

Minutes – October 5, 2009
Land Use Committee
Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
North Valley Neighborhood City Hall

Committee members present: Lloyd Hitt, Bill Skiles (alt), Debby Beck, Elaine Brown, Karen Zimmerman, Mark Seigel, Olina Lowe, Bob Douglas (alt). Absent: Cindy Cleghorn, Dean Sherer, Chaz van Aalst, David Long (alt), William Malouf (alt). Also present: Dale Thrush, CD2.

Introductions of audience and committee

Public Comments: none

Announcements – Elections for STNC will be March 27, 2010. Congress of Neighborhoods and Community Budget Day is Oct. 10. Everyone invited.

CD2 Updates – Dale Thrush

1. Angeles National Golf Club status – Serious progress is being made with SMMC/MRCA regarding the land dedication. Plan is to transfer in November. Two issues: going back and forth between government agencies and the Department Fish & Game (DFG) appeal to be heard at PLUM extended three weeks. Trying to get intricate details worked out between staff with CD2 and DFG. CD2 Caretaker turned down the DFG appeal because a great deal of the open-ended items had been met by ANGC and conditions were sufficiently tight and allowed two years to be completed. The ANGC doesn't really have control over the transfer of the land. The City Planning Department's work is sufficient. The temporary certificates of occupancy were given because the ANGC was making sufficient attempts to meet their conditions and a six renewal was extended.
2. K-Mart property – Nothing new. Mission College is still in negotiation with the owners of the property. Mission's plan is to use a portion and lease the remainder. Mission College has money to acquire and build but not to maintain.
3. 10249 Plainview appeal by STA challenges the appropriate use of the site and that the project requires a Conditional Use Permit and further environmental review. Appeal should be at NVAPC sometime in November.
4. VHGC – nothing new. Question about the preservation of the memorials. Dale said it was the first he's heard about it. It is in the DEIR comments. The monuments are scattered around the golf course. Dale said he would look into it and that there have been suggestions for some portion memorialized with a plaque for example. Huge herds of cattle use to travel through VHGC too.
5. Medical Marijuana ordinance is working its way to City Council (CC). Lots of controversy. Former City Attorney (CA) was taking a hard line regarding sale. New CA has been working with CC on another structure with a certain

- number licensed. Hardships are being denied. Hundreds have opened and filed hardship exemptions that are clogging up the system. There have been some lawsuits filed against the City. It is taking time and will take several more months to get an ordinance. If illegal, why not let the Federal government enforce? Dale will ask the CA what is our policy? If there is something pending to legalize an activity, DBS will generally not move to for prosecution. Question about a 9-15-09 motion to legalize marijuana in L.A. What about violations to the FBCSP? Dale says State Law gets in the way and gives them the right to exist and we can't use the FBCSP. State Law trumps local law. Other such as near parks and churches are an issue as well. Dale interprets that the State Law supercedes our Specific Plan. Question about the marijuana cookie and having it in possession.
6. 7937 Foothill – Dale says that an application in the planning department but not yet on the list.
 7. Oro Vista Park – Dale Thrush talked about the outreach meetings and plans that have been held regarding the passive park at Oro Vista and Big T. About \$350,000 in Prop K grant monies has been obtained. The design will include trails around the 9-acre park, equestrian use and parking will be available. No driveway from Oro Vista. The City is obligated to spend the money before June 30, 2010 otherwise we are in jeopardy of losing the money. Marti Marshall asked about a bike path and it was pointed out that the plan shows a multi-purpose path. Also concern about being excluded from the process and that the house was torn down. John Laue also commented on being excluded and lack of communication. Design looks good and hopes that the trail is connected to other trails in the system and not exclusive for equestrian use and be part of the trail system for the Tujunga Wash. Elaine Brown talked about the community VNOC meetings she's participated in. It has always meant to be an equestrian trail, multi-use trail with one entrance out of the park. The house had to be torn down due to the severe condition and termite damage. Construction is due to start April 2010. There will be a small parking lot and a play area. There will be a step-over gate and walk around gate. The area is a dumping area and the gating is a requirement by the MRCA.
 8. Foothill & Commerce – Debby Beck asked about progress. No new news. Street improvements and dedication for turning in and out will require removal of existing sidewalk and moving signal light boxes, sewer, restriping. There will be a lot of work to complete these requirements. No news about tenants or leases signed. Dale asked about the building color changes. The architect said he would ask the owner. Question about tenants who have expressed an interest in leasing space. There is a lot of interest but the owner has not agreed to formally sign leases.
 9. Meetings regarding the Station Fire recovery efforts have been held. Anyone with questions should contact Patricia Davenport at CD2(patricia.davenport@lacity.org). Elaine talked about a meeting held with Michael Antonovich and that LA County is very organized with a web site. City is trying to get their web site up and working. Pat has encouraged CD2

Caretaker to put the pressure on the State for more help with Emergency Preparedness. Question about K-rails. K-rails are not always a good thing. US Forestry report will be out soon. Wildlife impacts have been terrible. Debris flow maps will be published Oct. 6.

October 19, 2009 LUC meeting - the LUC will present a report and photos of success stories and concerns that the committee has reviewed through the years.

Presentation: 10049 Leona, Tujunga – Edward Klein. Has obtained a lot split to make the two houses on one lot conforming as their separate properties. It has been conditionally approved. Neighbors happy with the lot split to prevent an apartment in the space. The City wants a wider street for sidewalk and a street light which would require removing trees. City said they would take a cash payment in lieu of widening the street. Mr. Klein requests that the LUC might want to support leaving the street as it is. It depends on who you talk to in the Engineering Department on whether payment is needed. The appeal time has passed. Neighbors are opposed to widening. Dale said that the City can get the dedication but that the widening and street light not be done. He thinks he can get the other departments to relent. Seven neighbors are strongly opposed to the street widening and lighting. Dale said CD2 would assist Mr. Klein. Motion: (Royal/Zimmerman) to oppose widening, street lighting and tree removal at 10049 Leona, Tujunga. Motion passed unanimously.

T-Mobile Cell Tower at 10189-93 Tujunga Canyon Blvd., Tujunga – Proposal for co-location and replacement tower at the existing Verizon site. Existing site is 51 feet and asking to go 5 feet above to the height of where the cross is now. This eliminates need for second tower. This is a slight height variance. Has designed separation of the antennas. Propagation map shows what they have now and what it will be (approximately). Will fill the need for T-Mobile for the time being. Elaine Brown talked about her appeal on this site in the past. This sets a precedent for the area at this height which began with the approval of the Commerce/Foothill Town Center. Elaine asked that this not set a precedent and be part of the LUC recommendation. Dale said that he's more concerned with what ends up being built matching to the presentation and not turning out as something different. Because it's a church it is less likely to set a precedent. This design is much better. Motion: (Hitt/Douglas) to support the T-Mobile Cell Tower as presented and that the tower is built to match the simulations provided to the committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Question regarding precedent setting for height on future sites. Dale says that those projects will be evaluated on their own merits. With this project, the features look like they belong with the church. There's a specific technical reason for the height increase. Foothill/Commerce was used to help approve the first bell tower. Dale commented that NVAPC is less pro-business.

Public Comments: Karen Zimmerman talked about the STA Bake Sale on Oct. 10. Little Landers will have a presentation at Bolton Hall Museum afterwards. VH Men's Club, 4 Kids 4 Ever to raise money for kids on Oct. 24. Info at www.savethegolfcourse.org Elaine Brown talked about the last DWP workshop with a shared solar power neighborhood facility. 50% rebates on solar array for residential. 30% from the Federal government which equals 80% savings. Nina Royal talked about a 10/26 5-7 p.m. meeting at Braude Center regarding Mountain Bike trails. They are pushing for a city park trail. Bikers are asking to access various parks. If you have an interest, you should attend the meeting. City is considering hiring David Nahai as a consultant. We need the money for keeping our police force instead of hiring consultants. Participate in the meetings. Lloyd talked about Bolton Hall's new flag pole to arrive in a couple weeks. The previous flagpole was lost to termites. Elaine asked about discounted water rates.

Minutes approved as presented.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes by Cindy Cleghorn – from audio