

SUNLAND-TUJUNGA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
LAND-USE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
November 7, 2016 -- DRAFT

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Co-Chair Cindy Cleghorn
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Present
 - i. Cindy Cleghorn
 - ii. Bill Skiles
 - iii. Debby Beck
 - iv. Nina Royal
 - v. Elektra Kruger
 - vi. David Barron
 - vii. Lilianna Sanchez
 - viii. Karen Zimmerman
 - ix. Cathi Comras
 - x. Pati Potter
 - b. Absent
 - i. John Laue
 - c. No public representatives present
- III. This is the first LUC meeting back in the NVCH
- IV. Cindy C.: Asked the audience what topic it was that drew them to attend the meeting
- V. Approval of Minutes
 - a. **MOTION:** by Pati Potter to approve the October 17, 2016 STNC-LUC meeting minutes as presented 2nd by Cathi Comras Vote: Unanimously approved.
- VI. Committee Member Up-Dates
 - a. Cindy Cleghorn
 - i. Invited the audience to consider joining the Land-Use Committee – there are 3 vacancies
 - ii. The VANC Planning Forum is scheduled for this coming Thursday at the CBS Studios in Studio City, reservations needed due to security.
 - b. Nina Royal
 - i. Classes at the Sunland-Tujunga Mission College Satellite Campus at Foothill/Commerce are scheduled to begin February 6. A survey is out with the goal to determine what type of classes the community would be interested in
 - 1. The Satellite Campus will serve the Sunland-Tujunga, Shadow Hills, Lake View Terrace, La Tuna Canyon, Sun Valley, Pacoima and La Crescenta area.
 - 2. There will be a Grand Opening ceremony sometime between now and February 6, most likely sometime in January. There will be outreach through multiple outlets
 - 3. Classes can be made available from 8am to 11pm 7 days/week – each individual class will be scheduled within that timeframe to best accommodate interested students
 - 4. Karen Z. thanked Nina R. for all her efforts to bring the Mission College Satellite Campus to Sunland-Tujunga

- VII. Presentation by Alcohol and Beverage Control (ABC) introduced by committee member Liliانا Sanchez – Bradley Beach
- a. Bradley Beach is the Supervising Agent for the State’s ABC agency covering the area from Tujunga to Palmdale/Lancaster, Glendale/Burbank and all the way west of the Ventura County border. His office is in Van Nuys
 - b. The ABC is responsible for two things:
 - i. Licensing new businesses requiring a background investigation of the applicant, notification of residents w/in 100 ft of a proposed new alcohol outlet to provide an opportunity for input & notification of churches/schools w/in 600 ft
 1. If an area is already over-concentrated w/alcohol outlets or the proposed location is in a high-crime area, that triggers the City or the applicant to prove there is a public convenience/necessity for a new license to be approved
 - ii. On the enforcement side – the ABC has undercover officers to investigate complaints eg a bar is selling alcohol to minors
 - c. Cindy C.: We have locations with older grandfathered licenses. Is there any way that the community can now weigh in?
 - i. Before an application comes to the ABC, the proposed new operation must go to the City to get approval for a CUP permitting alcohol sales at that location. If it is determined that there is an existing over-concentration of alcohol outlets in the area or it is in a high-crime area, the applicant must be given a public convenience/necessity (PCN) approval by the City.
 - ii. An example of a PCN: The City wants to approve a CUP bec the application is for a restaurant serving Mediterranean Food & there are no such restaurants in the area – that constitutes a “public convenience” ie bringing a new ethnic food to the neighborhood
 - iii. BB advises that if there is an issue, communities address it early on in the process (at the CUP level) because if the City approves the CUP – that implies they do want the operation approved – when the application comes to the State level for approval, the ABC Board typically looks at the local input – in this case that of the LAPD and the City – if they approve the application at their level, the State typically follows their lead.
 - iv. Retail sales and restaurants go through the same census tract review. Restaurants must send a mailer to everyone within 500 ft, the ABC additionally notifies everyone within 100 ft. A sign must be displayed on the door for 30 days indicating they will be selling alcohol as a notice to the public
 - d. Nina R.: It is my understanding that a given number of licenses may only be issued within a specific radius – what is that radius. Is there a minimum distance an alcohol outlet must be from a school/church?
 - i. BB: Alcohol licenses can be close to schools (K-12), churches and hospitals. They are notified if a proposed alcohol outlet would be within 600 ft allowing them a chance for input
 - ii. BB: The number of licenses are not a function of radius. The State has set up “census-tracts” based on population and a given number of licenses are permitted per census-tract. It could happen that corners of four different census tracts meet at the same intersection. That would allow for four alcohol outlets at that one intersection.

1. BB: The number of permitted licenses per census-tract is separate for on-sale/off-sale ie so many of each
 2. Q: Can the NC request a report of the census-tracts in the Sunland-Tujunga area, the total number of alcohol outlets allowed in each and the number of existing licenses in each for our files BB: Yes. The Web-Site ABC.ca.gov – enter Tujunga, it will list all licenses there
- e. There are different types of licenses:
- i. On-Sale
 - ii. Off-Sale
 - iii. Beer/Wine
 1. Can be applied for by anyone/anytime
 - iv. Beer/Wine/Distilled Spirits
 1. Distilled Spirit licenses must be won by lottery with a maximum of 25/year/county. It costs \$13,800 to enter the lottery. If you don't win it via lottery, they can be purchased on the open market from someone who did, but they can be very expensive – up to \$10,000
 2. BB: Once a year, 25 distilled spirit licenses can be approved /county but also an additional 25 intercounty transfers are allowed so actually as many as 50 on-sale/off-sale licenses for distilled spirits are theoretically possible in any one county/year
- f. The owners of the Villa Terraza restaurant have been stalled from getting their beer/wine license. Asked if there was anything they could do. BB provided them with his personal business card and said they could look into getting an Interim permit while the licensing application is in process
- g. Cindy C.: Serving alcohol without a license – BB: That is a violation of Sec 2300 of the Business/Professions Code called “Sales without a license” It is a misdemeanor citation and a lot of times a court will not even file it or it is a slap on the wrist – a small fine that will be paid because they make more money selling and will open up again the next day.
- h. Cindy C.: What about people bringing their own wine into a restaurant – is that a different permitting process? BB: Anyone can bring their own into any restaurant that allows it – one can also take out a corked bottle not finished with a meal. Most restaurants can sell wine to go if permission to do so is part of their license, but one cannot bring alcohol into a place that does not have a license.
- i. Cindy C.: What kind of conditions can a community ask your agency to impose I understand that it is your agency that issues them. BB: The City got sued for trying to enforce an alcohol condition so they no longer make those recommendations to us. It is the job of the ABC to review the concerns – the most common are hrs of operation when residents live in close proximity. The ABC can put a “no entertainment” condition – no live band, any TV/Radio may not be heard outside, no dancing, no billiard tables, etc
- VIII. Approve CIS re CF 14-1057/14-1057-S1 as presented on the agenda (Homeless and Poverty Committee Report attached, Draft CIS attached)
- a. Q: What is a “Safe Parking Program”? A: If vehicular living is no longer permitted on residential streets, the Safe Parking Program will establish locations where vehicular living will be permitted on-site ie off streets
 - b. Q: Will these locations be public or private? Elektra K.: Could be either – could be lots owned by churches, non-profits, could be public lots designated as “Safe Parking Lots”.

In the Draft CIS, I did add that these locations are to be selected in concert with NC input. We would not want them plopped somewhere undesirable to the community

- c. Q: What is the financial impact? Are our taxes going to pay for this program?
- d. Lydia Grant:
 - i. The LAMC currently states that people cannot live in their cars – that does not stop them from getting out of their cars and sleeping on the sidewalks. You have to be careful how you respond to the file
 - ii. Churches are opening up their parking lots with a timeline – in after Xpm, out before Yam. They cannot just be Safe Parking Lots – they have to include Social Services. Elektra K.: The CIS Draft does call for requiring homeless service providers on-site
 - iii. Whatever we try to do to fix the problem, the ACLU is going to be there to try to stop it with regulations – with things we can't do. It is such a fine line we have to walk, that the City has to walk
- e. Cindy C.: It sounds as if we are not ready to forward this to the Board. Nina R.: We need to postpone this until we get more information
- f. **MOTION:** by Lilianna Sanchez to postpone consideration of this CIS until we get more information 2nd by David Barron Vote: Unanimously approved
- IX. A 25-30 page report on the ZA Interpretation of 2nd Dwelling Units came out November 2. It will get posted to the STNC Web-Site
- X. Cindy C. distributed copies of the Citywide Mural Ordinance/Administrative Rules (see attached)
 - a. Lydia G.: The Mural Ordinance had an “opt-out” feature. The STNC voted to opt-out because the community would have no control over what the murals would be of – what is graffiti to one could be art to another. The Administrative Rules are for communities that have opted-in
- XI. Up-Date on CF 14-0366-S5 for information only
 - a. The CC Rules, Election and Intergovernmental Relations Committee requested that the City Attorney prepare the necessary election ordinance and resolutions to place a ballot measure before the voters on the March 7, 2017 Primary Nominating Election entitled the “Cannibis Enforcement, Taxation and Regulation Act” (CETRA)
- XII. Public Comments
 - a. Nina Royal - When voting tomorrow, be sure that anything involving taxes/bonds include the wording that someone will be accountable for the monies approved and that approved funding may not be repurposed. This is what has been happening to bonds voter approved for our colleges since 2007. Unless the words “may not be repurposed” is written into the text of the Initiative – vote No.
 - b. Abby Diamond
 - i. Received a response to her comments re the Redmont Pumping Station (see attached)
 - ii. The new water tank will be above ground. The application rendition looks like a prison, the tank unsightly. Hoped to spruce it up w/ a mural. If S/T opted-out of murals how is it that our electrical boxes got painted with art work?
 - 1. Lydia G.: The Mural Ordinance spoke specifically to walls and buildings
 - 2. Abby D.: Would like the community to foster a campaign – letters/testimony at the tentative Nov 15 Hearing – to get approval for community to add a mural. Decision must be made now since they will be covering the tank with an anti-graffiti coating

- XIII. Status of STNC-LUC files
 - a. Currently the files are still in the STNC Office and in storage, but we still have all the files and they will be moved back to the NVCH. The LUC wants to be sure the STNC Board knows to keep all Land Use / Design Advisory Committee files.
- XIV. Up-Dates on development applications
 - a. VHGC – Karen Z./Cindy C.
 - i. Saturday morning, Cindy C. got a call from architect Janek Debrowski (sp?) letting her know that the golf course will be closing Dec 31 and he would like to see the NC take a position accepting one of the proposals for the development
 - ii. Karen Z. prepared a timeline of what has happened with this project to date (see attached). The City will be assigning a case planner to this project. Traffic impact has been severely downplayed by the City
 - iii. The next step is the City will release the FEIR in which they answer all questions/comments presented to them in response to the DEIR. STNC will make that available on the Web-Site when it is released
 - 1. The comment period to the FEIR will have a much shorter window than the DEIR did, so we should probably hold community meetings – perhaps have people select portions of the FEIR with issues of greatest interest to them to comment on so as not to overwhelm people with the massiveness of the entire FEIR document
 - iv. The developers will need to change the zoning to do the project as they want – there are three lots involved, 2 of which are very steep. They want to separate these from the development proposal to be concentrated on the flatter lot
 - v. They are banking on the City’s housing crisis in which there is not enough affordable housing available
 - vi. Q: Don’t you think there is a bit of a stranglehold going on here? If they shut down the golf course, what happens to the Golf Course if none of the proposed developments is acceptable? It is going to die – it is going to become an eyesore
 - vii. Lydia G.: There are electeds trying to get into office, one of which is on tomorrow’s ballot, that has already proposed turning it into a regional park. If they are elected there are already plans to move this forward.
 - viii. Lydia G.: It is very important that the NC take a position on this – if it fails to do so, the NC will be denied the additional 5 minutes to testify at the PLUM Committee Hearing with a seat at the table along with the developers.
 - ix. Lydia G.: Another thing we have to watch for is that PLUM does not waive consideration and pass it on to City Council without recommendations. City Council may elect NOT to take any testimony claiming public comment had already been heard in Committee.
 - 1. We need a letter-writing campaign asking City Council to please allow additional public comment - we all know that without being listed as a “special item”, votes are preprogrammed before the Councilmembers even walk into the chamber
 - x. Cindy C.: It is important for people to attend hearings and for each person to say something different which is why it is important to form a working group once the FEIR is released.
 - b. 8150-60 McGroarty – 13 lot subdivision
 - i. No up-dates
 - c. The block south-side of Foothill between Scoville and Eldora

- i. 8318 Foothill – Comprehensive Community Health Center (entire building except the old Security Pacific Bank)
 - 1. They have pulled a lot of permits and are doing a lot of work inside
 - ii. 8334 Foothill (Old Security Pacific Bank building)
 - 1. Rumored to be a proposed recycling center
 - 2. C: Recycling center at Foothill/Haines Cyn by the Chevron Station has been closed. Conjecture: Because there is an Ordinance prohibiting homeless from loitering around recycling centers, it was shut down because there are homeless encampments around there
 - d. 7101 Foothill (Pinewood) proposed drive-thru car wash
 - i. No up-dates
 - e. 7577 Foothill – former Denney’s
 - i. Has a For Sale/For Lease sign
 - ii. Owner of Caruso’s has expressed an interest in putting a steak house in there
 - f. 7656 Foothill (Apperson) – proposed drive-thru car wash/7-11
 - i. No up-dates. There are old tanks under the property
 - g. 12400 Big Tujunga Cyn
 - i. Lilianna S. has called Brad Rosenheim twice with no response. Cincy C.: He will be one of the speakers at the VANC meeting at the CBS Studios. Pati P. will verify rumors that the property has been sold.
 - h. Status of High Speed Rail
 - i. Lydia G.: The LANCC Coalition on Saturday approved the Motion by Councilmember Paul Krekorian to support further studies
- XV. Next LUC meetings will be Dec 5/Jan 2 unless we hear anything on the VHGC in which case we will call a Special Meeting
- XVI. Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm