

SUNLAND-TUJUNGA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Board Meeting Minutes for March 24, 2010
At N. Valley City Hall

Prior to the start of this meeting a STNC Candidates Mixer was held from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. to give an opportunity for the community to meet candidates running for the STNC board.

1. **Call to Order 7:40 p.m.** by STNC President Dan McManus. Roll Call: Mark Seigel, Lydia Grant, Ed Novy, Belinda Woodruff, John Laue, Nina Royal, Cindy Cleghorn, Dan McManus, Tomi Lyn Bowling, Janet Linsalato, Barbara Johnson, David Cain, Richard Stewart, John Blue.

Dan explained the neighborhood council process. Cindy gave information about the election on March 27.

2. **Update on satellite campus for L.A. Mission College.** Larry Eisenberg, Director of Facilities, L.A. College District, recounted how the Sunland-Tujunga area was identified as an underserved community college area. With the passage of Measure J in Nov. 2008, they were able to allocate funds for a series of satellite projects which led to exploring the former K-Mart site in Sunland as a potential satellite campus. The college has since looked at purchasing the property from the owner but the Sade Trust (the owner of the land) is asking twice the appraised value. They do have the option of taking the property by eminent domain but don't really want to do that. He also mentioned that Home Depot is still leasing the property – at a loss to them. If they are able to purchase the property, they would establish a 25,000 – 30,000' building with ten classrooms, a library, a computer lab, administrative space and a lounge. The lot could also be shared with Target. The corporate office of Target has indicated that they are interested in joining them on that property. Ideally, the campus would bring in 1,500 – 2,000 students between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 10 p.m. Mr. Eisenberg then answered questions from the board and stakeholders.
3. **City Budget Cuts:** SEIU President Bob Schoonover spoke about the impact of the city's proposed budget cuts referring to the ineptitude of city officials in making budget cuts and the long-term impact of funding cuts to Sunland Park. He presented a letter to the Board which will go on the next agenda.
 - a. Board member Ed Novy, who is the STNC's Budget Rep to the Mayor and

Budget Advocate to the North Valley, called the budget crisis a “shared sacrifice” saying everybody has to suffer some. In a recent meeting with the Mayor, he found the Mayor interested in involving neighborhood councils in the decision-making process. He reviewed the city’s budget shortfall: \$200 million this year and estimated at \$400,000 next year. The Mayor has suggested cutting 4,000 city workers or asking those in city government to take a 5% - 10% wage and benefit cut. Ed said that the Mayor’s idea to sell city assets was not an option however, the city will salvage parking services. He also indicated that the city’s libraries, park services, police and fire departments would be affected. Ed suggested it was time for private sponsorships and volunteerism to take up the slack. Other proposals that have been suggested include “greening” (with solar panels) Ontario Airport to cut out DWP fees, taxing drinks by 25-cents at all restaurants and bars in the city, and initiating a ‘right of way’ fee for fixing roads. Ed will meet with the Mayor’s Deputy on April 1st to look at ways to get through the budget crisis after which time, the Mayor will present a proposal to the City Council. Ed urged stakeholders to keep in touch with the various City committees who have power over the budget.

- b. Board member Belinda Woodruff added that Public Works’ contractors have been sent letters to reduce their fees by 10%. The number of Public Works’ contractors may also be reduced by 10%.

4. Public Comment:

- Marc Dodell thanked Richard Stewart for mowing the lawn at the Verdugo Hills Golf Course.
- John Blue reminded everyone that he is a write in candidate in the election.
- Granada Hills South NC outreach member Sean Rivas spoke about their event on Thursday, April 8, 6:30 pm.
- Nina Royal invited the board to the S-T Family Safety Fair on August 21, 2010.
- Chet Mickowski, a stakeholder at 7303 Summitrose (Las Lunitas) talked about T-Mobile’s request to put up a cell phone tower on his property. He doesn’t want it disrupting his life and asked STNC for help. Dan referred him to the Land Use Committee.
- Contractor Shay Struthers wants to restore Hansen Dam to a recreational lake at no cost to the city. He will post information on this on The Foothills Forum.

- 5. Board Meeting Minutes:** The board approved the minutes from the February 2010 and March 10, 2010 board meetings by unanimous consent.

6. **City Approval for the July 4th Fireworks Exhibition Fees:** Dan stated that CD2's Jackie Keene is working on this and no action is needed by the board.

7. **Land Use Committee:**

Tomi stated that the LUC received request from the Lopez Canyon Landfill Appeal movement to support their letter and appeal. Dan explained that STNC has voted to support the appeal opposing the truck driving school proposed for the landfill. The board approved this by unanimous consent and will send the letter to the appropriate parties.

Tomi spoke about The Shadow Hills Property Owners Association which has written a letter regarding a final draft of the Hillside Ordinance and requesting the use of native plants. The LUC has recommended sending this letter. The board approved this by unanimous consent.

8. **July 4th Parade Fees: (Stewart/Bowling) moved that STNC allocate \$3,909 to the Outreach Budget to cover the City's fee for the July 4th Parade.**

Treasurer Mark Seigel said it's questionable if STNC has the money because several demand warrants that he submitted last year were not paid and thus, it would come out of the STNC's current funds. If the payment could be made in the next fiscal year, after July 1st, then it would be possible. The motion was tabled and referred to the Budget Committee for review. Ed Novy said monies might be available from community organizations to help cover the costs.

9. **Board Comments & Announcements:**

- The next LUC meeting is Monday, April 5th.
- Dan encouraged everyone to vote in the STNC election.
- Treasurer Mark Seigel said his committee has completed and turned in four more quarters of financial information that the City was seeking from previous financial info.

10. **Meeting Adjourned at 9:10 p.m.**

- *Minutes by Pat Kramer, Kelly Services* -