

**Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council**  
**“DRAFT” MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, February 8, 2006 – 7 PM**  
**Mt. Gleason Middle School**  
**10965 Mt. Gleason Avenue • Sunland**

Meeting called to order by Chairperson, Cindy Cleghorn at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Board Roll Call: Nina Royal, Deborah Ray, Jeannine Crowley, Joan Slater, Mark Seigel, Victor Castro, David Cain, David DeMulle, Janet Linsalato, Richard Stewart, Saro Minassian, John Blue, Myrna Grijalva, Dan McManus, John Van-Es, Michelle Sahfran, Tim Borquez, George Powell and Shirley Kellstrom, Parliamentarian with 105 in attendance.

**Speaker & Open Forum:** Captain Szymanski, LAPD Foothill Division:  
Captain Szymanski said that crime has fallen by 25.6% in the City and that the Foothills Division ranks # 19 in crime which is the lowest, per capita, for the entire City. He said that the Chief wants to see the communities start becoming more involved in crime control by taking active steps to improve the quality of life in the neighborhoods. To that end, he has been involved in creating a program known as “CARES” (Community Action Response Enhancement Strategies). The captain said his team has developed 19 different strategies to get the community more involved, getting students and businesses more involved, and harvesting crime information from victims. Sunland - Tujunga is one of the communities being targeted for CARES. If it is successful here, the City will adopt it city-wide.

The Captain said they now have available crime analysis maps that show what type of crimes are taking place in different areas. For this map and other email on crime control, email him at: [17419@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:17419@lapd.lacity.org) or go to [www.lapdonline.org](http://www.lapdonline.org).

In responding to questions from the Board and stakeholders, the major concern is regarding traffic crimes. When asked what measures are being taken to address this in the Foothills, he said that no matter how many tickets they write, it doesn't seem to help. He asked for suggestions on how to get people to slow down and to obey the law. He offered to look into getting a radar truck for the area but noted that it really comes down to resources: There's limited traffic control because of other issues. He asked for input on what specific traffic violations need to be focused on.

Some suggestions offered were to educate motorists about traffic laws and safety, for neighbors to talk to their neighbors directly about the problem and ask them for their courtesy, to look into getting a left turn traffic light on Tujunga Canyon at Foothill Boulevard, to put up signage on Commerce Ave about U-Turns being illegal, and to get speed signs. The Captain noted that if anyone has a complaint about police service, you can download a complaint form online or go to the station and make a complaint.

He also spoke about gang activity and enforcement in the area. On the subject of Home Depot, he said the police cannot get involved either way in the campaign. He stated that any business that locates at the former K Mart site will increase crime and that his job is to make sure whoever locates there operates safely.

(Brief presentation by local Middle School dance students).

Return to discussion:

A stakeholder suggested putting up signage saying, "Welcome to Sunland - Tujunga, the home of the safest and friendliest drivers."

The Captain said he would report the community's concerns about traffic to his superiors. On March 11<sup>th</sup>, there will be an auto theft prevention clinic for the Foothills area. They will be giving away steering wheel locking devices and educating consumers on ways to prevent auto theft, the most prevalent crime in the Foothills area.

Cindy presented Captain Szymanski with a Certificate of Appreciation.

### **Executive Committee Reports**

**Treasurer:** Marianne Brown reported that as of today, DONE has formally frozen spending on all accounts of STNC until further notice. She reported that the Bank of America account contains \$698.00 and Petty Cash has \$876.00. She called DONE to get details on the suspension and was told that STNC's financial reconciliations had not been submitted since last July 2005 as required.. Until they completed and turned in, DONE is unable to transfer monies into the STNC account.

Summary: Since March 11, 2004; DONE has provided STNC with \$125,000. \$28,812.00 was spent from the City checking account and \$56,950 from the City card account. That leaves \$39,236 remaining as a balance. She said this report should have been done on a quarterly basis. She is now trying to straighten out the records but it's a real mess. In the meantime, there is no money for any expenses. Future notice, she said STNC has to make sure STNC reconciles everything they spend and get pre-approvals for all spending. Everything needs Committee Chair and treasurer's advance approval.

**Recording Sect.** Deborah Ray asked the Board to review the minutes of January 11, 2006. Minutes approved as presented.

**Corresponding Secretary** – Mailing List – Corresponding secretary reported that the STNC mailing list will be updated to delete those not interested in receiving info.

Committee Reports

- Outreach – Dan McManus (written)

**Design Advisory Committee (DAC)** – Richard Pozzo – no report.

**New Business - Discussion/Action: The following board recommendations passed unanimously.**

1. Board Recommendation #1 – The Executive Committee of the STNC recommends Shirley Kellstrom be appointed STNC Parliamentarian for the 2006 year.
2. Board Recommendation #2 –The Executive Committee of the STNC recommends the following Standing Committee appointments for the year 2006:
  - a. Outreach: Victor Castro (District 1), David Cain (District 3), Myrna Grijalva (District 4), Richard Stewart (Interfaith Rep) and Belinda Woodruff-Holm (stakeholder)
  - b. Budget & Finance: Elsa Waters (stakeholder), David Cain (District 3), Ed Rock (STNC office), Mark Seigel (Scouting Rep).

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3. Board Recommendation #3 – The Executive Committee of the STNC recommends the following ad-hoc committees and their chairmen and members be approved for the year 2006:
    - a. Bylaws – Mark Seigel, Chair; Shirley Kellstrom, John Waters, Deborah Ray
    - b. Rules – Nina Royal, Chair; Ed Rock, Shirley Kellstrom, Deborah Ray
    - c. Grievance – Ed Rock, Chair and Shirley Kellstrom
    - d. Safety – Nina Royal, Chair; Deborah Ray, Mark Seigel, Saro Minassian
    - e. Elections Committee - **postponed**
    - f. Communications Committee – Jeannine Crowley, Deborah Ray and John Blue
    - g. Logistics Committee – Ed Rock, Mark Seigel, George Powell, Deborah Ray
  4. Board Recommendation #4 – The Executive Committee of the STNC recommends STNC Chairman, Cindy Cleghorn, and/or her designees, seek support from other neighborhood councils in our community’s opposition to Home Depot in Sunland-Tujunga.
  5. Discussion/Action on the appointment of District 3 representative to the STNC board. – Janet Linsalto and Amelia Anderson gave a brief presentation on their interest to serve on the board representing District 3. Motion by Deborah Ray to appoint Janet Linsalato as District 3 rep **passed unanimously**.
  6. Discussion/Action on the appointment of District 1 representative to the STNC board. - **postponed**
  7. Discussion/Action that the STNC participate with Councilmember Wendy Greuel in the groundbreaking ceremony to be held at the old Ford property. Motion by Deborah Ray. **Passed unanimously**.
  8. Discussion/Action that STNC partner and participate in the L.A. City Mayor’s Day of Service on May 7, 2006. **Motion passed unanimously**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Comment – none.  
9:15 PM – Adjourn

*Minutes transcribed from electronic media by Pat Kramer – Apple One*