

STNC Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 10th, 2012.
North Valley Neighborhood City Hall
7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA 91042

1. **Call to Order** at 7 p.m. by STNC President Mark Seigel. Pledge of Allegiance, **Introduction of the board:** John Blue, Pat O'Brien, Al Timins, Arsen Karamians, Krystee Clark, Paolina Milana-Edwards, Cindy Cleghorn, Mark Seigel, Melodee Patterson, Nina Royal, Joe DeCenzo, Kresse Armour, Michael Higby, Michael Jones, Lydia Grant, and Richard Stewart.

2. **Introductions of Elected Officials:** Teresa Simpson, Congressman Adam Schiff's Office, CD7 Field Deputies: Mary Bensen, Kresse Armour, and Brenda Fortune; Gerald Gubatan, CD7; Steve Garr, DOT; and Past President Dan McManus. LAPD Captain Joe Melanowski said there was a 24% crime reduction in the local area since 2010 which includes violent crimes. He talked about ways they are trying to deal with the homeless and medical marijuana stores. CD7's Mary Benson gave a certificate of appreciation to Captain Melanowski for his dedication to service. Senior Lead Officers present were Officer Contreras and Officer Boone who reviewed crime priorities.
 - a. **Message from the President** – Mark Seigel thanked Tees on the Green and iHOP for providing food for the STNC meeting. He announcement open board positions which include Region 4 and a Group rep position.

3. **PRESENTATION: VERDUGO HILLS GOLF COURSE** – Karen Zimmerman, STNC Land Use Committee VHGC outreach, introduced the VHGC presenters and gave an opening overview of the Prop O funding project, a water bond that passed in 2004. She said it is a very viable option for purchasing to Golf Course, however, a new issue that stands in the way of funding is that City Planning is expected to recirculate the DEIR (draft environmental impact report) that was first circulated three years ago.

Claudia Culling, board member on VOICE, said the City decided to recirculate certain sections of the EIR and the Impact Analysis chapters which reflect how development on the golf course land would affect the surrounding area. She said public input is needed on this new information and asked stakeholders to contact city officials to give input on traffic issues that would result from the proposed development project as well as alternatives to this development project.

Gerald Gubatan, Planning Deputy for CD7, talked about funding for Prop O and the EIR. The Planning Department is waiting to review documents prepared by the developer's consultant on CEQA's defined areas of impact. The three areas of impact that are being redefined in the new DEIR report are the project's aesthetics, recreation and open space, and the impact on green house gas emissions. When the document from the developer is complete, it will be published and public comment will begin. The developer is also asking for a zone change from an agricultural zone to a multiple residential zone so there will be public hearings on that portion of the project, as well.

On the topic of Prop O, Gerald gave examples of projects that have been funded. He talked about the benefits of this project to the community if it receives funding. He believes the City is in favor of this but it comes down to money. He pointed out that this site was a former internment camp during WWII for Japanese residents. To that end, Councilman Alarcon is going to introduce a motion to try to get the site designated a City Cultural Historic Monument.

Karen reviewed important points to comment on regarding the revised DEIR with a reminder to copy the Councilmember on any correspondence.

Cindy asked for someone to volunteer to represent the VHGC on STNC's board as a region and/or representative.

A straw poll vote by stakeholders in support of Councilman Alarcon's resolution to designate the VHGC a City Cultural Historic monument. **The straw vote passed unanimously.**

4. **Tee's on the Green** – A representative from Tee's on the Green, Tiffany Ann Casper spoke about their request for a Conditional Use Permit to serve alcoholic beverages on the VH Golf Course. **(Armour/Blue) moved that STNC support the Tee's on the Green's letter seeking an alcohol permit to cover beverages being served on the golf course. The motion carried: 16-0-0 (unanimous).**

5. **1st Public Comments – non agenda items:**

Steve Garr from the Dept. of Transportation said they are seeking input on striping bike lanes on Foothill Boulevard. He would like to return with a more extended presentation.

Sheri Smith, Little Landers Historical Society, invited the public to their current historical exhibit and event by the Theodore Payne Foundation. Comfort & Joy Restaurant on Commerce Ave. is providing a special event at Oct. 30th.

John Blue talked about a mortgage reduction program that lowered his mortgage by \$400.

Ira Bland of the Glendale Association of Realtors talked about a ballot measure for a tax increase on the sale of properties in L.A. The realtor associations are fighting this measure.

Arthur Warren talked about violence and problems with drug addicts and homeless people.

Susan Stewart, former Rotary president, presented a plaque to student Cameron Sanchez for being voted the most inspirational person at the Fourth of July Parade as he held the flag and ran through the streets.

David Barron, City Council candidate, announced a Meet and Greet for Councilman Alarcon.

Nina Royal, of the North Valley Reporter, asked for volunteers to work for her monthly paper.

Bill Gonzalez, candidate for State Senate, announced his candidacy. He's running against incumbent Carol Liu. He started a literacy program for at-risk youth, he's on the board of a college where he graduated in the top 5%, and wants to share his platform with stakeholders.

6. **Approval of Minutes** of STNC's September 12, 2012 meeting: The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

7. **Treasurer's Report** – Nina Royal **(Cleghorn/Grant) moved to accept the STNC Financial Report for October 2012.**

8. **STNC Budget Advocates:** Cindy Cleghorn described what budget advocates do in this capacity. **(Cleghorn/Grant) moved that Ed Novy be appointed Budget Advocate with Krystee Clark the alternate budget advocate for 2012/2013 budget year. The vote was unanimous.** Budget Day is Saturday, November 17, 2012 at City Hall.

9. **Land Use Committee Report** – Cindy Cleghorn, Deputy Chair of Land Use, listed several items discussed on their agenda including a change of land use for a place of worship and a proposal for a 40-unit apartment building (with no early warning alert). John Blue asked if Cindy could find out why City Planning isn't giving STNC an early warning alert. **The board voted unanimously to accept the Land Use report. (Cleghorn/Grant) moved that the board reaffirm the Land Use Committee members for the new fiscal year as follows: Cindy**

Cleghorn, Dean Sherer, Debby Beck, Bill Skiles, Peter Moen, Aram Avagyan, Elaine Brown, Nina Royal, Elektra Kruger, Chaz vanAalst, Arsen Karamians, Lloyd Hitt, David Barron. One vacancy remains. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Reaffirm STNC Committees

- a. Budget Committee (**Cleghorn/Clark**) moved that **STNC approve with Nina Royal as chair, committee members Ed Rock, Bill Skiles, Melodee Patterson, and David Barron to oversee STNC's \$37,000 budget. The motion carried unanimously.**
- b. Education Committee: Lydia Grant asked for volunteers to serve on her committee.
- c. Community Improvement: Paolina asked for input from the community on ways to improve.

11. Board, Group, Region Rep & Other Committee Reports:

- John Blue asked for an item to be put on the agenda about a \$200 allocation for the Tujungua Watershed Gardening Exchange.
- Pat O'Brien spoke about the American Legion's outreach to veterans on the first Sunday of the month.
- Arsen Karamians talked about two addresses that he was researching for Land Use.
- Krystee Clark spoke about the possibility of a performing arts Magnate School. Mark asked if she would head up the Arts Committee for STNC. She said she would.
- Paolina Milana-Edwards talked about the Chamber of Commerce getting a mobile app set up for the community.
- Cindy Cleghorn showed a poster delineating STNC's districts. As VP of Outreach, she said they would mark the maps with flags where quality of life issues exist in each district. As Land Use chair, she noted that Our Lady of Lourdes Church is waiting for the zoning administrator to make a decision on the pending cell phone tower proposed for the church site. STNC has taken a stand against the cell phone tower. Community members who want to weigh in should write letters to the Zoning Administrator. Mr. Alarcon is expected to support the neighbors and STNC to oppose the tower.
- Melodee Patterson asked board members to give her items for the agenda by Oct. 22nd for the November board meeting.
- Nina Royal talked about her role as treasurer and of optimizing the funding available. As Safety Chair, she went to a City Advisory board meeting on the medical marijuana issue. She asked the community to write to the City Attorney asking him to enforce the laws on this issue.
She noted that the new Senior Lead Officer is vowing to be proactive on community safety issues, rather than reactive.
- Lydia Grant spoke about education events she has attended and how they will benefit our local schools.
- Joe DeCenzo talked about his experience at the Congress of Neighborhood Councils last month led by Cindy Cleghorn. He talked about the Poets and Writers' Workshop at Bolton Hall the 4th Sunday of the month at 4:30 p.m. to share their work.
- Michael Higby asked stakeholders to support the businesses in Region 3, including Bolton Hall. He is interested in doing an outreach event in Region 3 likely at the end of 2012 or early 2013.

- Michael Jones talked about the improvement of the park by Bolton Hall.

12.2nd Public Comments – non agenda items:

Lloyd Hitt is looking for input on historic information on VHHS. Brenda Fortune talked about the anniversary of VHHS and the different events going on.

Cindy added information on the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC).

13. Mark alerted the board to upcoming meetings: Land Use Committee – Oct 15 & Nov 5; Next STNC Meeting Nov 14

14. **Meeting Adjourned:** 9:16 p.m.

Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One