**Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council**

**Land Use Committee Meeting**

**July 18, 2013**

Present: Ron Ziff, Chair, Alicia Bartley ,Craig Buck, Jackie Diamond, Art Fields, Jeff Kalban, Susan Steinberg. Absent: Jackie Campbell, Mikie Maloney

1. Call to Order at 6:30 pm at Notre Dame HS Lecture Hall

2. Roll Call

3. Minutes from the June 20, 2013 approved: motion by J. Diamond, second by S. Steinberg.

4. Elected Officials: Sidonia Lax, SONC Board Member

5. Public Forum: none

6. Chair's Report:

SOHA, Encino Homeowners, and Attorney Brad Torgan have filed appeals of the Planning Commission's approval of the Il Villagio Toscano project. The LA Times ran an op-ed piece last week by economist Christopher Thornberg that claimed SONC is a group of NIMBYs that oppose development. Jill Barad and I wrote a response that we hope will be published in the paper. A neighbor has filed an appeal of the Planning Department's approval of the apartment building at 5300 Sepulveda. We have no word on when the appeal will be heard. The project was approved under SB1818. Recode LA was launched last week with a focus group that I was a part of. It is a five year five million dollar project to simplify the zoning code. The project leader emphasized that the code will not be changed, it will be simplified. He also said that the good parts of the code might be expanded to cover more areas. The city will be repaving Ventura Blvd from the 405 frwy to Van Nuys Blvd. The plan review board is considering using the La Reina Fund to pay for part of the repainting of the faux brick crosswalks.

A total of 13 marijuana dispensaries in Sherman Oaks and Van Nuys are among the 135 listed in Los Angeles that will be permitted to remain open by the city following the voter approved Prop D. Those 135 selected dispensaries have been permitted to remain open because they registered with the city prior to ordinances passed by the City Council in 2007. Those businesses also had to be registered with the city in 2011 and under Measure M, which began taxing the sale of marijuana. CD4 requests we report any others to them. Send them to: alice.roth@lacity.org. Last month LUC approved Center BMW with several conditions. On Tuesday the hearing was held. The City Planner and DOT have asked the applicant to meet with DOT because the driveway is too close to the driveway for the new condos being built just to the west of BMW.

7. New Business:

a. "On the Thirty" presentation by Ira Handelman, representing the owners of this recently opened restaurant located at 14622 Ventura Blvd in the La Reina Plaza. The applicant is requesting extended hours of operation and a full liquor license. Committee questions concerning parking, security in and around the Plaza, as well as noise containment were answered. L. Elkan, R. DeSisto and N. Voe commented to committee on this matter.

Action: Motion to Approve by C. Buck, second by J. Kalban. Approved unanimously.

b. Chair Ziff opened discussion on a new item of business, The "8 Year Plan Housing Element- LA City Planning Department . Committee discussion, followed by motion by C. Buck. to allow Chair Ziff to draft a letter to Planning requesting greater than the usual 10 day notifications to all Neighborhood Councils of their meetings to insure more productive inclusion of stakeholders in this important process. Second by S. Steinberg. Unanimously approved.

8. Committee Business:

Discussion concerning the possible shift to the S.O. Library for some or all future LUC meetings. All announcements of meeting times, dates and locations will be posted on the SONC website prior to meetings.

9. Announcements none

10. Adjournment: 8 pm. Next meeting August 15, 2013, S.O. Library