**Altadena Town Council**

**Community Standards District Committee**

**Minutes: March 12, 2013**

(Meeting held at Altadena Community Church)

**1. Members present:** Mark Goldschmidt, Dan Harlow, Marge Nichols, Jim Osterling, Tecumseh Shackelford, Ed Myers, Meredith Miller, Jonathan Potter, Peggy Taylor. Absent: George Jenkins, Donald Kirkland.

**2. Secretary’s Report: MSC**: – Approved minutes of March 5 meeting.

**3. New Members:** Peggy Taylor was introduced. She and other members introduced themselves. Jenkins and Kirkland were unable to attend due to short notice of their appointment.

**4. Reports:**

**President.** Myers reported that following scheduling problems at the community center, arrangements are being made to hold regular meetings there or at the Altadena Senior Center. An orderly meeting is important to accomplish our tasks.

**Secretary.** Nichols asked for suggestions about posting CSD Committee material on the Town Council website, which will be done by an intern. The consensus was that we will post approved minutes, meeting schedule, how to contact us. Materials provided by the county will be posted in a Resources section. The arrangement used by the Land Use Committee was suggested as a model.

**5 a. What will happen after we review/revise/recommend? Any obligation to see implementation? When is our work due?** It was noted that the group that worked on the hillsides ordinance continued to meet informally for several years to wrap up details. The originalintention was to submit recommendations by June, but there is no reason that date is mandatory. Formally, we report to Town Council on standards, then Regional Planning writes up code, the Supervisors vote on it and we’re done. Taylor suggested the idea of an “enforcement” group to monitor implementation and work with the county to ensure enforcement.

**5 b. Working groups:** Commercial and residential work could be done separately. Commercial zones differ in various parts of town, for example, the Lincoln corridor has open spaces from redevelopment work, unlike other areas. Zones would include Lake, Fair Oaks, Altadena Drive, Lincoln and Washington. We need to study zoning, problems and needs of each zone, which could be done by the commercial and residential groups, going through the Community Standards for each type to identify problems, then have the groups report back as we discuss solutions. Is more community input needed for these groups? One person thought it would be desirable but most felt the Visioning process had served that purpose and further input is not needed until the time for a hearing when recommendations are complete.

The committee will request private briefing sessions (educational sessions, no votes taken) from landowners of large parcels, leasing agents and community planners. We would like to hear from La Crescenta about how they have implemented their recently developed community standards.

A question was raised about the residential standards draft posted on the Land Use Committee portion of the Town Council website. Goldschmidt will send members the draft that was prepared for R1 properties, noting that it doesn’t cover challenging issues of fences and hedges, but in any case that portion of the standards is not being enforced at this time. The question came up about whether residential standards should be considered for the whole community, or are there differences among areas that need to be taken into account, including R1, R2 and R3 areas.

The committee agrees to have two working groups for residential (Goldschmidt, Potter, Nichols, Jenkins, Kirkland) and commercial (Miller, Myers, Osterling, Shackelford, Harlow, Turner.)

**5 c. Favorite ideas to consider:** Each member shared interests to be investigated.

* Tackle the no drive through ordinance (not 24 hour) such as gourmet coffee, bank, or pharmacy.
* Outdoor seating for dining
* Expanded parking
* Business signage
* Fences
* Mansionization
* Limits on chickens or roosters
* Adding to height limits for mixed commercial/residential use
* Third floor setbacks
* Encourage roof use
* Living spaces in commercial zones
* Range of home agricultural uses for animals and crops
* More consistent uses
* Street retail: get rid of post WW II suburban development.
* Need to create parking for anchor tenants
* Parking shared in common
* Crosswalk across Altadena Drive for pedestrial access to Rite Aid parcel

Next meeting: March 26, 6:30 pm, Altadena Senior Center next to the library.

**6. MSC to adjourn at 8:25 pm.**