

**Design Advisory Committee  
Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council  
Minutes  
July 14, 2003  
Bolton Hall, 7 PM**

In Attendance DAC Members: Elaine Brown, Kathy Anthony, Lloyd Hitt, John LaRocca, Ken McAlpine, Roberta Actor Thomas. Also in attendance: Cindy Cleghorn, Debby Beck, Jan Fordham, Phyllis Smith, Elizabeth Payne, John H. Payne, Richard L. Carder, Nina Crder, karina Hagopian, Garbis Hagopian, Kanarik Shirvanian, Zaven Shirvanian, Aro Sorkissian and Dale Thrush, Planning Deputy from Councilmember Wendy Greuel's office and Tom Rath, Dept. of City Planning.

Meeting came to order at 7:15 PM and was chaired by Lloyd Hitt until the arrival of DAC chairman, John LaRocca arrived. Shortly after the meeting started, Elaine Brown began tape recording the meeting for the DAC members.

**Public Comments Period**

Several residents of the area around the proposed Squeaky Clean Car Wash were in attendance at this meeting. Ms. Fordham spoke in concern for the construction that began on the property and that there are "I" beams being used and questioned if this is normal for residential construction. John Paine stated that there is "smoke and mirrors" going on. All is wrong and it is now multiplied. How can we get involved.

Dale Thrush commented that the project is in Building and Safety plan check as an auto repair, 3-bay mall.

Tom Rath said he is unaware of Building and Safety. He believes that that type of project would require a variance. Entrance and exit must not face residential property. There is no planning report. Planning did OK a single family house that must adhere to R1 requirements. To date, has not applied for required permits relative to the commercial portion. Yes, houses can be built with I-beams (After the '94 earthquake the city rewrote the building code. Steel provides infinite shear). Variance requires full public hearing.

**Agenda item #1**

As a board that investigates as a community has an amount of influence. Even if split you will be heard. Coherent body negotiating with an applicant because DAC has influence. Applicant shouldn't go before the neighborhood council. Eliminates the largest amount of controversies. Applicant should come before the DAC. The Neighborhood Council can appeal to the City Council.

Who's on the DAC? Examples: Architect, Landscape Architect, conflict of interest, liability. Who has authority, we've lost our authority.

Tom Rath: City hasn't decided if they'll pay a judgment. Influence is more valuable than authority. Consensus of opinion. Means for negotiating within ourselves. Create a respected body.

John LaRocca arrived and discussion continued:  
How do we interact with each other?  
How do we interact with the Neighborhood Council  
Tape recording of meetings

Announce it

It implies there will be a copy

Time limit on how long to keep the tapes

Motion by Elaine Brown, seconded by Lloyd Hitt that the DAC has the option to record all meetings. Minutes will be taken of all official recommendations and taped at the option of the committee. Voted on by DAC members present: Lloyd, Ken, John, Elaine, Roberta.  
Motion passed 5-0.

Accomplishments

Line item guidelines of the DAC.

Roberta reminded everyone of her commitment to work on the design palette and said she has the time to work with this now.

Adjourn: 9:15 PM

Next meeting, August 11, 2003, 7 PM to be held at the Municipal Building (as Lloyd Hitt will be on vacation).

Minutes Taken by:  
Cindy Cleghorn  
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