**Altadena Town Council**

**Community Standards District Committee**

**Minutes: February 26, 2013**

**1. Members present:** Mark Goldschmidt, Dan Harlow, Marge Nichols, Jim Osterling, Tecumseh Shackelford. Absent: Ed Myers (out of town), Meredith Miller (ill). Regional Planning staff: Adam Thurtell, Mitch Glazer, and Altadena Town Council Liaison: Jamie Bissner.

**2. Secretary’s Report: MSC**: – Approved minutes of February 12 meeting. The report provided by Regional Planning staff has been appended to the minutes so that any new members or others will be able to see what was presented.

**3. Committee name:** ATC Chairman Broadus announced at the February 19 ATC meeting that this committee name should be Community Standards District (CSD) Committee, rather than CSD/Vision Committee as agreed at the February 12 meeting.

**4. Additional committee members:** This item was moved up on the agenda. An email on February 26 from ATC Liaison Bissner stated that the committee should interview additional candidates and vote on those to be accepted. Candidates were requested to attend the February 26 meeting. In addition to Craig Sloane and Marietta Kruell who applied earlier, there were five additional candidates:

* Donald Kirkland
* George Jenkins
* Terry Turrentine
* Darrin Lyons
* Jonathan Potter (application submitted to Chairman Broadus via email on February 25)

There was an extended discussion on whether the ATC Chairman would appoint members (as noted in February 12 minutes), as opposed to having the CSD Committee select members. In view of ATC Bylaws which indicate that the Chairman appoints committee members, it was agreed to hear from the applicants who attended tonight’s meeting, then discuss how to proceed.

Applicants in attendance included Marietta Kruell, Craig Stone, Jonathan Potter and Terry Turretine. Each of the applicants made a brief presentation about their experience and interest in the committee and answered questions from committee members.

After hearing from applicants, everyone was excused from the meeting except committee members. It was agreed that the committee would seek clarification about process from the ATC Chair and the committee drafted a statement to be emailed to Chairman Broadus, as follows:

We received an email from Jamie Bissner [that the committee should vote on candidates] but it was unclear if it was coming from him or from you. If the direction in Jamie’s email is what you wish we will complete the process and will have a special meeting to interview candidates. We would like to recommend a maximum committee size of 11 members.

*Note: Following the meeting* *the communication was sent to ATC Chair, who responded and confirmed that the ATC Chair will select the committee members and that the ATC Chair requested that the current CSD committee members interview the candidates and submit our recommendations to the ATC Chair.*

It was noted that we haven’t started work yet, and may not be able to finish the CSD revision and report to Town Council by June. However, it was agreed that if we rush through and the result is not what it should be, the outcome will not be good. We probably need to take more time and not be rushed in the process.

**5. Chair’s Report:**  No report: Myers was out of town

**6. Meeting Space:** We are still looking for a place to hold 2nd Tuesday meetings, since Community Center space is not available. Space should be adequate to include community members as well as the committee. Altadena Library and Loma Alta Loma Park are not available, and Sheriff’s station meeting room is too small. Altadena Community Church and Alta Pasa Community Improvement Center were suggested. It was noted that when meeting agendas are distributed they should show time and place of meeting to avoid confusion.

**7. Vice Chair’s Report:** Osterling reported that has been in touch with Eric Duyshart of the Pasadena Planning Department, who could be available to provide a briefing on planning processes to achieve economic development and other needed results. The committee agreed to have a private briefing for members, off site and off calendar. Osterling will work on a date for this session (Mondays are good for several members).

**New Business:**

1. **Public attendance/participation/public comment:** Regular meetings of the committee will provide for public attendance and comment.
2. **Commercial development moratorium:** This proposal was voted down at the February 19 ATC meeting, and is now moot.
3. **Online posting of committee work:** ATC now is reported to have an intern available to update the website. We will request that committee minutes and reports provided by the county be posted on the ATC website. The committee will agree on any other materials to be posted.
4. **Working groups:** It was previously suggested that we form working groups on residential and commercial standards. However, areas of the community are very different, and we may need to study sectors of the community separately. Working groups should visit each area and report findings to the committee. We also need to consider issues arising from sale of property in county-owned redevelopment areas.

**MSC:** when the committee is complete, we will divide into working groups on residential and commercial standards, as well as groups to study different areas of the community.

1. **Chamber report:** Harlow reported that reviewing records from Chamber of Commerce files has revealed a large amount of material on prior efforts concerning community standards. “Altadena Betterment” files show the reasoning behind the current CSD. These efforts were well intentioned but didn’t produce good outcomes, so we need to learn from mistakes that were made. Numerous studies and reports from these files will be scanned and made available to the committee.

Harlow reported an extended conversation with Gene Detchemendy, who offered to organize a briefing session with Lake Avenue property owners as to their perspective on doing business in Altadena. A session with leasing brokers was also proposed to help to identify why rental rates for Altadena properties are significantly higher than space in Old Town Pasadena. The committee agreed that such briefing sessions, organized off site and off calendar, would be useful as background information.

**Public Comment:** None.

**MSC to adjourn at 8:40 pm.**