**TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday October 23, 2018

Tarzana Elementary School Auditorium

5726 Topeka Dr..Tarzana, CA 91356

**1. Call to Order** by Len Shaffer at 7 p.m. **Roll Call by Eran Heissler, VP of TNC:**

Len Shaffer, Scott Diamond, Barry Edelman, Max Flehinger, David Garfinkle, Harvey Goldman, Joyce Greene, Eran Heissler, Susan Lord, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Michael Povar, Susan Rogen, Terry Saucier, Ken Schwartz, Bob Shmaeff, Richard Silverman, Pam Blattner and Jennifer Varela. Esther Wieder arrived at 8:25 p.m. Quorum established with 19 board members. Welcoming Remarks and Pledge.

**2. Remarks by representatives of public officials.** LAPD Officer Avila talked about a robbery involving the SWAT team. STATS: Crime is down overall by 11%. Burglaries are up as well as car break-ins by perps with flashlights who check doors. Also higher end cars are being stolen. He suggested people call LAPD if they spot any unusual behavior: 877-ASK-LAPD, which is the non-emergency line. He also recommended: **MyLA311** as an app you can use to report information directly to the City of LA such as graffiti, bulky items left on the street & potholes. You can also call **“211”** to help a homeless person who needs assistance.

* # of property crimes in Tarzana YTD: 691 ( Last year: 792)
* # of total crimes, incl. homicide, robbery and rape: YTD: 781 (Last year: 878)

**Svetlana Pravina, deputy for Councilman Blumenfield,** spoke about a motion to make some of the “paper streets” legal. She explained that paper streets are streets that were removed from public use in the 1930s. A third of these are in District 3. These streets are in need of repair and that’s the aim of this motion. She also spoke about an MOU that’s been signed for a CRA lot (community redevelopment agency) to be developed as a year ‘round ice rink as part of the Reseda Rising initiative. There will be an interfaith march and homeless food drive on Sunday, October 28, 2018.

**Betty Wong** from DONE spoke about the Funding Training on Oct. 30th. There will also be an Election Outreach workshop for NCs before the next election. She reminded the board that their Ethics Training needs to be renewed every two years and is available online.

**3. Public Comments** – None.

**4. Budget Advocate Report** – No report.

**5. Executive Secretary’s Attendance Report** – Max reported that no one on the board has more than 4 absences.

**6.** **Approval of minutes** **of** **September 25, 2018 meeting**. (Heissler/Goldberg) moved to approve the minutes of Sept. 2018 as revised. The motion carried.

**7. Approval of September MER:** (Goldberg/Polonsky) moved, “Approval of September 2018 expenditures for submission to City Clerk (MER).” The motion carried.

**8. Approval of the September 30, 2018 Financial Statement:** (Goldberg/Flehinger) moved approval of Financial Statements as of September 30, 2018.

**9. Committee and other Reports:**

**Outreach** –Nov. 15th there will be a combined Outreach and Events committee meeting.

**Land Use** – David talked about a meeting for the Tarzana/Reseda Community Plan. He reviewed suggestions that were made at his meeting. He’ll be speaking more about this at the next board meeting.

**Budget**: Harvey said there will be a November meeting, but no December meeting.

**Transportation** - Max informed the board about two areas where tree roots had been ground down after pushing up the pavement. You can report this type of a scenario using the MyLA311 app. Metro ridership has gone down and he believes it’s due to the lack of public restrooms at the various Metro stops. He took a Straw Poll from the board and 12 board members were interested in taking action on this issue. Nov. 26th is the date of the next meeting committee meeting.

**Public Safety** – Susan Rogen introduced a motion to file a CIS supporting CF# 18-0786 to create a pilot program to place bins at City facilities within the boundaries of each Neighborhood Council.

**Rules** – No report.

**Government Action** – No report.

**Animal Welfare** – Jeff said the West Valley Shelter volunteers wrote a thank you letter to the board for allocating funding there. Scott Diamond was instrumental in saving a lost dog which he found on the street. The dog had been taken in by a rescue group but had escaped. With his help, the rescue group was located and came to pick up the dog. Jeff announced an event for homeless people with pets. He spoke highly of the new Jefferson Park Animal Center which has taken in many animals that would, otherwise, have been put down.

**DWP MOU** – Joyce would like to give up this commitment.

**VANC Report** – Jeff talked about the Election Information Forum that was held at the last VANC meeting. There is a live broadcast of this meeting on the EmpowerLA website.

**Beautification** – Iris talked about her Oct. 11th event where they installed a new Welcome to Tarzana sign. It was officiated by Councilman Blumenfield.

**Homeless Representative** – No report.

**10. Motion: Mixed Use Project, 19336-19360 Ventura Boulevard**: **(Garfinkle/Goldberg) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Land Use Committee’s recommendation to approve the application for a mixed-use project at the location with the following conditions: a. Disapprove the request for a 5 foot rear yard setback and to retain the required 10 foot setback; b. Approve a Specific Plan exception for a 2 foot increased height along Ventura Blvd for the elevator shaft; c. Construction of an 8 foot wall at the rear (south side) of the property; d. DOT to monitor the location for any necessary updates to improve traffic on the surrounding streets.”**

**(Shaffer/Heissler) proposed the following amendment to the motion: “**Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Land Use Committee’s recommendation to approve the proposed four story, 59-unit mixed use at 19332-19360 Ventura Blvd, that includes 17 very low income units, with the following agreed conditions and entitlements.Commercial surface parking will be accessed from Ventura Blvd only a parking attendant will be on duty when the commercial establishments are open (required because of the tandem parking}. Applicant will object to any reduction in parking requirements if such are recommended by the City Planning Commission Surface driveway to the commercial parking area on Aura Ave will be for emergency access only (fire department) and will always be chained or gated. Commercial units will have 14-foot ceilings, Southern buffer will be reduced from required 10 feet to 5 feet to allow for required commercial parking. Height on Ventura Blvd frontage to be increased by 2 feet above allowed height to accommodate architectural features (elevator shafts).”

**(Garfinkle) proposed a further amendment for an 8’ wall on the south side and encourage LADOT to continue to monitor it. His amendment was accepted into Len’s motion.**

**Applicant: Brad Rosenheim**, Rosenheim & Assoc. representing Yarcoh Investment, LLC explained their proposal for the land now used as a car wash. He said they are proposing 59 units reserved for very low income residents of 57,680 sq. ft. far below what is permitted. He talked about the state density bonus provisions and allowances, and how this project fit within that. Parking, which is a key issue, would include 87 spaces for residential parking and 59 for commercial spaces.

* Michael Povar had questions about the parking and the restaurant.
* Iris Polonsky asked about parking for patrons.
* Eran Heissler asked about them opening a bakery there.
* Erica Meadows, a stakeholder, has asked for a number of compromises which she said the developer has not respected. She spoke about height reductions, limits on how many people can live in each of the units, elimination of the rooftop element, and a reduction to the height of the elevator shaft.
* Dana Block, stakeholder, read a list of the changes she wanted to see.
* Laura,. a parent of young children, was concerned about the proposed egress on streets that don’t have sidewalks and the exposure that this development would create for surrounding homeowners.
* Kathy Delle Donne said this was a well-designed project. She feels neighbors have done a bait and switch to sabotage this project. She asked the board to approve this project.
* Harvey asked Brad if they had a traffic study comparing their proposed development to the existing car wash.
* Susan Rogen asked about where the workers would park during construction.
* Jeff Mauser asked about the 5-foot set back and the difference between what the developer wants to what the neighbors want.
* Pam Blattner asked about how the low income residents will be chosen.
* Jeff asked about a compromise on the 5-foot setback.
* Harvey asked about the access and egress to the underground parking lot.
* Michael Povar asked if there was a limit as to how many people could live in each apartment.
* David said there is a regulation limiting the number of people in low income apartments.
* Iris asked how many low income properties are one bedroom, two bedroom or studios. Brad gave a breakdown on the affordable housing.

**The board approved the amendment to the motion. The motion carried: 12-5-3 Opposed: Blattner, Roger, Polonsky, Lord and Povar. Abstaining: Greene, Wieder, and Diamond.**

**(Silverman/Polonsky) moved to amend the previously - amended motion to add: “all driveways to enter and exit on Ventura Boulevard.”**

**That motion failed: 3-16-1 (For: Blattner, Rogen and Silverman. Abstaining: Lord).**

**The vote then was taken on the original amended motion:**

“Resolved: The TNC Board approves the proposed four story, 59-unit mixed use at 19332-19360 Ventura Blvd, that includes 7 very low income units, with the following agreed conditions and entitlements:

Commercial surface parking will be accessed from Ventura Blvd only

A parking attendant will be on duty when the commercial establishments are open (required because of the tandem parking}. Applicant will object to any reduction in parking requirements if such are recommended by the City Planning Commission Surface driveway to the commercial parking area on Aura Ave will be for emergency access only (fire department) and will always be chained or gated. Commercial units will have 14-foot ceilings Southern buffer will be reduced from required 10 feet to 5 feet to allow for required commercial parking Height on Ventura Blvd frontage to be increased by 2 feet above allowed height to accommodate architectural features (elevator shafts) An eight (8) foot wall will be constructed along the south property line We encourage the Los Angeles Dept. of Transportation to continue to monitor the project in order to update traffic management.

**The amended motion passed: 11-5-4 (Opposed: Blattner, Rogen, Polonsky, Lord and Povar. Abstaining: Greene, Wieder, Diamond).**

**11. Motion:** **Wireless Telecommunications Facility**, 6220 Corbin Avenue: (Garfinkle/Shaffer) moved, “Resolved, the TNC Board approves the Land Use Committee’s recommendation to oppose the granting of a conditional use permit for a 55 foot monopole wireless communications facility on a lot zoned for residential use**.”**

* Robyn Moshier, a resident who lives in an historic neighborhood two blocks from this property, strongly opposed this project.
* Barry Edelman also opposed the monopine antenna.
* Terry asked about the benefits of the placement.

**The motion to oppose the cell tower carried unanimously.**

**12. Motion: Application for beer and wine license at the Black Bear Diner,** **18335 Ventura Blvd**: (Garfinkle/Flehinger) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Land Use Committee’s recommendation to support the granting of a conditional use permit for beer and wine service at 18335 Ventura Blvd (Black Bear Diner) on the condition that there will be no live entertainment and alcoholic beverages will only be served with food**.”**

* Iris stated that the motion should include an additional condition that the hours be 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. and food be served with any alcoholic drinks. Jeff asked why they couldn’t have live entertainment there. **The motion carried unanimously.**

**13. Motion: Triple A Banners:** (Shaffer/Goldberg) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee’s recommendation to approve the previously budgets payment to AAA Banners in the amount of $950.00 for the maintenance of, removal of and installation of various TNC light pole banners.” **The motion carried unanimously.**

**14. Emergency Preparedness CIS:** (Rogen/Heissler) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Public Safety Committee’s recommendation to file a CIS in support of CF# 18-0786 as follows:

‘Natural and man-made disasters pose a serious risk to the City and its residents. A major earthquake or fire will place significant strains on the City’s first responders. The Fire Department has recently implemented a pilot program where they store emergency supply bins at fire stations in order to provide CERT members with tools and supplies for use during an emergency. More can be done to provide essential supplies to residents following a major disaster. The Tarzana Neighborhood Council supports CF# 18-0786 to create a pilot program to place bins at City facilities within the boundaries of each Neighborhood Council.’” **The motion carried unanimously.**

**15. Meeting for Nov/Dec:** (Shaffer/Diamond) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee’s recommendation to hold the combined November/December 2018 meetings on Tuesday December 11, 2018.”

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**16. President’s Remarks**:

**Welcome Sign**: Len congratulated Iris on the new Welcome sign. Iris then thanked Susan for her help, as well as several other board members.

**Homeless Town Hall –** Susan Lord spoke about the Homeless Town Hall. Len thanked Esther for creating this event as well as Jeff Brill who helped with the contract with the City. Len said there were quite a few hits on the website for this campaign. David said it was the best Town Hall he’s ever attended. Esther encouraged everyone on the board to attend and support events. Over 150 people attended.

**Meeting with Bob Blumenfield** – Len spoke about his bagels and cream cheese with Nova lox meeting with the Councilmember.

**17. Board Member Comment** – David reminded everyone about two upcoming mixed-use projects that might come up at the Dec. meeting. Len spoke about the Community Plan upcoming meeting in Encino on Nov. 5th.

**18. Adjournment at 9:53 p.m.**

**Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One**