**TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday July 27, 2021**

VIRTUAL TELEPHONIC MEETING

1. **Call to Order:** Welcoming Remarks : At 7:00 p.m. by Len Shaffer, TNC President.

**Roll Call:** **Present:** Mathew Clark, Barry Edelman, Devon Cromwell, Max Flehinger, David Garfinkle, Isabel Gerhardt, Harvey Goldberg, Joyce Greene Eran Heissler, Susan Lord, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Susan Rogen, and Len Shaffer. **Quorum achieved with 13 board members.** Absent: Pam Blattner, Barry Edelman, Daniel Gruen, Michon Rickman, Terry Saucier, Bob Shmaeff, and Esther Wieder. (Max and Susan Lord both dropped off and then came back before voting.)

1. **Remarks by representatives of public officials**

**Jeremy Saraie, Assembly Member Gabriel’s office** talked about bills by the Assemblymember regarding: homelessness funding accountability, AB309 to help educators identify mental health issues; and AB61, which empowers cities to regulate outdoor dining and other health-related issues.

**Blake Clayton, Supervisor Sheila Kuehl’s Office** spoke about telebriefings for different entities and the mask mandate and restrictions, the # of cases of Covid-19, vaccinations, and Etiwanda/Burbank encampment which does not qualify for a cleanup or relocation as shelter in place restrictions have not been lifted yet.

**Mirna Ezquivel, Councilmember Blumenfield’s Office** spoke about:

* Towing away cars parked in no stopping and tow away zones.
* Vanalden/Corbin speed racing initiatives that have been installed.
* A project survey regarding the possibility of installing a fast lane on Sepulveda by the 405. Council motion # 4118 which would solidify what is allowed and not allowed regarding the homeless.

**Michael Liu, City Attorney’s Office** reviewed the policy of reporting party houses and talked about National Night Out on August 3rd.

**Julien Antelin, EmpowerLA,** talked about:

* Three sessions of training with CDQ 2021, conducted by the Pat Brown Institute.
* Tomorrow is the last day for the NC Core Institute trainings for Module One.
* Sept. 25 will be the date for the virtual Congress of NCs.
* BONC is working on a digital media policy and is recommending all NC meetings remain digital through the end of Dec. 2021.
* There is a hacking email going around trying to duplicate some NC communications.
* Now is the time to amend the bylaws by applying to do so with Julien.
* Training for financial officers is coming up. You must RSVP.
* Translation services are available in different languages for meetings.

1. **Public Comments –**

* Mr. Wilcox, candidate for L.A. City Controller in 2022, spoke about his interest in serving in this capacity. He previously served as Deputy Controller under L.A. City Controller Laura Chick. See: RobforController.com
* John and Shawn Hale (or Hill) spoke about Council File #: 12-0460S4 which reduces or removes the interaction between NCs, City Planning and PLUM, taking away NCs input on planning projects. GM EmpowerLA Raquel Beltrans is aware of it but he recommended TNC submit a CIS on this.
* (unnamed individual) is protesting on behalf of someone who cannot receive reasonable accommodations under the ADA. He has filed a claim of damages.
* Goat Puppet referred to a meeting of BONC and the Mayor to “force” the LAPD and LAFD to get vaccinated.

1. **Budget Advocate/Representative Report**: Lee Blumenfeld announced Budget Day on Aug. 21st 9:30 – 12:30 p.m. (See: Budgetadvocates.org for information). There is a proposed amendment before EmpowerLA that would allow for a NC board member to be dismissed by someone alleging they violated the Code of Conduct.

**5. Executive Secretary’s Attendance Report** – Max said there are no attendance violations.

1. **Presentation: Tabled**: Lesem Puerto of LA Family Housing: Tabled. Speaker left.
2. **Minutes for May 2021 – (Heissler/Goldberg) moved approval of the revised minutes of May 22, 2021 meeting**. The motion carried unanimously (12-0-0). Susan Lord was not present.

**7.** **Minutes for June 2021– (Polonsky/Heissler) moved approval of the minutes of the June 22, 2021 board meeting.** The minutes were approved: 11-0-1 (Devon abstained).

**8. Committee and other Reports**

**Budget Committee:** Harvey reminded the Outreach Committee that a request was made that the Outreach Election committee evaluate the effectiveness of the money spent on the election and how it brought people out to vote. He also mentioned that on the TNC.org website there is a status report on TNC’s investment in the community. To date, the TNC has put back into the community $407K since its inception, and $47K this fiscal year.

**Land Use** – No report.

**Outreach** – Susan Rogen said volunteers are needed for NNO on Aug. 3, 2021.

Events – No report.

**Transportation** – Max said the DOT has made some traffic safety improvements at the top of Vanaldan. They’ve installed bollards, painted the curb, and put up “No Parking Overnight” signs. At the “S” turn area, they will be putting up a stop sign and they plan to do a speed study to determine whether they can install speed tables.

**Public Safety –** Susan Rogen announced that she got her CERT training certificate. She spoke to Vector Control of L.A. about doing a possible presentation on mosquito controls. She will also look into arranging a Neighborhood Team Program presentation.

**Rules** – No report.

**Government Action** – No report.

**Animal Welfare** – Jeff said volunteers are now allowed to return to the City Animal Shelters but more volunteers are needed. If anyone knows someone who wants to volunteer, please have them contact him. The 6 city shelters are operating on an appointment-only basis and Animal Services is considering making that a permanent gesture. The new GM for Animal Services, Dana Brown, will be speaking at VANC on Aug. 12th.

**Beautification –** Iris said street cleanups will be taking place sometime soon.

**Homelessness** – Joyce said her committee will install curtains at 17 more cabins at the Sunflower Cabin community: 18161 Topham Ave., Tarzana. There was discussion by the board about different issues pertaining to the homeless.

**DWP MOU Report** – Len asked for a volunteer for this position.

**VANC Report** – Len reported on the speakers for the previous VANC meeting.

**NCSA Liaison** – No report.

**10.** **(Goldberg/Flehinger) moved approval of June 2021 expenditures for submission to City Clerk (MER).** The motion carried: 12-0-0. Devon was ineligible to vote. (Susan Lord returned to the meeting and was a part of this vote).

**11. (Goldberg/Polonsky) moved approval of Financial Statements as of June 30, 2021.**

The motion carried: 12-0-0 (Devon was ineligible to vote).

**12.**  **(Goldberg/Heissler) moved:** **“Resolved, the TNC Board adopts the recommendation from the Budget Committee to approve the purchase of name badges, name plates and business cards for newly elected Board members and replacements for lost or used items for existing Board members total $350.00. To be classified as Outreach, Advertising, Name Plates & Badges and Business Cards. Funds to come from Unallocated.”** The motion carried: 12-0-0.(Devon was ineligible to vote).

**13. (Goldberg/Greene) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the**

**recommendation of the Executive Committee to approve the payment of ongoing**

**expenses as follows: For the fiscal year 2021-22, the TNC authorizes its Treasurer or**

**other designee to pay previously budgeted recurring monthly or periodic expenses, in**

**small amounts, defined as those not to exceed $75/day for one item and expense**

**classification category. These expenses include, but are not limited to, copies and**

**postage for committees, Board and committee meetings, officers and committee**

**chairperson expenses and etc., and, refreshments for meetings (other than Board**

**meetings) and etc. The recurring expenses are AppleOne, or other temporary**

**staffing agencies for preparation of minutes or other clerical functions not to exceed**

**("NTE") $375/meeting, Net Atlantic or other such company for mailing list**

**maintenance and distribution NTE $40/month and The Web Corner or other such**

**company for web site hosting and maintenance NTE $150 for each month’s services**

**and the purchase of food and refreshments for Board meetings from any vendors NTE**

**$250 per meeting.”** The motion carried: 12-0-0.(Devon was ineligible to vote).

**14.** **(Shaffer/Goldberg) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the recommendation of the Executive Committee to appoint board members to attend the 2021 Civic University for Neighborhood Councils scheduled on September 9, 23 and 30, 2021.”** The motion carried unanimously: 13-0-0. (Devon voted on this one).

Mathew Clark, Isabel Gerhardt and Jeff Mausner volunteered to attend Civic U.

Glenn Bailey called it a “once in a lifetime opportunity to take this training virtually.”

**15.** **(Shaffer/Goldberg) moved, “The TNC Board approves the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils resolution as follows:**

**The Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC), representing the 34 Neighborhood Councils throughout the San Fernando Valley, views the safety of our children and school staff of utmost importance, and strongly supports the resolution of School Board Members Scott Schmerelson and Dr. George McKenna, Resolution Number 029-20/21, entitled Ensuring Local School Site and Community Control, Authority, Autonomy and Choice Regarding Safe Campuses and the Protection of Our Students and Staff. VANC strongly supports local control by each school site and school community to allow the Los Angeles School Police onto LAUSD school campuses, ensuring safe campuses and the protection of our students and staff.”**

**The motion passed with 10 -1-1. In favor:** Garfinkle, Goldberg, Heissler, Greene, Flehinger, Mausner, Shaffer, Polonsky, Lord and Clark. **Opposed:** Gerhardt. **Abstaining:** Rogen. **Ineligible:** Cromwell.

**16. (Flehinger/Goldberg) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the**

**recommendation of the Transportation Committee to request that the City Council**

**Office initiate efforts to clean up the Etiwanda tunnel under the 101 Freeway, to remove**

**any persons camping there, increase lighting if needed, and maintain that tunnel, and**

**the Yolanda tunnel,  so that they are safe for pedestrian use. The TNC Board further**

**authorizes the Transportation Committee Chair to communicate with the Council Office**

**and other relevant city agencies regarding this motion.”** The motion carried unanimously with 12 votes. (Devon Cromwell was ineligible to vote).

**17.** **(Flehinger/Goldberg) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the**

**recommendation of the Transportation Committee to request that the LADOT, or other**

**responsible City department, inspect the shrubbery apparently growing into the street**

**at 5950 Melvin Ave, to determine whether the growth presents a hazard to traffic. The**

**TNC Board further authorizes the Transportation Committee Chair to communicate with**

**the relevant city agencies regarding this motion.”** The motion carried unanimously with 12 votes. (Devon Cromwell was ineligible to vote).

**18. (Shaffer/Polonsky) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the appointment**

**of Susan Rogen to serve as a Grievance Panel volunteer.”** The motion carried

unanimously with 12 votes. (Devon Cromwell was ineligible to vote).

**19. Tabled to next meeting:** Resolved: The TNC Board approves the appointment of Data Literacy liaisons. Len suggested board members review the materials he was about to send to each of them and think about volunteering at the next meeting.

**20**. **Board Business:**

* David went to the bus shelter exhibit at the Council Office and said it was interesting.
* Eran said one of the board members is calling himself a ‘Councilman” on social media and asked that he remove any reference to “councilmember” or representing the TNC.
* Len asked the board members to attend NNO on August 3rd.
* Harvey asked about adding names to the mailing list from past and upcoming events.

**21**. **Adjournment: 9:47 a.m.**