

STNC MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, March 14, 2012
North Valley Neighborhood City Hall
7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA 91042

Attendance: 84, Audience: 67, Board: 18

1. **Call to Order** by STNC President Dan McManus with the Pledge of Allegiance, hand outs, sign-in sheets, speaker cards, agenda timeline. Dan introduced the barbershop quartet Chairman of the Chord who sang the Star Spangled Banner. Board members in attendance: John Blue, Araz Parseghian, Arsen Karamians, Olina Lowe, Nigel Burns, Jodie Brittain, Wendy Snyder, Dan McManus, Cindy Cleghorn, Brenda Fortune, Richard Stewart, Belinda Woodruff, Mark Seigel, Sonya Marquez, Jan Linsalato, Lydia Grant, John Laue, and Kresse Armour. Absent: Tomi Lyn Bowling, Ed Novy, Ricky Grubb.
2. **President's Report & Announcements:** Dan reminded board members to complete the Ethics and Open Government Training at:
<http://ethics.lacity.org/education/education.cfm>.
3. **Reports by LAPD Senior Lead Officers** Rich Wall and Don Boon spoke about the Foothill Division having the best crime reduction stats for the City of L.A. There have been new crimes emerging on the Westside of the City where, people are sitting in cars watching people leave for work before breaking into homes. He asked people to be aware of their surroundings and any unusual activity in their neighborhoods when they leave for work. There are currently 14 Medical Marijuana stores operating in this area. He asked the public to call the Division and write emails asking the police to close them down. Transient encampments continue to be a problem. Officer Boon asked people not give them money as this maintains a presence of homeless in the parks and freeway off ramps. He talked about efforts to clear out transients in local vacant lots. He said it is a long-term effort that will continue.
4. **Board member** Richard Stewart then introduced Chairman of the Chord who sang several acapella songs. The group will perform at the Easter Carnival.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** The board unanimously approved the minutes from the last board meeting.
6. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - a. Motion to receive March 2012 STNC Financial Report – **(Cleghorn/Burns) moved that STNC approve the March 2012 Financial Report as presented. The motion carried.**
 - b. *Motion to approve revised FY2011-12 STNC Budget* – Tabled until next month.
 - c. *Motion to approve draft FY2012-13 STNC Budget* - **(Cleghorn/Burns) moved that the board approve the draft budget presented by the Budget Committee. The motion carried.** Cindy then distributed a revised version. Mark requested more input from the board regarding the next FY budget. It is unknown whether we will have the same \$40,500 allotment.

- d. *Encumbering STNC Elections funds*- Cindy provided a written report regarding the 2012 NC elections and that our elections will be held sometime between Aug. 1-5 in coordination with neighbor NCs (see full report). She recommends that money be set aside from the current budget for the election in August and that any remaining funds in STNC's budget for this year be encumbered exclusively for STNC elections so we do not lose those funds. It is anticipated that this could be as much as \$6,000 as we have four months remaining in this fiscal year.
7. **Bureau of Sanitation** – Daniel Hackney, Special Projects Manager for the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, talked about the scavenging problem where people are taking recyclables from resident's blue bins. This is costing the City as it is a potential source of income. Daniel called it a "nuisance problem" which involves homeless indigents, mom and pop groups, and commercial operators. The City is looking into requiring commercial operators to be permitted for recycling. If this becomes a requirement, there would be fines for those who do not obtain city permits. He asked stakeholders to contact him with the license plates of vehicles involved in scavenging. Neighbors in the audience asked about locking trash bins and spoke about serious safety issues with the scavengers. Daniel said they have looked into locked bins but the cost is high and they would not be able to bill the residents. He welcomes any ideas / suggestions to be sent to him at Daniel.hackney@lacity.org
8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
- Andrea Manning, Shadow Hills Presbyterian Church, invited the public to their upcoming "Luck of the Irish Family Fun Night" on Sat. p.m. 6 – 8 p.m.
 - Marlene Hitt- Village Poets and Poet Laureate Committee – talked about their Open Reading on March 25 at 4:30 at Bolton Hall. Also, there will be four poet laureates presenting at McGroarty Center, April 15th at 3 p.m. for the installation of the new poet laureate.
 - Sheri Smith, Little Landers, talked about the upcoming Annual Little Landers Plant Sale on April 21, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., at 10034 Commerce Ave. The 2nd Saturday of April Bolton Hall will feature a program on the early days of transportation in L.A. at 1 p.m.
 - Karen Zimmerman, stakeholder / LUC committee member spoke about the Verdugo Hills Stormwater Project, and the pending Prop O funding: She asked the public to send letters to the Councilman Paul Krekorian (councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org) and Councilman Richard Alarcon (councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org) with copies to the following: shahram.kharaghani@lacity.org, wing.tam@lacity.org, damian.carroll@lacity.org, ana.grande@lacity.org, info@savethegolfcourse.org to encourage the City's investment and save the golf course. For more information go to www.SavetheGolfCourse.org
 - David Barron, a Civil servant, talked about code enforcement, candidates running for the upcoming elections, and reducing business taxes for commercial businesses to invigorate the economy.
 - Kresse Armour of the Rotary Club invited the public to Mayor's Day of Service on March 31 at Oro Vista Park, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.
 - Mary Benson, CD2, encouraged the public to attend the Day of Service and picnic at this site, purchased by the city in 2002.
 - Lydia Grant, Parent Rep, talked about the parcel tax proposed by the City and alleged incidents of molestation involving a local teacher.

- Seth Walsh, a new stakeholder and long-term care specialist, offered his free presentation to any groups seeking a speaker.
- Nina Royal, North Valley Reporter, asked for volunteers and advertisers. She also talked about the Community Care Ordinance which she said has been watered down since STNC supported it (Council File 11-0262).
- Mark Seigel said the Tujung Masonic Lodge is open and looking to interact with the community. He talked about the Shriner's Hospitals for Children Health Screening to be held at the San Fernando Masonic Lodge on March 24. For more info on this free event call 818-438-5758. Mark will start his new Ham radio classes on Thursday, April 5 at 7 p.m. at C & M Printing. Classes will continue for 8 weeks with the FCC test on May 21, 2012.
- Eric Owens, a reporter for Voice of the Village said the local food bank is looking for help getting Fresh & Easy Market to donate once they open next week.

9. NC Budget Advocate – Report – *Ed Novy- tabled.*

10. **Outreach Committee recommendations**

- a. **Good Food Day of Service Project** March 31 at Oro Vista Park: **(Armour/Linsalato) moved that STNC allocate \$200.00 for refreshments for the Good Food Day of Service. The motion carried. Brenda stated that the money allocated for chairs for the Easter event at last month's board meeting, will not be utilized so it was being reallocated in this motion.**
- b. Easter Carnival 4-6 – 4-8. STNC will have a booth at the Carnival. Nina asked for help with manning the First Aid booth. Lydia Grant was asked to help organize the STNC table at the event.

Dan McManus left the meeting at 9:03 pm turning over the leadership to Brenda Fortune, 1st Vice President.

11. **L.A. CITY REDISTRICTING:** Nina Royal talked about how the STNC area is being redistricted to District 7 under City Councilmember Richard Alarcon, who has said he will be available for resident's needs. Our communities of interest will stay together. She thanked all for their help and support during the redistricting hearings.

12. **Land Use Committee Report – Cindy Cleghorn (sitting in for Tomi Bowling)**

- a. Update: Foothill Blvd. Improvement Workshops- The second of the Foothill Blvd. Specific Corridor Workshops was held on 3-12-12. It is available to watch online at <http://stworkshops.blogspot.com/> . The next one takes place in April. Date to be announced.
- b. Neighborhood Watch: The next meeting on Tuesday, March 20, will feature the Neighborhood Prosecutor.
- c. LUC Recommendations:
 - i. 9927 Commerce – Cindy said the LUC has opted to not support a Change of Use from retail to Child Day Care at this address because plans were not complete. The applicant will return to the LUC when ready.
 - ii. 6630 Foothill – **(Cleghorn) moved that STNC support LUC's recommendation to support change of use from auto related to a market with conditions and comments as reported. It is anticipated that the market will return to the committee with their plans for the**

building color. (see more detail on written report) The motion carried unanimous.

- d. Update from Samoa Sub-Committee: 10046-56 Samoa – Appeals Status and meeting with Paul Krekorian and developer. Developers are considering scaling down the project and may present new plans at a special meeting being set aside for this project on 3/26. Presentation date/time to be confirmed. Check the STNC website for updates.
- e. Update Verdugo Hills Golf Course – There is a need for individual letters to continue to support Prop O funding for this project. Go to SavetheGolfCourse.org for more info.
- f. Fresh & Easy will open on Wednesday, March 21 on Foothill Boulevard next to PetSmart. A grand opening celebration is expected but no details yet.

13. **Group, Region & Committee Reports**

- Outreach: Brenda announced the next meeting will be held at the S-T Chamber of Commerce on 3/22 at 7 p.m.
- John Laue said long and short-term improvements are needed for Oro Vista as the goal is to make it an entrance to the Angeles National Forest with a pedestrian orientation to Oro Vista Park.
- Lydia Grant announced her efforts have been instrumental in changing the truancy ticket motion put in place by the school system.
- Jan Linsalato secured \$400 from SEIU for Good Food Day. Union members will be speaking on healthy eating at this event and will continue to sponsor and participate in the July 4th Parade this year.
- Belinda Woodruff, Region 4, talked about supporting Prop O funding.
- Sonya Marquez asked the board to help with street bumps in her area.
- Richard Stewart announced support for his “Belly Busters” trash clean up program and asked for more participation from stakeholders.
- Olina Lowe, Senior Rep, said the Senior Center needs prizes for their bingo games, twice a week.
- John Blue, Veterans Rep, announced discounts for veterans including on monthly phone bills and at Sears.
- Safety Committee, Nina Royal, asked for participation for the next CERT training, sign up sheets available.
- Cindy Cleghorn said that LUC will be hearing about Our Lady of Lourdes’ new proposal for a 55’ cell phone tower on their property and a “exploratory” proposal for a Drive-Through car wash on Apperson at Foothill.

14. Announcements: The next STNC meeting will be on April 11, 2012.

15. **Meeting Adjourned at 9:27 p.m.**

Minutes prepared by Pat Kramer, Kelly Services