

Public Safety Committee

Minutes of Thursday December 4, 2014 Agenda meeting

Location: 1160 N. Vermont Ave.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. **Welcome and introductions:** Meeting begins at 7:20 PM.
Safety Committee members in attendance:

Cheron McAleece, Craig Cox, Seta Panosian, Doug Haines, Matt Benton, Shahan Suzmeyan.

LAPD Officers present: SLO Nina Preciado. NE. Rampart Vice unit.

Public present: EHNC Board members Jeff Zarrinam, Arasele Torrez; President Tereza Yerimyan;
Representative present: Acapulco Restaurant: Sofia Gonzales, Gustavo Plascencia. Members of public:
Approximately 40 people.

2. **Public Comment:** Complaint by Mike Clark of driving on Rowena and encountering “lots of cyclists and others in dark.” Concerned about hitting cyclists.
3. **A. Report on success of the one-year anniversary clean up at Barnsdall Art Park, Nov. 8, 2014.**
Cheron discusses clean ups and subsequent outreach.

4. **Community Updates:**

A. **Police update:** SLO Nina says thefts from property crimes have decreased but property crimes have increased.

5. **Action Items:**

A. Discussion and possible action regarding a request by applicant Jacques Mesachi for the continued use of a CUB to allow the sale and distribution of beer and wine for off-site consumption in conjunction with an ARCO gas station mini-mart located at 4666 Santa Monica Blvd. Case # ZA 2011 2820 CUB. Hours of alcohol sales 8 AM to Midnight.
Tabled.

B. Discussion regarding an application by the Acapulco Restaurant at 4444 Sunset Blvd. for a Condition Use Beverage Permit and Police Commission approval to allow up to three dance floors with live entertainment, piano bar, juke box and karaoke in an 11,779 sq. ft., 280-seat venue with 50 parking spaces and hours of operation of 10AM to 2AM daily. The applicant currently has a Type 47 ABC license for on-site consumption of a full line of alcohol (#521474), including in a 20-seat bar/cocktail lounge and an outdoor patio area. The applicant further proposes exterior, on-site advertising to promote alcohol sales. The restaurant has a minimum of two employees at all times, and proposes no security personnel. Cheron says NE Vice Sgt. Saltero says restaurant has no complaints or associated DUI arrests. Representative Sofia Gonzales says the application is to confirm the CUP for dancing only, records were lost of prior city approval and therefore new entitlement required. Location grandfathered for entertainment, conditional alcohol use. Says venue has three dance floors but not on patio. Employ professional security company but no armed guards. Valet parking 7PM to closing. Craig asks for drink coupons.

C. Discussion and possible action regarding a request for a Conditional Use Beverage Permit at 4845-4849 Fountain Avenue (at the intersection of Catalina Ave.) to allow the dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages for both on-site and off-site consumption in conjunction with a proposed 3,242 sq. ft., 112-seat restaurant and market with live entertainment of up to four musicians, no parking spaces, and proposed hours of operation and alcohol sales of 6AM to 2AM daily. The applicant proposes that 58 of the restaurant's seats be outdoors, located on the exterior frontage facing Fountain Ave., utilizing both private property and the public right of way. The applicant is also requesting a Change of Use from retail to restaurant within the Vermont/Western Transit Oriented District Specific Plan. Case No. ZA 2014-3264(CUB)(SPP). Doug gives update regarding December 10 being end of comment period for the MND (ENV 2014-3265). Says Elizabeth Peterson is holding off on city hearing for project until applicant revises plans. Speaker Greg Hassen says that he heard December 10 date for MND is critical. Says hours of operation, parking, alcohol impacts all critical. Speaker Tracy Walker says she lives in building behind proposed restaurant, say people in former auto repair parking lot who said they are with a production company called "Dirty Robbers," formerly on Hyperion. Considering renting out parking lot to restaurant. Ms. Walker is concerned that patrons would create late-night noise. Emailed Peterson, who responded that there will be an on-site public meeting.

Speaker Hank Schaeffer says it is important to comment on the MND. Describes process. Says to state that MND is inadequate. Wants committee to ask public to vote. Speaker Carlos D. says he thinks something is fishy with project. Speaker Mel Damodaran, with Fellowship Temple, Church secretary. Since 1942. Concerned about proposed Market. Speaker Jeanie Hill from Catalina Apts. behind project site expresses concerns. Speaker "Bob" says to send the City a letter.

Craig moves to oppose application based on impacts to neighborhood of parking, hours of operation, liquor sales, noise. Cheron seconds. Vote is 5 to 0 with one abstention (Doug). Public attending do own vote of 38 opposed.

D. Discussion and possible action regarding gang activity and drug dealing at 4854 Santa Monica Blvd. ("Frresh Flowers" or "Mis Camadres"). Cheron says business open to 2 AM, gang members hang out trying to sell meth. Rampart Vice officers in attendance say hadn't been aware of problem. Cheron asks about Junior Market selling to drunks and buyers going to sidewalk to drink. Vice says Market sells to people who provide alcohol to drunks. Cheron says Immaculate Mary Church feeds intoxicated patrons. Vice says partnering with the City Attorney to work the problem.

E. Discussion and possible action regarding gang activity at 1214 N. Hobart Blvd., and on the 1200 block of North Harvard Blvd. Doug introduces neighbors Catalina and Jose, who express concern regarding taggers and pot smokers who congregate on daily basis at alley at end of Harvard. Craig says Prop 47 has created problem of enforcement of drug crimes. Says that neighbors need to tell police to have the supervisor come out to see problem. Says to call 911 and say there are gang members causing problems. Says there's a "No loitering" ordinance unique to Hollywood. Item tabled.

F. Discussion and possible action regarding a November 5, 2014 attempted assault that occurred at 12:30 AM on the 1100 block of N. Hobart Blvd. by a masked, male carrying knives, rope and female underwear in his backpack. Subsequent inquiries with LAPD show no police reports or arrest records of any kind were filed regarding the incident.

Doug details incident that occurred at his courtyard apartments, in which tenant was approached in her parked car by man wearing mask and gloves. Man then attempted to enter the passenger side of her vehicle. Tenant ran into apt., followed by stalker, who pounded on her sliding glass door. Police were called, finding alleged assailant on Normandie Ave. Craig says he learned suspect is a white male in his '40s who was taken downtown for medical reasons. Arrested on two outstanding warrants. Likely released the following day. Doug expresses concern that LAPD lacked records of incident, wants to know what to tell terrified neighbor who was stalked. Craig moves to write a letter to LAPD Hollywood Division Commanding Officer Captain Zarcone, requesting investigation. Doug seconds. 5 to 0 with one abstention (Cheron).

G. Discussion and possible action regarding “La Mirada Locos” gang graffiti covering much of NC Districts 9, 10 and 11, encompassing the area east of Vermont Ave., west of Hoover St., south of Fountain Ave., and north of the 101 Freeway. NE SLO Nina says will be working area and giving more attention. Jennifer Moran, former Board member, says spent 1 1/2 hours reporting graffiti in her area. Says saw tag “LML Guns” at same spot where a woman was robbed by gun-wielding kid last year. Says need more attention to the primary school, which is frequently tagged, and where gang members hang out. Nina says she runs a monthly meeting at the school called “Safe Passages.” Didn’t know if there is an injunction against the gang. Craig says no. Nina says to call non-emergency LAPD if see gang members; Doug says you’ll be on hold forever.

Adjourn: 10PM