

Minutes
Design Advisory Committee
Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
June 20, 2005 - 6:15 PM
North Valley Neighborhood City Hall

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Chairman John LaRocca. DAC members Present: John La Rocca, Chairman; Tomi Lyn Bowling, Recording Secretary; Debby Beck, Vice Chair; Don Breeding; Lloyd Hitt; Julianne Maurseth; Deborah Ray, Cindy Cleghorn, Corresponding Secretary; Penny Blackwell, Mark Seigel, Roberta Actor-Thomas.

Minutes - Approved as corrected.

Budget - A new draft copy of the DAC's proposed budget was presented. Discussion regarding some suggested changes and note that the STNC's budget committee has limited the DAC budget to a maximum of \$8,170. Some discussion followed about procedures for the budget. Motion: Approve the budget in the amount of \$8,170 with future amendments not to exceed the \$8,170 combined. Motion carried unanimous.

Team Reports - Julianne Maurseth gave a brief report re: Strategic Plan & Vision 20/20 and how coordinates with DAC. ICO is being pushed. They'll send letters on same. Julianne explained exchange for up-zones to give us open space or money to our community coffers. Plan to attend the June 29 Vision 2020 meeting at the YMCA.

Debby Beck - Style Guide - expects to have a version to show by next meeting, July 11th - rough draft.

Verdugo Hills Golf Course - Bob Schiele reported that survey/questionnaire to be published in the Foothills Paper next issue as a 1/2 page ad. Also announcements made to various organizations. Copy of survey distributed to committee and audience. Will collect them till end of July, then tally. It is currently on the STNC web site. CV Town Council is linked from our site which shows photos of developer's prospective ideas. No feedback from owners since the Town Hall June 7, 2005. Deborah Ray - acknowledged Bob's leadership at the Town Hall meeting and that everyone got an opportunity to comment. Bob thanked Julianne Maurseth and others on the DAC for their help and guidance.

Home Depot - Don Breeding - Attended NO2HD on Saturday, June 18. Group is planning a rally on 4th of July. Currently we are awaiting a response from the HD reps as a follow-up to the meeting we had with them. Dale has been out of town.

Rowley Canyon - vacant lot - Barbara Howell and Mona Curry are getting estimates from landscapers and scoping out donations of materials for native landscape.

Commercial Signage Team - Penny Blackwell - Team will be meeting again. She wants to prepare a package to present to DAC. Target to have first presentation in a couple of months. Plan to be complete later this year.

Residential Land Use Team - 11104 Oro Vista - per Elaine Brown is now at R1-1. Elaine says that the Community Plan is superior to a General Plan, so the change to R1-1 is illegal. Should have been an Environmental Assessment Report done as well. Requests time on next DAC agenda to present facts and presentation.

Education Team - Deborah Ray - putting together the info for our DAC members - what's required of presenters, what is the process, etc. Trying to organize it so it's easily accessible.

FBCSP - Cindy Cleghorn - Handout of document regarding the Foothill Blvd. Corridor Specific Plan guidelines that gives guideline detail about the 70% retail requirement in Target area #3 which includes Commerce Avenue. All should review and we will discuss at a future meeting. A copy is also being sent to Anita Cerna at City Planning for review.

Super Team - Deborah Ray - Team may not be needed.

Art & Beautification - Debby Beck - No time to do anything. Jim Warren to donate a painting.

Presentations - Dale Thrush not present and Planning reps not present.

Old Business

8301 Foothill Blvd - Change of Use within FBCSP Target Area No. 1 from retail to office space for Century 21 office. CLU Team advised to accept the proposal. Motion by Cindy Cleghorn to accept Change of use as presented. Motion carried with one opposed.

7235 Foothill Blvd. Presented by: along with owner present. Returns regarding patios and awnings. Cindy read from Anita Cerna's notes at Planning, requiring 17 parking spaces. Now providing 18 spaces. Spaces designated in drawings disputed by Lloyd Hitt and Elaine Brown as not legitimate space and there are "No" No Parking signs posted by the City of L.A. Discussion about validity of parking spaces. Per presenter these parking space issues have been resolved with the City. Lloyd and Elaine maintain these are not valid spaces and there is no room for these spaces. Code Violation exists with structure unapproved and built into space that inhibits parking. Presenter says there are parallel spaces. Parking has been reviewed by City Planning including the market parking and handled, per owner. Seems to be a neighborhood dispute regarding this request and parking problems. State of California requires patio for this type of business. Presentation to DAC includes: build two patios as required by State of California. Unapproved construction to be removed. City approved parking includes 18 spaces. Question if this number of spaces includes parking for the market too. No copy of parking approval provided. Patios - are per LA. City code, per owner. Parking is cleared through Building & Safety. Dimensions chosen are based on occupant need. If sizes of patios were smaller would that alleviate parking? They're not changing any parking, by erecting these patio covers. Patio covers will be made of wood 4 x 4's & 4 x 6's - standard rafters - minimum slope - shingles - gray, asphalt flat roll roof - slope warrants roll roof not shingles. 450 S.F. and 611 S.F. size of each patio. A discrepancy possibly exists in the calculation of the square footage between what was presented and what is shown on their plans. Regarding design: Debby says needs to make it aesthetic. Suggestion of earth tones (color) to be used. Green suggested, green posts. Ochre and brown suggested. Debby offered to meet with them regarding colors and Peter Babian volunteered to meet as well to assist with translation. Plants suggested. Cindy recommends removal of abandoned sign on roof top (showed picture) and showed pictures of recent graffiti tagging taking place in the area. More lighting suggested. There is lighting per owner. Motion lights would help in not getting hit with graffiti tagging. Suggested lights on DWP post through DWP program. Anti graffiti coating could be used.

Mark suggests cars parked incorrectly be towed by owner. John noted that DAC would like copy of parking permit from City.

Motion: DAC recommends approval of patio covers subject to coordination with Art & Beautification Team of the DAC and should include additional plants and lighting. The DAC further recommends that the owner's parking signage include parking for Friendly Adult Day Care and compact cars only as applicable. The color and landscape improvements should be in keeping with the Foothill Blvd. Corridor Specific Plan Design Guidelines, Target Area 3.

Motion passed with one abstention.

Viacom - City rep not in attendance. Cindy presented motion for committee review as follows:

Motion: That the DAC recommends the STNC support the placement of the Viacom transit shelters throughout S-T and that the design of the shelters continue as with the existing Viacom shelters now in place with the following request:

1. Verify with CD2/City Attorney that the Viacom and L.A. City contract overrides the FBCSP.
2. That STNC works with CD2 to determine what, if any, money can come back to S-T in the form of visual improvement(s), for how long, how often?
3. The DAC/STNC encourage bus stop/street furniture be built compatible with the FBCSP design guidelines where new development warrants placement.
4. Verify that Viacom is placing a total of 10 shelters, 4 already in place.

DAC Chairman should report the above at the STNC's next board meeting.

Discussion: John wants to remove #3 with reference to FBCSP because it is a preapproved manufacturer of these styles. Roberta suggests #2 only as the motion. Julianne says #3 is OK because it does not allow precedent to be set for future implementation. John agrees that wording would work. Debby has her own motion. Recommend to table this motion so we can request Lance Oishi to come visit DAC to discuss color and style choices. Motion: To table this motion to next meeting and move it to a team headed by Debby Beck (and Cindy) to be presented at next DAC meeting. Motion passed: unanimous.

Change of Use requests:

Committee agreed to separate change of use on 7671 Foothill Blvd. from other sites. elements on appearance.

2) 10027 Commerce - FPAC Center. Description: Change of use from office to dance/music studio with piano room and office space to support the new use. Originally the change of use required 22 parking spaces, however, Building and Safety determined that the particular use did not require 22 but rather 9 spaces. This happens on occasion when the description of work is not clear. Basically, the plan checker originally considered the use as a school which requires more parking rather than a health club/studio. CLU Team advises to accept the proposal. Motion by Lloyd Hitt to accept this change of use. Motion carried unanimous.

3) 7671 Foothill for a change of use from gas station/repair shop to gas station/food mart. CLU Team advises to accept the proposal.

Motion by Cindy Cleghorn: DAC accepts recommendation of the CLU team for change of use and that any design needs to come before DAC. Motion carried with one abstention.

Comments

Public Comments/Announcements

9811 Hillhaven - open house August 15th, 4-9 PM, Monday, followed by DAC meeting at NVNCH.

7019 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga - currently existing old house - wants to put in a warehouse - FBCSP Target Area 3 - send letter to Anita Cerna that we would not be OK on this proposal to install prefabricated steel.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Minutes taken by Tom Lyn Bowling, DAC Recording Secretary