



Draft MINUTES for the Joint Meeting of the
Tierrasanta Community Council and Planning Group

Wednesday, February 19, 2020 • 6:30 pm
 Tierrasanta Recreation Center, 11220 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. San Diego 92124
 www.tierrasantacc.org

The Tierrasanta Community Council and Planning Group meets generally in the following months: January, February, March, April, June, July, September, and October. Additional meetings may be called on an as needed basis. In order to be eligible for election to the Planning Group, a member must have attended a minimum of two meetings prior to the last day of January of the prior year and his/her attendance noted either via sign-in sheet or referenced in the minutes for a specific meeting.

Attendance:

President: Jan Whitacre	P
Vice President: Mike Ogilvie	P
Directors	
1. Area 1: Mike Ogilvie	-
2. Area 1: John Adair	P
3. Area 1: Jan Whitacre	-
4. Area 2: Elvie Plaskota	P
5. Area 2: Dawn Nielsen-Lostritto	P
6. Area 2: Rich Thesing	P
7. Area 3: Don Chick	P 6:34p
8. Area 3: Emily Whitemore	P
9. Area 3: Bob Lang	P

Treasurer: Steve Muckle	P
Secretary: Emily Whitemore	P
10. Area 4: Steve Muckle	-
11. Area 4: Mary Saxton	P
12. Area 4: John Denune	A
13. At Large: Kathleen Mueller	P
14. Commercial Rep: (Vacant)	-
15. Village@MV: Vince Delpidio	P
Non-Voting Positions:	
Murphy Canyon: Charles Kreuzberger	P
Serra High School: Sofia Gilmore	A

6:30 pm *Pledge of Allegiance; Present members introduced themselves; Fourteen members present and a quorum was determined. President Whitacre conducted the meeting.*

Convene a joint meeting of the Tierrasanta Community Council and Planning Group, a City of San Diego recognized planning group, and the Tierrasanta Community Council, a 501(c)4 community association.

Item A: Agenda Review / Requests for Continuance / Additions to the Agenda

There were no comments made with regard to the agenda.

Action Item 1: Approval of the Draft Minutes for the October 16, 2019 Joint Meeting of the Tierrasanta Community Council and Planning Group.

Action Item 2: Approval of the Draft Minutes for the November 20, 2019 Joint Meeting of the Tierrasanta Community Council and Planning Group.

Action Item 3: Approval of the Draft Minutes for the January 15, 2020 Joint Meeting of the Tierrasanta Community Council and Planning Group.

Director Nielsen mentioned incorrect spelling of her name in all three (3) sets of minutes. In addition she stated that Director Denune refused to state his reason for voting against the stop sign and that this should be included in the October minutes. Director Lang brought up additional name misspellings in the November minutes. Director Muckel said he was present at the November meeting but marked absent in the minutes.

Director Thesing motiend to approve all three (3) sets of minutes as drafted with the aforementioned corrections made. Director Land seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Directors Muckle, Nielsen, and Mueller abstaining for being absent at one or more of the meetings. The motion passed.

Item B: Updates by Government Representatives: limited to 2-minutes each

1. *Officer Dave Gibson with SDPD provided crime stats in Tierrasanta over the last month. He recommended to residents present not to keep vehicle titles, cash, bags, backpacks, purses, loose change, pocket knives, or Lululemon leggings in vehicles as these are all items that have been stolen from vehicles in the community over the last month. Officer Gibson reported one arrest for multiple vehicle prowlings. A popular auto theft throughout the city right now is of half-ton trucks. Officer Gibson reported a new captain in the division, Martha Sainz. He also warned ladies not to keep purses in the tops of shopping carts unattended or unzipped as stealing items from them is a popular crime in the city lately.*

Director Nielsen asked what people should do if their vehicle title is stolen. Officer Gibson replied to contact the DMV.

Director Nielsen also asked about a situation reported on NextDoor where an individual was doing something irregular on the doorstep of another, was arrested for it, and released the same day. She asked why that was. Officer Gibson replied that there needs to be a witness or victim of the crime who is willing to make a report. He advised that if someone is at the door who will not leave, to acknowledge them but do not open the door. They may be trying to see if the home is empty to break in.

2. *Sheldon Zemen with city councilmember Scott Sherman's office recognized Michael Hall from boy scout troop 95 received his eagle scout. He built a cabinet to hold laminate supplies used to build surfboards for Wounded Warriors. Mr. Zemen also reported that the city was awarding a construction contract for the Monserrat Park upgrade to start this spring. He also mentioned that the Tierrasanta library is now fully open after the remodel.*

Item C: Non-Agenda Public Comment: limited to 2-minutes each

1. *Director John Adair acknowledged there is some contention between some of the councilmembers which may cause some to not want to run again in the upcoming election. He invited those who chose not to run to come back after taking a break and thanked the council for their service and thanked those in attendance for showing up to the meeting. Director Adair also asked if the council would consider making a donation to fund Paul Gilmore's Freedom Foundation conference attendance to which President Whitacre replied that Kiwanis Club usually funded that scholarship.*

Item D: Notes from the Chair

TCC President, Jan Whitacre, brought up several projects the Vision & Goals Committee might consider taking up. The first was a dog park as it was something desired in the community. He reviewed what was worked on in the past, with the most elaborate effort made in 2013 which included architectural drawings. This item may be done in conjunction with the Parks & Rec Council.

The second project was a community/senior center. Tierrasanta used to have an SDPD office that was used to help develop relationships with the community, especially kids. It is possible to combine these items in one place by petitioning elected officials to allocate CIP monies from the state, petition SDPD, and commercial unit owners.

Director Nielsen asked what funding source was used before when this existed. Director Theising replied that it was a grant from the County Board of Supervisors.

The third project spoken of was an expansion of Firehouse no. 39 whereas currently there is only a one (1) story firehouse that is very small. It doesn't accommodate male and female facilities. This project would use CIP monies to expand vertically.

Action Item 4: To favorably or unfavorably endorse a determination made by the City to install a stop sign on Uvalde Court at La Cuenta Drive across from Tierrasanta Elementary School.

Additional information was provided by the City including a stop sign evaluation form. The site met 15-points with the primary factor being visibility. The 15-points essentially makes a stop sign mandatory by City standards. When the City varies from this standard they are open to liability so the TCC is urged to vote in favor of this item.

Sheldon Zemen mentioned that this testing was uncontrolled versus controlled.

A resident of Uvalde Court said that there was no visibility regardless of the stop sign on La Cuenta so it requires one to creep out into the street before turning.

President Whitacre asked about efforts made to coordinate with the school for traffic control.

A resident of Uvalde Court said the school sends out email reminders and sometimes helps slow traffic but a stop sign on Uvalde won't make a difference.

Another resident of Uvalde Court asked if the council could ask SDPD to patrol La Cuenta for illegal parking more often.

Another resident of Uvalde Court said people will not abide by the stop sign.

Director Nielsen asked if the school safety patrol has an SDPD liaison?

A resident of Uvalde Court said no because the program got cut.

Director Nielsen said she would ask Officer Gibson about it.

A resident of Uvalde Court said they spoke to all the neighbors except one and no one acknowledged asking the City for the stop sign.

Director Chip suggested the Get it Done app was used.

Sheldon Zemen said the City approved the request and that it was confirmed to have come from a resident.

Director Muckle suggested that the stop sign won't address the visibility issue since people will have to stop anyway before turning.

Director Delpidio suggested residents of Uvalde Court bring the TCC signatures in support of a decision.

Director Adair asked if the stop sign will go in either way to which President Whitacre responded he thinks so.

Director Nielson shared a similar issue in the neighborhood and said a compromise was made on a yield sign.

Director Lang motioned to recommend a yield sign to the City. Director Adair seconded the motion. Ayes: Plaskota, Mueller, Theising, Lang, Adair, Saxton, Nielsen. The motion did not pass as at least eight (8) votes are needed to pass

Director Lang motioned that the TCC's response to the City be "The TCC poses no objection to the City's recommendation."

Ayes: Whitacre, Ogilvie, Whittemore, Muckle, Plaskota, Saxton, Mueller, Chick, Lang, Kreuzberger. Nays: Delpidio, Theising, Adair, Nielsen.

The motion passed.

Action Item 5: To accept (with or without modification) the proposed 2020 TCC budget.

Question: Whether to continue to pay approximately \$150/year for PO Box?

Question: Whether to augment the June concert budget?

The TCC currently has no income from merchandise sales and no income except for returns on investments, which are not keeping up with inflation. Thus, the TCC is losing money year over year.

Question: Should the TCC keep the PO box at \$150 per year? Or, should the TCC go back to using the library now that the renovations are complete and the library is reopened.

President Whitacre suggested he was in favor of keeping the PO Box because for a long time the mail was collected at the library. It was simply a box of mail that wasn't kept secure. Even this evening, those working at the library did not have anything by way of applications even though it was a place to drop them off.

Director Adair said that as long as we were using different places for voting then we might look into saving \$150.

Director Plaskota suggested that perhaps it was an issue of building relationships with the library staff.

A community member present suggested that the UPS Store has boxes that are cheaper than the USPS boxes.

Another community member present suggested setting up a lockbox at the library. That way there would only be a one-time cost incurred.

Director Nielsen asked that an amendment be made to the budget so that \$50 be added to the election line item for printing materials and envelopes.

Director Muckle mentioned that expenses are split between the 501c4 and the planning group for reimbursements. The City will reimburse up to \$500 per year in expenses. If it is a refundable expense then it doesn't need to be included in the annual budget.

Director Adair motioned to approve the budget with a secure lockbox at the library instead of a PO Box and to remove the line item for the PO Box and allocate \$50 instead. Director Theising seconded the motion. The motion did not receive a vote due to more research needed about the lockbox.

Director Lang motioned to approve the budget without the PO Box line item. Director Chick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Nielsen brought up that we are slightly short (about \$150) for the June concert. She suggested getting the balloon person for 2-hours instead of 3-hours and finding a cheaper sign insert unless the TCC will supplement or we can seek donations.

President Whitacre said he would donate.

Info Item 1: Yes! For a Better San Diego (Measure C) “Yea” Ryan Trabuco; “Nay” Michael McConnell

Rachel Lang (RL) filled in for Ryan Trabuco to present on why Measure C should be passed. What it does is three-fold: expand and modernize the convention center to keep it competitive, dedicate a portion of the funding to homelessness (services, housing, etc.), and created a funding stream for street repairs that would be added to the current streets budget. The regional chamber of commerce, local representatives, and labor groups support this measure. The measure is set to create \$2B in bonds over the next 40-years to be paid back from transient occupancy tax on local hotels. Spending would be broken up into 5-year plans for homelessness that would be created publicly. The reason the City needs this expansion is because San Diego is losing contracts for conventions which bring a lot of money into the local economy.

Michael McConnell (MM), an East Village resident, is opposed to Measure C because he said the City can pay back \$2B in bonds using other funds. He labeled it a bait and switch measure that got attention because homelessness was added to the convention center expansion measure. He said the money from the bonds can be diverted to pay for things the general fund already pays for, thereby diverting funds away from the general fund. He said that “homelessness” is too broad and doesn't guarantee anything. He also said the City Council can vote to change the measure after it is voted on. The only thing guaranteed is a slush fund for politicians. He encouraged those in attendance to look at who supports the measure and who doesn't support it. He said the measure doesn't guarantee convention center expansion because the City doesn't control the land the expansion is set to be on and that there is no cap on the amount of administration costs for the project.

Director Mueller: The measure advertises that tourists are going to pay but what if the tourism industry turns downward?

MM: The bond wouldn't default because the City could use any other legal sources of funding.

RL: Bond issuers don't just give away money. They factor in market changes before issuing bonds.

Director Whittemore: Is the Airbnb/VRBO market considered in this tax? Will those sites be adding tax to short-term rentals?

RL: Yes, it's called the transient occupancy tax (TOT) and it will have to be paid.

Director Theising: Why is this a primary measure and not in the main election?

MM: It is supposed to be in the main election because of Measure L.

RL: Currently the TOT is 10.5% which is lower than other cities.

MM: But with other taxes it could be up to 15%. It's not a good reason to raise the TOT just because other cities have.

RL: No, but a good reason is if we are paying for things we need.

Community Member: Will the convention center pay off the expansion?

RL: Most break even on operations but ours doesn't. The hotel tax goes straight to the City.

MM: It will be paid for with tax, not from current operations.

Director Adair: Is the main contention in the language and way the measure is written?

RL: The measure is tightly written because all interests were at the table deciding allocation of funds so that Council can't just move it around.

MM: An election law firm is calling out the loopholes, not the City Attorney.

Director Lang: Is there a time when the City will run out of leverage?

RL: Lease-holders are losing leverage because the lease is up in 2024. That means if the measure isn't passed then the lease-holders will build a hotel where the expansion is outlined to be.

MM: This is not the last stand.

RL: Yes it is, because a hotel will be built on the land needed for the convention center expansion.

Info Item 2: Jewish Family Services – Chrissy Califf

Chrissy Califf (CC) presented on the Jewish Family Services. It is the largest non-profit in San Diego and it is a non-religious organization. There are many ways to give of your time and volunteer with the organization. Currently, it operates a safe parking program to help the homeless and provide them with navigating a place to live, opportunities, and group-served dinners. There are elderly programs that need volunteers to be a friendly visitor with an older adult. There is also a transportation program for elderly adults. There is a mobile food program that was just expanded with a county grant so more volunteers are needed. There is also an older adult center with day programs including a music and memory program where relationships are cataloged with music. There are over 40 programs open to all for volunteering. On Sunday, March 1 from 11am to 1pm there will be an open house for prospective volunteers.

Director Theising wished to thank the organization and express his appreciation for what it was doing.

Community Member: The gates are closed to the center, how do we get in?

CC: After the shooting at the synagogue in Poway, there was full-time security placed at the center. The gates will be open for the open house.

Director Nielsen: If I know someone living in their vehicle, how do I refer them to your program?

CC: You can access a member on the website first because we offer assistance around services.

Action Item 6: To review and modify or approve proposed changes to the draft planning group bylaws.

A draft copy of the Bylaws was approved and sent to the City for review. It was returned with some comments. The council discussed the deputy city attorney's comments and President Whitacre's responses, particularly Section 2 (regarding vacancies and the definition of a single versus multiple vacancies); attendance (if someone must or may sign in to track attendance for eligibility); and subcommittees (needing to make recommendations in writing to the TCC for consideration).

Director Kreuzberger suggested leaving the Bylaws as close to the shell as possible with a disclaimer.

Director Mueller said that "in writing" are an important two words.

Director Whittemore stated that she was in favor of keeping those words because it was procedural and because people are more likely to read the Bylaws before reading 600-24.

Director Delpidio verified that "in writing" is the policy 600-24.

Regarding the comment about the minutes, stick to the shell unless there is pushback from the deputy city attorney for more feedback.

Director Ogilvie motioned to accept the responses to the proposed changes. Director Mueller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Info Item 3: Announce Candidate List for March Election - Election Committee

The election committee announced the following candidates in the upcoming election:

John Adair
Kathleen Mueller

Emily Whittemore
Mary Saxton

Vince DelPidio
Chris Shamoon

Info Item 4: Reports from Committee and Community Liaisons

There were no reports from Committee and Community Liaisons.

Director Lang said they need to recruit more people to be on the community communications committee.

8:47 pm Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attachments can be found associated with the February 19, 2020 Agenda on TCC website.
<http://www.tierrasantacc.org/2020-tcc-agendas-and-minutes/>

Attachment (1): Draft minutes for the October 16, 2019 meeting

Attachment (2): Draft minutes for the November 20, 2019 meeting

Attachment (3): Draft minutes for the January 15, 2020 meeting

Attachment (4): Stop sign evaluation

Attachment (5): Proposed 2020 TCC budget

Attachment (6): Proposed bylaws with comments

The next meeting will be held on March 18, 2020 at 6:30pm. The Tierrasanta COmmunity Council and Planning Group generally meet on the third Wednesday of the following months: January, February, March, April, June, July, September, and October. Additional meetings may be called on an as-needed basis and are noticed according to the Brown Act.