

Design Advisory Committee
Minutes of August 30, 2004 - 7 PM
S-T Municipal Bldg.

Meeting called to order by Chairman John LaRocca at 7:10 PM. DAC members in attendance: John La Rocca (chairman), Tomi Lyn Bowling, Recording Secty, Cindy Cleghorn, Lloyd Hitt, Richard Pozzo, Debby Beck, Robin Meares, Mark Seigel, Ed Rock, Roberta Actor-Thomas. Alternate DAC Members: Shelly Albert, Julianne Maurseth and Barbara Higgins. Ken McAlpine (STNC Chairman), Dale Thrush (CD2 Planning Deputy) and Pat Davenport (CD2 Deputy). Self-introductions of approximately 20 in the audience. Committee members absent: Penny Blackwell and alternate Jerry Hovsepian.

Announcements

Ed Rock gave a briefing regarding the S-T Municipal building remodel. The room we are using for DAC meetings currently will be remodeled. We will need to either move our meetings to a different location or meet in the auditorium. We will be notified soon which it will be. Ed's e-mail address is stnced@yahoo.com. In emergency, call Ed on his cell phone at (818) 389-6729. The STNC office number is (818) 951-7411. Ed will need some volunteers to move STNC storage items. Contact Ed if you can help.

Public Comments: Nina announced the 9-11 Above and Beyond Dinner Dance at the Elks lodge on Sept. 11. Cost \$15. Dale Thrush reported on the FAR (Floor Area Ratio) request made by the DAC and that it is currently being liaised with the Planning Department for consistency with other City Council districts. Big Tujunga Canyon developer backed out of 120 acre development. Wanted to put 500 homes. Advised he could not so he backed out. Question regarding K-Mart. What rights do we (community) have to regulate the use of this property? Much discussion and questions.

Project Presentations

Ford Property presentation (follow-up). Introduction by Debby Beck describing the site plan, parking, street enlargements (required by the City), elevators, what buildings there are — four total, with two of them being free-standing buildings for restaurants, river rock planters on Foothill street-level edge, community plaza area with trees in pots with wheels, lots of landscaping.

Presentation of preliminary sketches for the architectural elevations by planning consultant (Dwight Steinert) and architect (Samuel Cho). Extensive comments and feedback on architecture were made by the committee members as well as by community members in the audience:

1. Use of real river rock being used well received by committee and audience.
2. Suggestion to incorporate a sign on the corner of the property at Foothill & Commerce that would point to Old Town Commerce and Bolton Hall museum, in order to integrate the areas.
3. Can more diversity in each building be created and a look that more closely approximates the look of Bolton Hall (or more like old Sunland Tujunga buildings)?
4. Stone work and beams are part of our overall look, not just stones at bottom.
5. Do not want it to look like the new strip mall at Mt. Gleason & Foothill.
6. Suggest more variety between buildings so they look different.
7. Robin Meares showed some stone columns photos of Craftsman houses to Samuel. She also has more photos showing arches and awnings.
8. Suggestion to follow the style guide being prepared by the DAC.

9. One comment not liking pointed roofs and another comment favoring pointed roofs.
10. Malls never have a soul. They look too thrown together.
11. Not many Craftsman homes in Sunland-Tujunga but using some other local architectural preferences with an overlay of Craftsman might be really nice.
12. Want to break up the "one" look. The main line that runs down the center that makes it look like one long structure. Make the elevations different. Suggestion of facades, parapets, etc. to break up elevations without breaking the budget.
13. Can we incorporate some "arches" without breaking the budget?
14. Corner building (Foothill & Commerce) -- making it stand out as it will be a focal point down Commerce.
15. It is nice that the mountains behind the future Commerce & Foothill site will be seen once this development is completed.

To wrap up this presentation, there will be another style guide meeting to work out the architecture ideas and continue with community feedback. The first hearing on this project is Oct. 1. It may be necessary to hold a special meeting of the DAC approx. Sept. 20. The committee agreed that only a style guide meeting would be needed.

Minutes: Minutes of August 9, 2004 approved as corrected.

Working Team Reports

RLUC - Debby Beck reported on the RLUC progress. Currently working on the Summary Chart to present to the STNC so they can decide if they would support or oppose the Whitebird/Canyon Hills project. Committee will make a recommendation soon. Perhaps by the next DAC meeting. The tentative tract maps are now available.

CLUC - Richard Pozzo - K-Mart report already presented above.

Style Guide - Roberta reported that they have decided to expand the first draft of the style guide and make some changes even though it was almost ready. Guide will be specific for commercial buildings and include adding more green and landscape.

Infill Housing - FAR report already presented above.

Corridor Amendment - no report, refer to John LaRocca.

Art & Beautification - *Debby reports that she has received several surveys back. Some photos, but expects more.*

Grant & Fundraising - Robin Meares reported on the Free Tree program through the City of L.A. It is not a DWP program. We have the *Percent for Art* Cultural Affairs money set aside from the Ford Property staying in our community.

Community Alliance Team - Cindy will be meeting with realtors at Caravan meeting in future months.

Chamber of Commerce would like to work together with STNC regarding the K-Mart property. Cindy will present a motion to the STNC board to take a position regarding the future of the K-Mart site and oppose Home Depot. 18-wheel parking is illegal and the City will be providing more enforcement. October 14 VANC event is specifically regarding land use issues. Need 3 people from the STNC to attend. Julianne Maurseth, John La Rocca and Debby Beck offered to attend. It will be held at the Woodland Hills Hilton. Letter to Target Area 3 property owners and business owners will be reported on in October.

IRP - Nina Royal reported that she has received more interest from the community to volunteer on her team. *Debby Beck suggested that Nina develop a brochure or fact sheet to make it easier for us to understand, and so we could give it to developers who make presentations to DAC.* Nina said that the IRP people have a lot of materials to hand out.

Residential Development Team - Tomi Lyn Bowling team leader with Roberta Actor-Thomas and Mark Seigel. Suggest recruiting Bob Scheele.

Education - Julianne - no report.

Map Team - Julianne - no report

Request to e-mail list of all teams and include contact info to DAC. Cindy said this info will be available on the web site soon. DAC committee acknowledged their OK for contact info to be placed on the site.

Public comments: Hansen Dam web site is at www.hansendam.org. Verizon is extending a cell installation.

DAC Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM

Tomi Lyn Bowling
DAC Recording Secretary