

## STNC MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 8, 2010

North Valley Neighborhood City Hall

7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA 91042

1. **Call to Order** at 7:00 p.m. by STNC President Dan McManus. Pledge of Allegiance led by Boy Scout Pack 307. Meeting overview and introduction of STNC Board: Ed Novy, Barbara Johnson, Brenda Fortune, Arsen Karamians, Cindy Cleghorn, Dan McManus, David Cain, Mark Seigel, Olina Lowe, Mary Mulalley, Lydia Grant, Janet Linsalato, Richard Stewart, Nanci Calliouet, Jodie Brittan & John Blue, Belinda Woodruff (arrived late). Dan introduced elected officials and City staff in attendance. Board members absent: John Laue, Tomi Lyn Bowling, Cara DeCaro
2. **President's Report:** Dan asked board members to help with Outreach efforts. He asked Region reps to attend Outreach meetings. He spoke about Vice President Tomi Bowling's "Best of Sunland-Tujunga" awards and the availability of voting ballots at meetings and on the website. He also thanked everyone who contributed to this evening's pot luck and ice cream dessert prior to the board meeting.
3. **Outreach Report** – David Cain, VP Outreach, credited those who helped organize the evening's pot luck dinner and ice cream dessert: SIS Chicken & Ralphs made contributions. He acknowledged the success of the Watermelon Festival noting that 75 people filled out a survey on business improvement sites, including stores they would like to see in the S-T area with TARGET being requested the most. The next Outreach meeting is Sept. 16, 7 p.m. at the Tujunga YMCA.
4. **Public Safety Report** – Nina Royal, Safety Chair, suggested stakeholders go online to see what crimes are being committed in their neighborhoods: [www.lapdonline](http://www.lapdonline) then click on "Crime Map" for updated reports. While Sunland-Tujunga has a lower crime rate than many other areas in L.A., she cautioned stakeholders to not let their guards down. Sr. Lead Rich Wall hosts a First Tuesday morning meeting with stakeholders and Neighborhood Watch meetings are held on the third Tuesdays.
5. **Group & Region Board Reports:**
  - Ed Novy asked for volunteers to serve on the Mayor's Budget Committee and reported on the Citywide Bylaws Committee, which has been working on a table of contents (wireframe) for neighborhood council bylaws content for all NCs in the City.
  - Region 3 rep Barbara Johnson mentioned a profusion of construction activity in her area.
  - Brenda Fortune spoke about the Watermelon Festival which attracted many out-of-towners this year. She suggested mapping where people come from to better pin point future advertising of that event. She encouraged board members to support the Outreach Committee by attending the meetings and getting more involved.
  - Arsen Karamians talked about his experience at the Watermelon Festival where he manned the STNC booth.
  - Janet Linsalato was impressed by the media coverage of the Festival.
  - Mary Mullally and Olina Lowe said they have spoken with the Senior Center's Recreational Coordinator to access their needs. Olina said that many seniors require transportation to get to the Center. Also, she has heard they don't enjoy the meals being served there so attendance is down.

- Lydia Grant, Parent Rep, went to Sacramento twice in August to represent legislation being presented. She thanked the board for their support and said that her petition to bring about change is helping to move the legislation forward.
- John Blue, Veterans Rep, talked about a program to assist veterans and their families.
- Richard Stewart, Service Club Rep, talked about the Rotary and the Lions Club working together on joint projects. The two have challenged the Kiwanis Club to get more involved. He invited the public to a dance at the Elks Club on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> to support “Healing from the Ashes.”
- Nanci Cailliouet announced upcoming events at Bolton Hall including a cookbook project with recipes from local people and a rock adoption for \$10.00 - \$25.00. McGroarty Arts Center programs are beginning soon and offer a variety of arts, dance and yoga classes. An auction will take place at McGroarty on Sept. 19 to support local organizations.
- Jodie Brittain, Education Rep, gave an update on the Girl Scouts, football games, and other events to support the students and schools.

6. **Secretary’s Report:** Cindy Cleghorn reported that Supervisor Antonovich is presenting a Concert in the Park on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1 – 5 p.m. at Dexter Park. She announced a NC Workshop on the future of DONE on Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 5 p.m. at the Marvin Braude Center in Van Nuys. There will be an Open House and public hearings on the City’s Bike Plan. She invited stakeholders to sign up for STNC’s email blasts to get regular updates and info on community and city events.

Cindy then introduced Greg Bartz, the DWP Liaison to the NCs. Greg handed out materials on the DWP’s rate hikes, budget information, watering schedules, etc. and talked about the Power Integrated Resource Plan, which is DWP’s plan to generate power from renewable energy resources. He announced a public meeting at Mission College on Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> for a break-out session on this plan as well as rate increases and other concerns.

**(Cleghorn/Novy) moved that STNC support the Ratepayers Advocate Term Sheet. The motion carried unanimously.**

7. **Nate Jones, CD2 Field Deputy**, invited the public to the NC Workshop on Sept. 19 for input on the future of the NC movement. CD2 is putting together a new program called “Homeless Connected” to bring resources together and to discover options and services for the homeless community.

**Kevin James, 870 AM KRLA Radio**, is visiting NCs around the City to bring NC issues into the public arena. Anyone with an item of interest should email him at: [heykevinjames@aol.com](mailto:heykevinjames@aol.com).

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Ellis Robertson, Rotary Club**, thanked STNC for their help with the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade which cost \$7,000. Next year, he projects it will cost \$8,000. The Rotary will be holding a Haunted House for 3 nights in October to raise funds for next year’s July 4<sup>th</sup> event.

**Diana Shaw, Candidate for Assembly District**, invited the public to a fundraising event for her campaign on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> which will feature a performance written by Sunland’s own CA poet laureate John Steven McGroarty.

**Brenda McAlpine, stakeholder**, spoke about opportunities with the Boy Scouts. She and her husband, Ken McAlpine, were active in the early days of STNC.

**Ariyana Gibbon, Healing from the Ashes**, invited the public to her event to showcase the artwork made from ashes from the Station Fire. Proceeds from sales of this art will go to help those who lost homes in the Station Fire. There will be a dance on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> at the Elks Club and on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be an opening of the art show at Century 21 Crest in Sunland, which donated workshop space.

**Sheri Smith, Little Landers/Bolton Hall**, announced upcoming events including a cookbook with local submissions of recipes and local advertising. The cookbooks will be available as of November 1<sup>st</sup>. Also, they are looking for sponsors to purchase rocks for Bolton Hall's foundation to help with maintenance costs there: [www.littlelandershistoricalsociety.org](http://www.littlelandershistoricalsociety.org).

**Brandy, Sunland Senior Center**, talked about issues the Sunland Center is having leading to seniors not using their facilities. They are looking for sponsors of entertainment and for entertainers willing to donate their time to putting on shows there. She also requested prizes to be donated to draw in seniors and help keep the Center open.

**Elaine Brown, Verdugo Hills Golf Course**, is organizing a fundraising effort on Sept. 20 at Joselitos. 10% of all proceeds to go to the VHGC fundraising effort. Frank's Famous Kitchen and Bakery at 3315 N. Verdugo Road is also contributing to fundraising efforts.

**Regina Clark, Little Landers** introduced the program, "Water," a free event.

**Nina Royal, North Valley Reporter**, asked for articles to be submitted by Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> for her Oct. issue. She spoke about L.A. Clean Sweep, which is training new candidates for the City Council's next election. [www.lacleansweep.com](http://www.lacleansweep.com). Saving LA is another project she spoke about.

**Shawn Rivas, Granada Hills South NC**, is organizing a Movie Night event at Granada Hills Recreation Center with food provided by a variety of ethnic food trucks.

**Bob Arnold, Foothills Trails NC**, thanked the board for its support on the Hanson Dam project.

**Mark Seigel, Ham Radio Instructor**, will hold six weeks of classes to train people who want to learn how to operate this emergency communication system. Email: [treasurer@stnc.org](mailto:treasurer@stnc.org).

**Lydia Grant** spoke on behalf of the Friends of the Southwest Museum who are need signatures for a grant to support their efforts to keep the Southwest Museum operating.

**Ed Novy** spoke about the benefit for VHGC. He also invited stakeholders to the fundraising event at his home for Assembly candidate Diane Shaw. Richard Stewart will entertain with the Mission Play. He invited the public to the S-T Silent Auction at McGroarty on Sunday, Sept. 19 to benefit McGroarty, S-T Alliance and Bolton Hall. One of the prizes to be auctioned includes a rock sculpture by Richard Stewart.

**Alma Sanchez, District 2 Superintendent for LAUSD**, thanked Lydia and Jodi for their efforts on behalf of the schools and introduced the administrators who represent the district.

**John Blue** asked if anyone had found his sunglasses at the last meeting.

**Ira Boxer, Sylmar NC**, invited everyone to their next board meeting.

**David Cain, Outreach Chair**, distributed a sign-up sheet for the next STNC potluck.

8. **Approval of Minutes: Minutes for the August 2010 STNC board meeting approved as revised.**

9. **Land Use Committee Report** - Cindy presented the LUC report for Tomi, who was absent. Cindy stated that she has received a complaint about a medical marijuana store on Foothill Blvd. east of Commerce. She asked that anyone with information about this store should share it with the LUC and CD2.

a. **(Cleghorn) moved that, "STNC approve the LUC recommendation to confirm Bill Skiles appointed as a member of the STNC Land Use Committee and STNC board members Mark Seigel and Arsen Karamians as alternate LUC members."** Bill has served on LUC as an alternate for 3.5 years. Arsen is a civil engineer and is interested in sharing his knowledge. **The motion carried.**

- b. (Cleghorn) moved that, “STNC approve the LUC recommendation to oppose the building of a single family residence at 6340, 6342, 6346 Sister Elsie Road in Tujunga, including opposition to any discretionary actions and waivers that have been requested by the applicant/property owner. The community is concerned with issues related to engineering, geotechnical engineering (soils) analysis, hydrology, construction operations, set backs, survey of the land, utilities and public safety. If the applicant/property owner is able to resolve these issues and improving the roads including widening and maintaining the roads, then the applicant’s proposal shall be satisfactory for building.”

(Novy) requested a friendly amendment to remove the last sentence of the motion. The amendment carried.

The board then voted on the amended motion, “That STNC approve the LUC recommendation to oppose the building of a single family residence at 6340, 6342, 6346 Sister Elsie Road in Tujunga, including opposition to any discretionary actions and waivers that have been requested by the applicant/property owner. The community is concerned with issues related to engineering, geotechnical engineering (soils) analysis, hydrology, construction operations, set backs, survey of the land, utilities and public safety.” The motion carried unanimously.

- c. (Cleghorn) moved the LUC recommendation that, “City Planning extend the timeline for comments regarding Citywide Urban Design Guidelines, CDO Streamlining Ordinance and Zoning Code Simplification to allow time for neighborhood councils and communities to become familiar with these new proposals, comment and participate in the process.” The board approved the resolution and the letter attached to it.

- d. Cindy invited the public to attend a ST Planning Class on Sept. 14 to hear discussions regarding new Citywide initiatives. She also invited stakeholders to attend “Plan Check,” which meets on Sept. 11 and is a City Planning-oriented meeting and a kick-off meeting for NC Case Processing.

**10. Treasurer’s Report:**

(Seigel/Novy) moved to accept the STNC Sept. 2010 financial report. The motion carried and will be forwarded to DONE.

11. (Cleghorn/Cain) moved that STNC approve up to \$100.00 for the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils Planning Forum to be held on Nov. 11, 2010, 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. at CBS Studios. The funds will cover the direct cost for the event. Other Valley NCs are also in support. The Board and stakeholders are invited.” The motion carried.

**12. Announcements:**

The next Land Use Committee meeting Sept. 20, 2010.

The next STNC meeting is Oct. 13, 2010.

- 13. Meeting Adjourned: 9:12 p.m.**