

MINUTES:

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council, Special Meeting of 02/18/2003

Ken McAlpine called the meeting to order at 7:27p.m. The meeting was started later than usual because of the confusion about the location and to allow everyone an opportunity to arrive. He explained how the agenda would be different tonight. The only item on the agenda would be the Certification process and the review of the newly proposed Bylaws. Approximately 80 people were in attendance.

Certification / Bylaws: Mark Seigel and John Waters gave an explanation on how the discussion would be handled. The discussion included three sets of bylaws. Copies of all three plus a comparison chart were made available to the group.

This is a brief summary of the discussion of the three bylaws - Bylaws #1 were the existing organization bylaws. They were written and approved in November 1999 without much direction from DONE. Those no longer work under DONE's new guidelines. Bylaws #2 were submitted by a splinter group to DONE, with an official Certification application. This action directly challenged the existing group's certification process. An alternate set of bylaws (Bylaws #3) has been in the works for some time now and was finally presented to the full group for consideration. This set of bylaws was worked with the participation of the certification committee and the DONE representatives. They stay as close to the original bylaws but still comply with DONE guidelines. The group hoped to select one set of bylaws and submit the completed Certification application to DONE by March 27. BONC is scheduled to have a hearing in May to determine which certification will be accepted for the area. Their choices include 1) requiring the two groups to mediate and reach an agreement, 2) selecting one of the two applications and discarding the second application, or 3) reject both and tell us to combine. Public input is invited, so anyone who is interested should make sure that they take the opportunity, at the time, to express their opinion. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

After the bylaws were reviewed, general questions were taken. Some concerns that were discussed were:

- Why the Town Hall format was not an option at this time
 - Conflict of Interest – no control
 - Procedural concerns
 - Delegation of authority
 - Brown Act issues

The discussion included a review of the differences in each set of bylaws by the categories used by DONE and BONC. Questions were answered and discussed.

There was a motion by Earl Bushard and seconded to vote to accept the alternate S-TNC bylaws as they stand. There was a call for the question by Gary Whittington and seconded. Votes - Yes – 22, No – 11. The question was called. Yes – 37. No – 1.

Cindy Cleghorn moved that the Certification committee be allowed to make minor modifications in conjunction with DONE to expedite the certification process. There was a Second. Overwhelming Yes votes, Abstention – 1.

Business was adjourned at 8:51pm.

Open Forum –

Cindy thanked the group for all the work it took to get to this point.
Ken announced the next agenda meeting, and the next general meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.