**TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

**Tuesday August 26, 2025 7:00 PM**

**Tarzana Child Care Center**

**5700 Beckford Ave.**

**Tarzana, CA 91356**

1. **Call to Order** at 7:01 p.m. by Len Shaffer, president of TNC.

**Roll Call:** Quorum established with 15 board members: Parastou Bassirat (left at 8:12 p.m.), Sylvia Bedrossian (left at 8:14 p.m.), Matthew Clark, David Elan, Joyce Greene, Duncan MacIntosh (left at 8:10 p.m.), Sharon Molina, Iris Polonsky, John Rawlings, Susan Rogen, Sima Salek (left at 8:25 p.m.), Len Shaffer, Jeff Mausner and Robin Tilden. Barry Edelman and Bob Shmaeff showed up after meeting began. **Absent:** Harvey Goldberg, Eran Heissler, Varant Majarian, & Terry Saucier. Welcoming Remarks by Len Shaffer.

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

**Katie Abrams,** field deputy for County Supervisor Lindsay Horvath, spoke about recent updates:

* The supervisor’s ordinance for max temperatures passed the board providing A/C cooling systems for apartment dwellers when it gets over 82 degrees.
* The board passed a motion to protect community health by allowing for vaccinations. This comes as the Dept. of Public Health has lost 26% of its budget from the CDC.
* The Encino NC was hosting a meeting on August 28th to talk about issues at the Sepulveda Basin.

Duncan spoke about equestrian topsoil being effective at segregating lead in the soil. He said the agencies tasked with fire reclamation efforts with topsoil are not going about it correctly.

**John Darnell,** rep for EmpowerLA, announced the Congress of NCs at City Hall on Sat. Sept. 27th from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. There will be Brown Act and Conflict of Interest Trainings on August 28, 2025, and Sept. 4th and also a Community Impact Statement (CIS)Training.

1. **Public Comments:**

Sharon Brewer said she is concerned about drug users at Reseda/Topham where the laundromat is located. Her daughter had some issues while doing her laundry there. She wanted to know why this isn’t included in a special zone. She noticed some new solar lights but trees need to be trimmed around where the lights have been installed.

An unidentified person spoke about opioid use on the sidewalk. Len stated that drug users can’t be approached if they are using on private property. There was further discussion about where the drug users are located. Joyce stated that the police need to be contacted about this. She suggested holding a Safety meeting on this issue because it’s so widespread.

Mary Jane Lehnpfennig, director of Therapy in Action, spoke. They operate a therapy center for children with disabilities. They are located on Oxnard Blvd. and are concerned about people are using drugs and leaving used needles in their garden beds. It’s getting very unsafe for the children with people camping out in front. Joyce said she will be reporting this. Len spoke about the low incident of enforcement by LAPD and how there is a great need for treatment for these people.

1. **Budget Advocate/Representative Report** – No report. Len asked if anyone is interested in becoming a budget rep. Jeff spoke about it, as well.

1. **Executive Secretary’s Report** – Iris explained the rules for absences. There are four people who still need to complete trainings. Len explained what the different trainings are that are required.
2. **Approval of minutes of the July 22, 2025 meeting.** (Shaffer/Mathew) moved to approve the meeting minutes for the TNC July 22nd board meeting as revised. **The motion carried unanimously: 12-0-4.** Voting aye (12): Sylvia Bedrossian, Mathew Clark, David Elan, Joyce Greene, Iris Polonsky, John Rawlings, Susan Rogen, Sima Salek, Len Shaffer, Len Shaffer, Barry Edelman, Jeff Mausner and Robin Tilden.

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Ineligible (4): Parastou Bassirat, Sharon Molina, Duncan MacIntosh,

Absent: (4) Harry Goldberg, Eran Heissler, Terry Saucier and Varant Majarian.

**Committee and other Reports:**

**7. Executive Committee**

**a. Resignation of Board Member Varant Majarian:** (Shaffer/Polonsky) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the recommendation of the Executive Committee to accept the resignation of Board member Varant Majarian and to thank him for his brief tenure on the Board.”

Len said Varant did not give a reason for his resignation. **The motion passed unanimously:**

**12-0-4.** Voting aye (12): Sylvia Bedrossian, Mathew Clark, David Elan, Joyce Greene, Iris Polonsky,

John Rawlings, Susan Rogen, Sima Salek, Len Shaffer, Len Shaffer, Barry Edelman, Jeff Mausner

and Robin Tilden.

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Ineligible (4): Parastou Bassirat, Sharon Molina, Duncan MacIntosh,

Absent: (3) Harry Goldberg, Eran Heissler, & Terry Saucier.

**b.** **Graffiti Removal:** (Shaffer/Edelman) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the recommendation of the Executive Committee to write a letter to CM Blumenfield regarding the graffiti on the north side of 19001 Ventura Blvd requesting his office’s help in getting it removed.”

* Len explained that the graffiti is on private property and usually nothing can be done by the city in these cases. But once the Councilmember gets involved, it goes to the top of the stack.
* Barry added that the graffiti is along the freeway and that it is unsafe for the workers to get close enough to remove the graffiti.

**The motion carried unanimously: 12-0-4.**  Voting aye (12): Sylvia Bedrossian, Mathew Clark,

David Elan, Joyce Greene, Iris Polonsky, John Rawlings, Susan Rogen, Sima Salek, Len Shaffer,

Len Shaffer, Barry Edelman, Jeff Mausner and Robin Tilden.

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Ineligible (4): Parastou Bassirat, Sharon Molina, Duncan MacIntosh,

Absent: (3) Harry Goldberg, Eran Heissler & Terry Saucier.

**c.** **Antisemitic Vandalism:** (Shaffer/Mausner) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the recommendation of the Executive Committee to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, on August 17, 2025, the fence around the Wilbur Charter Elementary School in Tarzana, a neighborhood with a significant Jewish community, was vandalized with multiple swastikas painted on a banner;

Whereas, similar acts of antisemitic vandalism, including the etching of hateful symbols, recently occurred near the Israeli American National Headquarters in Woodland Hills, underscoring a disturbing pattern of targeted hate in Los Angeles;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council:

1. Strongly condemns these antisemitic acts of vandalism at Wilbur Elementary School, the Israeli American National Headquarters, and any similar incidents.

2. Calls upon the Los Angeles Police Department and District Attorney to make all efforts to identify, arrest, and prosecute the perpetrators under applicable hate crime statutes.

3. Affirms its unwavering support for the Jewish community and urges ongoing collaboration between local community organizations, educational institutions, and law enforcement to ensure preventive measures, swift accountability, and a safe environment for all residents.

4. Directs the TNC President to forward this resolution to the LAPD, LAUSD Board, Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, Los Angeles County District Attorney, Mayor, and other relevant stakeholders to reinforce community-wide solidarity and response.”

An unidentified board member suggested a revision. Len stated that he was adding the verbiage “by interlineation” (Len please check to make sure I am adding the right verbiage).

**The motion carried unanimously: 12-0-4.** Voting aye (12): Sylvia Bedrossian, Mathew Clark, David Elan, Joyce Greene, Iris Polonsky, John Rawlings, Susan Rogen, Sima Salek, Len Shaffer, Len Shaffer, Barry Edelman, Jeff Mausner and Robin Tilden.

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Ineligible (4): Parastou Bassirat, Sharon Molina, Duncan MacIntosh,

Absent: (3) Harry Goldberg, Eran Heissler & Terry Saucier

8. **Budget**

Iris read the motions in place of Treasurer Harvey Goldberg who was absent. Len announced that the rollover is in excess of $10,000.

1. **Approval of MER for July 2025:** (Polonsky/Rawlings) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board

approves the July 2025 expenditures for submission to City Clerk (MER) and Financial Statements as of July 31, 2025.

**The motion carried unanimously: 12-0-4.** Voting aye (12): Sylvia Bedrossian, Mathew Clark, David Elan, Joyce Greene, Iris Polonsky, John Rawlings, Susan Rogen, Sima Salek, Len Shaffer, Len Shaffer, Barry Edelman, Jeff Mausner and Robin Tilden.

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Ineligible (4): Parastou Bassirat, Sharon Molina, Duncan MacIntosh,

Absent: (3) Harry Goldberg, Eran Heissler, & Terry Saucier

1. **Reimbursement for Len**: (Polonsky/Elan) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the

Budget Committee’s recommendation to reimburse Board Member, Leonard Shaffer, $181.77 for the purchase of refreshments at Ameci Pizza for the July 22, 2025 Board meeting. To be classified as Operations, General, Meeting Expense, Refreshments. The NC credit card replacement was delayed by the bank. This was not previously reimbursed.”

**The motion carried: 11-0-1-4:** Voting aye (11): Sylvia Bedrossian, Mathew Clark, David Elan, Joyce

Greene, Iris Polonsky, John Rawlings, Susan Rogen, Sima Salek, Len Shaffer, Barry Edelman, Jeff

Mausner and Robin Tilden.

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: (1) Len Shaffer

Ineligible (4): Parastou Bassirat, Sharon Molina, Duncan MacIntosh,

Absent: (3) Harry Goldberg, Eran Heissler & Terry Saucier.

**9. Outreach / Events–** Parastou said the joint committee for outreach and events met on August 14,

2025. She read a report on what was discussed. A stakeholder requested a Public Safety Event to

be held and they discussed different events to be planned.

**10. Transportation/Public Safety -** Susan Rogan said they will hold a Public Safety Forum via

Zoom. Date TBA (October 7th or 8th). She asked if board members could submit questions in

advance on issues to be discussed. She also talked about the delay with license plate readers. Safi

has said it is due to a reorganization at LAPD.

**12. Animal Welfare -** Jeff Mausner said the Animal Services Commission met this morning. At the Chesterfield Square Shelter (South LA) there was mold around the kennels and moss growing in the water bowls. He said that ChatGPT said that moss can contribute to upper respiratory infection and a range of illnesses due to bacteria, toxins, etc. that can be found in stagnant water. The dogs are getting sick in the shelters and then euthanized. At West Valley, volunteers have put up tarps around the upper portion of the outdoor kennels to cool them down. The shelters are now at 137% occupancy. More funding needs to be given to spay and neuter programs.

Jeff also showed the photo of “Bima,” a dog that is looking for a forever home. Several board members remarked that their pit bull pets were wonderful companions.

**13. Beautification -** Iris Polonsky reported that at their meeting they considered a funding issue for

John Mann of Joint Matters, but tabled it because he was not present to answer questions. Also,

Mark Regan from Beautify L.A. requested an NPG for $4950.00 but they voted not to fund it. Terry

referred him to Rec and Parks for some free items. Barry requested help with graffiti on Ventura

Blvd. and they referred him to the Department of Building and Safety. They hope to meet again in

late September.

**14.** **Homelessness -** Joyce Greene said she has reported 7 encampments in the last week. There

were 7 or 8 groups at the top of Topham hanging out. The Tiny Homes are off Reseda on Topham.

Joyce talked about needing help with this. There’s an encampment on Etiwanda which is expected

to be removed by the city by mid-September. Barry suggested everyone keep reporting it. There was

discussion on how to resolve this problem. Sharon pointed out that it is a public health issue, not just

an enforcement issue.

**15. Rules –** Len said they are not meeting at this time.

**16. Government Action:** Sima Salek & Sylvia Bedrossian – Sylvia stated that they have not met yet. But both are looking to bring to the board any council files that are important to discuss.

**17. Ad Hoc VNY -** Mathew Clark said there was no report.

**18. NCSA -** Terry Saucier was absent so no report.

**19. VANC -** Leonard Shaffer there was a very interesting presentation by Patricia Lattimore on Community Impact Statements. Len said up to five people on the TNC board can file CISs.

**20. LANCC -** Leonard Shaffer – No report.

**21. DWP MOU –** No report. Len explained the purpose of this committee.

**22. Board Business**:

Len said Sept. 16th will be the date for the TNC retreat. The retreat will be helpful for board members to get to know each other. The regular meeting on 9/23 will be rescheduled for 9/30 due to the Jewish holiday.

Barry Edelman asked for a date for the DWP Tour. Len suggested he contact DWP.

Special thanks to Susan and Iris for getting food for the meeting.

**23. Meeting** Adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Minutes by Pat Kramer, AtWork