

Altadena Town Council
Community Standards Committee
Minutes: November 26, 2013

1. **Members Present:** Mark Goldschmidt, Daniel Harlow, Ed Meyers, Marge Nichols, Jim Osterling, Jonathan Potter. Absent: George Jenkins, Don Kirkland, Meredith Miller, Tecumseh Shackelford. Brianna Menke, Regional Planning. Observers: Steve Zeider.
2. **Minutes:** M/S/C approval of October 22 minutes after a quorum was reached. 1 abstention due to absence. No minutes were taken at the November 11 meeting since there was not a quorum.
3. **Reports: Chair:** Encouraged members to enter comments in Google Docs and continue making notations. **Vice Chair:** Reported meeting with Richard Bruckner, head of County Regional Planning. Discussing permits for Bed & Breakfast establishments, Bruckner mentioned that there have been problems with frequent loud outdoor events at one B&B. We need to consider issues like that for B&Bs, possibly by regulating them with no food service to avoid Health Department compliance problems. We could also specify that B&Bs must also provide on site (not street) parking for guests. **Secretary:** Michael Balian, owner of several commercial properties, expressed interest in talking with the committee but no date has been arranged so far.
4. **Old Business:** Residential subgroup discussions have dealt with prevailing setback (average of setbacks on a block) vs. a specific minimum setback for construction of fences or structures. Mark Goldschmidt found an interesting set of regulations for the city of Poway with specifications for corner and driveway setbacks that address safety issues. Altadena has many properties with tall hedges that function like walls, often planted so close to the street as to obstruct drivers' vision. Setback requirements for fences could be from the curb, from the sidewalk, or from the pavement for areas that have neither curbs nor sidewalks. Setbacks should be from the property line in every case. We will propose a required setback of 5 feet from the furthest in of the above, rather than requiring the prevailing setback. The group recommends requiring a Director's Review for fences over 42" rather than the current requirement for a Conditional Use Permit which is much more expensive.

Commercial group has discussed billboards in disrepair and how can we deal with this issue. County code 6502.10 specifies that billboards must be kept in good repair. When signs rip due to weather or aging, some forms of control are needed, as calls are sometimes fixed and some not. The CSD could specify that no new billboards could be allowed. CSD may already specify this.

5. **New Business:** It was suggested to have a forum, inviting property owners (not businesses who are renters) to discuss their interests and concerns. Mark will write a letter to invite about six property owners. Dorn Platz, with developers for Lincoln Crossing was suggested.
6. **Public comment:** None.
7. **Adjournment:** M/S/C to adjourn at 8:27.