**TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

**Tuesday December 8, 2020 7:00 PM**

VIRTUAL TELEPHONIC MEETING

1. **Call to Order** at 7:00 p.m. **Roll Call** by Eran Heissler. Quorum reached with 16 board members: Devon Cromwell, Scott Diamond, Mark Epstein, Max Flehinger, David Garfinkle, Harvey Goldberg, Joyce Greene, Eran Heissler, Susan Lord, Yossi Malka, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Susan Rogen, Len Shaffer, Bob Shmaeff and Esther Wieder, who left at 8:55 p.m. Terry Saucier arrived at 8:05 p.m.) **Absent:** Pam Blattner, Barry Edelson, Michael Povar and Ken Schwartz). Welcoming Remarks by Len Shaffer.
2. **Remarks by representatives of public officials:**

**Veronica Vos, Field Deputy for Councilmember Bob Blumenfield** stated that a drive - through food and toy drive was to take place at the Councilmember’s office.

**Jeremy Serai from Assembly Member Gabriel’s** also announced a food and toy drive on that same date at the West Valley Food Pantry. Homelessness resources will be a priority for the Assembly Member as well as responding to issues created by COVID-19 and hate crime prevention.

**Betty Wong Oyama, DONE,** the training dates have been expanded in December for board members. She gave info on upcoming elections, ratifying committee members, NC Zoom accounts, and virtual events. Betty is retiring in January. She spoke about how things have changed since she began at the start of the NC process and how much she has enjoyed her work.

**LAPD Senior Lead Officer Daryl Scoggins** spoke about their toy drive which Starbucks was sponsoring. Crime stats: There was an arrest in burglaries south of the boulevard and an increase in cars being stolen due to keys being left in the car. There will be a lot of staff reductions at the end of the year at W. Valley headquarters as 1,000 officers are retiring from LAPD. He suggested every one review the directives of DA George Gascon which will also eliminate the Hope teams.

1. **Public Comments** – None.

**4.** **Budget Advocate/Representative Report**: Lee reported that the City budget looks very grim. Originally the budget deficit was $200M and now it is up to $700M. Money is being taken out of Public Works and the CAO is recommending further cuts to LAPD, Parks & Rec (or Rec & Parks) and other departments.

**5. Executive Secretary’s Attendance Report**: Max said there is one member with 4 absences.

**6. Approval of minutes of October 27, 2020 meeting**. **(Heissler/Epstein) moved to approve the minutes as revised. The motion carried with one abstention (Cromwell).**

**7.** **Approval of minutes of November 10, 2020 Special meeting.** **(Goldberg/Flehinger) moved approval of the Special meeting minutes. The motion carried.**

**8.**  **Presentation** – **Board of Public Works Sidewalk and Transit Amenities Program (STAP). Request for Proposal that includes bus shelters with digital advertising**: Councilmember Blumenfield introduced this topic stating that it was essential to make riding the bus a more comfortable experience for riders. This proposal includes incorporating sun shades and Wi-Fi capability, improving the bus lanes, and generally improving the transit rider experience with regular maintenance of the bus shelters.

**Edel**? \_\_\_\_\_: talked about the existing program which has not provided updates to the shelters, lacks flexibility and doesn’t meet the needs of the community. The focus is on increasing shade and covers in locations where there is maximum heat, investing in making the street furniture and bus shelters safer and the bus lanes safer and to making them self-sustainable, financially. The digital advertising capabilities will also allow for public service announcements (PSAs) for communities too.

Patrick Frank, billboard company owner, asked why there hasn’t been public input on it. He felt it would compromise drivers’ safety with constantly changing messaging and also it would present privacy issues to anyone’s data that it collected.

Lee Blumenfeld: Shared concerns on the digital billboard with the data collection and wondered whether NCs could opt out of this. He would like the cost of the removal of the old shelters be picked up by the vendor.

Board members then asked questions of Edel about the program. The discussion continued for well over an hour and a half.

(Terry arrived at 8:05 p.m.)

**9.** **Bus Shelter Motion: (Goldberg/Garfinkle) moved that the TNC Board table its position on the proposed bus shelters/CIS in support of CF 20-1536, until the next meeting.** The motion carried unanimously.

**10. Committee and other Reports**

**Budget** – Harvey announced his next meeting, Jan. 20th. There is over $15K left to spend for this fiscal year and an additional $11K on the banners.

**Land Use** – David said there is a proposal to revise the Planning & Zoning Code and there is a petition on NextDoor to stop the cabin communities behind the Councilmember’s office.

**Outreach** – Terry talked about her committee’s recommendations on the Digital

Proposal which made basic recommendations and noted their concerns.

**Transportation** – Max said his committee did not meet in November but noted the Chief Traffic Engineer in the W. Valley has retired. He’s been replaced by someone within the department with whom they have had a good relationship.

**Animal Welfare** – Jeffrey gave an update on the W. Valley Shelter. Eight other NCs have follow TNC’s lead in filing CIS’s to keep this shelter open. The City Council has asked the W. Valley Shelter to come up with a new plan but they haven’t yet. They will also be losing personnel due to COVID-19.

**Beautification** – Iris said a banner design has been selected.

**Homelessness** – Susan L. said she and Joyce held informal meetings on how to work with the Councilmember’s office on the cabin community.

**VANC Report** – Len reported on the latest meeting.

**COVID-19 Ad Hoc** – \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ reported they are working with the elementary schools.

**11.**  **(Heissler/Saucier) moved to table taking a position on the Proposed Digital Media Policy currently before the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners until an Outreach Committee meeting is held and the board’s ideas are discussed.**

Len recused himself from this discussion. The board then discussed different ideas which the Outreach Committee initiated as well as ideas from the board. **The motion carried.**

**12. Board Business -**

Comment on Board members own activities/brief announcements.Scott asked Len to take more control of the timing on presentations to keep the meeting from going late.

**12**. **Adjournment:** (Max/Eran) moved to adjourn at 10:05 p.m.

-Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One-