**TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday October 25, 2022**

VIRTUAL TELEPHONIC MEETING

1. **Call to Order by Len Shaffer, TNC President. Roll Call:** Christopher Ahuja, Matthew Clark, Isabel Gerhardt, Harvey Goldberg, Eran Heissler, Susan Lord, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Susan Rogen, Terry Saucier, Len Shaffer and Esther Wieder. Bob Shmaeff arrived at 7:20 p.m. (Absent: Pam Blattner, Barry Edelman, Joyce Greene and David Garfinkle). Quorum was established with 12 board members. Welcoming Remarks by Len.
2. **Remarks by representatives of public officials:**

**Blake Clayton, County Supv. Sheila Kuehl’s office,** stated that the Dept. of Social Services features a Help Desk for online services; he noted that there are over 30 Farmers’ Markets which provide vouchers for people who can use some financial help; the voting center for the upcoming TNC election is at the Masonic Lodge on Ventura Blvd., Oct. 29th from 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. Also, the following locations provide 4-day voting: Wilbur Charter, Erez Synagogue and St. Paul’s Methodist Church. Blake said goodbye to the board and thanked everyone for their service.

**Safi Lodin, Field Deputy for Councilmember Blumenfield’s office**, talked about an upcoming event being held at the L.A. Zoo. He spoke about the plan for new transit shelters by Metro lines. They are looking to roll this out as soon as possible. For more info, see: CF 20-1536.

**Michael Liu, City Attorney’s Office,** spoke about the Victim Assistance Program which provides a team of people to help victims of crime.

LAFD Battalion Chief Thomas Glass said there will be red flag days during the Santa Ana winds and asked people not to park on both sides of narrow canyon streets. He talked about their Fire Service Day, which is an educational open house held the 2nd Saturday in May.

Stakeholder John \_\_\_\_\_ thanked the chief for attending the meeting. He spoke about the 5.0 earthquake in S.F. and noted that it’s important for residents to be aware and prepared for emergencies.

**LAPD Senior Lead Officer Daryl Scoggins** reminded everyone to change their batteries in their smoke alarms and to be aware of no parking zones during Red Flag days. West Valley saw an uptick in crime recently. Tarzana stats: 82 crimes were reported: 6 robberies, 11 aggravated assaults, 17 burglaries, 9 cars stolen, 19 cars broken into, and 18 plain thefts. Crime is up 47% in Tarzana compared to this time last year. Neighborhood Watch is coming back to in-person meetings for Tarzana/Encino starting the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the police station. A new SLO is starting at Lake Balboa – Officer Mike Terraza. He will be doing a Healthy Tea with a Cop on Nov. 5th at the Healthy Living Spot, 16045 Sherman Way, from 10 a.m. – noon. Halloween means driving extra carefully to watch out of kids. Check all the candy they get as there could be fentanyl in with candy. If not packaged, don’t let kids eat candy.

**Joel Gonzalez, EmpowerLA,** talked about various upcoming workshops in October including: Workplace Violence and How to Work with Difficult People. Their engagement strategy is aligned with the election cycle. He thanked everyone for attending the September 2022 Congress of NCs. There is a link of the trainings on the City website.

1. **Public Comments**: Glenn Bailey noted that the Saturday training, referenced by Joel incorrectly shows 10 p.m. rather than 10 a.m**.** He added that VANC’s November 10th meeting will feature the people from the City Clerk’s office overseeing the elections for Neighborhood Councils.
2. **Budget Advocate/Representative Report**: Glenn Bailey reported that as the Region 3 rep, the budget advocates have completed their trainings on how money is raised, spent and the budgeting process. The trainings were recorded and are available to watch. (See: www.Budgetadvocates.org under “Trainings.”) All city departments must submit their budget requests by November 18th. The budget advocates are meeting with each department and providing input that they’ve received from Budget Day. Then they will write up their reports. There is still a vacancy for a Budget Advocate and the volunteer who serves in this capacity must be a Budget Rep with a neighborhood council.
3. **Executive Secretary’s Report:** Iris said that after tonight’s meeting, TNC will have lost a board member. Everyone is current with their trainings.

**6.** **Discussion and motion** – **Tabled.** Approval of minutes of September 28**,** 2022 Special meeting. This was tabled. (Goldberg/Shmaeff) moved to table this item until the December meeting. The motion to table carried unanimously. 12-0-0.

**7. Committee and other Reports**:

**Budget** – Harvey asked everyone to submit their budget requests to his committee. He reminded the board to request business cards and I.D. badges. Dec. 7th is the date for the next Budget Committee.

**Land Use** – Len will schedule a meeting in November. He spoke about a commercial project across from the car wash which was supposed to be an office building but has now morphed into a by-right, 4-story mixed - used project with an increased FAR for 70 low-income units and retail on the street floor.

**Outreach** – Terry said they would be meeting at 5:30 on Oct. 27th. She thanked everyone who came to the emergency preparedness event last weekend.

**Events** - Esther said they are starting to plan next year’s Earth Day event at their next meeting. She represented TNC at the recent emergency preparedness event and talked about another safety event in Woodland Hills in February.

**Transportation** – Susan Rogen said the Etiwanda tunnel has been cleaned up. The homeless encampment on Etiwanda will be cleaned up by the end of the month. The tunnel light will also be addressed. She also spoke about road conditions, crosswalks and street improvements.

**Public Safety** – Susan Rogen said the Emergency Preparedness Fair was great. Jeff spoke about Len’s certificate of recognition for his dedication for the safety of residents of the West San Fernando Valley.

Rules – No report.

Government Action – No report.

**Animal Welfare** – Jeff talked about Animal Services and their hostility to volunteers who have spoken to the media about the negative conditions at the shelters. A cease-and-desist letter had been sent to the Board of Animal Commissioners as harassment violates the rights of the volunteers. (CF22-1176)

Beautification – No report.

**Homelessness** – Susan Lord announced a meeting on Oct. 27, 2022.

**DWP MOU Report** – Glenn Bailey said the MOU has expired and he anticipates DWP trying to renew it very soon.

**VANC Report** – Len spoke about the new chair, Linda Gravani, from Lake Balboa. Columnist Susan Shelly attended the last meeting. Len spoke about items he talked about at that meeting. Glenn Bailey directed everyone to the VANC website, VANC.org, for recordings.

**NCSA Liaison** - Christopher spoke about the COP Biodiversity conference, coming up in December.

**8.** **Budget Committee**: **Sept. Expenditures/MER/Financial Statements:** (Goldberg/Heissler) moved approval of September 2022 expenditures for submission to City Clerk (MER) and the Financial Statement as of September 30, 2022.” **The motion carried unanimously: 13-0-0.**

**9.** **Meeting Cancellation and Special Meeting Scheduled:** (Shaffer/Heissler) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee’s recommendation to cancel the November 22, 2022 and December 27, 2022 meetings and schedule a special meeting for December 13, 2022. **The motion carried unanimously: 13-0-0**.

**10**. **Resignation:** (Shaffer/Lord) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee’s recommendation to accept Pam Blatner’s resignation and to thank her for her service to the Tarzana community.” **The motion carried unanimously: 13-0-0.**

**11**. **CIS Motion:** (Shaffer/Polonsky) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee’s recommendation to file a CIS supporting CF 22-1146 – report back on CIS platform and the cost of updating it.” Len explained this refers to updating the CIS system which functions as a communication tool on recommendations from NCs to the City Council. **The motion carried unanimously: 13-0-0.**

* Jamie York spoke about how she found out about the CIS problem.
* Glenn Bailey commented on how many NCs weighed in on this issue with the Ethics Commission and BONC, and credited Jamie York for discovering this situation.
* Several board members weighed in on this issue including Harvey & Christopher.

**12.** **Hybrid Motion:** (Shaffer/Goldberg) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee’s recommendation to file a CIS supporting CF-22-1070 regarding hybrid (in person and virtual) meetings.” Len explained the format proposed for these meetings. **The motion carried unanimously: 13-0-0.**

* Len said the City’s lobbyists are suggesting changes to the Brown Act to allow NCs to meet virtually or with a hybrid format. When the City or the County concludes the declaration of “emergency” status, this will also affect virtual meetings.
* Glenn Bailey spoke as a member of the EBG Work Group 2.0. He said Woodland Hills/Warner Center and Sherman Oaks (with Reseda a backup) were chosen for the pilot hybrid meetings. BONC will consider this at their meeting Nov. 1, 2022. He said this motion took the City Council by surprise. It is a public process so NCs can have a say in this.
* Jamie York added that City Council went hybrid on the date of this meeting and it was pretty successful. She noted that hybrid is a realistic way to include many of the stakeholders who cannot appear live at the City Council chambers.
* Christopher noted that hybrid meetings make them more accessible.
* Iris asked for clarification on the hybrid. Len said one version requires attendees only to be hybrid, and the other includes a mix of both.

**13.** **Memorial Motion:** (Shaffer/Heissler) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee’s recommendation to create a memorial page on the TNC website to honor deceased Board members.”

* + Harvey noted that it didn’t make sense to memorialize people who die when they are off the board.
  + Terry agreed that it would water down the motion to memorialize people after they leave the board. She wondered who would be charged with keeping track of people.
  + Eran felt that the executive committee should decide how to do this.
  + Matthew thought there could be two different ways to approach current and former board members who died.
  + Iris agreed with Terry & Harvey about keeping the page to current board members.
  + Christopher also agreed with Terry & Harvey.
  + Len felt the board could ratify the recommendation of the executive committee.

Sharon Brewer thought the concept was good but the process was still unclear.

Glenn Bailey stated that the Congress of NCs have a “In Memoriam” for those who have passed away between the yearly events.

**(Goldberg/Clark) suggested an amendment that deceased board members to be included shall be recommended by the executive committee and approved by the board. The motion to amend was approved unanimously: 13-0-0. The amended motion was then approved: 13-0-0.**

**14**. **Board Business** – Christopher asked that TikTok be added to the list of media on which the TNC meetings are advertised. Jeff noted there are security issues regarding TikTok. He also mentioned to look out for a Total Lunar Eclipse on Nov. 8th.

**15**. **Adjournment:** 9:50 p.m. Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One.