

**MINUTES:**

**Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council, Regular Meeting of 07/09/2003**

Ken McAlpine called the meeting to order at 7:08pm at the Mt. Gleason Middle School with over 137 people in attendance. Ken explained briefly about upcoming elections. All newcomers (approximate count of 20) were welcomed and introduced.

**Interim Board Reports:**

**Chairman's Report:** Ken made some general comments about how the process is changing. He also introduced Dale Thrush, and Officer Martinez.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nedd Brown, Treasurer reported a balance of \$1,039.64. Raffle tickets for Watermelon Festival were available for purchase.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Cindy Cleghorn mentioned the Black Binder in the back of the room – the minutes of our Interim Board Meetings. Discussed other meetings and asked people to get involved.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the June 11, 2003 Regular Meeting were approved as corrected.

**ByLaws Committee Report:** Elsa Waters handed out the latest version of the Bylaws that were recently submitted to DONE for approval. She briefly explained the process that got us to this point and that there are not major differences between this version and the last version. Some specific changes were discussed. John Waters will create a comparison of the previous version and this final version to post on the web page and hand out at the next meeting. He will also find out from DONE when the Bylaws are finally approved.

**Elections Committee Report:** Mark Seigel discussed the elections process. He gave the tentative election date, explained why there are no applications available, advised that there is an interest form available to turn in and advised that he had a copy of the pre-approved preliminary election procedures for review. These have been submitted to DONE for approval. There will be a meeting on Saturday of the Elections Committee, if anyone is interested in getting involved.

**Boundary Issue Committee Report:** Nina Royal explained the process briefly, along with the problem that this committee is trying to resolve. She asked anyone interested in signing up or seeing her directly.

**Outreach Committee Report:** Marti Marshall updated everyone on the activities of this committee:

- Approximately 1500 flyers were handed out at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.
- Jennifer Bell is taking over the Block Captain program.
- Outreach for the elections in October is kicking into gear. If you are interested, please sign up.
- Monthly regular meetings have been set for the 3<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. The first one will be on July 17 at the Municipal Building at 7:00p.m. Sign ups are being taken tonight.

**Unfinished Business:**

None

**New Business:**

Steps from Parking Lot / Library – Elsa Waters put the following motion on the floor and it was seconded – *In recognition of an excellent suggestion made by a Mount Gleason student to STNC representatives, I move that the STNC write a letter to the City of Los Angeles recommending that steps and/or a ramp be placed between the Municipal Building parking lot and the Sunland-Tujunga Library.*

Many excellent suggestions were made, including:

- Consider submitting a grant (February), where the work is done within the community.
- Involving the students in the development of the work
- Include some special education students
- Write letters to local companies, asking for funding
- Consider asking students to write letters or grants, with teacher support as a class project.
- Use the word ramp, not stairs on the letter.
- Consider developing a junior council for the community.

**Adjournment of Interim Board Business at 8:05 pm.**

**Programs:**

**City Planning / Updates:**

Dale Thrush brought welcomes from Wendy and her new baby. He updated the community on some planning items:

- Starbucks is nearing completion – sometime soon.
- The old Marisol's property will have Retail on the street and public storage on the back of the street.
- Hillrose Circle – This subdivision was approved over 10 years. The plans include 16 houses, and will require about two months of removal of dirt and three months of building.
- The AT&T cell antenna sites – two ugly ones near Albertsons. They will be removed because Albertsons didn't want it. AT&T went forward without the support of the City or the community. Now there is a public hearing and he will let us know how that comes out. More discussion.
- Ford property details will be coming soon.
- Scenic Preservation Plan will be presented to the City before the middle of August.

Rosalind Stewart handed out two surveys.

- The first was previously handed out to the DAC representatives and dealt with Commerce.
- The second has to do with the remodeling of the Municipal Building and what the community would like to see housed in that building.

**Safety:** Nina Royal gave a brief report.

- Discussed the Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB) and introduced a few additional members in the audience. Any member will answer questions related to any police issues.
- Discussed the CERT program; she explained about the t-shirts, vest, and hard hat.
- Officer Carpenter (Lead officer for Sunland) and Officer Martinez (Lead officer for Tujunga) talked briefly. Grand Thief Auto is still on the rise. However, they know who is doing it and it is just a matter of time before they are caught.
- There will be a meeting at the Municipal Building July 21<sup>st</sup> of July at 7:00 regarding Neighborhood Watch – specifically addressing traffic issues. Sarah Dupra is the liason to them, as well as Nina.

**DAC Report:** Penny Blackwell ([plblackwell@mvexcel.com](mailto:plblackwell@mvexcel.com)) gave a quick report on the DAC but the minutes were included in the handouts from this meeting.

**Open Forum/Announcements:**

Concerns and announcements included:

Mary Shotwell – Temporary Aid Center

She runs the Sunland-Tujunga Temporary Aid Center that has been in existence for 20 years.

The City has said that if we can get community support, it can be included in the new plans for the Municipal Building. The space they need is very small (17 by 25 feet). She wants a letter of support from the STNC. Everyone who helps out there is a volunteer and has limited time.

Moving would be very difficult, as well as costly. Mary moved for a straw poll vote, which was seconded. There was a great deal of discussion. It was decided to put this on the agenda for next month. The survey that Rosalind Stewart mentioned above might be a good place for people to express their concern. The vote was tabled.

AT&T antennas in the Crystalview area – Barbara Carter (818) 353-0606 or Dan Sweeney (818) 352-3320 are available to answer questions. Barbara showed some graphs that show the proposed placement of these antennas and how they will impact the area. They are very large, very visible, and could cause potential safety concerns. Barbara expressed concerns that these antennas are not safe, will be located in a sensitive ecological area, and that additional concerns include fire and high winds. A petition was handed around.

General questions were discussed for a few minutes. Examples: Will the City pay for removing wasps? No. A discussion about the pros and cons of the new 311 service. The issue of putting large houses on small lots was brought up and Ken McAlpine suggested that this be added to a future agenda, asking Dale Thrush to address it.

The meeting and open forum adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Minutes taken by: Elsa Waters, Recording Secretary 2003