

**STNC Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, September 12, 2012**  
**BOARD MEETING & INSTALLATION OF 2012 BOARD**  
**North Valley Neighborhood City Hall**  
**7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA 91042**

**Audience: 113, Board: 15, Audience: 98**

*Refreshments for the meeting were provided by Joselito's West*

1. **Call to Order** at 7:10 p.m. by Dan McManus, STNC president. Boy Scout Troop 394 led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call: STNC Board members present were: Mark Seigel, Belinda Woodruff, Sonia Marquez, Kresse Armour, Richard Stewart, Wendy Snyder, Cindy Cleghorn, John Laue, Dan McManus, Tomi Bowling, Lydia Grant, Janet Linsalato, John Blue, Brenda Fortune, Araz Parseghian and Kresse Armour.
  2. **Moment of Silence – 9/11:** Dan asked for a moment of silence to remember the victims of 9/11. He then shared some insights from his terms of serving on the STNC board so those coming on the new board can continue to serve the community effectively, even if they disagree.
  3. **Introductions:** Mary Benson, Field Deputy for CD7, said STNC is one of the most professionally-run NCs in the City's system. She congratulated the outgoing board members and invited those coming in to attend the Sept. 22 Citywide Congress of NCs.
3. **Public Comments – non agenda items:**
- Ed Trimis, Ph.D., principal of VHHS, gave an update on events coming up: Sept. 23 at 7 p.m. there will be a Fall Performance of 1-act plays. On Sept. 13, a celebration of VHHS's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There is an opportunity to offer a Magnet School for the performing arts on the campus of VHHS.
  - Sheri Smith, Little Landers Historical Society/Bolton Hall Museum, invited everyone to the Granny's Attic event on Sat. Oct. 6 – retro/vintage collectibles sale from 8 am – 3pm. The John McGroarty exhibit continues until October.
  - JoAnn Baiocco, stakeholder from Tujunga, wants to know how to get a rusty, 3-wheel shopping cart removed from the street by her apartment.
  - Mark Seigel gave an announcement for "Operation Christmas Child" from Samaritans First. The organization puts together boxes of food for children in poverty-stricken areas.
  - John Blue introduced the County Vector Control speaker on the dangers of the West Nile Virus. He talked about how it has affected him saying it is in our area now and very dangerous.
  - Greater L.A. County Vector Control District speaker Truc Dever said mosquitoes spread the virus. Mosquitoes are responsible for more human deaths than any other creature. The West Nile Virus is one of several diseases that infected mosquitoes transmit. There is no treatment for West Nile, only treatment of its symptoms. Vector Control provides different solutions to help eliminate larvae of mosquitoes from spreading the disease including free mosquito fish to areas with stagnant water.
  - David Barron, Candidate for City Council, announced his campaign.

4. **Approval of Minutes** of the August 8, 2012 meeting: **The board accepted the minutes as presented from the August STNC board meeting.**
5. **Treasurer's Report** – Mark Seigel presented the financial statement and budget. **The Board approved the draft budget for Sept. 2012 and the Financial statement as presented for Sept 2012.**
6. **STNC 2012 Elections Results:** The list of recently elected board members was posted at the meeting. Dan announced there is still a board vacancy for a Region 4 representative. There will be a board orientation given by EmpowerLA for new board members at the Congress of NCs on Sept. 22 at City Hall.
7. **Recognition of outgoing STNC Board members** Lloyd Hitt stood in for Councilman Richard Alarcon for the installation ceremony. Outgoing board members and the executive board were acknowledged and thanked. :
8. **Installation of 2012 STNC Board members:** Mr. Hitt then called the new board up and swore them in with the Oath of Office. New STNC President Mark Seigel read brief remarks on his outlook for the year ahead. He reviewed the Code of Conduct, Ethics Training, meeting schedule, and advised the new board on important upcoming meetings.

Outgoing board member John Laue gave his Region 1 report on improvements that are still needed along Oro Vista. He is asking the City to do a complete repaving of the street as it is a major access road to the Angeles National Forest. He presented two letters he has drafted about improvements to Oro Vista and completion of Oro Vista Park, for which funds were allocated by the work was never completed.

9. **Committee Community Beautification (Improvement) Projects** – Cindy spoke about the Elks Community Improvement Grant which earmarks \$10,000 for projects. She asked stakeholders to give input about ways to use those monies. Jan Linsalato, Thomas Smoker Jr., and Pat Kramer volunteered to serve on the committee chaired by Paolina.
10. **Land Use Committee Report** –
  - a. **Mobility Study:** LUC Chair Tomi Lyn Bowling asked stakeholders to explore the City's Mobility Study at their website <http://la2b.org> to give input on ways to improve the streets in the community. Questions include: What do you consider a "livable neighborhood?" What would your Los Angeles of the future look like? How should public streets be used? What are the most important roles that streets should play, and what are the most important priorities for you and your community? Where would you like to see upgrades in your neighborhood to make it easier to walk and improve safety for bicyclists and motorists.
  - b. **Verdugo Hills Golf Course** – The issue of usage of the Verdugo Hills Golf Course is being explored again with the DEIR to be recirculated. A meeting on October 10 will review the EIR for VHGC at North Valley City Hall.
  - c. **Samoa Apartments** – Tomi said the developer has scaled down this project but is still cutting the corners on this project with what is viewed as insufficient parking.
  - d. **LA Family Housing Apartments** on Day Street, Sunland – This project is breaking ground in November.

- e. **710 Extension:** The LA City Council voted to oppose the 710 Freeway extension.
- f. **AGF / PROW Cell Tower Ordinance:** Cindy said the City Attorney is rewriting this ordinance with restrictions to control cell phone installations after the City Council approved this.

11. **Budget Day:** On November 17, 2012 the Citywide Neighborhood Council Budget Day will take place. Former board member Ed Novy would like to continue as STNC's Budget Rep. Cindy announced that STNC was the top reporting NC in the Valley for taking the Budget Survey.

12. **Outreach Supplies:**

a. After discussion about the need for Outreach supplies, **(Royal/Smoker) moved that STNC approve the purchase of two EZ Ups (mobile tenting) for outreach events for up to \$500. Budget Category – Outreach. The motion carried unanimously.**

b. **(Cleghorn/Grant) moved that STNC approve up to \$250 for night-time lighting, ice, electrolyte drinks, and water that was used in August 2012 for the First Aid Station at the Watermelon Festival. The motion carried. (Budget Category: Outreach).**

c. **(Cleghorn/Patterson) moved that STNC approve the purchase of two gorilla shelving racks or similar for STNC storage area of up to \$500. Budget Category - Administration. for 2012. The motion carried unanimously.**

13. Budget Item: Congress of Neighborhoods: **(Blue/Linsalato) moved that STNC approve up to \$1,000 for the Congress of Neighborhoods on Sept. 22, 2012. The motion carried.**

14. **Wireless Telecommunications Facility at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Tujunga:** The board revisited last month's discussion about the issue of a 55' high with potential to 70' high Wireless Telecommunications Facility proposed for the roof of the church located at Apperson and Tujunga Canyon. Cindy distributed a draft letter to the Zoning Administrator covering different points that were addressed at the last board meeting, asking the board whether to approve the comment letter and whether to include additional comments on the condition of their approval of the tower. Cindy said the Zoning Administrator is holding the file open to hear input from STNC on this project. The question was whether to support this letter or to make modifications to it. **(Cleghorn/Armour) moved that the letter be sent to the Zoning Administrator OPPOSING the Cell tower and that copies also be sent to the Archdiocese of L.A. with modifications as recommended by the board.**

The board then heard from stakeholders:

- Paul Robich, Tujunga stakeholder, asked the board to represent the parishioners' interests at Our Lady of Lourdes Church.
- Art Miner, of Miner EMI/EMC Innovations, LLC., said he is an expert on the hazards of wireless installations and has independently reviewed the proposal. From a technical perspective, he gave four recommendations. 1. The cell phone company used incorrect limits in assessing the risk (saying it is a controlled environment). 2. When dealing with children who attend the school there, an extra safety margin must be added. 3. If they do install, they should inspect and make sure it's working as expected. 4. The wireless company needs to ensure they have a maintenance plan to measure radiation.

- JoAnn Baiocco, a Tujunga resident, stated that 99% of the parishioners who attended their public meeting are opposed to the installation. She also feels the tower could be defacing this religious edifice.
- Victor Govednik, who lives ½ block from the church, said he was never notified of the proposed installation. He has learned that the church initiated this proposal 2.5 years ago and has applied for an accelerated approval of the process. He stated that the measurements from the cell tower were not measured correctly, as it is 500' feet from the borders of each side of the property. He feels this could impact VHHS.
- Gabriele Andrade, a parent of children at OLL, spoke about property values going down, the cell tower being directly opposite an apartment building (150') with children and babies and it creating a visual eyesore that residents would have to live with.

Board member Krystee Clark suggested additional language for the letter regarding parishioners and neighbors not having been informed of the decision for this proposal. John Blue asked that the letter include the Masonic Lodge as an alternate location. However, a board vote opposed including that language as that location was not deemed as an acceptable alternative. Cindy said that once the determination letter is issued, the process begins. If it is approved, the neighbors would have to lead the appeal as STNC is a part of the City. A stakeholder suggested the letter be sent to the Archdiocese. Paolina Milana-Edwards offered to work with Cindy on language appropriate to the Archdiocese. **The board approved the motion to draft and send the letter to the Zoning Administrator: 15-0-0 (unanimous).**

**Adjourn** – The board meeting was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

-Minutes by Pat Kramer, Kelly Services-