

**Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 11, 2013
North Valley Neighborhood City Hall, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA 91042**

Attendance: 70: Board: 15, Audience: 55

1. Meeting Call to Order at 7:08 p.m. by Mark Seigel, STNC President, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence for the victims of 9/11. Intro of Board: John Blue, Al Timins, Pat O'Brien, Lydia Grant, Ani Barsegyan, Cindy Cleghorn, Mark Seigel, Melodee Patterson, Nina Royal, Arsen Karamians, Krystee Clark, Michael Jones, Joe DeCenzo and Ed Novy. Quorum established. Richard Stewart arrived late.

2. Introductions/Status report:

- LAPD Crime Stats: Tujunga Senior Lead Officer Rich Wall reviewed crime stats.
- Wesley Hernandez, CD7 Area Director for Councilmember Felipe Fuentes spoke about cleaning up the Tujunga Wash where over 50 homeless have been identified as living. Officer Wall said 40 of them have criminal histories. On Monday, Sept. 23, the Council Office will host a Homeless Fair at Sunland Park to bring resources to the homeless. As of the latest count, there are 90 homeless in this area.
- Stephen Box, EmpowerLA, introduced reps from NextDoor.com, a neighborhood network system for neighborhoods. It is a new tool for City of L.A. residents and will include updates by the 168 Senior Lead Officers in L.A. to provide early warning info in the event of a crisis. This tool could be a good communications tool for reaching S-T's 60,000 + residents.
- Sara Glaser of NextDoor.com talked about how Nextdoor enabled them to alert the neighborhood of a robbery. Sign up at www.nextdoor.com to access it and be verified.
- Stephen distributed information about the neighborhood council elections in March, April and May 2014. S-T is in Region One. There are 12 election regions citywide. No date set for STNC's elections.

3. President's Report: Mark discussed how board members are required to have completed both the Ethics and the Funding Training and that those who did not complete both would not be allowed to vote on Funding motions at this meeting. He also talked about the Volunteer Service Awards, which provide recognition to those community members who volunteer their time. He announced that there is one vacant seat on the board in Region 3. Mark asked Lydia Grant to represent him at the Public Works meetings on behalf of STNC.

4. Secretary Report: Melodee asked board members to review and update their contact info for the EmpowerLA Rosters.

5. Approval of Minutes: (Cleghorn/Novy) moved that the board approve the minutes as presented by the board meeting of August 14, 2013. The motion carried with one abstention. (Barsegyan.)

6. LAPD/LADOT Report: Officer Wall updated the board on traffic incidents at Tujunga Canyon Boulevard and Foothill Boulevard. There were 21 traffic accidents last month but no injuries. Police have been actively enforcing traffic violations to help control problems. Wesley Hernandez said that CD7 is working to try to improve the street resurfacing problems.

7. Greater LA County Vector Control District: Levy Sun, Public Information Officer gave an informative presentation on the West Nile Virus and how it is spread by mosquitoes who breed in inches of stagnant water. The virus is endemic to this area, which means, it is all around the Sunland-Tujunga area. There were two deaths reported as the result of the West Nile Virus in the L.A. area and several

more people who reported health issues as a result of being infected. Wesley Collins, Operations Supervisor for Vector Control, suggested calling Vector Control if you notice stagnant water on a property.

8. Town Hall Meeting: On behalf of STNC's Outreach, Cindy Cleghorn asked for input by the board and stakeholders on whether there was interest in having a community-wide Town Hall meeting to provide information to the community on different citywide issues. Cindy will follow up with the board on scheduling a date and time.

9. 2013 LA Congress of Neighborhoods: The date will be Sat. Sept. 28 at L.A. City Hall. Cindy is the chairperson. Over 650 people from Neighborhood Councils are expected.

10. Motion to appoint two Budget Reps on behalf of the STNC Ed Novy & Krystee Clark who have served in this role for the past year. (Novy/Stewart) moved that they continue in this role going forward. The motion carried unanimous. Budget Day will be held mid-late October 2013.

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Mary Benson, representing the Equine Advisory Committee, announced a meeting at L.A. City Hall on Oct. 2 to present the Day of the Horse resolution. They are hoping to also hear back at that time about a grant application for River Trail and Conservation assistance from the National Parks Service.
- John Blue said he was paid \$1,000 for an old car by the Auto Buy-Back Program. He distributed information about the West Nile Virus and talked about different foods that have chemical agents.
- Grace Swaim, owner of Treasures from the Attic, thanked the community for their support.
- Kathy and Dyle Henderson, Sister Elsie residents, asked the board for support with a developer's build request on a fragile area of this steep road. A public hearing is scheduled Sept. 20, 8 a.m. at Marvin Braude Center and needs community support.
- Marlene Hitt of Bolton Hall read an article that was published in 1974 about ways the community was looking to improve and grow.
- Sheri Smith of Little Landers Historical Society, invited the community to their historical presentation on the sewing machine.
- Nina Royal announced the upcoming Olive Festival in Sylmar.

12. Treasurer's Report/ Financial Motions – Nina Royal

a. The board accepted the August 2013 STNC Financial Report unanimously.

b. Website invoice: (Cleghorn/DeCenzo) moved to approve Web Corner's invoice for up to \$1,500 for upgrades to the STNC.org website. (Royal/Patterson) moved to table the motion so the Budget Committee can check if the funds will come from last FY or certain budget category. The motion to table carried with two abstentions (DeCenzo & Novy).

c. IDs for the Homeless: (Cleghorn/Jones) moved that STNC pay direct cost for IDs for the homeless population in Sunland-Tujunga that will be provided by the DMV with a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) or direct Purchase Card payment of up to \$500. The IDs would be issued by DMV at the Sept. 23 Homeless Resource Fair. A roll call vote was taken and it carried: 10-1-0. (DeCenzo) (*Board members present who were ineligible to vote due to not completing the Ethics and Funding trainings were: John Blue, Pat O'Brien, Al Timins, and Richard Stewart*).

Meeting Recess for Special Board Meeting: STNC President Mark Seigel then recessed the regular board meeting at 9 p.m. to open the Special Board Meeting.

Motion: (Cleghorn/Novy) moved that STNC allocate up to \$150.00 to print a Resources Card of local food bank and services to be distributed at the Homeless Fair in Sunland Park. Cindy acknowledged

that the printing would be done by an outside printer. A Roll Call vote was taken. The motion carried: 10-0-1 (Seigel abstaining) (*Board members present who were ineligible to vote due to not completing the Ethics and Funding trainings were: John Blue, Pat O'Brien, Al Timins, and Richard Stewart*).
Special Board Meeting Adjourned: 9:05 p.m.

General Board Meeting resumed at 9:05 p.m.

13. Safety Committee Report: Nina is planning a Public Safety Fair.
Ham Radio Class - Mark Seigel is offering an 8-week course starting Thursday Sep 12. Class is free except for the costs of the materials. It will be followed by an FCC test in eight weeks.

14. Land Use Committee Report
The board approved accepting the Land Use Committee Report. Cindy talked about the overhaul of the Building and Safety Department and City Planning Departments which is supposed to happen in 2014.

Notice of Public hearing – Sept. 20 - 6342 Sister Elsie – 8 a.m. at Marvin Braude Center and Small Lot Subdivision ordinance meeting on Sept. 16.

15. Outreach Committee Report: Cindy reported on ideas presented by stakeholders at the Outreach Committee meeting including a Youth NC to work alongside STNC. The board approved accepting the Outreach Committee Report.

16. Board, Group & Region Representatives:

- Budget Advocates Rep Report: Ed Novy said there is no money for the merger of Building and Safety/City Planning. Also, the Ratepayer Advocates meeting reduced the proposed increases by LADWP. There will still be increases but not as high. Ed and Krystee will attend the Congress of NCs meeting in September. Ed also announced his interest in bringing back the Arts Committee with co-chair Krystee Clark.
- Richard Stewart will be bringing forth a motion at the next meeting to name the Sunland Welcome Garden after Roger Klemm.
- Ed Novy talked about a proposed \$3 million bond affecting homeowners and infrastructure.
- Joe DeCenzo reported on the Village Poets meeting in August which was well attended.
- Krystee Clark was elected Convention Delegate for SAG/AFTRA and she will present three resolutions for them.
- Arsen Karamians talked about the resolution to improve sidewalks and curbs.
- Pat O'Brien said the American Legion put out the flags today, Sept. 11. He offered flags for any business that wants to display them.
- Al Timins is setting up a fundraiser to Cabo for the S-T War Memorial. He needs artwork for the memorial and help with setting up a Facebook page and a Kickstart account.
- John Blue talked about his illness and Agent Orange.

17. Meeting Adjourned – 9:30 p.m.

Minutes by Pat Kramer, Apple One