

**MINUTES:**

**Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council, Regular Meeting of 01/08/2003**

Ken McAlpine called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. There were about 80 people in attendance. Ken announced the procedures of the election for the evening. Cindy Cleghorn led the Pledge of Allegiance and Ken welcomed newcomers.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nedd Brown announced that the current balance was \$1,030.69. He also announced an upcoming fundraiser for the Elks Lodge.

**Election Business:** The following candidates for office made brief speeches stating their qualifications as stakeholders and for the offices: Nedd Brown, Treasurer; Cindy Cleghorn, Corresponding Secretary; Elsa Waters, Recording Secretary; Marti Marshall, Vice-Chair; and Ken McAlpine, Chair. Terry Hake-Church withdrew her name as candidate for Vice-Chair as she felt it would be inappropriate to serve on the board of this NC while working with the competing NC on certification. Kathy Anthony stated that she was honored to have been nominated for Chair, but she had to withdraw her name as candidate as she felt that the NC should continue under the competent leadership already in place. Three ballot counters were selected: Patricia Thompson, Jennifer Bell and Martha Houk.

**Action Team Reports:**

**Planning:** Dale Thrush, Planning Deputy Council District 2, gave updates and answered questions on the following projects:

Commerce Avenue Revitalization: Jonathan Goldhill was working on the study and would be providing more information.

Golf Course: This project was under construction and was planned to be open for play in the fall.

Ford Property: There was a lot of interest in this property. The owner, Ford, wanted to sell without liability for cleaning up possible toxic contamination. The City was looking into ways to force Ford to clean up the site, if necessary.

Albertsons: The project experienced a two-month slip due to a re-design of the wall. The wall would be relocated on the site to defray the increase in cost due to the increase in height from six feet to eight feet.

Sav On/MacDonalds: Construction was underway and opening was planned for February. IHOP was planned to open mid-May. The retail shops were 80% pre-leased and were planned to open in mid-June.

La Tuna Canyon at the 210 Freeway: Lights were being installed for the freeway.

White Bird: There was no change to this project and no application had been filed.

Sunland 4-unit Apartment Complex (across from Ralphs): There was no new information on this project.

Enterprise Rent-a-car: The company pulled out of the project.

Sunland Wells Fargo/Starbucks: Wells Fargo pulled out of the project. The owner was trying to find another bank to participate in the project.

Honolulu Apartments/Condos: This project is re-designing as townhome condos, not apartments.

Apartments on Commerce: This project had not come to his attention yet.

Marisol's Retail Project: Three to four months ago the developer was in the final stages of plan check.

**Safety:** Nina Royal announced that she needed help putting together a grant writing team for disaster preparedness.

Senior Lead Officer Julie Carpenter: She announced that work to combat graffiti would include making arrests rather than mere citing of offenders, in addition to the possibility of putting cameras on businesses to catch offenders. Crime statistics were low, including homicides, sexual assaults and robberies. The only increased numbers were in auto theft and most cars were broken into or stolen in the middle of the night. Missing stop signs should be reported to the Council Office for replacement. Graffiti should be reported by calling the non-emergency police number of 311 or by calling Officer Kelly Mahon at (818) 756-8861.

Chief John Nowell of Battalion 12 of LAFD: Chief Nowell announced that people should stay away from the wash during the rainy season to avoid the need for any swift-water rescues. He also announced that

brush should be cleared promptly to prevent fires. Smoke detectors should be checked and their batteries should be replaced. LAFD handles live power lines and Chief Nowell announced that people should stay away from any downed-power lines as they can go live again after the power has been turned off from them.

**Outreach:** Ken McAlpine announced that the previous chair of this committee, Jim Margolin, had passed away last month. Ken asked for help on creating a memorial for Jim's family. Ken also asked for volunteers to help on the Outreach Committee.

**FALCON:** Steve Crouch announced the formation of the Foothill Area League of Conservation Organization and Neighbors. He announced that representatives from various community groups are participating in FALCON so that information can be distributed to all of the community groups. The draft of the environmental impact study on the White Bird Project was expected to be ready in a few months.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the December 11, 2002 meeting were approved as written.

**Programs:**

**Albertsons:** Paul Robich of RMCA, the architect, announced that he is a resident of Tujunga and had been working on the Albertsons project for five years. He gave a brief history of the project. Paul stated that the eight-foot masonry wall would be moved forward by sixteen to seventeen feet from the property line to decrease construction expenses. Rear parking lost from the move of the wall would be re-located in the regular lot. Creeping fig would be growing over both sides of the wall to prevent vandalism. There would be additional landscaping behind the wall. The wall would be constructed in two phases – a portion in Phase I and a portion in Phase III. The outdoor garden shop in previous renderings of the project had been replaced by a drive-through pharmacy window. The store was expected to open in 2004. The current store would remain open until construction of the new store was completed. There would be a Starbucks inside the store and possibly other services, such as cleaning for clothes. Paul agreed to ask Albertsons how soon temporary screening could go up to help the Padre Park neighbors. The new store would be 45% larger than the existing store. Some driveway entrances would be relocated on the lot during the project.

**Roger Martin, Transportation Planner San Fernando Valley North South Transit Study of the MTA:** Several maps were shown of population density, demographics, etc. He showed possible routes for lines in the San Fernando Valley. None of the routes connected all the way to Sunland-Tujunga. Currently the project was in the study phase. The possibility of taking over certain lanes of traffic as bus lanes during peak traffic periods was mentioned.

**Old Business:** No activity.

**New Business:** The Election results were announced: Ken McAlpine, Chair; Marti Marshall, Vice-Chair; Elsa Waters, Recording Secretary; Cindy Cleghorn, Corresponding Secretary; Nedd Brown, Treasurer.

**Business was adjourned at 8:38pm.**

**Open Forum/Announcements:**

Concerns and announcements included:

Brenda McAlpine announced that Tom Rath with the Planning Department had called her and asked if anyone had any information about a church operating a daycare at 7225-7245 Valmont. She asked that anyone with information on the site call her so that she could answer Tom Rath. Brenda also announced that Michelle Sahfran was doing research on the tree, Old Glory, and would have petitions at February's meeting.

Ken McAlpine acknowledged all of the officers who had served this year and some, like Brenda, who had served for several years running.

Minutes from S-T Neighborhood Council 01/08/03 meeting.

[www.SunlandTujunga.org/council](http://www.SunlandTujunga.org/council)

Mark Seigel, Chairman Pro Tem of the Certification Committee: The next meeting of the Certification Committee was supposed to have been January 6<sup>th</sup>, but Bolton Hall had no power that day. A new meeting would be scheduled and announced so that all could attend.

The next Design Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting was announced as Monday, January 13, 2003. In response to several questions on how to get more stop signs placed, Pat Davenport stated that the Department of Transportation (DOT) had been going through changes. The old method of thinking was to keep traffic moving. The newer thinking is to use stop signs to slow traffic. To get a stop sign placed, one should call DOT Engineering or the Council Office.

A woman announced that her daughter was sexually molested at a local gas station and asked people to call her if they had any information on anyone else who had been molested at that gas station.

Patti Friedman, Deputy for County Supervisor Michael Antonovich, announced a public hearing on January 23 on the Kagel Canyon unincorporated area.

Pat Davenport announced flyers at the back of the room, copies of articles on Councilwoman Wendy Greuel and invited everyone to come to the council office and pick up information on upcoming events. An upcoming Neighborhood Watch meeting was announced.

Ken McAlpine announced the next agenda meeting and regular meeting of the NC.

The meeting and open forum adjourned at 9:03pm.