



## Little Tuscany Neighborhood Organization (LTNO) Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 19, 2021 5:00PM

**Roll Call: Board Members** Ned Barker (Chair), Liz Loomis (Treasurer), David Anderson (Secretary), Darin Roper (Communications Officer), Denise Hoetker, Daniel Hall, Rebecca Hendrickson. [Absent: Rachel Sheedy (Vice Chair), Tyler Burton]

**Committee Chairs** - Fred Balduini (Beautification), Denise Hoetker (Temporary Social / Education), [Absent: Ron Mesh (Crime & Safety)]

**Guests** – Lauren Ross (Tuscany Heights), Kenny Mollenhauer (resident), Ron Hansen (resident), Robert Rotman (resident)

### **Board Chair Comments:**

Ned Barker updated his moving situation, stating that he will remain in Little Tuscany at least through June. He stated that a temporary chair may be required thereafter, but that he, Barker, would be happy to continue non-voting administrative duties.

### **Treasurer's Report** (Liz Loomis)

Liz reviewed the Report, and indicated an unchanged balance of \$19,720.58. 2020 Tax documents, showing income of \$826 for the year, have been filed (on time).

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

#### **Neighborhood Beautification & Identification Report** (Fred Balduini)

**Little Tuscany Monument Signs.** Still working on soliciting property owners' permission. ONE-PS list was reviewed for owner information, revealed 4 locations, additional research required.

**Crescendo & Boulders cleanup day.** David Anderson suggested Saturday, June 19. 7am start time. A motion was not made, but everyone in attendance seemed to support this. Planning is moving forward.

#### **Education & Social Report** (Ned Barker, Denise Hoetker)

Following David Hoffman's resignation as committee chair, Denise Hoetker has agreed to co-chair this committee with David Hoffman. Denise and Ned have tentatively agreed to use the Cleanup Day initiative for our first social event of the year, with "Coffee & Pastries" at Ned and Danielle's home after the cleanup.

#### **Crime & Safety Report** (Ned Barker)

In Ron's absence, Ned announced, regarding the proposed Tova Hotel (formerly the Shilo Inn) that the bankruptcy court granted the City's motion, meaning that the City can proceed with its code enforcement options, including demolition of the abandoned structure. The City must first get bids on demolition so it will not be immediate.



Ron Mesh (absent) is moving forward with **Neighborhood Watch** on a handful of blocks. Our Nextdoor post asking for block captain volunteers was not successful.

**Modernism Report** (Liz Loomis and Tyler Burton)

Modernism Week will be 2-17-22 through 2-29-22. More homes still to be “recruited” for LT’s Tour of Homes (Feb. 19 or 20, 2022). Thanks to Robert Rotman’s help, a home in the Desert Palisades may be added to the tour.

**New or Unfinished Business**

**Arts Commission Initiative – Crescendo** (Ned Barker, Robert Rotman)

The letters written by Fred and Ned, on behalf of the Beautification Committee and the full Board supported this project. And the City Council approved it!. Since this is an Arts Commission initiative (not an LTNO initiative), the Arts Commission will proceed without our direct involvement. Insurance and other costs will be “by others”, not LTNO.

**ONE-PS Intellectual Properties Committee.** (Liz Loomis)

In Tim O’Bayley’s absence, Liz summarized Tim’s report, stating that the IP Committee is working on materials that the neighborhoods may use to guide them in Marketing, Graphic Design, and Intellectual Property. Also, a sample ‘letter’ is being developed with the help of an attorney on the committee that each affected Neighborhood may use to ask the folks at Laundry Arcade to stop what they’re doing.

A lengthy discussion ensued, focused on the uses of and potential profits from tote bags and other tchotchkes. Participants in the conversation seemed to agree that the LTNO’s efforts should be focused on higher profit opportunities, such as the MW Tour of Homes.

Hoping to get some press by an article in the Desert Sun’s Valley Voice section. Rachel Sheedy to follow up.

**Racquet Club Calming Update** (Ned Barker, Tyler Burton, David Anderson)

Last week, a second version of a “traffic calming” plan was installed for a six-month trial. Attempts to engage the Palisades as a partner to develop the roundabouts solution have not yielded results. In other cases in town, the bollards do slow traffic, but in a test drive by a member here, this is not the case. Speed bumps were discussed, but residents resisted them, and noise issues are of concern. Follow-up is necessary.

**Boulders & Crescendo Update** (Liz Loomis)

Next steps are to compare the recent survey of Boulders with the city’s original EIR (Environmental Impact Report) from 2007, to see if it might yield compelling arguments for retaining these spaces as open.

**ONE-PS** (Denise Hoetker)

VillageFest hopes to resume on Thursday July 1, 2021, pending City Council approval, at a reduced capacity of 70 vendors for phase one due to restaurants’ outdoor seating areas expected to remain.



Street Repairs were discussed. Leaf Blowers were debated.

Sustainability update was given – on January 1, 2022 a new ordinance will take effect banning most plastic utensils in the food industry. Plastic straws, plastic serve ware, Styrofoam containers etc. Paper alternatives will be the norm.; Certificates of Impact were given to certain ONE-PS groups making an impact. (It was suggested to explore details prior to LTNO Cleanup Day.)

Fire Department Report – Be careful to remain hydrated when hiking. Police Department Report – Car break-ins and traffic speeding violations are on the increase, primarily from those traveling here on vacation.

Events – A new Chair, Ted Janka, is seeking volunteers to help with Citywide events such as the Veteran's Day Celebration, the Christmas Parade, Gay Pride etc. He may be contacted at: [events@ONE-PS.org](mailto:events@ONE-PS.org).

Community Comments – Independence Day fireworks are cancelled. Mixed reactions.

#### **LTNO Web Site** (David Anderson, Darin Roper)

David presented research that there are 49 neighborhoods that make up ONE-PS. Of those, 27 have their own hyperlinks to other pages away from the ONE-PS.org page. We are proposing that LTNO add to that number with our own site.

While some only go so far as to connect to a Facebook and/or LinkedIn page, we would like to do that too as well as go on to our own self-funded page at a minimal annual cost.

Our site, similar to many others, will have a WELCOME page that would branch off to the following tabs for relevant information. These tabs might include: History of Little Tuscany; Events, Map/Boundaries, Links to City of Palm Springs, ONE-PS; City Council, Emergency Contacts; Voter's Registration for District 2, NextDoor.com and more.

Other pages might include Meeting Agendas & Minutes, Bylaws, Board Members Info, LTNO businesses info, and a "Donations" page.

Darin reported that Wix.com be recommended to host our site at \$276 annually. They provide many more services than the other two top competitors.

While the meeting was in progress, Lauren Ross obtained secured LTNO ownership of the URL LITTLETUSCANYPS.ORG!

**Closing:** Chairperson Ned Barker adjourned the meeting at 6:14pm.

**Next meeting is Wednesday 06/16/21** via Zoom at 5:00PM. Access information below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81986248766>

Meeting ID: 819 8624 8766 Passcode: 782906

One tap mobile +16699009128,,81986248766#,,,,\*782906# US (San Jose)

***Minutes: Presented and proposed by David Anderson***