

Summer 2010 meeting Minutes

Elaine Michaels - Presentation regarding tourism. She believes we can cut down the number of carriers that come up here.

David Schafer – He has photos re Deronda Drive - buses illegally parking. Enforcement needed.

Hank Pinczower lives on Deronda and Rockcliff - tourists and buses park illegally - we need policemen to give tickets and maybe the chamber can be involved.

Eric lives on Winans and Beachwood - Tour vans increasing - double parking - people at stop signs gun their engines to pass. Was side swiped and hit unrelated and feels that it's only a matter of time. Speeding.

Beachwood resident: There have been deaths due to traffic. There never has been this many tourists here. There is noise from the PA Systems 7 days a week till after 8 pm. Causes traffic and noise issues.

Rodrigues: The street is becoming more and more congested. He recalls two twins that died trying to make a turn so we already have traffic issues and tour buses are parking in front of his driveway. Why doesn't common sense kick in? Wishes there were a designated place where people can take photos.

Scenic and Beachwood says that the white vans speed all the time. She called them and told them to slow down. They have been better. Law enforcement should come.

2533 Beachwood: seems to be a focus for families to take a photo from the middle of the street.

Linda: walks up Beachwood every day and in the hills. She's worried about the kids in the street. Tourists go up on the trails and smoke. Doesn't see rangers give warnings for smoking.

Resident: Lives down the street and heard a good idea, that taking out a bus stop to create a zone for tourists to stand out of the street.

Next to the gates: says it's getting much worse. Postal worker says that it takes them 10 minutes to get from the village down. We need a policeman there to make money giving tickets. She suggests that someone direct traffic and protect the public. She even had photos of her driveway being blocked.

David Schafer showed a photo of a mailman being blocked in by tourist vans.

Another neighbor who hikes sees tourists smoking. He just noticed a sign at the trailhead: "Horses this way, view of the Hollywood Sign".

Frank Pierson: Doesn't want to discourage tourism - we should embrace them and welcome them. The tourist experience needs to be controlled in an intelligent way. There is money to be made here. Top of Deronda is a disaster with tourists - cars and vans. Signs do need to be posted in different languages. How can we communicate with all these people from all over the world? There needs to be a way. "Be respectful. There are ways - obey the traffic laws (pedestrian and vehicle). Don't stand out in the street." There needs to be big signs to welcome them and spell out the laws and requirements. Motion Cameras?

Labonge:

Sharon Shapiro introduced, Stacey Marble. Tom thanked us for putting this together. He mentions that the GPS sends people to Deronda to view the Hollywood Sign. JPL governs the location of Hollywood Sign. He wants to change that location to Lake Hollywood. This will discourage rent a car users from going to Deronda. Tom worked with Ferraro to move that gate at the top of Deronda to keep people from going up there. Wants to see a tower built at Pep Boys as a view for the Hollywood Sign. Olivia mentioned that the Google shows them our neighborhood.

Starline Tour put wireless head sets on their customers. Tom will look at making that a regulation.

He also wants to get the tourists back to the Observatory. Work with Chamber to get promotions.

He mentioned the Cahuenga Peak purchase. He wants trailheads on Forest Lawn Drive and the LADWP property to direct people to experience this area without going into the neighborhood. They need to be directed to the Observatory.

Neighbor mentioned that people want a shot of the Hollywood Sign. They stop wherever they want.

The neighbors contend that there is a serious problem up on Deronda and on Beachwood

Resident: Mentioned a stretch limo blocking his driveway.

Resident: She mentioned that she has Prius cars and no one can hear her car when they are in the street. Smoking from tourists is a problem so she takes their photo "in case there's a fire - they'll know who is smoking." She saw a tour bus do a u-turn up on Mulholland. Also, there is the loading and unloading at the top of Deronda. She likes the idea of timing them so we don't have so many at once. Fire safety is important.

Cable car at Griffith park?

Patrick owns Rockin Hollywood Tours. They have 8 buses spending 8 minutes. NO stopping to let people out - no PA use up here and they will give us their cell phones: 818-267-4416

Ted Luezingler on Deronda. He hates the use of PA Systems.

Linda Silverstein - tells Tom why General Services can't monitor this. Tom understands that.

Tom wants a committee of five or six to go up to get some idea of what's going on - with Battalion Five to get up here as well.

Olivia moved here 25 years ago and loves it.

Kitty lives on Beachwood and finds tourists walking up her driveway to take a picture - she even has tourists wanting to go to the bathroom.

Starline Tours - been here for 43 years. We don't bring our people to the sign. If tourists come in mini buses, they will be controlled much better because they don't or don't have to get off the bus. If everyone takes a van, that's less cars up here. They are the ONLY ones who use headsets.

Tom wants to get a State law

Tom asked for a committee of five to work with him on resolutions to the tourist impacts on our community.

David Schafer, Linda Silverstein, Oliva Duke, Fran Reichenbach and Lee Denbart volunteered.

West Traffic - Officer Cordero says he gives everyone tickets including tour buses. Hank wants parking enforcement.

Cordero says Parking enforcement stays only a while.

Traffic guys will hang out at Beachwood at Glen Holly and also address the pedestrian issue as well.

Resident: Suggested Dummy vehicles - Neighbor insists that it's tourists in rental cars.

Leron is willing to work with the neighbors and has instructed his staff NOT to tell them to go to Beachwood.

SLO Maggie Dillard wants tour buses to give a pamphlet to their patrons with the rules of the community. (In many languages)...

Crime spree up Beachwood - burglary from motor vehicle - rich boy hanging with bad boys burglarizing from several vehicles. Bad guys caught and in custody...

Neighbors asked if the police need more money for more cops. Yes!!!

Sharon Shapiro:

Thanked the neighbors and says Tom has sent letters to all the legal tour companies. Most have agreed to turn off the PA Systems prior to entering the neighborhood. Public utility light to be installed while the Vintage Light is ordered.