

**Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Board Meeting Minutes for March 9, 2005
Mt. Gleason Middle School – 7 PM**

Ken McAlpine called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM with 17 Board members in attendance and 68 in the audience. Ken McAlpine welcomed newcomers and guests. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Java Stop and Glendale Bakery were thanked for providing hot cocoa and coffee for the meeting.

Executive Committee Reports

Treasurer: Robin Meares went over her written Treasury Report, which was provided to all Board Members.

Minutes of December 9 February 2005 were approved as presented.

Public Comment

The following issues and concerns were brought up:

- Opposition to the Viacom/Decaux Transit Shelters.
- Opposition to the use of a map from the 1930's to make planning decisions for a property on Oro Vista.
- The Historic Home Tour would be on May 1st, 2005.
- McGroarty Arts Center would be having sign ups on April 2nd.
- This was the first meeting to be video taped to be shown on Channel 27 on Saturdays.
- The upcoming Chamber of Commerce Easter Carnival was announced, as well as a quilting class.
- Upcoming meetings were scheduled to choose a new head of the planning commission.
- The Foothill Family Child Care Association provided free childcare at the STNC meeting. Also it was announced that May 1st – 7th would be Child Care Provider Week.
- An individual announced that he produces story telling in the park events at Griffith Park and he would like to do something similar in the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood.
- The Old Town Street Faire was announced and volunteers were requested.
- Neighborhood Watches were being formed.
- An objection was raised to not having to have ID to vote.

Committee Reports

DAC: John LaRocca described the DAC.

- John LaRocca reported that the Foothill Performing Arts Center located at 10027 Commerce Avenue would like to retain the box sign. This is against the Specific Plan. However, because of the nature of the business, an exception for this particular location seemed appropriate. Many people in the audience nodded their approval of this idea.
- John LaRocca and Robin Meares reported that at approximately 10215 Tujunga Canyon Boulevard, at developer would like to put up 27 townhouse style units.
- Ford Property: Debby Beck reported that this project was currently in the construction drawings phase. It was hoped that they would break ground in August/September 2005. The buildings were expected to commence in the beginning of 2006 and be completed by the end of 2006. At the time of the meeting tests were being done on the property for toxic waste.

Dale Thrush, Planning Deputy for Councilmember Wendy Greuel, reported the following:

- Home Depot: Councilmember Greuel wrote a letter opposing the Home Depot re-building project. A meeting would take place regarding Home Depot.
- Verdugo Hills Golf Course: There were various options for the property. There would be a meeting to discuss the details.
- Interim Control Ordinance: This ordinance to control the size of homes on small lots was announced as being through PLUM. The City attorney was reviewing it.
- Canyon Hills: Mr. Thrush and Councilmember Greuel met with a delegation from the STNC the previous day. They asked the City Attorney to look at the Slope Density Ordinance again. The City Attorney would determine if the law had been reasonably interpreted.
- A question and answer period was held. Home Depot may just remodel the existing building, as they are unlikely to get two zone changes. Their application had been suspended by the Planning Department. A

Garden Center would not be permitted on parking area on a commercial lot. An individual was concerned regarding four homes being built on Mount Gleason. It was discovered that there were no permits for the construction and the site was closed down.

Safety: Nina Royal announced CERT classes. Mark Seigel was announced as the new director of CERT. SLO Julie Carpenter went over crime statistics. SLO Larry Martinez reported that an investigation was in progress regarding a gang related homicide at Stonehurst Park in Shadow Hills. The next Business Watch meeting was announced.

Outreach: Mona Curry announced that the Outreach Committee was working on 1) the contest for the STNC logo, 2) Farmers Market, and 3) Movie in the Park (Neighborhood).

Sunland-Tujunga Vision 2020: Julianne Maurseth described the STV 2020 and read highlights from a handout. She announced that they were working on putting together a promotional kit to seek funding to create a master plan for the community.

Program Speakers:

Karen Mack, L.A. Commons

Karen Mack announced that she formed L.A. Commons to help the people of Los Angeles interact with one another and to provide activities for people to create together, using the artistic process and artists to bring people together. There was a question and answer period: Ms. Mack could be contacted at (213) 705-4457 to get more information. She could be contacted regarding setting up an Armenian cooking class in Sunland-Tujunga.

Guillermo Gonzalez, Viacom/JC Decaux & Shannon Eastenson, B.O.S.S.

This is a 20-year program signed in 2001 for Viacom/Decaux to install and maintain Transit Shelters in the City of Los Angeles at Viacom/Decaux's expense. Also Viacom/Decaux would also pay \$150 million to the City of Los Angeles over the lifetime of the contract. 50% of this amount would go to the general fund and the other 50% would be divided among the 15 Los Angeles City Council Districts. This money would be for street related projects only. Viacom/Decaux would receive revenue from advertising at those shelters. Viacom/Decaux would be installing Bus Shelters, Automatic Public Toilets and Kiosks (Advertising Stands). At the close of the contract, the City of Los Angeles would own all of the street furniture, which had been provided by Viacom/Decaux. B.O.S.S. oversees Viacom/Decaux on this project.

A question and answer period was held. 25% of the locations are chosen by the Council District; 35% by B.O.S.S.; and approximately 40% by Viacom/Decaux by survey. The Community can change the locations if the changes are feasible. Major changes to the design of the Transit Shelters are not possible, but minor changes (e.g. color) are possible. The majority of the ads are for movies. If an ad is distasteful, anyone can call Shannon at B.O.S.S. and she would handle it with a 24-hour turnaround. B.O.S.S. is part of the City of LA and therefore cannot censor the ads, as that could be regarded as a violation of the 1st Amendment. Thus they rely on the public for reports of risqué ads. It takes one year to get the permit and get the shelters installed. There was another community that took their money (from the CD's share of the \$150 million) and put up more attractive Transit Shelters with it. One of the points of this program is to look more like a cohesive city. The money goes to the Council District. The NC would need to talk to the CD about getting the NC's share of the money. Public Amenity Kiosks will not be put up with a bus shelter. S-T cannot opt out of the program.

It was voted unanimously to address the Transit Motion as the first motion, rather than as the second motion.

New Business

2: Support Transit Shelter Installation (Robin Meares):

Motion: I move that the STNC support the installation of ten Transit Shelters by Viacom/JC Decaux tentatively scheduled for the following Bus Stop locations:

WB Foothill NS Oro Vista NE Corner
EB Foothill FS Fenwick St SE Corner
WB Sunland NS Fenwick St NE Corner
WB Foothill NS Saluda Ave NE Corner
EB Foothill FS Tujunga Cyn SE Corner
EB Foothill FS Pinewood Ave SE Corner
WB Foothill NS Pali (Island) NE Corner
EB Foothill FS Pali SE Corner
WB Foothill NS Pinewood NE Corner
WB Foothill NS Mt Gleason NE Corner

95% of those installed will be the Boulevard Shelter types. They will be installed at no cost to the City. Our Council District will share in the revenues of the advertising. The maintenance will be the responsibility of Viacom/JC Decaux.

I further move that our approval is contingent upon approval of final locations of transit shelters and the opportunity to suggest design changes.

Motion by Robin Meares

Motion was unanimously tabled for further discussion, with two abstaining.

1: Support DWP M.O.U. (Louise Clarke Stone):

Motion: I, Louise Clarke Stone, as STNC liaison to the NC/DWP Task Force, move that this council declare our intention to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

Motion by Louise Clarke Stone.

Motion carried unanimously.

Nina Royal moved to separate her motion into Part A regarding Home Depot and Part B regarding the NC Coalition. This carried unanimously.

3A: Home Depot (Nina Royal):

Motion: That the STNC support Nina Royal to form a committee to plan a press conference with Councilmember Wendy Greuel opposing the proposed Home Depot on the old K-mart site.

Notes: Help was promised by Councilmember Wendy Greuel at her coffee meeting at Glendale Bakery. She committed her presence and support at a media conference showing her support for opposition to Home Depot on the K-Mart site, in support of the STNC and community's stand on this issue.

Motion by Nina Royal.

Motion carried with two dissenting votes.

3B: NC Coalition (Nina Royal):

Motion: That the STNC form a planning group coalition with Chatsworth, Granada Hills, Mission Hills, Northridge, Sylmar and Foothills Trails and any other Neighborhood Council that is interested to challenge the City; that voters demand that they stick to community plans and ordinances that are presently in place to protect open space. Also, to insure that our infrastructure is up to par before allowing further major development. Also, to assure that they listen, resolve and act on the concerns of our communities. Also that we elect or appoint representatives to that coalition from the STNC.

Motion by Nina Royal.

The Chairman tabled this motion per Orders of the Day and moved to Motion #5 on the Program.

As a public comment one individual announced an upcoming planning hearing on April 7th regarding a property on Oro Vista.

5: Canyon Hills Letter (Julianne Maurseth):

Motion: To approve draft letter to L.A. City Planning Commission.

Motion by Julianne Maurseth.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion #6 regarding DAC Appointments was tabled per Orders of the Day.

Meeting adjourned at 10:02 PM

Minutes taken by Ava Wrightsman, 2005 Recording Secretary