

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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MINUTES of the TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday June 16, 2016 at 7:30 pm
Tarzana Child Care Center
5700 Beckford Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356,
Chairman - Jeffrey Mausner

Minutes of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council (TNC) Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) meeting, June 16, 2016, at the Tarzana Child Care Center, 5700 Beckford Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356.

1. Call to Order & Welcoming Remarks. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. Attending were the following committee members: Mary Aratounian, Eva Brusa, Janet Mausner, and Jeffrey Mausner. Also attending were Heidi Okuhara and Anna Rull, Volunteers from the West Valley Animal Shelter; Debbie Kozin, Chairwoman of the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee; Paul Darrigo, co-founder and co-director of Citizens for a Humane Los Angeles (CHULA); and members of the public.
2. Minutes from the January 11, 2016 meeting were approved, unanimously.
3. Discussion took place regarding the Temporary Foster Parent Program at the West Valley Shelter, over the 4th of July period. Please see the following webpages for information on the program and the application to become a foster parent:
http://tarzananc.org/committees.php?committee_id=25
<http://tarzananc.org/docs/1307-1082.pdf>
Debbie Kozin, Chairwoman of the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council, also talked about the Temporary Foster Program at the East Valley Shelter.
4. Discussion regarding the seizure by Los Angeles Animal Services of 68 dogs from the home of the owner of Lucky Puppy rescue on May 6, and bringing them to the West Valley Shelter. Mary will attempt to get additional information regarding this.
5. Discussion and possible action regarding submission of a request to the Budget Committee regarding items the Volunteers at the West Valley Shelter will need in the upcoming fiscal year was tabled until the next meeting. Committee members, Volunteers, and others can email suggestions for items to the Chairman.

6. Eileen Smulson, the Founder and Executive Director of Operation Blankets of Love, made a presentation to the Committee regarding the work done by her organization. After the presentation, the Committee considered the following resolution: Resolved, that the Animal Welfare Committee requests that the Budget Committee and full TNC approve an NPG (grant) to Operation Blankets of Love in the amount of \$250 for the work that it does in caring for animals. Jeff Mausner moved to adopt the resolution; Eva Brusa seconded; and the resolution passed unanimously.

7. Discussion of having adoptable animals from the West Valley Shelter at the Melody Acres Block Party on Sunday, October 23, 2016. It was also suggested that the animals could come from Rockin' Rescue. Anna Rull is going to work on this.

8. Update on the status of Rockin' Rescue's zoning variance, and warning to shut down. We are still awaiting the ruling of the Zoning Administrator.

9. Discussion on whether there should be temporary fosters for rabbits at the Los Angeles City Shelters, when they will be killed for lack of space. Heidi informed us that there are rabbit cages that have been purchased by LAAS which would eliminate or at least cut down the need for fosters of rabbits, because they would allow more rabbits to be kept at the Shelter. However, the cages have not yet shown up at the rabbit room at the West Valley Shelter. The following motion was made: Resolved, that Heidi Okuhara is requested and authorized to find out what has happened to the new rabbit cages, and report back to the Animal Welfare Committee about this. Jeff Mausner moved the adoption of the resolution; Eva Brusa seconded; and the resolution passed unanimously.

10. Public Comments – Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Committee's subject matter jurisdiction:

Paul Darrigo raised the concern about the trucks used by LAAS to transport animals, in light of the upcoming heat wave and summer. Paul has been raising this issue with LAAS, and has requested certain documents regarding air conditioning vs. forced air in the compartments of the trucks used to transport animals. He has not received the requested documents. It was decided that Jeff Mausner would request the documents from LAAS.

Paul also raised the possibility of the former City Shelter at 36th and 11th (the former South Los Angeles Shelter), which has been closed, being taken over by a rescue organization. It was decided that Jeff Mausner should contact General Services and see if there are any plans for the facility.

11. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

For more information about the Tarzana Neighborhood Council please visit our web site at www.tarzananc.org. For information about the Animal Welfare Committee and the Temporary Animal Foster Parent Program at the West Valley Shelter, and for an application to become a foster parent, please visit: http://tarzananc.org/committees.php?committee_id=25 and <http://tarzananc.org/docs/1307-1082.pdf>

For information about dogs, cats, and rabbits available at the West Valley Animal Shelter, please visit our Featured Shelter Animals page at http://tarzananc.org/shelter.php?dbshelter_categories_id=1

Any materials that may be distributed to a majority of the Board less than 72 hours prior to the above scheduled meeting are available for review by the public at 19040 Vanowen Street, Reseda, CA 91335.

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the committee in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at our website by clicking on the following link: www.tarzananc.org/committees.php?committee_id=4, or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact us at tnc@tarzananc.org or 818-921-4992

Process for Reconsideration – Reconsideration of Board actions shall be in accordance with the Tarzana Neighborhood Council bylaws.