

SUNLAND-TUJUNGA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
LAND-USE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
February 2, 2015

- I. Meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by Committee Chair Dean Sherer
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Present
 - i. Dean Sherer
 - ii. Bill Skiles
 - iii. Cindy Cleghorn
 - iv. Debby Beck
 - v. Nina Royal
 - vi. David Barron
 - vii. Elektra Kruger
 - viii. Arsen Karamians
 - ix. John Laue
 - x. Roberta Konrad
 - xi. Henry Hubert
 - b. Absent
 - i. Chaz VanAalst
- III. Approval of Minutes of the 1-12-15 Meeting
 - a. On continuance
- IV. Recommendation to Appoint Cathi Comras to the STNC-LUC
 - a. Cathi Comras has become a qualified stakeholder of Sunland-Tujunga by establishing membership to the Little Landers Historical Society
 - b. The LUC unanimously approved Ms. Comras to become a member of the LUC by consent. The recommendation will be forwarded to the full STNC Board
- V. Schedule an LUC Retreat at which LUC Members will review documents that guide the LUC
 - a. Discussed whether to schedule the retreat as an event independent of a regularly scheduled LUC meeting vs having the event as a single agenda item at a regularly scheduled LUC Meeting having Public Comment as the only other item
 - i. It might be best to make it a part of a regularly scheduled public LUC Meeting as it would be too easy to begin discussing items in violation of the Brown Act
 - ii. It would probably be helpful to invite someone from City Planning familiar with our community and its issues and all documents that guide us to help us understand how City Planning reviews a project from their perspective
 - iii. Agreed to have the retreat as a regularly scheduled public LUC Meeting. Date to be established. May be several months downstream.
- VI. Citywide Issue Up-Dates
 - a. Dean S. will E-Mail Claudia Rodriguez, Planning Deputy for Councilmember Fuentes. She is about to go on maternity leave. Dean S. wishes to ascertain who will replace her in her absence such that the communication conduit between STNC and CD7 remains open
- VII. Notification of Up-Coming/Recently Past Meetings and Events
 - a. PlanCheckNC
 - i. February – “issues conversation”
 - ii. March – Presentation on new issues with CEQA
 - iii. Sometime thereafter a meeting with Planning Director Michael LoGrande

- iv. In 6 months, a Citywide level planning forum will take place
 - b. It is important to begin paying serious attention to ReCodeLA & to weigh in. Prior presentations can be seen on-line. ReCodeLA is looking at dividing up the single family residence zoning code. Rumors suggest ReCodeLA will increase SFR density.
 - i. Meetings take place once a month with the next to be held February 24 at City Hall, 5th floor
 - ii. There is a new publication in which consultants have put together the framework that they are going to use to up-date the zoning code
 - 1. In reading the document one can see that the consultants have come to grips with the different neighborhoods in Los Angeles – the many overlays and Specific Plans that change underlying regulations
 - c. Last Friday, Dean S. attended the 29th annual Land-Use Law and Planning Up-Date conference. It covers changes in land-use law and all the latest up-dates to CEQA.
 - i. The main thing that came out of it was that there was talk in Sacramento about adding a review period to the Final EIR. Currently the Final EIR which is inclusive of responses to Draft EIR comments goes directly to the decision-makers
- VIII. Up-Date on the Great Streets Initiative Committee
- a. The Great Streets Initiative is a Citywide competitive program in which one ½ to 1 mi stretch of a street will be selected for each CD to be funded for an improvement project
 - b. STNC needs more of a collaborative effort on the Great Streets Initiative with central leadership to consolidate efforts, set the structure for the various committees/organizations, set timelines and tasks etc.
 - i. Numerous STNC Committees have had this topic on their agenda.
 - ii. A good starting point would be to look at Streets that have been selected in the past, what kind of documentation was submitted, speak to the leaders of their Initiative Group to see what effort was made to bring success to that community
 - c. The representative from the Mayor's Office is very anxious to help. We need to take surveys to get as much input/ideas of what the community would like to see as community improvements and then move forward with the City to make them happen.
 - i. The City will provide examples for surveys
 - ii. The City however wants to see that we have done our share of the work. They do not want to come in and dedicate resources to working on plans agreed upon by a few only to have the balance of the community backlash on them
 - iii. Everyone needs to chime in to prioritize the majority interest items to improve – safety improvements, aesthetic improvements, pedestrians crosswalks, sidewalks, beautification projects, median improvements, etc
 - iv. No specific section of Foothill Bl. has yet been selected for our application. - several ideas of where it should be have been aired. This is part of the groundwork of the Great Streets Initiative Committee
- IX. 6231 Foothill Bl. – approval for a liquor license for a relocated liquor store
- a. The liquor store is located in the Big 5 Shopping Center – the liquor store is merely moving from one unit within that shopping center to another.
 - b. There was no representative present to speak to the LUC
 - c. Audience: The liquor store that is relocating was originally located in the same shopping center and there had been no problems with it in the past.
 - d. LUC to invite the applicant to address the LUC
- X. 8505 Foothill Bl. – application for a Drive-Thru Car-Wash, Mobile Station

- a. A drive-thru car wash CUP planning application had originally been approved in 2010, but it was never built. The tunnels now being manufactured are +/- 60' – larger than the initial approval, so they have to go back to the City for re-approval.
 - i. There was a question in 2010 as to whether the car-wash should be permitted at that location because it abutted a residential area and neighbors expressed concern about noise and loitering. However the application had been approved
 - ii. Dean S. will contact the applicant to invite them to address the LUC. There may be changes from the initial application the LUC should know about. Changes in hours of operation, interference with recycling center, etc
- XI. Up-Date on Day St./Pali subdivision – Cindy Cleghorn
 - a. City staff for subdivision assigned to the case = Nelson Rodriguez. He is the person who collects all paperwork and keeps it moving – has not yet received any paperwork from the applicant, but has heard from neighbors.
 - b. City Planner assigned to the case = Marc Woerschling. He mentioned that there is a possibility that the application would require a General Plan Amendment (Zone boundary adjustment from Re-40 – Minimum Density to R1 – Low II density)
 - c. There is some question as to the accuracy of the addresses listed on the application. The addresses do not appear in ZIMAS
 - d. A member of the audience went to Van Nuys to review the file. He was informed that it is in the stage of being distributed to various City Departments for their review.
- XII. Up-Date on 12400 Big Tujunga Cyn Rd NOP – Canyon Parks Development
 - a. The SMMC has submitted a response letter to the NOP (See attached)
- XIII. Public Comments
 - a. Sheri Smith
 - i. Little Landers Historical Society (Bolton Hall) puts on a public program of historical interest the second Saturday of every month. On Feb 14th, the topic will be The History of Hats (see attached flyer)
 - b. Audience member: requested up-date on the Tujunga Town Center. Last Sunday there was a poster saying they were having a 3-day clean-up Jan 20-23. Anything that was picked up that someone may want returned could be retrieved at the Van Nuys _____
 - i. No one on the LUC knew about the clean-up. Debby B.: The Artisan Café is working on their permits for tenant improvements. They have leased two units – one for classes/performances and one for a coffee house/café
 - c. Audience member asked about newly remodeled “Med-X Pharmacy” building
 - i. No application for this came before the LUC so the site may have been designated for this use in the past and is being remodeled as a pharmacy again by-right. Claudia Rodriguez has been contacted to look into it.
 - d. David Barron
 - i. Last Sat there was a townhall meeting at the NVCH addressing three community issues of the Sunland-Tujunga area – the High Speed Rail, the Canyon Parks Development and the proposed Tefra funding for the Samoa Project
 - e. Liliana Sanchez
 - i. Thanked members of STNC for assistance in setting up and hosting Saturday’s Townhall meeting.
 - ii. The mudslide near Oro Vista/Big T is still there & is presenting a safety issue & should be addressed ASAP. It has been communicated to Wesley Hernandez – could use assistance from the LUC to call on the CD Office to move on this
- XIV. Meeting adjourned at 8:21pm