

Jeffrey Mausner

From: Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 03, 2015 10:37 AM
To: Leonard Shaffer (l.shaffer@tarzananc.org); Eran Heissler 18 (Eran@Heissler18.com); David R Garfinkle (drgarfinkle@sbcglobal.net)
Cc: DEANNA SCOTT (deannadylan1111@aol.com); Mary Aratoni (maryarat_a@yahoo.com); Eva Brusa ebrusa@sbcglobal.net; Lynn Davis (lobalynn@gmail.com); Janet Mausner (Eehmah@aol.com); Ady Gil (ady@ady.com)
Subject: FW: The city wants to close down "Rockin' Rescue"; URGENT MATTER

re: Urgent Matter; Possible Shut Down of Rockin' Rescue

To: Len Shaffer, President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council
Eran Heissler, 1st Vice President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council
David Garfinkle, Chairman, Land Use Committee, Tarzana Neighborhood Council

Members of the Animal Welfare Committee: Deanna Dylan Scott, Mary Aratounian, Eva Brusa, Lynn Davis, Janet Mausner

Please see the emails below from Ady Gil. Ady runs Rockin' Rescue, which is located at 19855 Ventura Blvd., just over the border from Tarzana in Woodland Hills. I think that Rockin' Rescue is the best rescue in the area. Tarzana and Woodland Hills residents have adopted dogs, cats, and other animals there. We adopted our current dog, Cookie, from Rockin' Rescue. Rockin' Rescue has saved many dogs and cats who were about to be killed at the West Valley Shelter, and found them homes. Animals at Rockin' Rescue are always well taken care of and well treated.

As you can see from Ady's emails below, Rockin' Rescue is in danger of being shut down because of a use/zoning issue.

Some background: Ady Gil is a world famous animal rescuer and one of the finest people I know. He spends most of his time trying to help animals. He spends hundreds of thousands of dollar of his own money to keep Rockin' Rescue open. He recently donated \$2 million to set up an animal sanctuary in Israel and save more than 1200 monkey from being sent to animal experimentation. See <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/ady-gil-pays-2-million-save-monkeys-slated-u-s-n305681>

For more background on Ady see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ady_Gil
and https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MY_Ady_Gil

My understanding of the issue from speaking with Ady is that the land on which Rockin' Rescue is located is zoned C1. In order to get a kennel permit or a pet store permit, Rockin' Rescue has to obtain a "Change of Use." An application is in process to get the Change of Use. There was a person in the Permit Section of the North Central Shelter (Felix Lopez) who

had been in constant communication with Ady, who assured Ady that as long as Ady kept him posted about the Change of Use application, no action would be taken against Rockin' Rescue. However, another person, Lt. Annette Ramirez, took over the matter, and Ady received an email from her on Monday advising him that further enforcement action is now going to be taken against Rockin' Rescue. Ady received a call yesterday from West Valley Shelter, advising him that he is operating without a permit and that he needs to drop the number of animals he has at the facility to 3 dogs and 3 cats (which is the number allowed by any pet owner in Los Angeles). So basically, they are telling him to shut down Rockin' Rescue.

It would be a tragedy if Rockin' Rescue is shut down. There are about 150 animals there now. Those animals would presumably be brought to the West Valley Shelter, where many of them would probably be killed; or other animals would be killed to make room for the animals coming from Rockin' Rescue. It is much better for those animals to remain at Rockin' Rescue while the Change of Use application is being considered.

Is there anything that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council can do regarding this matter?

Best regards, Jeffrey Mausner
Chairman, Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee

-----Original Message-----

From: Ady Gil [<mailto:ady@ady.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2015 7:30 PM
To: Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>
Subject: Re: The city wants to close down "Rockin Resce"

Hi Jeff,

Ventura Blvd. is a spot zone. For example. In our intersection we are C1 and Wells Fargo diagonal across the street is C2.

It is not that the street disallow C1, C2 or C4. It is just what did the original builder asked for. In my case, in 1966 my building was built as a retail C1.

To change this you need to go through a process. One of the items is traffic impact. We paid \$5,000 to do that.

The city does not see this as a "project". It is more of a technicality. So eventually we will get the C2 and get our permit.

We had no hearing so far.

Does this explain it?

Thank you,

Ady

On Sep 2, 2015, at 6:53 PM, Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com> wrote:

Hi Ady. What is the basis for trying to shut you down? What is the current zoning, and what does it have to be for you to continue? Have there been any hearings at the Woodland Hills Neighborhood Council, Zoning Commission, or City Council on this? Please send me the details.

I will see if the Tarzana Neighborhood Council can do anything on this. If you were in Tarzana, I know we could, but since you are in Woodland Hills, it is the Woodland Hills Neighborhood Council that has jurisdiction. However, people on the Tarzana Neighborhood Council might be willing to talk to Woodland Hills. Best regards, Jeff.

-----Original Message-----

From: Ady Gil [mailto:ady@ady.com]

Sent: Wednesday, September 02, 2015 2:59 PM

To: Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>

Cc: Cathy Serksnas <serksnas@aol.com>; maylmary@sbcglobal.net;
such1430@yahoo.com; Victor Copino <vcopino@live.com>; Jen Turner
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mcaiz@outlook.com; Bari Fiore <triedandtruerescueinc@gmail.com>
Subject: The city wants to close down "Rockin Resce"

Hi All,

The city wants to close down "Rockin Rescue" It is our rescue on 19855 Ventura Blvd.

We can not get a permit until building and safety and Zoning gives us a zoning change.

We already spent tons of money on it, and we are close to get it done. We are not doing it for profit.

If this place is closed, I will have \$400,000 in my pocket every year, so I do not need the place open for money, I do it for all the animals we took from the city shelters.

Please go to the Commission's Meeting on Monday at 7 PM at the Mission Hills shelter and speak for 2 minutes if you like to see Rockin Rescue continue saving animals.

Thank you, Ady