**TNC Neighborhood Council**

**Monthly Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, December 10, 2024**

Tarzana Child Care Center

5700 Beckford Ave.

Tarzana, CA

1. **Call to Order at 7:00 p.m. by TNC President Len Shaffer with welcoming remarks**.

**Roll Call:** Quorum met with 15 board members: Silvia Bedrossian, Matthew Clark, Barry Edelman, Eran Heissler, David Elan, Harvey Goldberg, Joyce Greene, Duncan MacIntosh, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Len Shaffer, Susan Rogen, Sima Salek, and Esther Wieder.

**Absent:** Christopher Ahuja (arrived at 7:41 p.m.), Faryl Arbeitman, Bob Shmaeff, Paul Radenberg, Susan Lord, and Terry Saucier.

1. **Remarks by representative public officials**:

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ L.A. County Rep spoke about the acreage burning, the governor’s response and FEMA. She talked about motions passed including one for LAHSA/homeless solutions with increased data on homeless beds available in each Council Office. Office closed for holidays Dec. 18 - January 6, 2025. Community Resource Fair on Jan. 25th at Lockheed, 7555 Van Nuys Blvd. She talked about an immigration clinic through L.A. County Bar Association.
* **LAPD SLO Daryl Scoggins** – Capt. 3 is the “big boss” in charge of the W**. Valley. LAPD** **Captain Brian Wending.** Crime is down in Tarzana for 2024. He gave the stats: Homicide down 75%, aggravated assaults down 30%, burglaries down 47%, stolen cars down 22%, grand theft person is down 70%. Rape, robberies, burglary and theft from motor vehicles (hide it, lock it, keep it!) were all up. He spoke about 7 divisions in Valley Bureau. 2024 has the biggest crime reduction due to hard work. He spoke about a news journalist reporting on residential burglaries and other news journalists picking up on it. A specialized unit was working on these and a major crew was arrested. Drugs have been decriminalized from felonies to misdemeanors but he noted that there are crimes around drugs.
* Different board members asked questions, including Silvia, who asked about people wiping windshields. She noted that these people are blocking traffic and looking for an open window so they can reach through and grab a purse. Officer Scoggins reminded her that vending is legal in the city of Los Angeles, in regards to a man selling water in traffic.
* Eran said there is a lot of crime and police officers who don’t make arrests because it won’t go forward in court. The captain said that’s not true. It doesn’t matter what the D.A. does, that they still go through the motions. Either it gets filed or it doesn’t.
* Barry spoke about the street gangs from out of state. The captain said they are being arrested.
* Sima asked about crime associated with the people taking the Orange Line. Captain said it is usually homeless-related crimes. She also asked about minors on drugs. He suggested these crimes be reported and officers will investigate.
* Susan Rogen spoke about license plate readers. Safi said the Council Office is working with LAPD. The captain said he would have Daryl check with him.
* \_\_\_\_\_ unknown speaker said you have to relay urgency when making a call. He asked what the words are that should be used. Captain said to describe the exact situation but not inflate it. He said it is best to report crimes in progress. When you call the non-emergency phone, give as good as description as possible. He noted that the Mayor’s unarmed response team sometimes gets the call. LAPD is training with them now.
* Iris talked about a woman carrying a baby at the Tampa offramp of the 101. Daryl said it talked to her. They can connect with Child and Family Services if she is seen again.
* Len stated that the DA only prosecutes misdemeanors in counties that don’t have a city attorney. In L.A., there are city attorneys. Prop 47 has created more problems with drug users.
* Esther thanked LAPD for helping people feel safe.
* Len talked about exhibitions of speed on Reseda Blvd. at 80 mph. and blowing through stop signs. He asked if a task force could track these incidents. The captain said it is only when you see the same incidents, over and over again, that they can do something about it.
* Harvey talked about people riding on electric bikes in traffic. He asked if anything could be done on it. Captain said bicycles are allowed on the street. If there is a specific individual involved, then they could try to do something about it.

A stakeholder asked why house burglaries went down and what they can continue to do to take care of their neighborhood. Capt. Said the burglary decrease went down with the arrests of the crew. He said the criminals are more sophisticated today: they wear hoodies, gloves and masks and are in and out of a house very quickly. They usually look for cash, jewelry, guns, and high-end items. If you leave high-end articles unattended, put it in a safe that is bolted down or in a safety deposit box. And don’t publicize that you are out of town. He said they have a list of tips that he will share.

There is a new EmpowerLA Rep to replace **Joel Gonzalez** who is going back to school to get an advanced degree. Len read a report that the new EmpowerLA rep sent. (who is she?) The 2025 election is coming up June 3, 2025. The EmpowerLA newsletter highlights people who have provided great service to the community. You can nominate someone for this. The 25 year EmpowerLA celebration on December 13, 2024 at City Hall.

1. **Public Comments:**

Jeff Rector – President of Tarzana Intl. Film Festival is in its 4th year – they screen at the Sherman Oaks Galleria at Regal, and Braemar CC is the black tie dinner for awards. They screen 50 films in three days from all over the world. He grew up in Tarzana. He wants to work with TNC to get the word out. (TZiff.org) August 22 – 24, 2025.

Shawn McCarthy – West Valley Warner Chamber of Commerce and part of the Community Benefit Association. They clean up Ventura Blvd. and have worked on other clean up projects in the past. They would like to have TNC support them next year for funding/a grant for them to do the work they do. They are also looking for volunteers.

Sharon Brewer– Wants to know where standing rules are and asked where the agendas were. She suggested letting the public to ask questions of public officials at meetings.

Jay \_\_\_\_ - president of Tarzana Homeowners Association, complained about the Tiny Homes on Topham. He got pepper sprayed two weeks ago after telling me they were doing drugs in a special enforcement zone. People are sleeping outside where he lives with graffiti everywhere. He requested attention around the Orange Line area. Joyce asked him to join their homelessness committee.

1. **Budget Advocate Representative’s Report:** Len spoke about Andre \_\_\_\_ who is the new Budget Advocate for the area.
2. **Executive Secretary’s Report:** Iris sent out the updated attendance record. There are two people with 5 absences.
3. **Approve minutes of TNC board meeting of Oct. 22, 2024.** **(Heissler/Ahuja) moved to approve the minutes of the TNC board meeting of October 22, 2024**. Iris, Harvey and Sima suggested revisions to the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **Committee and other reports:**

Budget – Jan. 22, 2025 is the next Budget Committee meeting. Requests need to be received by Jan. 15, 2025 for funding. Funding for this fiscal year must be approved by next May.

Land Use – No report.

Outreach – No report.

Events – Len announced that someone needs to replace Esther as chair of this committee. Esther will still help with Earth Day.

Transportation and Public Safety – Susan Rogen reported that there was a meeting held this month. They are working on the roundabout on Reseda with Safi. Hatteras/Tampa now has a lefthand turn lane. They committee will review this as it is backing up traffic on Hatteras. They have prepared a letter on license plate readers. Harvey brought up the timeframe on the roundabout which was mentioned in the Councilman’s newsletter as being put off until Reseda is repaved.

Rules – No report.

Govt. Action – No report.

Animal Welfare – Jeff said his committee is working on ending dog meat in Vietnam and getting sufficient funding for spay and neuter programs in the city of L.A.

Beautification – No report.

Homelessness – No report.

DWP MOU – No report.

VANC – No report.

LANCC – No report.

NCSA – No report.

Ad Hoc VNY – No report.

Ad Hoc Election – Sylvia was appointed as chair.

1. **MER/Financial Statements Discussion and Motion:** (Goldberg/Greene) moved, “Resolved, the TNC Budget Committee approves the October 2024 expenditures for submission to the City Clerk (MER) and Financial Statements as of October 31, 2024.” Simi stated that she has children going to Portola but she was ineligible to vote so she did not have to recuse herself from the vote. **The motion carried unanimously: 14-0-0 (Salek ineligible).**
2. **Portola Middle School NPG discussion and Motion**: (Goldberg/Ahuja) moved, “Resolved, the TNC Board adopts the Budget Committee’s recommendation regarding the request by Portola Charter Middle School for an NPG for $3,587.83 to fund history art projects for all history classes. To be classified as an NPG. Funds to come from Unallocated.

A representative from Portola, Teacher Nancy Rattner, was in attendance.

(Shaffer) moved to revise the motion adding, “subject to correction of start and funding required date.” (Goldberg/Ahuja) accepted the revision.

**The motion carried unanimously: 14-0-0 (Salek ineligible).**

1. **Revised Budget Discussion and Motion**: (Goldberg/Wieder) moved, “Resolved, The TNC Board approves a revised budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 to include the above item 9, and 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: 14-0-0 (Salek ineligible).**
2. **Transportation Letter Discussion and Motion: (Rogen/Bedrossian) moved, “Resolved, the TNC Board approves the Transportation/Public Safety Committee’s recommendation to approve the letter to CM Bob Blumenfield regarding license plate readers.”**

Harvey suggested adding a reference to Council District 12 which is taking action on this.

David asked how the license plate readers work. Susan explained this in conjunction with LAPD. The motion carried unanimously: 15-0-0.

1. **Animal Welfare Committee Motion:** (Mausner/Clark) moved, “At the request of the Animal Welfare Committee, the TNC board adopts a motion as follows:

Whereas, since 2019, it has been the official position of the City of Los Angeles to oppose dog meat, including specifically in the country of Vietnam (Council File: 19-0002-S101), and

Whereas, on September 10, 2023, President Biden and the leader of Vietnam entered into the Joint Leaders’ Statement: Elevating United States-Vietnam Relations To A Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, and

Whereas, the Joint Leaders’ Statement encourages states and cities in the United States and Vietnam to enter into sister city/state relationships, and

Whereas, since it is the official position of Los Angeles to oppose dog meat in Vietnam, the city that Los Angeles enters into a sister city relationship with should ban dog and cat meat.  The Sister City/State Project to End Dog and Cat Meat in Vietnam will offer a city or province in Vietnam a sister city/sister state relationship with Los Angeles which would be conditioned on the Vietnam city or province banning dog and cat meat.

Therefore, the TNC Board adopts the TNC Animal Welfare’s position as follows: Resolved: The Tarzana Neighborhood Council supports the Sister City/State Project to end Dog and Cat Meat in Vietnam and requests the City Council to pass a resolution to form a Sister City relationship with a city or province in Vietnam with the condition that the Vietnamize city or province ban dog and cat meat. The TNC Board further requests that this motion be forwarded to members of the City Council and other relevant city agencies. This resolution can be filed as a community impact statement in support of any City Council resolution or motion on this subject.

Christopher noted that the NC system is supposed to be oriented toward local issues. He said it is in the bylaws. His wife is from Saigon so he is familiar with this issue.

Joyce noted that this does refer to the City of L.A.

Duncan spoke in favor of the motion asking what kind of world do we want it to be?

**The motion carried: 11-3-1. (Bedrossian, Goldberg and Ahuja opposed, Elan abstained).**

1. **Animal Welfare Committee Motion for Funding Spay/Neuter Programs**: (Mausner/Ahuja) moved, “Resolved, the TNC Board adopts the Animal Welfare Committee’s request that sufficient funding be supported by the City for spay/neuter, including sufficient funding for spay/neuter vouchers, and sufficient personnel in the Animal Services Department to enforce spay/neuter laws. This resolution shall be communicated to the City Council and other relevant City agencies. This resolution can be filed as a Community Impact Statement in support of any City Council resolution or motion on this subject.” **The motion carried unanimously: 15-0-0.**

**The board meeting was recessed at 8:55 p.m. for the Special Board meeting.**

**TNC Neighborhood Council**

**Special Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, December 10, 2024**

Tarzana Child Care Center

5700 Beckford Ave.

Tarzana, CA

1. **Call to Order at 8:55 p.m. by TNC President Len Shaffer with welcoming remarks**. **Roll Call:** Quorum met with 15 board members: Christopher Ahuja, Silvia Bedrossian, Matthew Clark, Barry Edelman, Eran Heissler, David Elan, Harvey Goldberg, Joyce Greene, Duncan MacIntosh, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Len Shaffer, Susan Rogen, Sima Salek, and Esther Wieder.

**Absent:** Faryl Arbeitman, Bob Shmaeff, Paul Radenberg, Susan Lord, and Terry Saucier.

1. **Public Comments**: None.

3**. Light Banners Discussion and Motion**: (Shaffer/Polonsky) moved, “Resolved, the TNC Board agrees to allow the El Caballero Country Club and/or the LPGA to use the light standards on Ventura Blvd. from Lindley to Nestle and on Ventura Blvd. from Lindley to Nestle and on Ventura Blvd. from Avenida Hacienda to Reseda Blvd which currently display TNC banners, from March 1, 2025 to April 21, 2025 for the purpose of displaying banners announcing the 2025 LPGA JM Eagle LA Championship. Further, the use of the light standards shall be conditioned upon El Caballero Country Club and/or the LPGA executing a Letter of Agreement to be issued by the Los Angeles City Clerk’s Office setting forth, among other things, who will pay for the removal and reinstallation of the TNC banners; the replacement of any damaged TNC banners; and the procurement of any necessary permits.

The motion carried unanimously: 15-0-0.

1. Adjournment: 9:03 p.m.

-Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One-

**The Regular Board Meeting resumed at 9:03 p.m. after being called to order again by TNC President Len Shaffer. Quorum was still met with 15 board members and five absent.**

1. **Board Business:**

* Len stated that if and when the Mayor gets back to him, there will be a South Valley Town Hall which Len will chair. Each of the commissioners are holding town halls.
* Barry suggested board members drive by the Orange Line and monitor what is going on over there (and take pictures). He monitors the parking lot on the west side of the Orange Line and the Arco station.

1. **Meeting Adjourned:** 9:12 p.m.

-Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One-