

**Design Advisory Committee of the
Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Minutes of April 4, 2005 - 7 PM
held at the Sunland Tujunga Library
7771 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga**

Meeting called to order by Chairman John La Rocca at 7:10 PM. DAC members in attendance: John La Rocca (Chairman), Dale Thrush, Tomi Lyn Bowling, Recording Secretary, Cindy Cleghorn, Don Breeding (alternate), Edvart Duke (alternate), Roberta Actor-Thomas, Richard Pozzo, Lloyd Hitt, Penny Blackwell, Nina Royal, Deby Ray, Julianne Maurseth, Debby Beck. Also in attendance, Dale Thrush, Planning Deputy for Councilmember Wendy Greuel. Audience introduced.

Comments

Dale Thrush gave an update - hearing brief on Oro Vista (4 home project). He took the stand of RS change - not R1.

Old Peppy's Pets to proposed use of car wash in conjunction with gas station. This will be treated as a special commercial corner.

Home Depot - Council office met with them. They are regretful they have not involved the community and Council office. Plan to do so.

Verdugo Hills Golf Course (Tujunga Cyn/LaTuna Cyn) - John La Rocca, Robin Meares and Julianne Maurseth met with MWH development (MWHDevelopment.com). They showed what they had in mind:

Plan 1 - 350-380 units, 6500 sq. ft. to 1800 sq. ft. homes - condos - PVP, each home individually owned, including commercial across the street and might build up the hill. Dale says it's more like RD3 rather than the RD6 presented by the developer.

Plan 2 - Commercial development - large strip mall/center including movie theatre and shops, large shop, parking for 1100 spaces and have oak grove or walking path and light park and less likely to build homes up the hill. 35 acres of land for the commercial - using exact footprint of golf course.

Discussed community interest in what occurs with this property - mentioned possibility of mixed use and loft style, etc. Possible TDR proposal.

Street expansion would require a bond issue. Traffic and safety are very important issues. The developer is very open to what the community wants. Julianne voiced concern about the community being able to support both Ford property and this development. Dale said we may be able to just not allow anything other than the current use. It is a possibility that we can insist and keep it. It is currently used by several schools. CD2 will explore what they can build under current sub-tilements. Deby Ray suggested adding Miniature Golf. Debby Beck suggested adding restaurants or maybe other retail and parking if needed and leaving existing golf course.

Public Comments:

Deby Ray - announced Musical on Commerce.

Deby Ray - gave update regarding new sign for Foothill Performing Arts Center on Commerce. Asking for OK to change box sign to a marquee sign. Requesting to be on agenda next meeting (April 18, 2005). Much discussion about finding out if they need a permit. Request that Deby meet with DAC members to discuss details needed for presentation outside meeting.

Presentations

Peter Cooke presented application for installation at 10193 Tujunga Canyon Blvd. of a 58' flag pole. Flagpole they want to install was donated to them and has a great deal of history. Time capsule found at the base. They will be reducing it to 58' from its current 65'. Suggested alternate paint colors on the building and that the flag pole may not achieve what they want. They do not plan to light it, so flag would need to be removed daily. One flag only, American flag.

Motion made by Lloyd Hitt that DAC approves a 58' flagpole installation for Community Christian Church at 10193 Tujunga Canyon Blvd. and that they fly American flag only, adhering to the standard rules of flying an American flag. Motion passed with one abstention. Send letter to City indicating favorable vote.

Cindy Cleghorn distributed a number of documents.

Minutes

Minutes of March 7, 2005 were approved as presented.

Minutes of March 21, 2005 - corrections to include Recording Secretary, add the sign report. Cindy and Penny met with CD2 and reps from Building and Safety and Engineering and they're working on procedure for signage. Approved as corrected.

New Business

Hearing notices now being sent to us so we can see what projects are coming up. We can then post these notices in the local paper which will start to publish biweekly in June. Suggestion from Penny to get area representatives to distribute notices in the area of the project. Webs ite also can post. Suggestions for distribution to the community at large: 1) add to STNC postcard; 2) Municipal Bldg. bulletin board; 3) Barbara Howell, STNC Board Member representing Residential Land Use can give it to the area reps; 4) Julianne Maurseth suggests prioritize the hearing notices and take on the issues that are top priority; 5) Roberta Actor-Thomas suggests an automated email alert to check hearings in your area; 6) Julianne also suggests Cindy send an email to the big list with a link to the web site.

Review of presenter documents

Committee discussion and brainstorming regarding changes to the Project Information Form that we currently use for proposed projects. Suggested additions/changes. Roberta will make the changes and distribute via e-mail to the committee to be prepared to discuss at next meeting.

Suggest we create our own Facade Improvement Program for Commerce Ave. Sample copy distributed for all to review so we can discuss next meeting. Cindy suggested Deby Ray chair this task.

STNC/DAC Cover letter proposed for city handout (packet). Roberta and Cindy will finalize and provide copies next meeting

Copy of DAC Policy Letter #1 distributed to all. John LaRocca gave brief comments.

In the Parcel Profile Report there is indication for Design Review Board. Debby Beck suggests we ask the City to indicate "yes" in this spot so that it is known there is a review process. Debby will research this possibility with the City.

Review of upcoming hearing notices

10160 Fernglen Hearing on April 29, 2005 - Recommendation that DAC write letter which explains that they did not disclose that the 7th unit is a substandard size, therefore we do not recommend approval of this project. Motion by Richard Pozzo and passed unanimously.

We should contact Day Street and McVine (CNC) to come before DAC.

Home Depot - What does the community want? Need to have a committee to contact these companies we would like to see here and try to get them interested in our area. Put together a package, table at Expo for stores. Penny suggested the Convention for the American Assoc. of Shopping Centers. Vision 2020 is putting together a marketing kit. Incentives are needed to lure some retailers to our community. Julianne suggests Don do research calling Kohl's or Target and find out what they'd want to come here. Invite them to a meeting April 30th.

Working Teams

Recommend that the Residential Land Use, Commercial Land Use and Style guide teams continue to meet separately. Cindy commented that DAC meetings may need to have meetings every Monday in some form.

Discussion about splitting up the DAC into residential only and commercial only review process. Tomi recommends that meetings continue as they have been and that we do not split up the DAC at this time. This will take more discussion. We will continue to hold two meetings per month, one meeting for presentations and the other for DAC and Working Team goals and priorities per the STNC Strategic Plan.

Each team should formulate their goals for the year. Commercial Land Use Team suggestions for targeting key commercial sites for facade improvement and other suggestions also suggest coordination with Vision 2020.

When the DAC meets we will brainstorm one team at a time to help outline goals and targets. Suggest prioritizing agenda time to review larger projects first.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 PM.

Minutes taken by Tomi Lyn Bowling, DAC Recording Secretary