

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Interim Board Meeting and Program Meeting on Sunday, August 24, 2003

The meeting was held at C&M Printing and started at 5:10p.m.

- Attendees included the following Board Members – Ken McAlpine, Marti Marshall, Cindy Cleghorn, John Waters, and Elsa Waters. Shirley Kellstrom arrived approximately at 6:30p.m.
- Absent from the meeting were the following Board Members – Nina Royal
- Additional attendees – Mark Seigel

Agenda:

- Call to Order and Roll Call – Ken McAlpine
- Approval of Minutes – Elsa Waters
 - The minutes were approved as written.
- Public Comment Period
 - None
- Outreach Committee Report – Marti Marshall
 - Marti handed out notes from the recent Outreach Meeting. She felt it was very successful and highlighted many of the steps they are taking within the group. She was also happy to announce that she had ten new attendees.
 - Press Releases – These were discussed briefly. It was decided that the Interim Board should discuss press releases at all future meetings. A list of potential topics should be worked on and an agreement on who would handle which press releases should be worked out so that there is some consistency in the future.
- Elections Procedures Committee Report – John Waters / Mark Seigel
 - Although no written approval was given, Amelia Herrera-Robles did finally give Mark verbal approval for our bylaws.
 - Mark updated the group on his recent conversation with Amelia. He, Cindy, and Elsa spent some time before the meeting developing possible options for getting the election moving forward, in spite of obvious DONE roadblocks. The following options were discussed:
 - Option One – The entire Interim Board could resign. This option was discussed as an extreme solution only, although other NCs are now moving forward with exactly that same solution. This is an unacceptable solution but will become more acceptable if delays continue to keep this board from moving toward elections.
 - Option Two – The Interim Board could simply move toward elections, without waiting for DONE's approval. This option has worked for at least one other NC. The obvious drawbacks are that there is no support of this effort and DONE could possibly take steps to stop our progress or even uncertify this group. It also means the NC would not have the financial support of DONE.
 - Option Three – Do Option Two, with the support of Wendy Greuel. This option would definitely be stronger if we had City Council backing and might even help solve the funding loss problem.

- Option Four – Send out a letter to all candidates immediately. After discussion, it was felt that potential candidates will quickly lose interest if we do not begin to get them information. It was decided that we should send a letter, with preliminary information and tentative dates and the Interim Board felt there was nothing to lose by getting them started on their campaigns, even if the election has to be postponed.
 - Option Five – Press Releases. It may be time to consider advising our concerns to the community, through press releases to the Sentinel, the Daily News, and any other local papers. The Interim Board feels strongly that we have acted in good faith, taking every step given to us by DONE and BONC, in a timely manner. We have used DONE-provided samples and complied with all changes and requests to keep moving forward. However, in spite of our best efforts, the election continues to be postponed. We believe the community has a right to know why these delays are occurring.
 - Each option was discussed at length. It was decided that we would move forward immediately on Option Four. There was an extensive list of Action Items for the entire Interim Board to help us prepare to move forward on Option Three, and Five immediately, if necessary. There was also an action to set up a meeting with Rita Moreno and Amelia Herrera-Robles immediately to see if we can find a way to get us back on track.
- Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 7:14p.m.