

# GREATER TOLUCA LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



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## MINUTES

**GTLNC Board Meeting**  
**July 21, 2009 - 7:13 to 9:18 PM**

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

**Chair:** Jerome Williams, President  
**Members Present:** Betsy Dennis, Bridget Oberlin, Cathy Naugle, Craig Strong, Dexter Connor, Gene Klow, Jack Thomas, Janice Eaton, Jeff Rector, Jessica Sterling, John Moskal, Lance King, Maria Tirado, Reyn Blight, Rich de Michele,  
**Excused Absences:** Cathy Saliba, Eric Weyenberg, Peter Hartz, Terry Davis  
**Members Absent:** Roy Disney  
**Standing Guests:**  
**Grievance Committee Members Present:** 1  
**Total Stakeholders and Guests:** 8

#.	Topic	Motions	Action Items
1.	<p><b>Meeting Opening and Call to Order</b>                      Pledge of Allegiance was recited                      Roll Call was taken                      Agenda was reviewed.                      Minutes from June 16, 2009 were reviewed and approved as submitted.</p> <p><b>President's Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The board photo was postponed to the September meeting.</li> <li>• Jerome announced that the Board Social will be July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 at 7:00pm at Peter Hartz' home.</li> <li>• The Board traditionally hasn't met in August, there was discussion about possibly having an August meeting, and foregoing the December meeting because of the holidays. But after discussion it was decided to keep the schedule as it currently is because stakeholders know that we are normally dark in August, and there is too much going on in January that may need to be discussed at a December meeting.</li> <li>• Jerome announced that we are looking for new board members to fill the current vacancies. He said that at the September meeting there will be a motion to appoint Ryan to the Board. Ryan is currently a member of the Outreach committee.</li> <li>• Jerome reminded us about Laura Ling the American journalist being held prisoner in North Korea. Information about how to help by writing letters is</li> </ul>	<p><b>Motion:</b> Jerome Williams moved that the GTLNC minutes from June 16<sup>th</sup> be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded.  <b>Motion passed: 10/0/3</b></p>	<p>Sarah Chang will post a reminder on the website that we will be dark in August.</p> <p>Rich de Michele will draft a letter to the Chairman of the UN, and Sarah Chang will post it on the website for</p>

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	<p>posted on our website. Rich is going to draft a sample letter to the Chairman of the United Nations which will also be posted and Jerome encouraged everyone to send letters to him as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There was some discussion about the LAPD representative attending our meetings. He hasn't been attending lately due to budget cuts. Jerome will attempt to get a replacement to attend, however reminded everyone that there is a link to the North Hollywood police department newsletter on our website. We will also include the crime stats in the future in our board packets.</li> </ul>		<p>people to use as an example.</p> <p>Sarah Chang will make sure the North Hollywood PD newsletter or a link to it are posted on our website. She will also print a copy of the crime stat sheet and include it in the board meeting packets.</p>
2.	<p><b>Chris from the Cahuenga Committee</b> – The City is sending out a ballot today, June 21<sup>st</sup> to vote on a proposed assessment to Cahuenga property owners for 38 new street lights on Cahuenga from Magnolia to Camarillo. This project was initiated by the Bureau of Engineering, it is NOT required by the City. There has been no support of the community, no public comment, nor is there any evidence that additional street lights are needed. This is unnecessary and will add additional amounts of electricity usage to the City. The committee believes that it will not go forward if enough property owners object to this costly, unwarranted project, which they are being asked to pay for. The assessment depends on the size of the property starting at approximately \$230 per year for a small lot. After discussion the Board decided to support the Cahuenga Committee in their opposition to this assessment. Large amounts of additional electricity will be needed to run these lights.</p>	<p><b>Motion: Jerome Williams</b> moved that the GTLNC offer their support to the Cahuenga Committee in their opposition to the City proposed additional lighting on Cahuenga Blvd., and the associated assessment to Cahuenga property owners. We will send a letter to Councilmember Tom Labonge, with a copy to Eric Garcetti, and Paul Meskin to be signed by the President expressing our opposition to this lighting and the associated assessment.</p> <p><b>Motion passed: 14/0/0</b></p> <p><b>John Moskal recused himself because he is directly involved in this issue.</b></p>	<p>John Moskal will draft a letter and forward it to Jerome for review and signature.</p>
3.	<p><b>Open Forum for Stakeholders</b></p> <p><b>Dawn Bickett and Grace Vermeer, Pomona College</b> - On September 2<sup>th</sup>, 2009 there is going to be a conference on World Wide Views on Global Warming. They are looking for people who are willing to participate. There is a \$75.00 stipend and travel costs will be reimbursed. Advanced knowledge of the subject matter is not required, and actually not desirable. They are looking for a random sampling of the population and these are happening concurrently in 5 other locations in the US. More information about this event, and application information are available at <a href="http://www.wvviews.org/">www.wvviews.org/</a>. There will be a link on our website as well.</p> <p><b>Tim Hawkins</b> - spoke on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. They are requesting \$4,000 from next fiscal year's budget for assistance with their major fundraisers including the Holiday Open House, (December 4<sup>th</sup>) the Fireman's pancake breakfast and the Car Show (October 4<sup>th</sup>), all of which are benefits of some kind. Tim will go to the next Outreach committee meeting to speak to them about committing funds for the Chamber events.</p>		

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4.	<p><b>City &amp; Neighborhood News and Announcements</b></p> <p>4.1 Los Angeles City Council District 4 (CD4) - <b>Alice Roth</b> – Alice invited everyone to participate in a bike ride with Tom LaBonge tomorrow night at 6pm down the Miracle Mile. Meet at town hall at 6pm.</p> <p>4.2 Toluca Lake Chamber of Commerce/CUSG - <b>Not present.</b></p> <p>4.3 Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) – NoHo Division - <b>Not present.</b></p> <p>4.4 Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) - <b>Not present.</b></p> <p>4.5 California State Assembly District 43 - <b>Not present.</b></p> <p>4.6 Department of Water and Power - <b>Not present.</b></p>	<p>5.1 Alice Roth</p> <p>5.2 Roy Disney/Richard Bogy</p>	
5.	<p><b>GTLNC Committee Reports – Possible Motions and Votes by the Council</b></p>		
	<p><b>Planning Committee</b> – See committee minutes from July 14, 2009.</p> <p><b>Gene Klow</b> reported that the committee voted unanimously to write a letter in support of the conditional use permit Superior Auto Clinic at 1060 Magnolia Blvd, at the southeast corner of Cahuenga. All resident notices were delivered properly.</p> <p><b>Gene Klow</b> reported about the new construction of condos on Camarillo and Forman. T-mobile has made an agreement with the owners to put two Unmanned Wireless Cell Towers on top of the new multi-unit residential building. They are going to work with the planning committee about ways to make the towers more visually appealing and make a commitment to give back to the community in some aesthetic way.</p>	<p><b>Motion: Gene Klow</b> moved that the Planning committee prepare a letter of support for the CUP for Superior Auto Clinic, addressed to the Department of Building and Safety to be signed by Jerome and Gene.</p> <p><b>Motion Passed: 13/1/0</b></p>	
	<p><b>Public Safety</b> – See committee minutes from July 6, 2009.</p>		
	<p><b>Outreach/Elections/Hospitality</b> – See committee minutes from July 2, 2009.</p> <p>6.3.1 Jeff <b>Rector</b> said that there is only 1 more newsletter this year. Please get your articles in as early as possible.</p> <p>6.3.2 The presentation of the Good Neighbor Award was postponed to the September meeting. There was some confusion as to what the status of the award was, and Scott Morris showed up with his family. Rich de Michele said we should we embarrassed that we were unprepared, and Alice Roth suggested that we have Councilmember LaBonge come to the September meeting and present the award in person to Scott.</p>		<p>Outreach will follow up with Alice Roth to ensure that Councilmember Labonge comes to the September board meeting to make the good neighbor presentation.</p>
	<p><b>Environmental Affairs</b> – See committee minutes from June 23, 2009.</p> <p><b>Lance King</b> thanked Dexter for his help with the Ledge underpass project. The owner of the adjacent apartment building has agreed to take care of the water and maintenance costs.</p>		

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	<p><b>Jessica Sterling</b> said that they've been working with the Garden Club on the monthly clean ups. The last one was at the school, she passed out pictures drawn by the students as a thank you.</p>		
	<p><b>Governmental Affairs</b> <b>Reyn Blight</b> reported about the meeting with Councilmember LaBonge at the Council Distribution Community Congress. Details from that will be posted on our website.</p> <p>July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for lot cleaning. If you have a vacant lot and it's not cleaned by then the city will clean it and send you the bill.</p>		<p>Sarah Chang will get the information from the meeting from Reyn and post on our website.</p>
6.	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b> Budget review was postponed until next month due to Peter Hartz's absence.</p>		
7.	<p><b>Meeting Close and Wrap-Up</b> Thanks to Craig Strong and Jack Thomas, who provided the food for tonight's meeting. Reminders –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Next meeting is Tuesday, September 15, 2009.</li><li>- Suggestions for agenda topics and/or guest speakers.</li></ul>		

### Section 702: (GTLNC Bylaws) Grievance Procedure.

- An individual stakeholder or group of stakeholders shall have a right to assert a grievance with respect to any act by the Council or any member of the Council.
- Grievances shall be handled in a manner that is consistent with rules and regulations adopted by the City of Los Angeles through its Charter, its ordinances, and the rules as communicated by its agencies, including the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.
- Disagreement with legitimately determined policies or positions of the Council shall not be considered a grievance for the purposes of this section.
- An allegation that the Bylaws, the Charter Plan or any other local, state or federal law has been violated shall be the legitimate subject of the grievance procedure system.
- For this purpose, the stakeholders at the annual meeting shall elect a Grievance Committee, consisting of three persons, none of whom shall be a member of the Council.
- A vacancy on the Grievance Committee may be filled temporarily by the Council, but that position shall be filled by election by all stakeholders at the next regularly scheduled meeting of stakeholders.
- Persons who wish to claim a grievance may do so by communicating with any member of the Grievance Committee, and the Grievance Committee shall invite the persons claiming a grievance to present arguments and evidence, which may include testimony, to the Committee.
- The Grievance Committee shall act to hear a grievance within 30 days of the initial communication and shall prepare a report and recommendation to the Council to be presented at its next meeting, or at least no later than the following meeting.
- The Grievance Committee may on its own volition communicate its findings directly to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment in addition to reporting to the Council.

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- The Council shall include Grievance Committee reports in its agenda and shall hear the reports in a timely manner as described above.
- An aggrieved stakeholder may appeal a decision by the Grievance Committee to DONE.

Process for Reconsideration: Any person or group adversely affected by the decisions or policies of the GTLNC may file a written grievance with the Council. The Council shall then refer the matter to the Grievance Committee. Persons who wish to claim a grievance may do so by communicating with any member of the Grievance Committee, and the Grievance Committee shall invite the person claiming a grievance to present arguments and evidence, which may include testimony, to the committee. The Grievance Committee shall act to hear a grievance within thirty days of the initial communication and shall prepare a report and recommendation to the GTLNC to present at its next meeting, or at least no later than the following meeting. The Grievance Committee may on its own volition, communicate its findings directly to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) in addition to reporting to the Governing Board. The Governing Board shall include Grievance Committee reports in its agenda and shall hear the reports in a timely manner as describe above. Any aggrieved stakeholder has the right of appeal to DONE any decision by the GTLNC. This grievance process is intended to address matters involving procedural disputes, e.g., the Council's failure to comply with these Bylaws, or its failure to comply with the City's Charter, the Plan, or local, State or Federal law.