**TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday September 24, 2024**

**Tarzana Child Care Center**

**5700 Beckford Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356**

1. **Call to Order at 7:09 p.m.** by TNC President Len Shaffer. Roll Call by 2nd Vice President Jeff Mausner. Board members present: Len Shaffer, Silvia Bedrossian, Matthew Clark, Barry Edelman, Duncan MacIntosh, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Susan Rogen, Terry Saucier, Bob Shmaeff, and Esther Wieder. Quorum established with 11 board members with six absent: Susan Lord, Faryl Arbeitman, Harvey Goldberg, Eran Heissler, Christopher Ahuja (arrived at 7:25 p.m.), and Paul Radenberg. Welcoming Remarks by TNC President Len Shaffer followed by Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **Remarks by representatives of public officials: No reports.** Len announced the Congress of Neighborhood Councils.
3. **Public Comments:**

Beatrice \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a stakeholder, gave an update on her neighbor son whose drumming is keeping her from sleeping.

Joseph Sante, a longtime Tarzana resident, spoke about the hazards and lack of maintenance along the Orange Line and the bike path (specifically, the strip by the Oxnard/Topham side) which is overgrown with weeds and full of trash. He also spoke about trash along the corner of Reseda and Oxnard by Topham. Len suggested he use the 311 app to report this.

1. **Budget Advocate/Representative Report**: No report. Len said that the next Budget Day will be in June 2025.
2. **Executive Secretary’s Report**: Iris reported one board member with five absences.
3. **Meeting Minutes:** (Ahuja/Clark) moved to postpone approval of the July minutes until the next board meeting on August 27, 2024. **The motion carried unanimously: 12-0-0.** Ayes: Len Shaffer, Christopher Ahuja, Silvia Bedrossian, Matthew Clark, Barry Edelman, Duncan MacIntosh, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Susan Rogen, Terry Saucier, Bob Shmaeff, and Esther Wieder. Absent: Susan Lord, Faryl Arbeitman, Harvey Goldberg, Eran Heissler, and Paul Radenberg

**7. Committee and other Reports**:

**Budget** – Oct. 16th is the next meeting.

**Land Use** – Len said they have not received the paperwork for proposed liquor licenses.

**Outreach** – Oct. 14th is the date for the next meeting.

**Events** – Esther did not give a report.

**Public Safety/Transportation** - Susan said they were tentatively planning to hold a meeting on Oct. 16th. She is exploring the funding necessary for license plate readers.

**Rules** – Bylaws changes cannot be made until next April.

**Government Action** – No report.

**Animal Welfare** – Jeff said Stacy Daines, the GM for Animal Services, is still on leave. Dogs and cats are being killed because of the lack of resources. Annette Ramirez is serving at Interim GM. The department needs more money, especially for spay and neuter programs. Backyard breeders are not being held responsible for their actions. A photo shoot is to take place at the W. Valley Shelter with the items purchased from the NPG. In Defense of Animals has been instrumental with this NPG. Jeff is still working on trying to end the killing of domestic animals in Vietnam.

**Beautification** – Iris said they will have a joint meeting on Oct. 14th with Outreach.

**Homelessness** – Iris said there has been a lot of drug use at the Tiny Homes and this is working against the people there who are trying to remain sober. There have been complaints from local businesses and also from riders/staff with the Orange Line. It is a “no win” situation. Christopher asked if people from the vocational center could help some of the people there. Iris said there are resources already being provided to the 96 occupants in the 75 cabins.

**DWP MOU Report** – No report.

**VANC Report** – Len said Timothy Campbell talked about millions of dollars being misspent that was designated to help the homeless. See VANC.com for more info.

**LANCC Report** – Len said there were two discussions at the latest meeting: a motion requiring NCs to appoint a Youth rep and Terry’s talk on the dangers of artificial turf.

**NCSA Liaison** – Terry said 18 NCs were previously lined up to support the motion opposing artificial turf but a new motion was introduced, which asked for ways to continue using artificial turf and that motion passed. She felt blind sided by this new motion which was not presented with enough time to respond to it..

**Ad Hoc VNY** – No report.

**Ad Hoc Election** – No report.

1. **Standing Rule Suspended for This One Meeting: (Shaffer/Bedrossian) moved,** “Resolved, the TNC Board adopts the recommendation of the Executive Committee and for this meeting only suspends the Standing Rule regarding matters being heard by the relevant committee before being submitted to the Board in order to proceed with agenda items 9 and 10.”

**The motion carried unanimously: 12-0-0.** Ayes: Len Shaffer, Christopher Ahuja, Silvia Bedrossian, Matthew Clark, Barry Edelman, Duncan MacIntosh, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Susan Rogen, Terry Saucier, Bob Shmaeff, and Esther Wieder. Absent: Susan Lord, Faryl Arbeitman, Harvey Goldberg, Eran Heissler, and Paul Radenberg

1. **Approval of August MER:** (Shaffer/Wieder) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the August 2024 expenditures for submission to City Clerk (MER) and Financial Statements as of August 31, 2024.” **The motion carried unanimously: 12-0-0.** Ayes: Len Shaffer, Christopher Ahuja, Silvia Bedrossian, Matthew Clark, Barry Edelman, Duncan MacIntosh, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Susan Rogen, Terry Saucier, Bob Shmaeff, and Esther Wieder. Absent: Susan Lord, Faryl Arbeitman, Harvey Goldberg, Eran Heissler, and Paul Radenberg

**10.** **Funding for Portola Teacher**: (Shaffer/Wieder) moved to permanently postpone this motion: “Resolved: TNC Board adopts the Budget Committee’s recommendation regarding the request from Nancy Streit, a teacher in the Social Studies Department at Portola Middle School, to fund an NPG for $3,917.01 for the purchase of student supplies for her classes for the 2024-25 school year ($2,818.01) and an iMac ProBook 15 ($1,099.00) for herself for school related use. Funds to come from Unallocated. (Request withdrawn).

Nancy Streit, a teacher at Portola Middle School, had withdrawn her request for funding, but had since decided to change her original motion and wanted to present it again for funding.

She had withdrawn her original funding request for a Mac iBook and expanded her funding request to include other items that the History Department could use in her proposal. These funds will help with their Renaissance Faire.

Len informed her that her changes were made without approval by the Budget Committee, which needed to review them and then send them back to the board with their recommendation. He told her that it was likely that her request would be approved but it could not be voted on at the present time.

**The motion to permanently postpone the original funding request passed unanimously**: **12-0-0.** Ayes: Len Shaffer, Christopher Ahuja, Silvia Bedrossian, Matthew Clark, Barry Edelman, Duncan MacIntosh, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Susan Rogen, Terry Saucier, Bob Shmaeff, and Esther Wieder. Absent: Susan Lord, Faryl Arbeitman, Harvey Goldberg, Eran Heissler, and Paul Radenberg

1. **Land Use Motion: 18416 Ventura Blvd.** (Shaffer/Polonsky) moved, “Resolved: T\he TNC Board adopts the Land Use Committee’s recommendation regarding DIR-2024-4238-SPPC (18416 – 18410 Ventura Blvd) to support the application to add a second story with approximately 2400+ sq feet of office space and a roof deck. The project includes 6 parking spaces and 2 short term and 6 long term bicycle spaces in lieu of 2 additional parking spaces. The approval is based upon the two conditions: 1. That no building permits be issued until the applicant has secured in writing the approval of the relevant city departments for the lift parking spaces and 2. That a covenant running with the land be filed with the County Recorder for an on-site parking attendant from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM on all normal working days. The Board further requests that the current awning at the front entry of 18416 Ventura Blvd be preserved.

Varant Majarian said there were many homeless congregating in the back of that building. He asked what kind of security would be provided the alley.

**The motion carried: 9-3-0:** Ayes: Len Shaffer, Matthew Clark, Barry Edelman, Duncan MacIntosh, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Terry Saucier, Bob Shmaeff, and Esther Wieder. (Ahuja, Bedrossian and Rogan opposed). Absent: Susan Lord, Faryl Arbeitman, Harvey Goldberg, Eran Heissler, and Paul Radenberg

1. **Former CM Bonin’s 2019 Motion:**  (Shaffer/Saucier) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the Executive Committee’s recommendation to file a CIS supporting CF 19-1020.”

Len noted that Ruth Ruflis, an unhoused person, has spoken on this issue.

Sharon Brewer suggested there be a description of the Council Files that are put on the agenda so people who might have an interest in it be notified correctly.

**The motion carried unanimously: 12-0-0.** Ayes: Len Shaffer, Christopher Ahuja, Silvia Bedrossian, Matthew Clark, Barry Edelman, Duncan MacIntosh, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Susan Rogen, Terry Saucier, Bob Shmaeff, and Esther Wieder. Absent: Susan Lord, Faryl Arbeitman, Harvey Goldberg, Eran Heissler, and Paul Radenberg.

1. **Web Corner Funding:** (Shaffer/Saucier) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board adopts the Executive Committee’s recommendation to approve The Web Corner’s Monthly Service Agreement for 2024-2025 for which the sum of $1800.00 has been approved as a budgeted item for FY 2024-25.”

Matthew felt the Web Corner was charging too much for what they do. Len stated that they do a lot of work on the back end and are very responsive. He also suggested that Web Corner provide TNC with analytics tracking users.

Varant said they may be overpriced but they provide good service.

**The motion carried unanimously: 12-0-0.** Ayes: Len Shaffer, Christopher Ahuja, Silvia Bedrossian, Matthew Clark, Barry Edelman, Duncan MacIntosh, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Susan Rogen, Terry Saucier, Bob Shmaeff, and Esther Wieder. Absent: Susan Lord, Faryl Arbeitman, Harvey Goldberg, Eran Heissler, and Paul Radenberg.

1. **Board Business:**

* Barry asked Terry about getting lights installed along the bike path. She has made recommendations to the Councilmember’s office and has spoken to Public Works but has not been given any more information.
* He also encouraged everyone to drive by the parking lot at the Orange Line to see what is going on there with homeless and drug transactions.
* Len said someone new is working on the elections and funding at the City Clerk’s office and he thought this looked hopeful.
* Varant spoke about vacant land by Sharky’s. He said there are a lot of complaints about it attracting homeless people and is a fire hazard.
* Chris said there needs to be an outreach plan to attract more candidates for the TNC.

1. Meeting Adjournmed: 8:53 p.m.

* Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One -