

MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 10, 2010
North Valley Neighborhood City Hall
7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA 91042

Attendance: 99, Audience: 80, Board 19

1. **Call to Order** at 7:15 p.m. by STNC President Dan McManus. Pledge of Allegiance & meeting overview, introduction of elected officials and City staff. Board members present: Ed Novy, Belinda Woodruff, Barbara Johnson, Arsen Karamians, Nanci Caillouet, Janet Linsalato, Cindy Cleghorn, Tomi Lyn Bowling, Dan McManus, Olina Lowe, Brenda Fortune, Mark Seigel, Lydia Grant, Mary Mulalley, John Blue, David Cain, Jodi Brittan, John Laue and Richard Stewart.

2.Presentation by City Council Member Paul Krekorian: Council Member Krekorian talked about the issue of homelessness and how his office is trying to address it in a way that is sustainable and deals with the underlying problems. He noted that there is no single solution because there are many different populations within the homeless: Some are criminals, mentally ill, addicted to drugs and alcohol, out of work or on disability. The one common denominator is that the Council Office and the community wants to reduce the homeless population and get them out of public areas and off the street into housing so they can become contributing members of society. He reviewed different measures that have already been taken toward this goal:

- Five arrests and three tickets at Sunland Park for public drinking, bothering people and loitering. Law enforcement has warned individuals in the Tujunga Wash not to trespass and have been enforcing this to control that territory.
- South of Foothill under the 210 freeway, Public Works is conducting a cleanup and LAPD is working to find a resolution.
- A compound in Lakeview Terrace where criminal activity was going on was raided by LAPD in March and cleared out. That property is now secure.
- Police are working lists of closed or foreclosed properties to flush out trespassers.

He reviewed the progress that was made with the first “Homeless Connect Day” in the City, held on Nov. 1st when 40-50 local homeless were put together with service providers at North Valley City Hall in Tujunga to help them with specific needs. CD2 is working with Supervisor Antonovich and 20 other agencies to help the homeless population in S-T. That day, 40 were entered into a database, which will form the basis for meeting the needs of the homeless in the community.

Mike Arnold from Project Connect then talked about their one day access center. He described the “chronically homeless” who have mental or physical disabilities saying “helping them is a journey.” Project Connect is the first step to helping these people. The Center served 120 hot meals, distributed 70 health and hygiene kits, and eight of the 40 accepted housing with LA Family Housing. Of the people who they serviced:

- 95% of them are at or below 50% of the poverty level.
- 60% had no source of income.
- Only 2 were receiving some disability income.
- Over 25% were older than 55.
- Five have since received shelter options. The goal is to help all of them.

Councilmember Krekorian presented certificates to the STNC for its help with coordinating Homeless Connect Day. Others who received certificates were: Marynance Schellenbach of

Sunland-Tujunga Lions Club, Brenda Hill from Project Connect, resident Robin Meares, STNC's Janet Linsalato and Ed Rock. He mentioned that one in every five homeless are veterans. Millie Jackson from Supv. Antonovich's office also spoke about their efforts noting that the Lion's Club will be taking care of the visual needs for the homeless who came forward. L.A. Housing will continue to partner with the community to find housing for homeless members who did not come forward on this day.

The Councilmember then talked about a new project they are launching: a Veterans Day project for active soldiers in Iraq who are from the Sunland-Tujunga community. Street light banners will be made with each soldier's name and rank then displayed on streetlight posts as a recognition program called, "Honor our Hometown Heros."

There was discussion about a homeless encampment on Foothill by the former "Arigato," where tents and a port-a-potty have been set up. The Councilmember said that Health and Safety has been contacted and will be sending people to investigate a public nuisance issue. Tomi Bowling said she would put this item on the next Land Use agenda regarding finding a location to build permanent housing for the homeless. Dan McManus acknowledged that it's nice to have the community work together to find solutions for problems rather than just saying there is a problem and hoping it will go away.

- 3. PRESENTATION** – Foothill Performing Arts Center – Tim Borquez – will be on Dec. 8 at 6:30.
- 4. President's Report:** Dan reminded everyone to vote for the "Best of Sunland-Tujunga" Awards that closes on Dec. 31, 2010.
- 5. Haunted House** - Richard Stewart and Brenda Fortune acknowledged those who helped create the Haunted House event for Halloween. Among those receiving acknowledgement were: Ray Mirzakhanian, owner Century 21, David Cain for the Haunted House design, Brenda Fortune's husband for special effects and props, Ellis Robertson – the builder of the Haunted House, Richard & Susan Stewart, Tomi Bowling and Marynance Schellenbach.
- 6. Neighborhood Council Citywide Budget Update** – Ed Novy, the STNC's North Valley Rep., gave brief update. A citywide survey will be coordinated with the budget reps soon.
- 7. Outreach Report** – David Cain, VP Outreach, announced a drive for holiday toys at their Nov. 18 Outreach meeting at the YMCA.
- 8. Public Safety Report** – Nina Royal, Safety Chair talked about the Great American Shakeout event. She is taking registrations for the community-wide CPR class/25 people are needed to hold a class. Cost is \$20.00. She spoke about a Task Force being organized to go after pedophiles and drug dealers in the community.
- 9. PRESENTATION:** L.A. Animal Services Volunteer Program & request for funding up to \$1,500. Not held due to no attendance by this party.
- 10. PRESENTATION:** Veterans Day Parade – Not discussed due to no attendance by this party requesting STNC financial support of \$300.00.
- 11. Group & Region Board Reports:**
 - a. Ed Novy, Region 4, recognized members of the community for excellent community service. Fran and Ray Loiselle received a Certificates of Appreciation for their years of

- dedicated service to the S-T community, while Cindy Cleghorn received a Certificate for her leadership and dedicated community service.
- b. Ed Novy, Chair of STNC's Arts and Recreation Committee. The next meeting is Nov. 20 at 9 am at Verdugo Hills Golf Club. Those who mention STNC can golf five holes for \$5.00. Dec 11th is the McGroarty Holiday Boutique and Little Landers Holiday Party.
 - c. Belinda Woodruff, region 4, announced the closing of two businesses on Foothill Blvd. Arnie's has closed and moved to Van Nuys. Monster Guitar has closed but will continue to do instrument repair by appointment from his home. On behalf of Tim Borquez, Belinda announced that the New Hope Performance Workshop is holding auditions for their production of Godspell.
 - d. Barbara Johnson announced that she has been monitoring the cutting down of oak trees.
 - e. Nancy Caillouet announced Bolton Hall's "Sponsor a Rock" program and the upcoming cookbook of local recipes to be distributed at Bolton Hall's Dec. 11th Holiday Party at a price of \$12.00 presale and \$15.00 afterward. Gift donations are needed for Bolton Hall's raffle fundraiser. The McGroarty Holiday Party and Boutique take place on Dec. 11 with a bake sale to raise money for Center. New classes will be starting soon at McGroarty.
 - f. Janet Linsalato talked about the Homeless event and how City Animal Services had a table there to distribute food for pets of the homeless. She also talked about the Walk – Through event taking place on Sat at 9 a.m. at Oro Vista Park.
 - g. Olina Lowe, Sunland Senior Center rep, asked for assistance in helping the Center get Cable TV. STNC President Dan McManus has written a letter to Time Warner Cable asking them to take on this project. (McManus/Stewart) moved to accept the letter as written to be sent to Time Warner Cable from STNC. The motion carried unanimously. Olena also attended a presentation by AARP reps. She noted there is a very low participation rate at the Senior Center. Many of the seniors complain about the food. She will look into getting a new caterer.
 - h. Mary Mulally, Senior Rep, added that the Seniors need donations of clothing, a pool table, instructors to teach an art class and prizes for their games. She will create a list of needed items for the next STNC meeting.
 - i. Lydia Grant, Parent rep, spoke about a problem with the local school system. School Police officers, who are pulling cars over and handing out tickets. She announced that they have been granted the same power as LAPD. They are also citing students with \$250.00 tickets and court time if they are one minute or more late for school when the actual LAUSD code for trancies is 30 min. late for two days to get a ticket.
 - j. John Blue, Veterans rep, acknowledged Councilmember Krikorian's project as the first community to initiate a program to honor veterans in active service. The Councilman's office needs the public's help in naming those who are in service right now as well as those deceased from Sunland-Tujunga. CD2's Nate Jones is organizing a Planning Committee for this project. John also talked about the Veterans Day Parade in San Fernando/Pacoima/Arleta and the food drive to stock food pantries for Thanksgiving.
 - k. Brenda Fortune thanked the local merchants who contributed to the Haunted House (Do-It Center and Vons).
 - l. Richard Stewart asked everyone to help or join the local service clubs: Lions, Kiwanis & Rotary. He acknowledged the events held by Healing from the Ashes which will an art show fundraiser, a documentary film event on the Station Fire, and a poetry reading to raise money for seven persons who lost homes in the Station Fire.
 - m. Jodi Brittan, Education Rep, talked about the governance board for VHHS for parents and committee members in government. The Booster Club at VHHS has received their non profit status to raise money for after school activities.

n. John Laue talked about the speed trap in place on Big T Canyon to keep motorcyclists from speeding while riding in groups. He will hold a Walk Through event at Oro Vista Park on Sat., Nov. 13 at 9 a.m. to inspect the site for a passive park.

12. Secretary's Report, Cindy Cleghorn presented the minutes for the October 2010 STNC board meeting. Minutes were approved as presented. City Planning has extended the timeframe for those who have concerns about Community Care Facilities and the proposed ordinance. The Zoning Code Core Findings next presentation to CPC will be January 13, 2011.

13. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Susan Stewart invited the board to "Dance Night Party at the Elks Club," with proceeds to go for the July 4th Parade on Sat. Nov. 20, 8 pm – 11 p.m.

Nina Royal attended the DWP Committee – a joint committee with the L.A. City Council about the ratepayer advocate position. She asked the board to write letters endorsing this. She also gave an update on L.A. Clean Sweep which vets candidates to run for City Council.

www.lacleansweep.com. Her paper, North Valley Reporter, needs advertisers to continue. Please support.

Chester Michalski, a stakeholder, told the board that T-Mobile has dug up the front of his property at Summitrose and Las Lunitas, installing a pole with wires on it. He says they misrepresented the width, length and depth of the hole when they asked for permission to his property and have been unresponsive to his requests to repair the damage.

Ariyana Gibbon asked for donations to purchase a mural she has made from remnants of the Station Fire with proceeds to go to seven residents who lost their homes.

Amelia Anderson talked about issues she has with the Verdugo Hills Golf Course.

14. Land Use Committee Report – Tomi Lyn Bowling, LUC Chair

a. A Public Hearing will take place on 11-22-10 regarding a conditional use permit for: 10045 Commerce, formerly Gobble Green Restaurant, which is seeking a beer and wine license.

b. A Public Hearing will be held on 11-22-10 regarding the proposal that STNC opposed for a single family development on Sister Elsie Road in Tujunga.

c. Land Use Committee will discuss progress on Oro Vista Park, VNOC committee, CD2, Parks and Recreation at their next meeting. Tomi also reported on the meeting with Michael Hoberman, developer of Verdugo Hills Golf Course, who is seeking entitlements to sell the land at a higher price for a multifamily development.

15. Treasurer's Report – Mark Seigel rented a mixing board with extra microphone for the board meeting to demonstrate the practicality of having a working sound system. He asked the board to consider this for a future purchase.

a. Motion to receive Nov. 2010 STNC Financial report. **(Seigel/Brittain) moved to approve the Nov. financial statement as presented. The motion carried.**

16. New Business: Wendell and Deanna Bowers, from Our Lady of Lourdes, talked about their request for a Welcome Home Military Banner for display at Our Lady of Lourdes Church that will include all service men returning from active duty. STNC share of banner cost \$200. No action on this item at this time.

17. Meeting Adjourned: 9:42 p.m.

Minutes by Pat Kramer, Kelly Services