

MINUTES:

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council, Regular Meeting of 11/13/2002

Ken McAlpine called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. There were about 70 people in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and newcomers were welcomed. Ken also recognized all of the first attendees of the original Neighborhood Council meeting and thanked Councilmember Wendy Greuel for her help on certification.

Treasurer's Report: Nedd Brown announced that there was \$14 in income from t-shirt sales and the balance of the account is \$1,530.17. There are approximately \$300 in bills to pay for copying and mailing.

Correspondence Report: Brenda McAlpine acknowledged the Merchant's Association for the Olde Town Commerce Street Faire. She announced that approximately 44 new members signed up at the Neighborhood Council's booth. She also announced several upcoming events.

Action Team Reports:

Nominating Committee: Jim Margolin asked each officer to give a brief description of his/her duties. Chair (elected): Doesn't set policy; Ensure all stakeholders get a fair shake to express their views; Keeps the meetings running smoothly. 4-20 hours per week of work, depending on how many committees the Chair sits on.

Vice-Chair (elected): Take over if Chair is gone; Facilitate for Chair

Recording Secretary (elected): Take Minutes; Coordinate and prepare agenda; Attend agenda meetings; Compile agenda packet (agenda, minutes, upcoming events).

Correspondence Secretary (elected): Email updates to NC database; Reminders of NC and Agenda meetings (postcards); Make the flyers; Automatic member of the Outreach Committee; Membership records and cards.

Treasurer (elected): Custodian of funds, which are all in cash at this time.

Parliamentarian (appointed by the Chair): Watchdog to keep the group honest and following Robert's Rules of Order; Work on bylaws.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 9, 2002 meeting were approved as written.

Planning: No presentation was made.

Safety: Nina Royal introduced Officer Alvarez of the Gang Unit and Officer Eric Morimoto. They announced that they are primarily concentrating on the Tunerville Gang. Their phone number is (818) 756-8861 at the Foothills Station. Nina then announced that Jose Castellanos is going into Sergeant School. A new Senior Lead Officer will be selected to replace him. She would be attending the California State Fire Fighter Association Seminar the following day.

Outreach: Jim Margolin announced that he would be attempting to re-invigorate all of the block captains for outreach.

Nominating Committee: Jim Margolin, Tomi Lyn Bowling and Cindy Cleghorn announced that anyone could run for an office, even if he or she is not nominated by the nominating committee. Nominations can be made from the floor. Nominations are closed in December.

Canyon Hills Project: Michele Stone announced that she is working to prepare a consensus from the community on the White Bird Development Project. She can be reached at MicheleDale@earthlink.net.

Certification: Brenda McAlpine announced that the Certification Committee was working with Megan Jones and Amelia Robles at DONE. Councilmember Wendy Greuel was putting forward a motion on Town Halls. The City Attorney had also been spoken to. The Certification Committee was working proactively with the City to get the application aligned with what they need.

Mathew Fitzgerald of DONE: Mathew Fitzgerald clarified DONE's concerns and positions.

Ken McAlpine stated that there are provisions in the bylaws for emergency meetings should they be necessary. Ken also invited anyone interested in certification to see Lynn Bedri. On a straw pole, the majority of stakeholders present wanted to be certified.

Programs:

Jonathan Goldhill, Commerce Avenue Revitalization: A six-month study of Commerce Avenue from Valmont to Foothill was started on October 15, 2002. The study will end April 15, 2002. There are three phases: Phase I – Assessment & Planning; Phase II – Design & Preliminary Construction Plans; Phase III – Implementation. Mr. Goldhill reported on the progress that had been made up to the date of the meeting. He also stated that a focus group would be started in approximately January 2003. Anyone could provide his/her contact information to become part of the focus group.

Proposed Development on Sunland Blvd. at Wyngate, Hayk Martirosian & Richard Sartore: Mr. Martirosian and Mr. Sartore propose a two-story residential units project over a parking garage for each unit. The parcel is a 10,000 square foot irregularly shaped lot. They would provide lavish landscaping. The zoning allows 4 units with two guest parking spaces. Each unit would have standard 2-car parking provided for it. Access to the property would be via Wyngate. The President of the Association for the building behind this parcel stated that the proposed building blocks the view from their building and so they would plan to oppose it. In a straw pole of the stakeholders present, more people were opposed to the project than supported it.

Bylaws Changes: John Waters stated that the Bylaws Committee had met recently to discuss changes. A two-thirds majority and one-month delay is required to make a bylaws change. Standing Rules can be set aside with a two-thirds vote at that meeting. Presently a majority can vote during any meeting. There are two proposed amendments to comply with the Brown Act. The Brown Act protects the right of people to be able to vote on issues that are important to them and to know about them. The Brown Act requires three days notice. When certified and funded by the City of LA, expenditures will need to be on the Agenda.

Marti Marshall moved to vote on Article V of the bylaws changes at next month's meeting. Seconded. Passed.

Business was adjourned at 8:59pm.

Open Forum/Announcements:

Ken McAlpine announced the date and time of the next Agenda Meeting and Regular Meeting of the Neighborhood Council.

Concerns and announcements included:

311 is up and running for non-emergency police information; a suggestion was made to review other successful formats of Neighborhood Councils; the possibilities of setting a certification filing date and reviewing the application with the stakeholders were brought up; the certification committee is 85-90% there as far as filing the application; Councilmember Wendy Greuel has a motion in favor of Town Hall format before the City Council.

Senior Lead Officer Julie Carpenter: Crime statistics are good. Extra patrol requests are being filled. She is starting new Neighborhood Watches.

The meeting and open forum adjourned at 9:08pm.