

Minutes of the
Design Advisory Committee
Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
June 18, 2007 – 7:15 p.m.
Held at North Valley Neighborhood City Hall

DAC members present: Victor Castro, IV; Cindy Cleghorn; Lloyd Hitt; Mark Seigel; Bill Manning; Tomi Lynn Bowling, Saro Minassian; Ed Rock; Vic Aghakhanian; Debby Beck. Dale Thrush and Angela Motta, CD2. Dale also introduced Jim Dantona, new planning deputy and Nancy Hernandez, field staff director for Councilmember Wendy Greuel. Also present, Anita Cerna from City Planning. Introductions from audience (see sign in sheets).

Brief Comments: Bill Eick talked about item 3.a. on the agenda regarding the mansionization ordinance. R1 proposal to allow up to .5/50% of lot size (2,500 sq. ft. not including SF) 2 story up to 3,000 sq. ft. on 5,000 sq. foot lot. RA= .3/33% of lot size can be built (not including garage.) Many objections from various community member. Suggestion: RA .25/25% by Bill Eick. June 28th is next Planning Commission meeting at 8:30 a.m. 2nd floor, Van Nuys City Hall. Look at agenda on line. Informational meeting is being held beforehand. Will find out details.

Bill Eick also spoke regarding slope density. Ordinance that passed 30 days ago only applies to minimum density. One question asked by Steve Crouch whether or not it is being discussed to remove the word “minimum” so it simply applies to any slope density. Does not appear to be addressed currently. Asked if would override community plan? “No, community plans still apply.” (addressed by Ed Reyes, PLUM chair). Whitebird started with 169 homes. With this ordinance Whitebird would have started with 45 homes.

210 Fwy at Jurassic Park (east bound on ramp at Sunland Blvd. and 210) cleaned up today. Fence coming down, hiring security guards.

Angeles Golf Course – Need to comply. April has passed. Clean up of homeless encampments is in progress. Asked if conditions are being met and told they are doing so and CD2 is pushing it.

Dale Thrush introduced new staff at Wendy’s office. Nancy Hernandez, Field Director and Jim Dantona, Planning Deputy.

Item #3C – 6501 Foothill Bld. – owner refused to meet with community. Mr. Castro advised homeowner near 6501 Foothill to speak to Jim Dantona regarding issues there.

Item #3D – 8040 Foothill – brief comments from Abby Diamond. Next hearing is July 19th. No location yet. Trying to get location up here in community. Flyers being passed around that explain “why No Home Depot”. See attached.

Item 3E – 9947-51 Marcus. Public Hearing held. Cindy Cleghorn attended hearing and determination extended for two weeks. They are looking to pass it with some modification to parking. This is the first SB1818 project in Sunland-Tujunga. SB1818 is a by-right increase in density. Project gets incentives 20% height increase, 1-parking space, FAR increase. Dale Thrush also said that PLUM will have a discussion on implementation of SB1818 at PLUM

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Tuesday, June 19, 2 p.m. however the report has not yet been issued. Expect the effort is to be more generous. Question as to why City of L.A. is not joining with other cities to oppose implementation of SB1818?

To extend the FAR/ICO for Sunland-Tujunga, a replacement ordinance is being drafted to replace the existing ordinance. DAC would like a copy of the draft ordinance when it is ready.

Additional discussion regarding Angeles National Golf Course. A plan approval case has been filed which has stopped the clock per Dale Thrush. Discrepancy of 40 acres brought up as a contentious issue. Letter from Department of Fish and Game dated April 17, 2007 read by Rick Grubb charges the City with the responsibility of enforcing the conditions that remain. Elaine Brown read condition 65 regarding Brown headed cowbird trapping program. Dale suggests a meeting with golf course to answer concerns. Meeting to be arranged. July 9 and 23 are DAC next meetings. He'll shoot for July 9th. Dwight Steinert likely to attend. Ricky Grubb to arrange Department of Fish and Game.

Announcement: City Attorney Roundtable, Wednesday, June 20 6:30-8:30 at NVCH.

Re: 11130-60 Oro Vista – At the public hearing, the developer was asked to go back to the drawing board with regard to the cul de sac on Ellenbogen which would no longer make his project a gated community but rather a public dedicated street. City will hold another public hearing for this site. Questions as to whether or not this property at its current RA zone is required to have a zone change. Elaine Brown disputes that it is not required to have a zone change and pointed out in the public hearing at which the hearing officer and city planning representative agreed that the ZIMAS maps are incorrect and should not be relied on. Site is RA and is low and very low I density in the General Plan and Community Plan narrative. The ZIMAS maps show very low II and low. Developer presented new plans for 20 homes at RS zoning (7,500 min. sq. ft. lots). DAC asked developer to return on July 9 and to bring flood control requirements and any info regarding sensitive habitat. Developer says that geologist came out three times and reports are on file. Much discussion regarding zoning. All questions for next July 9 DAC meeting to include density, corridor, sensitive habitat.

Public Comments: Kim Simblet, Wentworth Woods – hardship exemption request, difficulty getting permit.

Debby Beck – reported update on Ford property that permits issued and they now have their construction loan. Should start to see some construction trailers within the next week or two.

Roberta Actor Thomas wants to do an update list of “box” homes built since 2005. Send info to Roberta directly (e-mail address available).

Developer who works for Stallion Estates in Shadow Hills Estates, Moises Carlos works with Daniel Bernsten & Associates on his development in Sunland-Tujunga. He offered information on Zoning maps.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Minutes by Tomi Lyn Bowling

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