

TARZANA PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting
January 14, 2019

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President David Garfinkle at 7:34 P.M. Tarzana Community and Cultural Center, 19130 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Max Flehinger, David Garfinkle, Ted O’Karma, Sandy Mittleman, Shel Mittleman, Michael Povar, Terry Saucier, Leonard Shaffer, David Springer

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nancy Theroux

TREASURER’S REPORT – Nancy Theroux
Checking \$5,8856.70; Savings \$2779.27

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The December Minutes were approved.

TRANSPORTATION – Max Flehinger

Tree Branches Obstructing Stop Sign: The Tarzana Neighborhood Council has requested that the City remove tree branches that obstruct the view of the STOP signs on Topeka at Linnet and in other areas of Tarzana. The trees on Topeka have been partially trimmed.

Restrooms at Transit Stops: In response to requests from stakeholders, the Transportation Committee is looking into the possible installation of restroom facilities at some transit stops. The response from the Metro Manager of Transit Security Special Projects: “Thank you for your feedback and suggestions. Metro is currently in the process of doing a cost/benefit analysis of installing restrooms at transit locations. As you may imagine, restrooms at transit stations are hubs for crimes, and the agency has historically veered away from offering these services at non-major transit hubs as a result. We will likely have something presented in the public/Metro Board of Directors on this consideration in the coming months.”

Reseda/Mecca Speed Limit: The “certified” speed limit on Reseda/Mecca, south of Ventura Blvd., is now 40 MPH. We were told by the City Council office that speed limit signs will be updated “soon.”

Southbound Reseda to Westbound 101: The Transportation Committee is consulting with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) about right turns from the second (non-curb) lane on southbound Reseda Blvd. onto the westbound 101 Freeway. Some mornings there is a significant traffic backup on Reseda Blvd. due to the two lane freeway entrance.

Tree roots into Roadway: While tree roots causing the roadway to buckle in some areas of Brewster and Greenbriar have been removed and the pavement repaired, the Transportation Committee has reminded the Bureau of Street Services (BSS) of the urgent necessity of repairing an area on Ellenita between Greenbriar and Aleman. The response from BSS: “Staff will inspect the area to determine what can be done in the short term and then look for long term solutions.”

Electric busses: Los Angeles will have all zero emission buses by 2040 as required by State law. LADOT has secured funding for 100 electric buses and Los Angeles has set a goal of zero emission by 2030.

People Street Program: Leonard Shafer informed the Board that the city has a people street program where residents can transform under-utilized streets into people friendly spaces. This can include street

improvements such as decorative cross walks, bike corrals, etc. They are taking suggestions and applications now. The City wants to create 15 “People Friendly” streets in the city. We plan to share this information with interested Tarzana residents and organizations.

PLANNING AND LAND USE/TNC –David Garfinkle/ Leonard Shaffer

Taco Bell, 18405 Ventura: Taco Bell plans to renovate the current building and incorporate the outdoor patio into the interior of the building and do a major upgrade of the building façade. . TPOA approved a motion to support the renovation of Taco Bell.

Conditional Use Permit (CUP), Alcohol: A new ordinance applies to restaurants that meet the following criteria: are opened within 7 AM and 11 PM, has a full-service kitchen and full service menu, alcohol is only served with food, no live music, employees must take STAR training, and installation of a surveillance camera. The facility must file a covenant that they will follow these rules. If they satisfy all the conditions, the restaurants would be granted a permit without a public hearing. Once granted, the appropriate Neighborhood Councils and City Councilmembers would be notified, but there would be no provision to appeal. All conditions would to be enforced by the Department of Building (DBS) and Safety. The permit would continue if the property changes hands as long as it remains the same kind of business. The rationale is to alleviate the onerous procedure for a new permit for a simple change of ownership of the property. The TPOA Board voted to amend the ordinance to include conditions that would require notifying appropriate Neighborhood Councils and City Council Offices 45-days prior so that there would be a process for community input, a process to appeal, and a criteria for refusal. Additional conditions we suggested include posting a temporary sign in the window to notify the public that the facility has applied for the CUP, and that the DBS have a separate section to enforce the conditions.

Processes and Procedure Ordinance: The Ordinance is essentially a total rewrite of the City Zoning Ordinance. David Garfinkle forwarded the summary, a rebuttal letter from the Vice President of the Encino Homeowners Association, and a table that shows what level of the Planning Department and the City Council would be responsible for review and approval of applications for changes to existing conditions. There was a discussion of whether this topic would be good subject for the 2019 TPOA Annual Meeting and Town Hall and/or other opportunities to bring the information to the public. The Board voted to table the discussion until next meeting when David Garfinkle will provide a summary of specific changes.

DISCUSSION

Membership: Shel Mittelman suggested offering a free membership to all new homeowners in Tarzana. David Garfinkle indicated we tried this approach a year ago with limited success. Leonard Shafer indicated he is still in favor of getting a TPOA Facebook page and spending money on targeted posts. David Garfinkle would still like to reach out to the area schools and PTAs. Ted O’Karma offered to have someone at the school work with TPOA on these approaches. It was noted that TNC uses the company Webcorner and that hosting a webpage, providing maintenance, etc. costs \$150 per month.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM.