

SUNLAND-TUJUNGA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
LAND-USE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
April 20, 2015

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- I. Meeting was called to Order at 7:10pm by Ms. Cindy Cleghorn
- II. Roll Call
  - a. Present
    - i. Cindy Cleghorn
    - ii. Bill Skiles
    - iii. Debby Beck
    - iv. Nina Royal
    - v. Chaz Van Aalst
    - vi. Elektra Kruger
    - vii. Roberta Konrad
    - viii. David Barron
    - ix. Henry Hubert
  - b. Absent
    - i. John Laue
    - ii. Arsen Karamians
  - c. Susan Chung – Foothill Division Neighborhood Prosecutor ☺
- III. Cindy C./Bill S. will be co-chairing the LUC for a time until the position of LUC Chairperson is again officially filled. Dean Sherer stepped down as Committee Chair at the last meeting due to high day-time workload commitments.
  - a. This opens a space on the LUC for anyone wishing to volunteer to serve. The audience was welcomed to consider volunteering.
- IV. Land-Use Committee Members introduced themselves, noted how long they have served on the Committee and what it was that interested them to become a Committee Member
- V. Approval of April 6, 2015 LUC Meeting Minutes
  - a. **MOTION:** by Henry Hubert to approve the LUC Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2015 as amended 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roberta Konrad Vote: Unanimously approved
  - b. Volume of STNC-LUC Meeting Minutes and their associated reference documents for the period of April 21, 2014 to March 22, 2015 has been turned over to the STNC Archive files.
- VI. Up-Dates on prior LUC actions on the draft 6239 Foothill Bl. support letter and draft Day St./Pali Comment letter (see attached)
  - a. Have been approved by the Full STNC Board. May be reviewed on the STNC Web-Site
- VII. Public Comments
  - a. Lloyd Hitt
    - i. Requested status report on the new Medical Marijuana shop that opened up between Pinewood and Marcus at 7031 Foothill. Cindy C.: They have been reported. They took over a prior restaurant site
      - 1. Susan Chung will check whether they are Prop D compliant
  - b. Lilianna Sanchez
    - i. Resident of Alpine Village in Tujunga, associated with the SaveBigTujungaCyn Group. Up-Date on the illegal grading on Big Tujunga Cyn Rd.: The inspector designated to the area, Manny Takada, has investigated the site.

1. Dumping is taking place above. The case is being turned over to the department responsible for determining the owner of that property.
  2. Elaine Brown informed Lilianna S. that Sheriffs are looking into the property where the illegal grading is taking place
  - ii. SaveTheBigTujungaCanyon group has a fundraiser currently with \$1,200 to be used for atty fees & printing costs. There has been no response from CM Fuentes as to his stand on the proposed Canyon Park development.
    1. SaveTheBigTujungaCanyon group wishes to retain the current Land-Use Designation/Zoning of Minimum Residential/A1 for 22 homes. The group is working with legal counsel
    2. Members of the group have met with other politicians representing the area. Today they met with Adam Schiff's staff, Senator Carol Liu will be coming out next week.
    3. The group is requesting letters of support from these various representatives. There is not a lot they can do, but they can speak up against this large development and to keep the zoning as is.
    4. The group is similarly asking this of Senator Feinstein, Senator Boxer and the Mayor of Los Angeles who has already spoken against large development in the area.
  - c. Charlotte Gallego (sp?)
    - i. A fairly new resident to the area having moved here 2 years ago. Got involved with fighting the Canyon Park development because it would directly impact her property
    - ii. Was originally involved w/the SaveOurCanyon group, & still is. There are 2 groups fighting for the same thing, just have different ways of doing it. Supports Lilianna S., the SaveBigTujungaCanyon group and all the efforts she is making
  - d. Dr. Tom Williams
    - i. As a member of the Sierra Club Water Committee, they are trying to respond to the new emergency water regulations that are going in. We have until the 22<sup>nd</sup> for the first version and May 2<sup>nd</sup> for the 2<sup>nd</sup> creation of the regulations
      1. Coming from many different areas, the committee is trying to set up a list of measures that people are using as avenues for water conservation – most of the influence is being directed at irrigation.
      2. Despite having a 13,000 sq ft lot, they have a water consumption of 60 gal/person/day, irrigation inclusive. They have a lot of mulch. This does not reflect what goes on in the Valley, La Crescenta, La Canada
      3. These areas are different from ours so the committee is trying to find anybody that has something that has worked that is not dependent on recycled water.
      4. The committee is seeking input as to how people feel about the new regulations that is basically calling for everyone to bring their water consumption down to 60 gal/person/day.
      5. People living in Palo Verde work to achieve H2O conservation very differently fr people in NE LA so the committee is interested in getting people's experiences in H2O conservation efforts in differing environments
- VIII. Susan Chung – Foothill Division Neighborhood Prosecutor, community input on ABC license applications

- a. The Neighborhood Prosecutor program has one City Attorney assigned to each police division to work closely with the community, the LAPD and other governmental agencies in combating quality of life issues
  - b. Ms. Chung is a criminal attorney and a prosecutor
  - c. A pilot program being implemented is one in which Neighborhood Prosecutors will be working with the community basically communicating with law enforcement and the community getting input on new and transferring ABC license applications
  - d. As part of the pilot program, whenever an application is filed for a new or transferring ABC license, ABC will inform the City Attorney's Office. From there there will be a 30-day period in which the community or law enforcement can protest
    - i. As part of the pilot program, the Neighborhood Prosecutor will be responsible for notifying the respective NC, the respective Council District Office, the respective Sr. Lead Officer and the Vice Unit of any ABC applications
  - e. Ms. Chung introduced Albert Molena of the San Fernando Valley Partnership which has collected and wishes to share data with NC Land-Use Committees that they have gathered regarding certain areas/alcohol outlets, etc
    - i. How many outlets there are in a given radius
    - ii. Which outlets are participants in the "Good Merchant" program
    - iii. Etc
- IX. San Fernando Valley Partnership – Albert Molena and Dan Rosales
- a. The primary goal of the SFV Partnership is to reduce underage drinking
  - b. The SFV Partnership is a community-based informational organization as opposed to law enforcement's "Star Program" that monitors criminal cases that have been filed against certain retail outlets
    - i. Law enforcement explains to retail outlets "these are the ABC laws that you are supposed to be following – if you do not, these are the penalties"
    - ii. The SFV Partnership has a program called "Merchant Committed" (see attached) which is more of an educational approach showing merchants the long-term effects of selling alcohol to already intoxicated individuals
  - c. Currently when new applications are filed with the ABC, 5 agencies are mandated to receive notice eg Planning, the CD Office for that initial 30-day protest period. Currently NCs are not notified. The City Atty's Office wants to fill that gap.
    - i. Local LUCs would not get notification until the application is scheduled for public hearing up to nine months into the application process. The partnership wants to teach the LUC what to be looking for in preparation for these hearings
      - 1. Would approval result in or is there already an overconcentration of alcohol outlets in the area (a function of radius census) – (see sample concentration map attached)
      - 2. Is the proposed venue in a high crime area
      - 3. Does the owner have a licensed venue in another area that has proven to be problematic?
      - 4. Is the proposed venue within 600 ft of a sensitive use eg a park, school, church, care-center, etc
      - 5. Why might the venue be considered an item of public benefit or convenience as a point of over-riding consideration
      - 6. The Partnership does not ask the NCs to blindly oppose outlets, only to make informed decisions

- d. The City adopted the CUP Ordinance in 1985. Many outlets are grandfathered – these tend to be the problem sites
    - i. The SFV Partnership would like to work w/NCs to create “Merchant Committees” in which the community raises issues & the Partnership approaches the retailers explaining why it is important to pay attention to those issues
      - 1. The goal is to get retailers to commit to a set of practices more responsible in terms of in-store policies and training, signage, doing their part to prevent underage drinking, etc
      - 2. In so doing they can eliminate problems around their own stores
  - e. The SFV Partnership develops profiles for a community
    - i. How easy is it to get alcohol?
    - ii. How easy is it to get alcohol without ID checking?
    - iii. How easy is it for youth to utilize adults/homeless to purchase alcohol for them in exchange for paying them to purchase alcohol for themselves
  - f. The SFV Partnership program contains a “Merchant Assessment”
    - i. How do stores market, advertise and sell alcohol. What other products are sold.
    - ii. Is there a recycling center nearby which creates a magnet for individuals who recycle cans, take the money to purchase alcohol, drink it, find a few more cans to recycle keeping this whole dynamic going
  - g. The SFV Partnership offers retailers Responsible Beverage Service Training (RBS). Many clerks rotate job venues and have never really been trained in dealing with alcohol sales. ABC calls this training \_\_\_\_? \_\_\_\_\_, law enforcement calls it “Star”
    - i. The SFV Partnership is not trying to replace the ABC or “Star” training, only to provide retailers with a training resource
  - h. The SFV Partnership needs to partner with alcohol outlets because oftentimes outlets do not realize that a lot of what they do contributes to problems in and around the community. The Partnership hopes to work with the NCs to:
    - i. Give recognition to those retailers who are doing their part to eg prevent underage drinking
    - ii. Eliminate problems in and around outlets, such efforts being successful in eg Panorama
  - i. Cindy C.: Would like to see statistics related to alcohol outlets, data that would be of great use in the future eg.:
    - i. Separating outlets by those that have been grandfathered vs those that are not
    - ii. Hours of operation
    - iii. Proximity to sensitive uses
    - iv. Parking availability
  - j. The SFV Partnership was invited to return to present to the Full STNC Board and to the Sunland-Tujunga Chamber of Commerce
- X. Susan Chung reported on Medical Marijuana closures in Foothill Division – 38 since 2013, that properly registered shops may move venues around the City, that federal cases may be filed against property owners failing to evict non-Prop D compliant lessees
- XI. SR 710 North Extension proposed resolution (see attached) – Dr. Tom Williams
- a. The 26,000 page DEIR for the SR 710 North Extension has been circulated with a comment period deadline +/- July 1. The Project is a 3-part Project, the I-710 South, SR 710 North and the high desert corridor. Concerned about piecemealing.



- 4. The new routes are 100% tunneled so people should be retaining their homes
      - ii. The new West Route is proposed to go through Pacoima, 100% tunneled
      - iii. Route E1 and E2 are still both tunneled and above-ground
      - iv. All is still subject to change. These routes will be going through an EIR and we will be weighing in on these proposed routes which will put a lot of work on the community
    - d. Up-Dates on Foothill Bl. Commercial sites
      - i. K-Mart
        - 1. None
      - ii. Ralphs
        - 1. Sign is up for remodel to proceed. Actual date TBD
      - iii. Mobile Station Car Wash
        - 1. None
      - iv. Remodel at 7333 Elmo
        - 1. Dormant
      - v. Demolition of the old Back Door Bakery
        - 1. City Attorney working on that
      - vi. New Back Door Bakery
        - 1. Has all plans and permits. Plans to open in a month or two
    - e. The ad hoc Great Streets Committee met tonight and will meet again May 4
    - f. Citywide issue up-dates and upcoming meetings/events
      - i. The City Planning Newsletter is on the City Planning Web-Site
      - ii. ReCodeLA will meet this Wednesday. The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) will report on Housing Affordability and Diversity, Transportation, Jobs, Historic Preservation and Downtown Zoning
        - 1. A lot of it is geared toward downtown, but whatever happens downtown will be utilized citywide as these are the tools they are trying to create
- XIV. Land-Use Committee Retreat on continuance
- XV. Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm