

**Design Advisory Committee of the
Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Minutes of August 8, 2005 - 7:05 PM
held at North Valley City Hall
7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga
Page 1**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM.

DAC Members Present: Debby Beck, Acting DAC Chairman, Tomi Lyn Bowling, Recording Secretary; Julianne Maurseth; Don Breeding; Roberta Actor-Thomas; Lloyd Hitt; Debby Ray; Cindy Cleghorn, Corresponding Secretary; Mark Siegel, Nina Royal arrived late. Also present: Richard Pozzo, Louise Stone, Peter Babaian, Barbara Howell and Michelle Sahfran, STNC board members. From City Planning, Dick Platkin and Anita Cerna

Most attendees were unaware of the change of time and thought meeting started at 6:30 PM.

Presenters Present: Kevin Jordan - Verizon Wireless.

7:00 PM - Dale Thrush wanted to speak at 7:00 PM exactly.

Acting Chair, Debby Beck, spoke as to John La Rocca's resignation.

Introductions of DAC and audience.

Public Comments:

- Kiwanis Incredible Duck Splash will be on Sept. 10, 2005 at Verdugo Park, Ducks available for adoption can win \$1,000,000 and other prizes. Monies raised go back to kids in our surrounding communities.
- If you hear booms tomorrow then it means the Space Shuttle landed here due to weather in Florida.

Comments by CD2, Dale Thrush - (1) FAR - approved by Council last week is on Mayor's desk - should be signed Friday, Aug. 12th. Still requires some Council action (unanimous 12 votes required for urgency clause).

(2) Hearing - Wed. PLUM for small Oro Vista tract (4 lots). City Council is ultimate approval point despite NVPC recommendation to approve R1. CD2 and DAC recommend RS.

(3) Verdugo Hills Golf Course. Developers believe they do understand the community does not want either of the proposals previously presented. Dale feels they are willing to listen. Dale suggests DAC discuss what to suggest to developer.

(4) Home Depot - Indication from Dale is that they do want to engage the community in further discussions. Home Depot reps called and said they want to talk! Will meet with Wendy Greuel. CD2 needs to schedule a meeting. Should have more info by our next DAC meeting. The meeting with CD2 was requested by Home Depot so CD2 does not feel they can bring others (like our Home Depot Team from DAC). If CD2 originated the meeting they could include community, but Home Depot is originating the meeting. Home Depot reps said that the meetings, with the Home Depot Team, that have already taken place have been with the community. No "community-wide" meeting is planned.

Richard Pozzo asked about Oak Tree ordinance. Dale says it's mired in committee.

Debby Ray asked about Day Laborer Ordinance. Dale says it has not moved forward, so is not in effect in L.A.

Louise Stone asked Dale to ask Wendy to prevail upon Home Depot to have a meeting with the community.

Much Q & A, discussion regarding Home Depot and possible way legally to curtail further movement in the direction of Home Depot. Environmental and Economic Review are options as Home Depot would adversely impact the community on both counts. Economically, Roberta Actor-Thomas, said estimates are \$20-25 million leave our area and go to Burbank and Glendale because there currently is no general merchandise stores here. Community Impact Study also discussed, as well as strengthening General Plan.

**Design Advisory Committee of the
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Page 2**

Nina Royal asked about assurances that Home Depot won't come in under this footprint and then little permits are issued to extend, extend, extend. Dale says each permit process requires public hearings, so it's not likely to happen.

Mark Seigel regarding Weatherwold Castle: Illegal grading occurs routinely and developer lies to inspectors and says they're just clearing the debris. Removed trees, drives bobcat into building. What recourse do we have? The work order says to stop all work. Dale will pass this along to those that can do something.

Cindy Cleghorn regarding the prefabricated building application on Foothill Blvd. CD2 recommended denial of the application because it is metal and violates the FBCSP. CD2 has asked owner to return with a proposal using different building materials.

Debby Beck introduced a new form request to assist City Planning. Each applicant, plus City Planning, gets a copy which outlines each step required by DAC to the applicant.

Presentation: Verizon Wireless - Kevin Jordan, 8:05 PM. Provided diagram of 4 sided church tower and asks for our feedback. Very preliminary - no Verizon approval yet either but wants preliminary feedback from DAC. 48' proposed church tower. Cindy would like this to comply to/with FBCSP on this project in terms of height requirement and design guidelines. Presenter is asking for 12 foot height exception too FBCSP.

Michelle Sahfran arrived 8:15 PM and wanted to voice her points on this presentation, not design related. Michelle's comments related to the possible health impacts of a tower on a property where children and people going to church will be. She commented on radiation and childhood leukemia and cancers related to 24 hour per day exposure to cell towers. She also commented on money figures received by the recipients of cell towers.

Julianne Maurseth - does not want to approve of an exception at all. It is discretionary as to whether or not an exception should be made. Originally, issue was whether or not we should approve of an exemption to FBCSP, and not whether or not it should be a bell tower, water tower or monopine, etc. Just looking for any indication on guideline for design. Nina Royal, as Safety Chair, wants DAC to thoroughly look into the health issue brought up by Michelle Sahfran.

Julianne - moves that we deny our approval of the exception and that only if some city process pushes this through would we then recommend mitigation of design guidelines. Seconded - discussion. We already told them we did not approve. Motions withdrawn.

Dick Platkin spoke briefly on follow-up regarding FAR & ICO. Recommends a citywide amendment to really enforce these kinds of stipulations on development. Our FAR and ICO buys us about one year to put it in place.

Anita Cerna requested that we designate the worst streets for density and seek a restriction for those areas. - Example: 10209 Hillhaven.

Don Breeding asked what proactive approach we can take to try to handle this parking, traffic and safety problem?

Dick Platkin spoke that the San Vicente Specific Plan has a requirement for traffic studies and we might be able to use that by appending our specific plan. Not sure if that is mandatory for every project.

Motion: (as presented by Barbara Howell, read by Julianne Maurseth) - that DAC recommend the STNC have a historical preservation team in conjunction with Little Landers Historical Society. (Friendly amendment, adding liaison to Little Landers Society.) Agreed by motion maker and seconded. Call for the question. Vote taken - unanimous. Barbara Howell appointed Team Leader by Debby Beck.

**Design Advisory Committee of the
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Page 3**

Discussion regarding presenter's items and an Armenian translator. Peter Babaian's idea to meet in advance with checklist as a translator if needed to iron out problems in advance. Lloyd Hitt - tantamount to "secret meetings" and does not fly. Julianne says we must give some kind of support to accommodate language barriers that result in an alienation and other problems. Putting forms in other languages - Presenters checklist passed out, to put on top of the form. Can be made stronger - presentations will be cancelled if any required items are missing. Checklist may be punitive for smaller projects that don't need all of that. Presenters check in at a table and are checked to ensure they have all materials.

Motion by Debby Beck - In recognition of John La Rocca's steadfast dedication to improving our community, I move that the DAC recommend the purchase and presentation of a plaque acknowledging his hard work and invaluable leadership of the DAC. Seconded - vote - unanimous - motion passed.

Motions not to be presented by Chair in future.

Motion by Roberta Actor-Thomas that we (DAC) recommend that STNC appoint Debby Beck to continue to be Chair of DAC. Not on agenda so cannot be voted on.

Motion by Tomi Lyn Bowling that Peter Babaian be our DAC Armenian translator to simply be a translator to the Armenian presenters. Request to amend from Julianne Maurseth to read that he translates what is needed on the presenters' checklist so that they bring the right materials to the DAC. Give Peter a letter - interpreter

- review forms
- complete applications
- ensure bring materials

Not to interpret laws or codes, etc. and that he understands this clarification is for his own protection.

Draft motion for next meeting.

"Fosters"

"Table motion" - 2nd draft for next meeting. Vote taken - unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM

Minutes taken by Tomi Lyn Bowling, DAC Recording Secretary