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**TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

**Tuesday May 25, 2021**

**VIRTUAL TELEPHONIC MEETING**

1. **Meeting Called to Order** at 7:07 p.m. with Julien Antelin from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.
2. **Roll Call and certification:** Quorum reached with 21 board members. **Present:** Pam Blattner, Mathew Clark, Devon Cromwell, Barry Edelman, Max Flehinger, David Garfinkle, Isabel Gerhardt, Harvey Goldberg, Joyce Greene, Daniel Gruen, Eran Heissler, Susan Lord, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Michon Rickman, Susan Rogen, Terry Saucier, Len Shaffer, Bob Shmaeff and Esther Wieder. (Rick Brown was absent).
3. **Special Orders:**
   1. **Installation of newly elected Board of Directors** (Oath of Office) by Councilmember Bob Blumenfield. He then spoke about the new cabin community in Reseda having a ribbon cutting on May 26th with a tour to follow with other tours for the 2nd cabin community in Tarzana, later on. He talked about how this would help prevent four or five people a day from dying on the streets as it will put people in a controlled environment where they can get the services they need. All the people in the cabin communities are local people. He then thanked TNC for its support. The City Council recently passed a new budget for the city. He said the revenue projections are looking good and the Federal Rescue Plan came in which fills the previous revenue hole. He talked about his role on the Budget Committee and noted that this year’s budget is really solid – about a billion dollars of money.

Len asked why the public is not able to log in, online, for City Council meetings. The councilmember said ITA, the technology department for the city, has said it is due to security issues. In person meetings will resume June 15, 2021 for the City. The

councilmember also spoke about upgrades coming for Vanalden and said that Merna, from his office, would follow up with the TNC on further updates.

* 1. **Election of new Executive Officers:**

i. **President:** Eran Heissler nominated Len Shaffer. Len was approved unanimously.

ii. **First Vice President:** Harvey Goldberg nominated Eran Heissler. Eran was approved unanimously.

iii. **Second Vice President:** Eran Heissler nominated Jeff Mausner. Jeff was approved unanimously.

iv. **Executive Secretary:** Harvey Goldberg nominated Max Flehinger. Max was approved unanimously.

v. **Treasurer:** Esther nominated Harvey Goldberg. Harvey was approved unanimously.

c. **Appointment of Financial Officers of the Board**

Neighborhood Council Bank Card Holder: Len nominated Harvey Goldberg.

Second Card Holder/Second Signer: Len said he would be the second signer.

These positions were approved unanimously.

1. **Election of officers: (**Removed from the agenda, redundant)
2. **Appointment of standing committee chairs. The board approved these committee chairs unanimously.**

* Budget: Harvey Goldberg
* Outreach: Terry Saucier
* Land Use: David Garfinkle
* Events: Esther Wieder
* Transportation: Max Flehinger
* Public Safety: Susan Rogen
* Rules: no longer a standing committee
* Animal Welfare: Jeff Mausner
* Beautification: Iris Polonsky
* Homelessness: Susan Lord & Joyce Greene

Julian Antelin spoke about an upcoming training in June, required for board members.

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

**EmpowerLA Rep**. Julien said that June 1st is the final date to submit check payments and June 20th for bank card transactions. He talked about expenses and reimbursements. He invited the board to attend the (virtual) Congress of NCs in September. He asked that TNC appoint a grievance panelist. He also spoke about Civic University, which starts in August.

**Blake Clayton from Supv. Sheila Kuehl’s office**, congratulated everyone on the election. He notified the board of 3 telebriefings on indoor/outdoor live performances, theme parks/water parks/amusement parks, retail and shopping centers, hotels, convention centers, entertainment centers and movie theaters. He talked about beetle bore invasions that are killing trees (meeting on June 16th). He encouraged everyone to get vaccinated. On the issue of homeless encampments, he spoke with the CEO of Public Works in regard to moving the encampments. In June, there may be more information to share. LAHSA and mental health workers are going out to the encampments in the hopes of finding people housing.

**Michael Liu from the City Attorney’s office,** shared pamphlets on reporting fireworks 877 275-5273 or 311. Go to LAFD.org to find a safe place to watch fireworks.

**LAPD Senior Lead Office Daryl Scoggins** was not available as he was activating with LAPD on the demonstrations.

1. **Public Comments:**

* Syndey Downey, a veteran educator, endorsed Dr. Raissa White, a candidate for the School Board. [Home | DrWhite4SchoolBd2022 (drwhite4schoolboard.com)](https://www.drwhite4schoolboard.com/).
* Glenn Bailey, speaking as an individual, says the city’s early notification system hasn’t sent out info on the Encino NC’s agenda, Item #8I, which is a proposed development on the border of Encino and Tarzana. Len stated that this item has already been approved by the TNC.

1. **Budget Advocate/Representative Report**: Lee Blumenfeld, Region 3 budget advocate, gave a brief report. Save the Date: Aug. 21, Budget Day; there is a paper on the state of our sewer system; he talked about a new group called the Budget Tribunes but said they don’t have as much of a reach as the Budget Advocates. He believes the more advocacy we have on a local level, the better.
2. **Executive Secretary’s Attendance Report** – Max explained board members are allowed five absences in a rolling 12-month period.
3. **Minutes**: **(Heissler/Goldberg) approved the minutes of the April 27, 2021 board meeting as corrected.** **The motion carried 18-0-2 (Abstaining: Cromwell and Gerhardt).**
4. **Minutes:** **(Goldberg/Flehinger) moved approval of the minutes of the April 27, 2021 Special meeting.** **The motion carried 18-0-2 (Abstaining: Cromwell and Gerhardt).**

**12. Committee and other Reports**

**Budget:** June 16th is the next Budget Committee meeting. Harvey needs items for his agenda, a week before his meeting.

**Land Use** – David said several items have come before his committee with more expected. Next committee meeting is June 21, 2021.

**Outreach** – Terry said at her meeting on June 10th the OneGeneration Symposium will be discussed.

**Events** – Esther announced her next meeting on June 10th at 6 p.m.

**Transportation** – Max said the LADOT will be installing signage to reduce the reckless driving on Vanalden. The sound wall request by a stakeholder is moving forward for the portion along the 101 freeway from White Oak to Reseda. The next committee meeting is June 16th at 6:30 p.m.

**Public Safety** – No report.

Rules – No report.

Government Action – No report.

**Animal Welfare** – Jeff reported that the W. Valley Animal Shelter is open and appears to be running well. The public is not allowed in but appointments can be made for viewing animals in the parking lot. Coyote incidents are increasing. He suggested people be cautious with their small animals. Len spoke about one in his yard.

**Beautification** – Iris reported that a stakeholder has requested that the committee apply for a beautification grant from Keep L.A. Beautiful.

**Homelessness** – Susan Rogen spoke about visiting the Homeless Cabins behind the Council office. The committee is hoping to supply curtains to the residents.

DWP MOU Report – No report.

VANC Report – No report.

NCSA Liaison – No report.

Election Committee Ad Hoc – No report.

1. **Expense Report**: **(Goldberg/Shmaeff) moved approval of April 2021 expenditures for submission to City Clerk (MER).**

**The motion carried unanimously with 15 board members voting.** (5 members ineligible to vote: Greene, Gruen, Gerhardt, Rickman and Clark)

1. **Financial Statements**: **(Goldberg/Lord) moved approval of the Financial Statements as of April 30, 2021.**

**The motion carried unanimously with 20 board members voting.**

1. **Budget Adjustment:** (**Goldberg/Polonsky) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the recommendation from the Budget Committee to increase previously budget expenses for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 as follows: Operations, Staffing and Temporary Help $276.00 and Elections, Post Cards $193.41, for a total of $469.41 Funds to come from Unallocated.”**

**The motion carried unanimously with 15 board members voting.** (5 members ineligible to vote: Greene, Gruen, Gerhardt, Rickman and Clark)

1. **Congress of NC’s Funding:** **(Goldberg/Flehinger) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the recommendation of the Budget Committee to approve a $700 contribution for the September 2021 Congress of Neighborhoods from the 2020-21 fiscal year budget. To be classified as Outreach, Event, Congress of Neighborhoods. Funds to come from Unallocated.”**

**The motion carried unanimously with 15 board members voting.** (5 members ineligible to vote: Greene, Gruen, Gerhardt, Rickman and Clark)

1. **Revised Budget: (Goldberg/Shmaeff) moved, “Resolved: Based on approval of the above agenda items the TNC Board approves a revised budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2020 -June 30, 2021 to include those items. The Board further approves all necessary forms and paperwork required to update the budget and directs the Treasurer and/or President to prepare such and to submit it to the City Clerk’s Funding Division.”**

**The motion carried unanimously with 15 board members voting.** (5 members ineligible to vote: Greene, Gruen, Gerhardt, Rickman and Clark)

1. **Executive Committee Recommendation: (Shaffer/Goldberg) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee’s recommendation to approve the Administrative Packet and budget for FY 2021-2022.”**

**The motion carried unanimously with 15 board members voting.** (5 members ineligible to vote: Greene, Gruen, Gerhardt, Rickman and Clark)

Sharon Brewer commented that she did not see the Ex. Committee budget on the agenda.

**18. Land Use/Mikva Ritual Bath Project:** **(Garfinkle/Polonsky) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the recommendation of the Land Use Committee regarding the application for a CUP at 5300 Mecca Ave, Tarzana as follows:**

**“Whereas the proposed project will result in increased vehicular and pedestrian traffic, and Whereas Mecca Ave from Ventura Blvd to Reseda Blvd is a short street dominated by single family residences, and Whereas a commercial or commercial like activity would be inappropriate for the location, and Whereas the granting of this application would set a precedent for commercial or commercial like locations in the area, Now therefore the Land Use Committee recommends the TNC Board vote to oppose the granting of a CUP for the construction of a Mikva (Ritual Bath) as a religious use in an R1 residential zone area at 5300 Mecca Ave, Tarzana.”** Len said the proposal was for ten baths, which were estimated to be used at the rate of 20 people per day, six or seven days per week. David thought this was a low estimate.

**The motion carried unanimously with 20 board members voting.**

1. **Land Use/Bus Shelter Motion: (Garfinkle/Heissler) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the Land Use Committee’s recommendation to file a CIS in support of CF 20-1536 (STAP bus shelters) if amended as follows: The provision for the collection of cell phone data in and around the bus shelters will be deleted and the minimum frequency of the change for the digital signs shall be 15 seconds rather than 8 seconds.”** Len said this project would be 50% funded by private entities. Len requested that the motion be amended from referring to “TARP” to referring to “STAP.” His amended was accepted.

**The motion carried unanimously with 20 board members voting.**

1. **Land Use/Ridgeline Protection Ordinance: (Garfinkle/Saucier) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the Land Use Committee’s recommendation to file a CIS supporting CF-11-1441- S1 and the resulting Ridgeline Protection Ordinance.”**

Len said there is a public forum on this on June 17th.

**The motion carried unanimously with 20 board members voting.**

1. **Transportation/Pedestrian Crosswalk Discussion:** Should the TNC Board take action to affirm the Transportation Committee’s recommendation to take no action on the request for a pedestrian crosswalk on Lindley, between Ventura Blvd. and Killion, for lack of need for a pedestrian aid in that block? **Max said his committee’s suggestion is to pass on taking action on this right now.**
2. **Transportation/Speeding:** Should the TNC Board take action to affirm the Transportation Committee’s recommendation to contact the LADOT about driver speeding on the “S curve” on Vanalden Ave., in the 4600 “block”, to determine whether the problem is sufficient to seek a solution.

Cheryl Crane, a stakeholder, spoke to this issue. She lives on the “S” curve and was requesting bollards in the middle of the road. Max suggested asking LADOT for a solution.

1. **Board Business** – Esther asked if TNC’s board meetings could be shorter. She encouraged the new board members to join the committees.

Len invited everyone to show up for the OneGeneration event on June 19, 2021 where TNC will have a booth.

Len thanked Scott Diamond for attending the meeting and said he hoped he would still consider joining the board when there is another opening.

**24**. **Adjournment** at 10:27 p.m.