

# GREATER TOLUCA LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



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## MINUTES

**Annual Organizational Meeting and GTLNC Board Meeting  
 January 20, 2009 - 7:02 to 9:20 PM**

**Toluca Lake Elementary School  
 4840 Cahuenga Blvd.  
 Toluca Woods, CA 91601**

**Chair:** Terry Davis  
**Members Present:** Betsy Dennis, Bridget Oberlin, Cathy Naugle, Cathy Saliba, Claire Collins, Craig Strong, Dexter Connor, Gene Klow, Jack Thomas, Janice Eaton, Jeff Rector, Jerome Williams, John Moskal, Lance King, Maria Tirado, Peter Hartz, Reyn Blight, Rich DeMichele, Roy Disney  
**Excused Absences:** Jessica Sterling  
**Absent:** Eric Weyenberg  
**Standing Guests:** Jay Goldberg, Richard Bogy, Rob Benavidez, Taneda Larios  
**Grievance Committee Members Present:** Sol Ajalat  
 Total Stakeholders and Guests: 51

#.	Topic	Motions	Action Items
1.	<b>Meeting Opening and Call to Order</b> Pledge of Allegiance Roll Call Review Agenda Review and Approve Minutes from December 16, 2008 <b>President's Remarks</b> 1.1 Terry thanked the Board for all their help and support over her years as President. Reminded us all that we need to continue to step up. 1.2 A new Board Photo will be taken at the February Board meeting. 1.3 Terry reminded the committee chairs to turn in their 2008 accomplishments to Karen. She also reminded them that committee minutes must be turned into Karen in a timely fashion in order for them to be included in the packets, and to be posted on the website. 1.4 Terry reminded the board that all members are responsible for completing the on-line Ethics Training. At the present time there are no repercussions for not completing the training but there will be in the future.	<b>Motion: Peter Hartz</b> moved that the GTLNC minutes from December 16, 2008 be approved as submitted. Motion was seconded. <b>Motion passed: 15/0/0</b>	
2.	<b>Riverwalk Vision Plan Presentation</b> Richard Bogy and Roy Disney presented the alternative plan to the MTA/Universal plan from the Committee United for Smart Growth (CUSG). After years of proposed development ideas from Universal, the CUSG was formed to look at alternatives to the unacceptable Universal	<b>Motion: Bridget Oberlin</b> moved that the GTLNC support the Committee United for Smart Growth's (CUFSG)	Letter to be written, to be signed by the president.

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	<p>plan. Details of the plan are available on the GTLNC website. Board members and stakeholders voiced their opinions and asked questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gene Klow asked about the fact that the LA River is included in the proposed plan, Richard and Roy explained that there is a new technology for creating backwater and that would be used so that there is water in the reservoir.</li> <li>• Maria Tirado asked about the likelihood of the RiverWalk plan actually being adopted even if we vote to support it. Roy pointed out that all we can really do is voice our opinion and try to get the support of our community behind us to oppose the current plan, ultimately it is up to the developer and NBC whether or not to listen to the community.</li> <li>• Cathy Naugle asked how receptive Universal has been to suggestions. Roy and Richard pointed out that there has been no direct feedback from them.</li> <li>• John Moskal asked how many neighborhood councils are supporting the RiverWalk plan. Terry Davis said there are four, but we are the first to request a motion in support of the plan.</li> <li>• Tom Smith from Universal requested that the GTLNC not take an official position on this alternate development plan until their full plan is released. He said the RiverWalk plan does not meet their business needs and is not viable for them.</li> <li>• Robert Kane from Thomas Properties said that the RiverWalk plan does not meet the business needs of NBC or the community. He outlined that there will be 2500 jobs relocated from the Burbank facility in the first phase, 2500 new retail jobs in the second phase, and 6,000 construction jobs created. He said the 800 million dollar project would increase tax revenues for the city.</li> <li>• Dale Goldsmith from Thomas Properties said that the CUSG plan doesn't take into account business needs. He said that because RiverWalk breaks it into 2 separate phases and the bulk of the development is on the NBC side, Thomas would have no input. He believes that the RiverWalk plan is poorly laid out and doesn't take into account the site restraints including the subway pipe and the parking situation.</li> <li>• Jackie Sharp, Stakeholder asked if the space in question is public and who controls its use. Roy responded that the CUSG perceives it as public land. She also asked about electronic signage, and Roy responded that we have no control over signage.</li> <li>• James Fitzpatrick, Stakeholder asked about the Technicolor relocation and the parking structure on the Universal lot. They explained that only one building is being relocated.</li> <li>• Bob Salvaria, Stakeholder asked about anticipated increase of traffic: cars per day under the two plans and total square footage. Thomas Properties said that under the MTA plan there will be an increase of about 14,000 car trips per day, and Roy said there would be 30-40% less under the RiverWalk Plan. Roy said that taken as a</li> </ul>	<p>Metro Universal River Walk Vision Plan as a preferable alternative to the Metro Universal and Universal City Development Plan, and that a letter of support be written, to be signed by the President, with copies to Tom LaBonge, Zev Yaroslavsky, the Mayor and any other applicable city officials. Motion was seconded. <b>Motion passed: 15/1/2</b></p>	

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	<p>whole the RiverWalk Plan is about 30% less square footage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jeanie Hatch, Stakeholder asked for the cost differences in the two plans. MTA plan has an 800 million dollar budget and RiverWalk is less than half that cost. Construction costs increase the higher you build and the RiverWalk plan has less high-rise construction.</li><li>• Sol Ajalat, Stakeholder said that the community needs are not being considered by MTA/Universal and pointed out that in all the information Universal and Thomas properties gave tonight there was none regarding concern for the community and the consequences to it. Only business concerns seem to be addressed by them. Sol said that the community has an obligation to propose an alternate plan when the proposed one doesn't work and the GTLNC would be remiss if they didn't take a position.</li><li>• Mary Garcia, Stakeholder, said that we need to look at how this affects our neighborhoods and the developers need to consider input from all of us. Nothing should be built on public transportation land except public transportation, she told them they should stay off public transportation land.</li><li>•</li></ul>		
3.	<p><b>Election of GTLNC Officers</b></p> <p>3.1 President – Jerome Williams was nominated by Betsy Dennis.</p> <p>3.2 Vice-President – Lance King was nominated by Peter Hartz.</p> <p>3.3 Treasurer – Peter Hartz was nominated by Jerome Williams. Treasurer – Craig Strong was nominated by Jack Thomas, but refused the nomination.</p> <p>3.4 Secretary – Betsy Dennis was nominated by Peter Hart</p>	<p>3.1 <b>Motion: Betsy Dennis</b> moved that the GTLNC elect Jerome Williams as President. Motion was seconded. <b>Motion passed: 17/0/0</b></p> <p>3.2 <b>Motion: Peter Hartz</b> moved that the GTLNC elect Lance King as Vice President. Motion was seconded. <b>Motion passed 17/0/0</b></p> <p>3.3 <b>Motion: Jerome Williams</b> moved that the GTLNC elect Peter Hartz as Treasurer. Motion was seconded. <b>Motion passed: 17/0/0</b></p> <p>3.4 <b>Motion: Peter Hartz</b> moved that the GTLNC elect Betsy Dennis as Secretary. Motion was seconded. <b>Motion passed: 17/0/0</b></p>	
4.	<p><b>Election of Grievance Committee</b> Floor was opened for nominations.</p>		

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	Jay Goldberg nominated Bonnie Holcomb, Tim Hawkins and Sol Ajalat as a slate.	<b>Motion: Jay Goldberg</b> moved that the GTLNC elect Bonnie Holcomb, Tim Hawkins and Sol Ajalat for the Grievance Committee. Motion was seconded. <b>Vote: 18/0/1</b>	
5.	<b>Open Forum for Stakeholders</b> <b>Greg Bartz</b> introduced himself as the DWP Neighborhood Council liaison for GTLNC. He will attend our meetings in the future. He began a presentation regarding the DWP Comprehensive Solar Plan of the DWP but due to time constraints will make the presentation at the February meeting. To review the 30 page report in full it can be accessed off the DWP website.		
6.	<b>City &amp; Neighborhood News and Announcements</b> 6.1 Los Angeles City Council District 4 (CD4) - Not present 6.2 Toluca Lake Chamber of Commerce – No report 6.3 Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) – NoHo Division – Rob Benavidez reported that crime is up 1% in the N. Hollywood area. NoHo Division has prepared a certificate thanking the Garden Club for their donations to the toy drive over the holidays. 6.4 Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) – Taneda encouraged the Board to continue to build on the 2008 accomplishments in 2009. She passed out a flyer for a Town Hall meeting regarding NCS and THE DOT and Neighborhood Purposes Grant. 6.5 California State Assembly District 43 – Not present		6.4 Karen will post Town Hall meeting information on the website.
7.	<b>GTLNC Committee Reports – Possible Motions and Votes by the Council</b>		
	<b>Planning Committee</b> 7.1.1 <b>CDO Update – Gene Klow</b> reported that the next meeting of the CDO would be at the Planning committee meeting on the 10 <sup>th</sup> . All are welcome.		
	<b>Public Safety</b> 7.2.1 <b>Cahuenga Street Improvement Project</b> 7.2.2 <b>Speed limit on Riverside Drive</b> – This topic requires further discussion and information so was shelved until the February meeting. 7.2.3 <b>Universal Studios off ramp sign on the 134</b>	7.2.1 <b>Motion:</b> Roy Disney moved that the GTLNC Board support the recommendation by DOT that would prohibit southbound right turns on a red light at the intersection of Cahuenga/ Camarillo during peak hours as determined by DOT. The motion was	

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		seconded. <b>Motion passed: 16/0/1</b>  7.2.3 <b>Motion: Reyn Blight</b> moved that the GTLNC request that Tom La Bonge <u>immediately</u> request removal of the sign directing freeway traffic to exit at Cahuenga to go to Universal City. All traffic signs should show exit at Lankershim. Motion was seconded. <b>Motion passed: 18/0/0</b>	7.2.3 Letter to Tom LaBonge signed by the President sent on 2/2/09.  Karen to post letter on website.
	<b>Outreach/Elections/Hospitality</b> 7.3.1 Good Neighbor Award nomination 7.3.2 Jeff Rector reported that Outreach will begin the distribution of Welcome Bags on February 15, 2009. He asked that if you know of any candidates to receive them, or if you have any ideas of things to include in the bags to please contact Betsy Dennis at <a href="mailto:bdennis8@yahoo.com">bdennis8@yahoo.com</a> .	<b>Motion: Jeff Rector</b> moved that the GTLNC approve the Outreach Committee nominee, for the Good Neighbor Award to be presented at the February GTLNC Board Meeting. <b>Motion passed: 17/0/0</b>	
	<b>Environmental Affairs</b> Terry Davis reported that the Moorpark Median broke ground and is moving forward.		
	<b>Treasurer's Report</b> Due to the full agenda, review of the year to date report was postponed to February.		
8.	<b>Meeting Close and Wrap-Up</b> Thanks to Dexter Connor and Maria Tirado, who provided the food for tonight's meeting. Reminders – <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Next meeting is Tuesday, February 17, 2008.</li><li>- Suggestions for agenda topics and/or guest speakers.</li></ul>		