Bernstein** chair of the Tarzana Crossing Ad Hoc Committee.
- **Marina McLeod** co-chair with Joyce Greene of the Energy & Environment committee.

13. Budget Representative & Committee Reports

Mayor's Budget Day – Budget Rep. Jon Reich reported on this event and the presentations that took place. \$216 million is the anticipated shortfall for the fiscal year and how to make up the shortfall is the main question.

Outreach – Chair Denyse Selesnick presented some new ways to handle outreach. She will be working along with other chairs to coordinate TNC events. Purchasing lists of stakeholders' names is one possibility, a weekly email blast spotlighting different committees, and a workshop for the business community on how to increase sales with the social media.

Transportation – Chair Jason Hayes named people interested in serving on his committee as: Warren, Mark, Deanna, Eran and Janet Barnett. He talked about issues that the committee is looking into.

Public Safety – Chair Elliot Durant is in touch with Octaviano Rios, Officer Scoggins and the City Attorney. He's planning a fair for March at TCCC with reps from CDC, Earthquake Preparedness, Homeland Security, Governor's Office, etc. He's looking into improving communications with Neighborhood Watch groups and issues they are concerned about. He's also getting CERT and CPR trained.

Government Action –Matt Austin, chair – no report as yet.

Energy & Environment Committee –Co-chair Marina McLeod talked about Earth Day and Green Day, she and Joyce attended VANC's meeting and is looking to help homeowners take advantage of rebate programs among other things. Once they do this, they will define their goals and set their budget.

Land Use Committee– Denise Schall – No report as yet.

14. Request for a one-time suspension of the Budget & Finance policy. (Maronde/Hayes) moved for suspension of the Budget Committee policy, approved in March 2012, that

requests must first come before the Budget Committee before coming to the TNC Board. (Shaffer/Hayes) requested a friendly amendment to state that the Budget Committee Policy be suspended for this one-time to allow for the purpose of hearing an Outreach budget request by the TNC board.” (Garfinkle/Levi) made a friendly amendment asking that the motion include the details of the Outreach Budget request.

- The second amendment passed unanimously.
- The board then unanimously approved the first amendment.

The board then voted on the twice-amended motion. “That TNC make a one-time suspension of the Budget & Finance policy, approved in March 2012, for the purpose of hearing an Outreach budget request sent to the board members on November 22nd in the amount of \$8725.00, as listed on the attachment.”

- The motion carried: 16-4-0. (Shaffer, Flehinger, Goldberg and Garfinkle opposed).

15. Proposed Outreach Budget: Denyse began reviewing items in the Outreach Budget for the allocation proposed of \$8725.00 for the 2012-2013 Budget towards events and projects promoting the Tarzana Neighborhood Council. Len stated that the board needed to recess the meeting and return as the ‘Committee of the Whole’ to consider the budget items.

(Shaffer/Heissler) moved to recess the meeting for the purpose of considering the presentation of the Outreach Committee budget. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was recessed at 9:34 p.m.

The meeting then reconvened at 9:35 p.m. as the ‘Committee of the Whole.’ The board discussed the various proposed items and events proposed by Outreach. Len questioned the process of approving vendors, saying that the board must make the final approval per Treasurer’s handbook procedures. Len also questioned whether Outreach knew about needing approval by DONE for entering into contracts, particularly as it pertains to using TCCC for a Public Safety event. Discussion also included the value Outreach was bringing to the TNC in creating a wider presence with events supporting schools, seniors, TCCC and local businesses.

(Maronde/Hayes) moved that the board consider the Outreach Budget dated November 27, 2012, itemized per the highlighted budget items and discuss it as the ‘Committee as a Whole’ and then make a recommendation to the TNC, voting individually on each item.”

(Maronde/Hayes) then amended her motion to include a two minute limit to discussion on each item. The motion carried by 2/3’s of those present (17) with Garfinkle and Goldberg opposed and Shaffer abstaining.

(Maronde/Blauner) moved that the Board approve a budget of \$310.00 to hold a workshop on social media for business owners. 15-5-0 (Flehinger, Garfinkle, Goldberg, Reich, Shaffer opposed).

(Shaffer/Goldberg) moved, “That TNC approve Public Safety Day based on the specific outlined budget presented.” (Reich/Scott) moved a substitute motion to approve Public Safety Day budget as a lump sum motion for the amount of \$2994.00.” The substitute motion passed: 15-4-1. (Flehinger, Goldberg, Sarver, Shaffer). Garfinkle abstained.

(Hayes/Edelman) moved that the April 2013 Earth Day budget of \$4356.00 be approved as a lump sum. (Flehinger, Garfinkle, Goldberg, Sarver, Shaffer) The motion carried: 15-5-0.

(Sarver/Blauner) moved to change the amount from \$600 purchase to \$400 rental for the purchase of promotional email run of addresses. (Sarver) withdrew his motion.

(Sarver/Reich) moved to postpone this item and bring it before the Budget Committee in January. The motion carried with one opposed (Selesnick).

(Shaffer/Hayes) moved to approve \$465.00 for the purchase of promotional items. The motion carried with one abstention. (Garfinkle)

The 'Committee of the Whole' was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

The TNC was reconvened at 10:46 p.m.

(Hayes/Austin) moved to postpone the Rules Committee discussion and motions them to the next regular meeting in January. The motion carried with one opposed (Garfinkle).

16. Following Motions were proposed by the Rules Committee at the meeting on November 15, 2012:

Resolved, the Tarzana Neighborhood Council adopts the following Standing Rules.

(a) The following are standing committees of the TNC: Budget & Finance; Energy & Environment; Government Action; Land Use; Outreach; Rules and Bylaws; and Transportation.

(b) Standing committees shall be chaired by a current Board member. *Action Item.*

(c) Ad Hoc Committee may be chaired by a non-board member TNC stakeholder. *Action Item.*

(d) A majority of all committee members, standing or ad hoc, must be TNC stakeholders.

(e) All committee chairs, standing and ad hoc, must take the Ethics Training as specified by Assembly Bill 1234 within 60 (sixty) days of appointment. Failure to do so will result in automatic removal of the chair. This rule will not apply to any committee chair that is in compliance with any other Standing Rule regarding the Ethics Training. *Action Item.*

(f) The Board President has the sole discretion to appoint and remove standing and ad hoc committee chairs with approval of the Board. Approval shall be by a majority of those present and voting. *Action Item.*

(g) Absent affirmative action by the Board to the contrary, the elected Board President shall be designated the "second signatory" for all purposes as defined by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

(h) Absent affirmative action by the Board to the contrary, the elected Board Treasurer shall be designated the holder of the Purchase card and the "first signatory" for all purposes as defined by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. *Action Item.*

(i) All TNC Board and committee agendas shall list the current Board or committee members and the and the Board quorum needed to conduct business. *Action Item.*

(j) All issues and requests for action that fall within the subject matter jurisdiction of a committee, standing or ad hoc, shall be heard by that committee prior to any action by the Board. *Action Item.*

17. Board Member Comments: Shaffer announced LANCC meeting on Sat. Dec. 1st at 10:00 am in Hollywood. Lawler announced Woodland Hills-Tarzana Chamber of Commerce boutique at Braemar CC on Wed. Nov. 28th at 5:30 pm.

18. Adjournment: 10:55 p.m.

-Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One-