

April 14, 2009

**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular session at 5:36 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 in City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Barnett, Brewer, Furey, Numark, Rhilinger, Sutherland, and Mayor Scotto.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Jackson, City Attorney Fellows, City Clerk Herbers, and other staff representatives.

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Agenda Item 18 was considered out of order at this time.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council immediately recessed to closed session to confer with the City Manager and City Attorney on agenda matters listed under 18A) Conference with Labor Negotiator, and 18B) Real Property – Conference with Real Property Negotiator, pursuant to California Government Code § 54957.6 and 54956.8.

The City Council reconvened at 7:07 p.m. No formal action was taken on any matter considered in closed session.

2. FLAG SALUTE/INVOCATION

The flag salute was led by Fire Division Chief Dumais.

Councilmember Barnett gave the non-sectarian invocation.

3. REPORT OF CITY CLERK ON POSTING OF THE AGENDA / MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING

City Clerk Herbers reported that the agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Boulevard on Thursday, April 9, 2009.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved that after the City Clerk has read aloud the number and title to any resolution or ordinance on the meeting agenda, the further reading thereof shall be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilmember the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rhilinger and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

4. WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

Item 15A was withdrawn and deferred to the April 28 City Council meeting. Questions and Answers available for items 12A and 13A and supplemental material available for item 13A.

5. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Brewer announced that the Citizen Development and Enrichment Committee had met earlier to discuss the design for the 2010 Torrance Rose Float and that an item will be forwarded to the Council shortly.

Councilmember Sutherland announced that the Finance and Governmental Operations Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 21, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers to discuss the 2008-2009 Second Quarter Budget.

City Clerk Herbers announced that the registration deadline for the May 19 statewide General Election is Monday, May 4, and that mailed registration forms must be postmarked no later than midnight.

Mayor Scotto announced that in preparation for the Torrance Centennial Celebration, commencing on January 1, 2012 and ending on Sunday, October 21, 2012, the City will be forming a Torrance Centennial Committee, which will include Councilmembers, City staff, residents, and representatives from businesses and organizations. He noted that those interested in being a member will need to complete an application, with appointments to be made by the Mayor and Council in early June. He directed staff to prepare an item for the April 21, 2009 Council meeting on the application process.

6. COMMUNITY MATTERS

6A. RESOLUTION NO. 2009-28 RE STEVEN MICHAEL BOCK

RESOLUTION NO. 2009-28

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE HONORING POLICE SERGEANT **STEVEN MICHAEL BOCK** UPON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CITY AFTER TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS OF SERVICE

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2009-28. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sutherland and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Scotto presented the resolution to Police Sergeant Bock, who accepted with appreciation.

Police Chief Neu commended Sergeant Bock for his dedication to both the community and his colleagues and wished him well in his retirement.

7. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1

7A. Kurt Weideman, president of the Torrance Cultural Arts Center Foundation, introduced TCACF's new executive director Chris Wolf, who is replacing Ray Solley. He noted that the 2008-09 season was the most successful in the foundation's history.

7B. Michael Steger, LaRouche Political Action Committee, expressed concerns about the current state of the economy and requested that the Council consider endorsing the Homeowners and Bank Protection Act, as outlined in a leaflet distributed to the Council.

7C. Jobe Cowen, LaRouche Political Action Committee, provided an overview of the Homeowners and Bank Protection Act.

7D. Oliver Nims, Torrance resident and business owner, reported that the economic downturn has had a drastic impact on his business; voiced his opinion that the Homeowners and Bank Protection Act offers solutions to the country's financial crisis; and encouraged the Council to support it.

7E. Dr. Charles Schwarz announced the grand opening of Tikkun Holistic Medicine, 24241 Hawthorne Boulevard, and invited the public to attend free lectures at the facility.

7F. Richard Tsao, Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce, invited the public to attend an event celebrating World Trade Week to be held on Tuesday, April 28, from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. at the Doubletree Hotel, featuring the Consul Generals of Brazil and Korea.

8. CONSENT CALENDAR

8A. SALE OF CITY-OWNED PROPERTY

Recommendation

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council authorize the Mayor to execute and the City Clerk to attest to all documents associated with the sale of City-owned property resulting from the partial vacation of 242nd Street.

8B. 2009 RECOVERY ACT EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL GRANT APPLICATION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Chief of Police that City Council review the 2009 Recovery Act Edward Byrne Memorial Grant application.

8C. APPROVAL OF DESIGN CONCEPT/FUNDING FOR WILSON PARK POND

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Community Services Director that City Council approve the updated design concept for the Wilson Park Pond, appropriate funding for the project, and authorize staff to solicit quotes for pond renovation services. Expenditure: \$67,930.

MOTION: Councilmember Furey moved for the approval of Consent Calendar Items 8A, 8B and 8C. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Numark and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12A. 2009 METRO CALL FOR PROJECTS GRANT APPLICATIONS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director that City Council authorize the City Manager to submit on behalf of the Community Development Department the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) 2009 Metro Call For Projects Grant Applications.

Transportation Planning Manager Semaan reported that the Metro grants are awarded every two years and the City is requesting funding for traffic improvements, pedestrian improvements and median landscaping.

MOTION: Councilmember Barnett moved to concur with the staff recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rhilinger and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

12B. AD HOC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS RE STATEWIDE SPECIAL ELECTION

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Mayor's Ad Hoc Legislative Committee that City Council concur with May 19, 2009 ballot measure positions recommended by the Committee.

Councilmember Rhilinger, chair of the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee, provided background information regarding the May 19, 2009 Special Statewide Election, which includes six ballot measures designed to help close the State's widening budget gap. She noted that the Committee (Rhilinger, Barnett and Brewer) met on April 7 to review the ballot measures.

With the aid of slides, Management Associate Jones reviewed the criteria used to determine whether the City should take a position on a ballot measure and provided an overview of each proposition.

Councilmember Rhilinger reported that the South Bay Cities Council of Governments Legislative Committee met earlier in the day and will be recommending that SBCCOG support all six ballot measures due to concerns that the State will take away funding from cities if the measures fail.

Proposition 1A: Limits State Spending - "Rainy Day" Budget Stabilization Fund

Committee's Recommendation - 2 Oppose/1 No position.

Councilmember Barnett, Councilmember Sutherland, Councilmember Brewer and Mayor Scotto expressed their opposition to Proposition 1A because it would extend recent increases in sales tax and vehicle license fees until 2012-13 and do nothing to curb the State's practice of overspending. It was noted that the State would still be left with a budget deficit even if the proposition passes and it was felt that the State needs to rein in spending and start living within its budget. Concerns were expressed that tax increases

are rarely rolled back even when there is a sunset date and that tax increases could exacerbate the current economic downturn.

Councilmember Numark indicated that he favored taking no position because it was impossible to determine the impact this would have on the City due to the time period involved. He stated that he thought establishing a “rainy day” fund was a good idea because the State experiences such wild fluctuations in revenues and the legislature was unlikely to do so unless it’s mandated by statute.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to take a position opposing Proposition 1A. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by a vote of 6-1, with Councilmember Numark voting to take no position.

Proposition 1B: Education Funding – Payment Plan

Committee’s Recommendation – 2 Oppose/1 No position

Management Associate Jones noted that Proposition 1B will go into effect only if Proposition 1A passes.

Councilmember Furey voiced his opinion that Proposition 1B was the State legislature’s attempt to make Proposition 1A more palatable by promising to pay back funds taken away from local school districts and community colleges when the legislature suspended Proposition 98. He related his belief that the State needs to start living within its budget rather than taking away voter-mandated funding from schools.

Michael Steger, Los Angeles, noted that other state and local governments are experiencing serious budget deficits due to the current economic crisis and voiced his opinion that the federal government needs to reorganize the banking system and create a new national bank to fund large-scale, innovative projects to stimulate the economy.

MOTION: Councilmember Numark moved to take no position on Proposition 1B. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Furey and failed to pass by a vote of 3-4, with Councilmembers Brewer, Rhilinger, Sutherland and Mayor Scotto dissenting.

MOTION: Councilmember Sutherland moved to take a position opposing Proposition 1B. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rhilinger and passed by a vote of 5-2, with Councilmembers Furey and Numark voting to take no position.

Proposition 1C: Lottery Modernization Act

Committee’s Recommendation – 3 Oppose

Councilmember Brewer and Councilmember Rhilinger expressed their opposition to Proposition 1C because it would allow the State to borrow against future lottery profits to balance the 2009-10 budget, thereby making it more difficult to balance the budget in future years.

Councilmember Numark stated that he favored taking no position on this proposition because, in the near-term, the State would probably have to borrow from the

City's share of property taxes if the proposition fails, thereby creating a \$3-4 million deficit for the City, and the long-term impact of the proposition was unknown.

Mayor Scotto expressed concerns that the lottery has not helped schools as voters originally intended and this proposition was another attempt to divert lottery funds away from schools.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved to take a position opposing Proposition 1C. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by a vote of 6-1, with Councilmember Numark voting to take no position.

Proposition 1D: Protects Children's Services Funding – Helps Balance Budget

Committee's Recommendation – 2 support/1 oppose

Councilmember Brewer explained that, as a member of the Ad Hoc Legislative Committee, he voted to support this proposition because it would redirect funds from the First 5 Program, which is somewhat overfunded, thereby, helping to close the budget gap without increasing taxes.

Councilmember Numark indicated that he was also inclined to support this proposition, noting that the First 5 Program is funded by tobacco tax revenues and Proposition 1C would temporarily redirect funds to critical health and social service programs for children and lessen the chance that the State will pursue the City's property tax revenues.

Councilmember Rhilinger likened Propositions 1D and 1E to a "shell game" because they involve the shifting of funds for the purpose of allowing the State to take control of unspent money in specially designated funds to augment the State budget.

Mayor Scotto noted that he has received phone calls from parents who are worried that vital programs for their children will be cut and expressed concerns that those who can least afford it will be the most impacted by budget cuts.

MOTION: Councilmember Rhilinger moved to take a position opposing Proposition 1D. The motion was seconded by Mayor Scotto and passed by a vote of 5-2, with Councilmember Brewer dissenting and Councilmember Numark voting to take no position.

Proposition 1E: Mental Health Services Funding – Temporary Reallocation

Committee's Recommendation – 3 Oppose

Voicing her opposition to this proposition, Councilmember Rhilinger stated that she thought it was particularly important to preserve funding for mental health services at this time because people are under a lot of additional stress due to the current economic situation.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved to take a position opposing Proposition 1E. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by a vote of 6-1, with Councilmember Numark voting to take no position.

Proposition 1F: Elected Officials Salaries – Prevents Pay Increases during Budget Deficit Years

Committee's Recommendation – 3 No Position

Councilmember Brewer explained that the Committee was recommending that the Council take no position on this proposition because it does not meet the criteria for taking a position on a ballot measure as it would not affect local control, impact the City fiscally, or affect public safety.

Mayor Scotto, echoed by Councilmember Rhilinger and Councilmember Sutherland, suggested that salaries of elected officials should be eliminated when they fail to pass a balanced State budget.

MOTION: Councilmember Brewer moved to take no position on Proposition 1F. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by a vote of 5-2, with Councilmembers Rhilinger and Sutherland dissenting.

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Councilmember Numark announced that he was recusing himself from consideration of Agenda Item 13A because the applicant was a personal friend and he has had business dealings with him.

Mayor Scotto announced that he was recusing himself from consideration of Agenda Item 13A because he lives within 500 feet of the project.

The Council recessed at 8:38 p.m. and reconvened at 8:51 p.m., with Mayor Scott and Councilmember Numark absent.

13. HEARINGS

13A. PRE08-00029, WAV08-00013, DIV08-00011: IGOR NASTASKIN – 23719 SUSANA AVENUE AND APN #7531-016-050

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Community Development Director and the Planning Commission that the City Council deny the appeal and take the following action on property located at 23719 Susana Avenue and APN#7531-016-050:

- 1) Deny the appeal; and
- 2) Adopt Resolutions denying a Precise Plan of Development; a Waiver, and a Division of Lot.

PRE08-00029, WAV08-00013 AND DIV08-00011: IGOR NASTASKIN

Mayor Pro Tem Brewer announced that this was the time and place for a public hearing on this matter. City Clerk Herbers confirmed that the hearing was properly advertised.

With the aid of slides, Planning Manager Lodan briefly reviewed the proposed project and shared photographs taken from various vantage points in neighborhood. He explained that the subject property consists of a 17,585 square-foot lot, currently developed with a single-family residence, and a 1' x 55' lot along the frontage of Via El

Chico and the applicant was proposing to shift the lot line between them to create two parcels (7,328 square feet & 10,312 square feet) in order to construct a new residence taking access from Via El Chico. He advised that staff was recommending denial of the project because the resulting parcels do not meet minimum lot size and lot depth requirements and due to the potential for adverse privacy impacts to properties on Susana Avenue and view impacts to properties on Via El Chico. He reported that the Planning Commission voted to deny the project on December 3, 2008; that the applicant subsequently revised the project to address concerns discussed at that meeting; and that the current silhouette reflects these changes.

Igor Nastaskin, 601 Calle de Arboles, applicant, using slides to illustrate, disputed claims that the project would have an adverse impact on the view and privacy of neighboring properties. Referring to a map of the area, he pointed out that Parcel 2, at 10,312 square feet, would be one of the largest lots on Via El Chico and that the size of the home and the FAR (floor area ratio) were consistent with the area and well below the maximum allowed. He noted that there are lots on Susana that have been subdivided into two or more lots just as he has proposed, including 23715 Susana/459 Via El Chico. He explained that the lot line between the two parcels follows the contours of the land in order to provide the maximum amount of usable backyard for both parcels, however, it could be shifted to comply with minimum lot depth requirements.

With the aid of slides, Evan Braun, project architect, reviewed changes that were made to address concerns about privacy and view impacts, including reducing the size of the project; lowering the overall height; angling the sides of the building to narrow the view corridor; downsizing windows and raising sill heights; eliminating chimneys; and reducing the size and number of balconies. With regard to claims that the new residence would tower over homes on Susana, he pointed out that it is lower than existing houses on Via El Chico. He maintained that the Via El Chico cul-de-sac looks empty and incomplete in its current state and that the proposed project would be a significant improvement. He noted that project will incorporate "green" design features.

Darren Donaldson, 23720 Susana, voiced objections to the project, contending that it would loom over his backyard and intrude on his privacy. He noted that every surrounding neighbor is opposed to the project and urged the Council to uphold the Planning Commission's denial.

Mayor Pro Tem Brewer questioned whether other homes on Via El Chico have a view into Mr. Donaldson's backyard, and Mr. Donaldson stated that they do not.

Councilmember Sutherland noted that anything built on Parcel 2 would impact Mr. Donaldson's privacy. Mr. Donaldson responded that he believed this lot was never intended to be split and this site should never be developed.

Harry Homsher, 23711 Susana, reported that he has had problems with mud sliding down into his backyard from properties above on Via El Chico and expressed concerns that the hill would become more unstable if trees are removed to build this project. He stated that five homes on Via El Chico already look down into his backyard and urged the Council not to approve another one. He suggested that approving this project would set a precedent and encourage others to split large lots along Susana and develop them with new homes.

Shemiran Charry, 23714 Susana, expressed concerns about the project's impact on the stability of the hillside which already experiences mudslides on an annual basis. She stated that the proposed project would have an adverse impact on her privacy, as well as every other home on the Susana cul-de-sac, because it would tower over their properties and look into their homes and backyards. She echoed concerns about the precedent that would be set should this project be approved and related her understanding that the narrow lot along the Via El Chico frontage was a "blocker lot" intended to prevent this site from being developed.

Paula Bozeman, 445 Via El Chico, echoed concerns about the project's impact on the stability of the hillside, citing homes in Orange County that were supposed to be engineered correctly, but still slipped down the hill. She questioned who would be liable should her home be damaged due to the destabilization of the hillside. She disputed the claim that the Via El Chico cul-de-sac looks incomplete without a home at this location and contended that the proposed project would intrude on privacy and block views.

Barbara Pfahler, 23711 Susana, noted that she has lived at this address since 1964 and reported on recurring problems with mudslides in this area. She voiced her opinion that it was not feasible to build on this site.

Allen Hillger, 445 Via El Chico, urged that the project be denied because it does not comply with minimum lot size requirements and exceeds height limitations.

John Groblewski, 459 Via El Chico, voiced objections to the proposed project due to the impact on his view, light and privacy. He stated that he recently purchased his home because of the uniqueness of this area and the views, as well as the protection the Hillside Ordinance affords.

Councilmember Sutherland noted that he visited Mr. Groblewski's property and did observe some view loss from easterly windows. He questioned whether Mr. Groblewski would object to anything being built on this site.

Mr. Groblewski responded that he thought it would be difficult to object if a project met all requirements and was not requesting any Variances, however, that was not the case with this project.

Councilmember Rhilinger noted that she attempted to view the project from Mr. Groblewski's home but he was not there at the time. She asked about construction currently going on at Mr. Groblewski's home that appears to be enlarging windows. Mr. Groblewski reported that the window openings will remain the same size.

Pamela Maran, 5501 Via del Valle, requested that the Council deny the project due to the precedent it would set by allowing one lot to be subdivided into two substandard-sized parcels and because of the adverse impact it would have on the view, light and privacy of multiple neighbors. She noted that the properties referred to for purposes of comparison in Mr. Nastaskin's presentation were built prior to the adoption of the Hillside Ordinance and were therefore irrelevant.

Roberta Blowers, 621 Camino de Encanto, voiced objections to the project because it does not meet minimum lot size or lot depth requirements and requires a Waiver of height limitations. She related her belief that the project violates the Hillside

Ordinance, noting that all immediate neighbors oppose it due to the impact on their properties.

Richard Neilson, 5603 Via del Collado, stated that he believes the proposed project would be a great improvement because the site is currently an eyesore. He noted that even though he is two blocks away, he can see into Darren Donaldson's backyard.

Judy Brunetti, 4815 Greenmeadows Avenue, contended that the proposed project would have a huge negative impact on surrounding neighbors and set a bad precedent by allowing hillside lots to be subdivided thereby changing the rural character of the area. She expressed concerns about the project's impact on the stability of the hillside, noting the landslide that occurred nearby in 1987.

Mary Jo Nicolino, 23720 Susana Avenue, explained that she was opposed to the project because it would intrude on her privacy and detract from the view of trees/shrubs she enjoys from her backyard. She stated that while there are homes above that can see into her backyard, there is nothing she can do about them and urged the Council to deny the project as it would only compound the problem. She expressed concerns about noise impact from the project and the potential that the steep hillside could be destabilized.

Ruth Vogel, 114 Via la Soledad, voiced her opinion that City building standards and the Hillside Ordinance should be strictly enforced and expressed concerns about the precedent that would be set should the project be approved.

Sally Taylor, 23664 Susana Avenue, stated that she was originally opposed to the project for aesthetic reasons, but now believes the stability of the hillside was the more compelling issue. She reported that two neighbors on the east side of Susana have had to install retaining walls in recent months.

Randy Russell, 464 Via El Chico, voiced objections to the project due to view impact.

Carolyn Cameron, 23655 Susana, noting that she has lived at this address since 1955, recalled that a former mayor's home slid down the hillside causing considerable expense for the City. She voiced her opinion that nothing should be built on this site due to the potential impact on the stability of the hillside.

Robert Donaldson noted that he lives on Newton Street, but has owned 23624 Susana Avenue for several years and his son also lives on Susana. He reported that there have been long-standing problems with the stability of the hillside and related his belief that the site should remain a green belt.

Suzanne Nastaskin, 601 Calle de Arboles, read a letter from Dr. Donald Woods, 448 Via El Chico, in support of the project. Dr. Woods noted that the Via El Chico cul-de-sac has been a problematic area as young people congregate there to drink and party and there have been incidents of vandalism. He voiced his opinion that the project would be a significant improvement and add value to everyone's property.

Responding to audience member comments, Mr. Nastaskin stated that neighbors' fears that the project would affect the stability of the hillside were unfounded because he has thoroughly investigated this issue to confirm that building on this site would not create any problems. With regard to the Waiver, he reported that the house as proposed is within the 27-foot high limit, but a Waiver is needed because the foundation must be included in the height calculation. He explained that every house on Via El Chico exceeds the height limitation because the topography makes it impossible stay within this limit.

Mr. Nastaskin suggested that it was not fair for Mr. Groblewski to complain about privacy impacts when he is currently expanding decks on his home. He stated that several homes on Via El Chico look down into Darren Donaldson's backyard and the project cannot take away privacy when none exists. He reported that he has done everything possible to minimize the impact on privacy and expressed his willingness to incorporate any suggestions Councilmembers may have to improve the project.

In response to Councilmember Barnett's inquiry, Planning Manager Lodan reported that staff could find no evidence in past records that the 55 square-foot lot was intended to prevent the site from being developed.

MOTION: Councilmember Rhilinger moved to close the public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Barnett and passed by unanimous roll call vote (absent Councilmember Numark and Mayor Scotto).

Councilmember Sutherland stated that he would not support the project because the resulting parcels do not meet minimum lot size requirements and he felt it was important to enforce this regulation, which was put in place to prevent "postage stamp" lots.

Councilmember Rhilinger stated that she agreed with Councilmember Sutherland's remarks and she also believes that the project violates the Hillside Ordinance due to privacy impacts and to a lesser extent, view impairment. She related her observation that the new home would greatly impact the privacy of the existing home on Susana, and while they are both currently under the same ownership, this may not always be the case. She noted that although staff was unable to determine the reason for the narrow lot along the Via El Chico frontage, it would seem logical that it was meant to prevent this site from being developed. She stated that the massive homes on Via El Chico loom over homes below on Riviera Way and she suspected that they were one of the reasons the Hillside Ordinance was enacted.

Councilmember Furey indicated that he also would not support the project, because it does not comply with City requirements and violates the Hillside Ordinance. He stated that he thought the project as designed was a beautiful home and he had no doubt that it would be structurally sound, but he felt that this particular site could not be developed without greatly impacting neighbors.

Councilmember Barnett noted his concurrence with his colleagues' remarks. Additionally, he stated that he was concerned about the precedent that would be set by approving the subdivision of this lot. He noted that while some views on Via El Chico would be improved by the removal of existing trees to facilitate construction, for residents below on Susana, views of trees would be replaced with a massive structure.

MOTION: Councilmember Barnett moved to deny the appeal and deny the project. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rhilinger and passed by unanimous vote (absent Councilmember Numark and Mayor Scotto).

Councilmember Furey suggested that the Resolutions be revised to include more definite language concerning findings on the impact on view, light and privacy based on testimony at this hearing.

Deputy City Attorney Sullivan agreed to revise the Resolutions and bring them back for approval at a later date.

15. OTHER

15A. URGENCY ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING MORATORIUM ON LICENSING OF MASSAGE THERAPY BUSINESSES AND MASSAGE THERAPISTS

Recommendation

Recommendation of the Chief of Police and the Finance Director that City Council

- 1) Adopt an interim urgency Ordinance establishing a moratorium on new massage therapy businesses and the issuance of new licenses for massage technicians; and
- 2) Approve a summary of the Ordinance for publication.

Item was withdrawn and deferred to April 28, 2009 City Council meeting.

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The Council met as the Redevelopment Agency from 10:36 p.m. to 10:38 p.m.

17. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

17A. Councilmember Barnett noted that the Southeast Library reopened today after being closed over three months for refurbishments, which included new shelving that meets seismic safety code requirements, electrical upgrade and energy efficient lighting, new paint and carpeting, and a new service desk and homework center, with a formal grand opening to take place on April 23.

17B. Councilmember Barnett congratulated the Old Torrance Neighborhood Association on receiving the County of Los Angeles Green Leadership Award. He noted that members of the Association will be recognized at the L.A. County Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, April 21, at 9:30 a.m. in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 W. Temple Street.

17C. Councilmember Furey invited everyone to attend the Torrance Education Foundation Celebrate Education dinner at the Torrance Marriott on Saturday, April 18. He noted that \$50,000 in grants to teachers and \$60,000 in scholarships to students will be awarded at the event and there will also be a raffle a 2009 Toyota Prius Hybrid donated by Toyota Motor Sales, with additional information available at www.torranceeducationfoundation.org.

17D. Councilmember Sutherland announced that the dedication of the Blue Star marker will take place on Sunday, April 19, at 1:00 p.m. at Fire Station No. 4 at the corner of Calle Mayor and Pacific Coast Highway.

17E. Councilmember Sutherland announced that the Torrance Civic Chorale and Orchestra will be presenting a concert of American and English music on Saturday, April 25, at 8:00 p.m. in the Armstrong Theatre, with information available at the box office, 310.781.7171.

17F. Councilmember Sutherland announced upcoming Armed Forces Day events, noting that there will be a Navy band concert on Friday, May 15, at 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. and the annual parade will take place on Saturday, May 16, at 1:30 p.m.

17G. Mayor Pro Tem Brewer encouraged everyone to attend Bunka-Sai, the Japanese cultural festival sponsored by the Torrance Sister City Association, to be held on April 18 and April 19 at the Ken Miller Recreation Center.

17H. Mayor Pro Tem Brewer wished his wife Carolyn a happy birthday.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Considered earlier in the meeting, see page 1.

19. ADJOURNMENT

At 10:44 p.m., the meeting was adjourned to Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. for an executive session, with the regular meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Attest:

/s/ Frank Scotto
Mayor of the City of Torrance

/s/ Sue Herbers
Sue Herbers,
City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved on June 16, 2009