

**Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council**  
**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

**Wednesday, June 11, 2008**

**North Valley Neighborhood City Hall, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA**

Attendance: 76, Board 17, Audience: 59

1. **Call to Order** by Victor Castro, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, STNC. (It was announced that STNC president Dan McManus needed emergency knee surgery).

Flag Salute - Boy Scouts. **Introduction of STNC Board:** Elizabeth Jahelka, Ricky Grubb, Edmund Novy, Berj Zadoian, Tomi-Lyn Bowling, Nina Royal, Cindy Cleghorn, Olina Lowe, Bill Manning, Belinda Woodruff, Richard Stewart, Marti Marshall, Mark Seigel, Ben Vandertuin, Victor Castro, John Blue, and parliamentarian Shirley Kellstrom. **Absent:** Lydia Grant, Dan McManus, Mose Mose, Jenny Rodriguez and Deborah Ray.

**2. LAPD Sr. Lead, Handouts, notices, sign-in sheets, speaker cards, agenda timeline.**

Nina Royal announced the National Safety Fair at Bolton Hall, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

There is also a So. CA Emergency Response Disaster Drill coming up. Attend the Safety Committee meeting to learn more.

**Crime Report:** Tujunga Senior Lead Police Officer Rich Wall: There was a hostage situation involving guns on Leolang at Wentworth this week. It was a domestic violence incident but there was no homicide. The suspect was arrested. There were two homicides in the Foothill Division, both involving gangs. Officer Wall said the #1 crime in our area is motor vehicle burglaries. He asked that everyone tell their neighbors not to leave valuables in their cars anywhere they are parked.

Mike Dobry, president of the Foothill Area Boosters Association, spoke about their efforts to raise money for Foothill Area police programs and youth groups that are not funded by the City. On July 26<sup>th</sup>, the FABA Car and Motorcycle Show will take place at Grace Community Church on Roscoe Blvd. in Sun Valley. And on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008, they will hold their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Golf Tournament (no details were given).

3. **Approval of Minutes & Secretary's report.** Marti Marshall asked for the name and number of the Boy Scout Troop that did the flag salute be added to April's minutes. The minutes were approved as corrected. Cindy Cleghorn said that she attended the L.A. Neighborhood Councils Coalition last weekend. She reported on the top issues they discussed.

**4. Treasurer's Report:** Mark Seigel reported on the status of prior quarterly reports to DONE. He said the balance remaining in the STNC account is \$22,699.82. This figure includes most all the Election costs. He added that the funds transfer was recently completed for the \$7,000 allocated for the Volunteer Surveillance Team.

**5. Elected Officials Announcements:**

CD2's Jackie Keene spoke about the new graffiti abatement cards which have the phone #s to call to report graffiti and important police department phone #s. She said Councilwoman Greuel is committed to keeping the community graffiti free. She attended an open house at the Bureau of Sanitation recently. At that meeting, she was told that the Bureau is available to advise homeowners on measures they can take with tree root problems or other situations involving plumbing and sanitation. This can save homeowners a lot of money and the service is free. She asked residents to report locations in town where weeds are left untended by calling '311.' She spoke about the installation of the new lights to illuminate Olde Towne Commerce Ave. They arrived without graffiti proof paint but that has since been resolved.

Jackie then presented STNC's John Blue, Bylaws committee chair Bill Skiles and STNC office administrator Ed Rock with Certificates of Appreciation from the Councilwoman.

Millie Jones from Supervisor Michael Antonovich's office then spoke about the County's '211' information number regarding issues on county land. She said people can also call her with any questions at: (818) 993-5170. The County is getting ready to adopt their new \$22 billion budget. Deliberations get underway next week. Their priorities are public safety, foster care, enhancement of parks, nature centers, equestrian and hiking trails and Saving the Verdugo Hills Golf Course.

**6. Public Comment (non-agenda items)**

- Ricky Grubb proposed that, as part of the new community plan, he would like to see three ecological areas designated in our area: the Verdugo Mountains, Tujunga Wash and Verdugo Hills. He wants to work with the DAC to try to get an official proposal together.
- Sheri Smith of the S-T Alliance spoke about efforts underway with the Verdugo Hills Golf Course Committee and thanked Councilmember Greuel for her work to defeat AB 212.
- Joe Barrett, president of S-T Alliance announced his candidacy for Honorary Sheriff of Sunland – Tujunga. The pancake breakfast was a success last weekend. Their next and final fundraiser takes place the evening of Sat. June 21 from 6 – 9 p.m. at the Elks Lodge. There will be food, music and Nina will teach Country line dancing.

- Student Max Warner thanked the community for supporting him on the Relay Walk for Cancer. He raised \$743.00 and his school raised over \$8,000.
- Nina Royal made an announcement for Education Rep. Lydia Grant. Nina and Lydia attended an LAUSD forum to explore whether to introduce uniforms for public school students.
- S-T Rotary President Michael Lucas spoke about the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and asked those who want to be in the parade or to be a sponsor to fill out the forms asap.
- DONE Rep. Melvin Canas said goodbye. He is being reassigned and his replacement, Grayce Liu was introduced. He reminded the board to distribute and turn in stakeholder surveys.

**7. STNC Committee Appointments** – Motion to ratify STNC committee members for the '08-'09 year:

**(Cleghorn) moved that the committee members listed on the agenda for Budget, Bylaws, Safety and Outreach be approved with the following changes: Cindy Cleghorn be removed from Bylaws. Edmund Novy, Berj Zadoian and Marti Marshall be added to Bylaws. Belinda Woodruff, Ed Novy, Susan Potthoff, Leona Swan, and Marti Marshall be added to Outreach. The motion carried: 15-0-1.** Deborah Ray's appointment to the Budget Committee was postponed as her name was left off the meeting agenda and she was absent from the meeting.

Budget: Bill Skiles, David Cain, Ed Rock and Mark Seigel, Treasurer, to serve as chair per STNC bylaws.

Bylaws: Mark Seigel (Chair) Bill Skiles, Ed Rock, Shirley Kellstrom, Edmund Novy, Berj Zadoian and Marti Marshall.

Safety: Nina Royal (Chair), Gordon Lee, Susan Potthoff, Mark Seigel, Steve Benardczyk, and Olina Lowe.

Outreach: Region Representatives, Jerry Hovsepian, Heela Cohen, Belinda Woodruff, Ed Novy, Susan Potthoff, Leona Swan, and Marti Marshall.

Design Advisory Committee: **(Cleghorn) moved that the following members be ratified. Victor Castro IV, Debby Beck, Cindy Cleghorn, Lloyd Hitt, Bill Manning, Aram Avayan, Tomi Lyn Bowling, and Vic Agakhanian, Deborah Ray and Dean Sherer.** Discussion: Dean introduced himself and summarized his reasons for wanting to serve on the DAC. **The motion carried.**

New board member Ed Novy expressed interest in serving on the DAC, as well, but it was pointed out that a maximum of five board members serving on this committee had already been filled. If a DAC member cannot make it to meetings in the future, the board will consider appointing Novy.

Education Outreach: Action on this committee was postponed as the chair, Lydia Grant, was absent.

Those requesting to serve on the Education Committee include: Lydia Grant (chair), Mose Mose, Carol Triunfo, Marie (Pinewood), Cheryl, Mark Seigel, Deborah Ray.

Committee Purpose: committee in the absence of an active and effective PTA to surface and share practices employed by local LAUSD schools and parents for the purpose of improving the educational environment in the Sunland-Tujunga area.

## **8. Design Advisory Committee Report:**

a. Jim Dantona, Planning Deputy to CD2 reiterated that AB 212 has been withdrawn.

b. Report on Baseline Mansionization Ordinance - next step: Sunland-Tujunga RFA District: Jim talked about the Baseline Mansionization Ordinance about to take effect next month and confirmed that City Planning is working on Sunland-Tujunga's Interim Control Mansionization Ordinance, which will also take effect next month. Regarding the recent Community Plan meetings, he said that there was a lot of good input presented.

c. Report on 8040 Foothill - former Kmart site

Shadow Hills Property Owners Association meeting with HD. Jim said their presentation was similar to that presented at other meetings. The open house they have planned at the end of June at Mt. Gleason was also discussed. Jim said to date, HD has not submitted the environmental documents for their application.

Joe Barrett stated that the Home Depot Open House is being held illegally. Public schools are not allowed to host meetings by commercial entities; they can only allow non profits to utilize their facilities. Additionally, the HD mailer that recently went out did not include the necessary disclaimer saying that they are not affiliated with LAUSD. Joe said he called the permit person in charge of granting this permit to HD. Kathie Friedman of the LAUSD Civic Center Permit Office attributed the granting of the permit to 'clerical error.' Joe asked those interested to call Julie Korenstein at the Board of Education or Kathie Friedman and ask them to revoke the permit. (Kathie Friedman: 818 587-4350 or Julie Korenstein: 213 241-6388 or email: [Julie.korenstein@lausd.net](mailto:Julie.korenstein@lausd.net). Additionally, Joe pointed out that the principal at Mt. Gleason was passed over in the normal permitting process to use the facilities at Mt. Gleason and she was not told about this until after the fact

**d. (Cleghorn) recommended the board support DAC's recommendations for the following project: Support for 9930 Commerce – An addition of 825 sq. ft to the rear of the building of this Water/Ice Flowers & Gift Shop. The motion carried.**

Status on other projects under review or to be scheduled: An auto body project at the corner of Plainview and Apperson is being reviewed. They are proposing to demolish two residences on Plainview to expand their business. There is also a proposal coming in from the new owners of the former Arrigato Japanese restaurant property on Foothill by Haines Canyon.

**9. Other Committees:**

a. Outreach: **(Royal/Grubb) moved that STNC allocate \$200 for table space at the FTDNC's Hansen Dam 4th of July event. The motion failed with a vote of 5-8-1** (John Blue, a FTDNC board member recused himself from the vote). **(Cleghorn) moved that STNC offer the FTDNC a booth at the July 4<sup>th</sup> Family Festival in exchange for a booth at their July 4<sup>th</sup> Hanson Dam Festival. The motion carried.**

b. Safety: Nina Royal announced a meeting on June 19th at 6 p.m. at N. Valley City Hall to prepare for National Night Out event. Tomi Bowling announced that more sponsors are needed for the S-T July 4th, 2008 Family Festival Fireworks. **(Royal) moved that STNC support the National Night Out event on August 5th, 2008 and that \$300 from the Outreach budget be allocated to promote and arrange the event. The motion carried.**

**10. Board Member Reports:**

Olina Lowe reported that a member of the Foothill Forum suggested STNC host cultural awareness and bridge building. Olina attended the Community Planning meeting at the Senior Center in Sunland and said attendance was very low - only five participants. She said there will be another round of meetings in the future. She reported a pickup truck was seen whirling in the Tujunga Wash. She pointed out that this type of incident is harmful to the environment, the animals that have habitats there, native plants, and the community.

Richard Stewart spoke about organizations serving the community's local youth.

Tomi Bowling, Business Rep, met with Councilwoman Greuel as STNC's business rep. Suggestion in putting together a grassroots mailer for building business in the community. Efforts are underway to get a Beeline bus to provide local service to the community of S – T. She talked about incentives currently available for businesses locating here – no business taxes for the first two years after moving here and no business taxes if your business grosses under \$100,000 annually. Meetings are

underway with Trader Joes to try to get them to take space on Foothill Boulevard in Tujunga.

**11. New Business:**

- a. Q-Star: **(Cleghorn/Manning) moved that STNC approve up to \$3,500.00 for Q-Star Camera in coordination with CD2. If approved, CD will match the amount.** Cindy said the board would be able to provide input on where to locate this camera and two 'dummy' cameras to tape crime in the community. **(Novy/Woodruff) moved to amend the motion saying that STNC requests a three year warranty also be covered by this funding.** After discussion, Novy said he would like to withdraw the motion as it appeared the warranty would be covered. However the parliamentarian said the vote had to be held. **The amended motion failed.** The board then voted on the original motion. **The motion carried.**
- b. Foothills Paper: **(Lowe/Marshall) moved that STNC Outreach be approved to spend \$500 for a full page ad (back cover) in The Foothills Paper to promote outreach and 4th of July events with community organizations in coordination with the STNC. (Seigel/Manning) amended this motion to offer \$500 to the N. Valley Reporter for similar advertising.** (Nina Royal recused herself from the discussion, the meeting room and vote as editor of the N. Valley Reporter). Both motions were referred to the Executive Committee for further action.
- c. AB 212: **(Royal/Seigel) moved to send a letter opposing AB 212 to the Assembly and City Council.** AB 212 would require the City of Los Angeles to consider an application to amend the zoning ordinance to conform to the general plan based on the application date.  
[http://info.sen.ca.gov/pub/0708/bill/asm/ab\\_02010250/ab\\_212\\_cfa\\_20080529\\_104550\\_sen\\_comm.html](http://info.sen.ca.gov/pub/0708/bill/asm/ab_02010250/ab_212_cfa_20080529_104550_sen_comm.html). Nina explained that while this bill was withdrawn this week, it is still possible that it could be initiated. CD2's Jim Dantona agreed that correspondence could be sent to the Assembly Committee that was discussing it. **The motion carried: 8-4-2 with 1 recusal.**
- d. Sober Living Houses: **(Royal/Seigel) moved that STNC support Land Use control recommendations to regulate Sober Living Homes (CF 07- 3427).** Victor Castro recommended it be referred to the DAC and acted on prior to July 18<sup>th</sup>. **The motion carried.**
- e. DWP rate increase event with neighboring NCs. Tabled to next meeting.
- f. STNC Chair Report - ABC 7 Listens Town Hall event. Tabled.

12: **Stakeholder & Board Assessment** – Former board members (2007-08) and current board members (2008-09) as well as stakeholders were asked to fill out the board assessment prior to June 30. The assessment forms are available on the STNC web site and were also at the meeting.

13. **Public Comments** (non agenda items):

- Nina said that she would attend a hearing on the housing element for the General Plan.
- John Blue offered to donate \$100 in matching funds to purchase a table at FTDNC's July 4<sup>th</sup> event.
- Tomi Bowling reminded the board that FTDNC backed up the DAC on the HD issue.
- A stakeholder suggested rethinking buying the table for the event.
- Lloyd Hitt said he did not believe you could 'buy' a vote from FTDNC by purchasing a table.

14. **Meeting Adjourned:** 10:17 p.m.

The next STNC is Wednesday, July 9, 2008 at Mt. Gleason Middle School, 10965 Mt. Gleason Ave., Sunland

Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One.