

**Sunland – Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Monthly Board Meeting
Mt. Gleason Middle School, Sunland
Wednesday, May 10th, 2006**

Opening Presentation by Tobie Columbus Danceworks, A Children's Dance Company started in advance of the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Call to Order: 7:08 by Chairperson Cindy Cleghorn, Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: 15 Board Members present/quorum established.

Present were: Cindy Cleghorn, Nina Royal, Deborah Ray, John VanEs, David Cain, Janet Linsalato, Victor Castro, Mark Seigel, Timothy Borquez, Dr. David DeMulle, George Powell, Saro Minassian, John Blue, Michelle Sahfran, and Jeannine Crowley. Absent were: Penny Barcena, Dan McManus, Richard Stewart, Joan Slater and parliamentarian Shirley Kellstrom.

Chairperson Cindy Cleghorn introduced Pat Kramer who will take minutes for the meeting and Ed Rock who will serve as parliamentarian for the evening.

Introduction of elected officials and staff

Presentation:

Vice Chair Nina Royal reported the passing of Georgetta Wiemith, local resident, radio talk show host and longtime participant (Statue of Liberty) in the S-T annual 4th of July parade. There was a moment of silence in her honor.

Public Comments:

- Two republican candidates for Assembly 38th District introduced themselves Camryn Smith & Mary Barrientos.
- A S-T stakeholder offered to give away loads of fill dirt to anyone with a pick up truck for free.
- Alfred of Los Padres introduced his group to the Board.
- Sheryl Smith of "No2Home Depot Campaign" reminded the Board about their upcoming fundraiser rummage sale, June 3rd.
- Claire, assistant director of McGroarty Art Center talked about upcoming events and asked for donations.
- Amelia Herrera - Robles DONE rep, congratulated the STNC for leading the charge for other NCs with their commitment to the 912 Commission. She mentioned an upcoming water rate hike hearing coming up with DWP.
- A rep for the S-T Public library reported that the library will be closed for three weeks while it's getting painted.
- The rep for the Commerce Street Faire announced it is coming up Oct. 20^{1st}, 2006

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Presentation: Mr. Ireland, a 7th and 8th grade science and astronomy teacher at Mt. Gleason Middle School presented the “Smart Board,” a form of interactive technology that he uses in teaching (c/o JPL). His demonstration showed how this technology depicts the night sky over Sunland – Tujunga, the planets visible, time progressions, and other items of interest. He spoke about two proposals he’s working on: A plan to start an area astronomy club on the school’s quad and a proposal to build a planetarium/ observatory in Sunland on the school’s grounds. He said he is looking for financial support from the business community.

Safety Report, Nina Royal: There was no safety report. In August, the community will celebrate National Night Out, an event to support public safety. More info to come.

Executive Committee:

- Budget Report, Mark Seigel gave the STNC expenditure report and reviewed monies available. There is currently \$27,990.51 available minus expenses of \$2,000.00. June 30 is the end of the fiscal year. At that time, DONE will reallocate \$25,000.00 to the STNC upon receipt of a board approved budget. He requested Board members submit line items for next year’s budget.

New Business #4:

- **Motion to approve Linda Brand as Treasurer to STNC Board.** Mark Seigel made the motion, seconded by Nina Royal. that the Board vote to appoint Linda Brand as treasurer to STNC Board. Motion passed unanimously.
- Recording Secretary, Deborah Ray read that a grievance has been received by STNC by a stakeholder regarding a Board Member. The grievance will be forwarded to the Grievance Committee for their review and recommendation by the June 14, 2006 meeting. She did not have any minutes ready for approval but said there would be several sets of minutes presented by the next Board meeting.
- Jeannine Crowley, Corresponding Secretary said a brochure for STNC is being worked on. When it’s complete, it will be handed out at different outreach events.

Committee Reports:

Rules Committee, Nina Royal asked stakeholders to email any ideas they may have to her.

Bylaws Committee, Mark Seigel presented a motion to approve Tier 1 changes in the STNC bylaws. To do this, the Board approved the motion, seconded by Deborah Ray, to go into a Committee of the Whole with a unanimous vote.

12 changes were discussed to Bylaws Version 2.7 including language and clarification of descriptions in the bylaws. (See STNC Bylaws Ver. 2.7 Change List, 04/21/06). After reviewing the changes, the committee was closed and Mark made a motion to accept Tier 1 changes, seconded by Deborah Ray. The STNC approved all the changes unanimously.

Design Advisory Committee, Victor Castro reported on the formation of the Narrow streets ICO Subcommittee of the DAC consisting of Mark Seigel as chair, 2 members of the DAC, 2 stakeholders, and Dale Thrush from Councilmember Wendy Greuel's office. Their concerns relate to fire safety and they are trying to come up with an ordinance similar to the anti mansionization ordinance to protect narrow streets from safety problems. Interested stakeholders may attend this committee meeting which will be held at North Valley City Hall, Monday, May 15th at 6 p.m. followed by the DAC meeting starting at 7 p.m. (See posted agenda for Monday, May 15th).

Verdugo Hills Golf Course Development: Victor reported that the proposal by the developer (MWH Housing Developers) has been changed from the original 400+ unit plan to the current 269 units plan with preservation of some part of the golf course. DAC has decided to form a subcommittee to work with the developer that will enlist the help of Victor, himself, as chair, Foothills Trails NC, La Crescenta NC, La Crescenta Historical Society, STNC DAC, S-T Chamber of Commerce, Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber, Crescenta Valley Chamber and stakeholders from S-T. The committee is being formed now to find a compromise for something that will be desirable to the community for a final project. Victor also said there are two other aspects being researched in conjunction with this site: that it may have previously been a burial ground and a possible internment camp during WWII, in which case, state legislation would not permit it to be built upon.

Home Depot site alternate subcommittee: The DAC has agreed to assist the No2Home Depot campaign to find better alternatives for that site (see letter dated May 3, 2006 to L.A. Director of Planning Gail Goldberg). He stated that it is important to have a process like this so the City of L.A. will take the community more seriously for current and future projects.. He mentioned new City Planner Gail Goldberg and her comments about striving to make communities be more involved in having a say in what's proposed for their area. Anyone wanting to participate can contact him by email at: district1rep1@stnc.org.

Inspiration Way single family residence proposed development: There is a hearing this Friday, May 12th at 9:30 a.m. at the Marvin Braude Service Center, 6262 Van Nuys Boulevard adjacent to the proposed emergency exit for the Canyon Hills Development. Victor said it's important to take a stand here because if this area is approved for development, the rest of the area could be opened up.

The next DAC meeting will be held, Monday, May 15th, 2006, 7 p.m. at North Valley City Hall.

Outreach Committee report was given by Mark Seigel in Dan McManus' absence: A logo contest was held last year and 40 banners are being proposed to be hung along Foothill Boulevard advertising the STNC. Three designs for the light pole were presented. A straw vote was taken and the first design was selected. To celebrate the Mayor's Day of Service, local volunteers painted the exterior of the Tujunga Post Office, pulled weeds along Commerce Avenue and did other local clean up. Richard Stewart, a board member, also painted the Sunland post office wall. The next Outreach Committee meeting is Saturday, May 13 at 1 p.m. at Joselito's West, 7308 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga.

CD 2 rep, Jackie Keene: No update.

New Business:

1. Family Fun Days, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Community. A motion was presented by Victor Castro and seconded by Nina Royal, **"That the STNC support Family Fun Days presented by Our Lady of Lourdes May 19 – 21, 2006 as a stage sponsor at a cost not to exceed \$225.00."** Mr. Blue recused himself from the vote. **The STNC approved this motion with 13 for, one abstention, one opposed.**
2. 4th of July Festivities, S-T Chamber of Commerce. Victor Castro presented this motion on behalf of Dan McManus, seconded by John VanEs to provide \$500.00 to the Sunland Tujunga Chamber of Commerce's 4th of July festivities to purchase a STNC specific sponsor sign. Mark Seigel amended the motion to \$1,000, Nina Royal seconded. John Blue made a friendly amendment to raise it to \$1,500. The Board voted to accept the change in the motion: 14 for, 1 opposed. **They then voted to approve the Outreach Committee allocation of \$1,500 by a unanimous vote.**
3. 912 Commission. Chairperson Cindy Cleghorn reported on this new commission being formed that requires two recommendations from each Neighborhood Council. The reps need to be presented to the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils at their June 8th meeting. Over the next year, those who are appointed to this Commission (selected by the Mayor and the City Council) will participate in a review of the Neighborhood Council process as a whole. **Deborah Ray made a motion, seconded by Victor Castro, to appoint Chairperson Cindy Cleghorn as one of the two reps from STNC.** Dr. David DeMulle suggested that all the candidates be looked at prior to making this appointment. The

Chairperson then handed the gavel to Vice Chair Nina Royal. **Cindy Cleghorn then presented an amendment of the motion, seconded by Mark Seigel, to include all the candidates named at the last meeting to be considered by this motion. Deborah agreed to set aside her original motion.** Victor then asked to be removed from the group of candidates for the appointment. The group includes: Cindy Cleghorn, John Blue, Saro Minassian, Dan McManus, Dr. David Demulle, and George Powell. **The Board then voted on the amended motion. The amendment failed unanimously.**

The Board then voted on Deborah's original motion to appoint Cindy Cleghorn as one of the two 912 Commission reps: The vote was 1 for, 11 opposed, 3 abstentions. The motion failed.

Jeaninne Crowley then presented the motion **"That STNC's representatives to the 912 Commission submit by May 15, 2006 to the STNC office a statement of interest, expertise, time commitment not to exceed 250 words and to attend a Special Meeting of STNC Board to be held Monday, May 22, 2006 at 7 p.m. for final selection by the STNC board where two will be selected with the highest votes win."** Tim Borquez added for clarification that any stakeholders are invited to present their qualifications as well for this appointment. The Board passed this motion unanimously.

Request for future agenda items:

- Saro Minassian requested a seminar to be held for businesses at North Valley City Hall.
- Nina Royal asked whether the STNC would be interested in having the Director of Transportation and an engineer from Dept. of Public Works for a future presentation.
- Deborah Ray asked that the STNC support the Farmers Market and that this item be on the Special Meeting agenda.

Final Board and Public Comments:

- Deborah Ray asked the Board to commit to attending the Special Meeting on May 22 so to be sure we will have a quorum.
- Frank Buchanan of La Tuna Canyon Community Association reported on a proposal at Kagel Canyon for a homeless relocation center. He said this would involve moving 300 homeless women, teenagers, and children from Skid Row to Kagel Canyon for a place to sleep and weekly mental therapy. There would be a risk factor to residents as they would be able to roam the streets. He suggested that this was not the right place or the right time for this facility.

- Frank Buchanan also reported that Shadow Hills has joined the Hillside Federation and that Kagel Canyon appears to be ready to join it as well.
- Nina Royal said she is involved in the Kagel Canyon proposal and that there was a need to hold a meeting to discuss this.
- Cindy Cleghorn announced that the Valley Alliance Planning Forum would be held on Thursday, May 11, 2006 at CBS Studios in Studio City with a presentation by Gail Goldberg, the new City Planning Department Director. All are invited but reservations are needed.
- Linda Brand asked the Board to get items for the budget ready so she can present the new budget to the board at the June 14 meeting.

Next Regular STNC Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 14, 2006 at Mt. Gleason Middle School, 10965 Mt. Gleason Ave, Sunland.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

- Minutes prepared by Pat Kramer, Apple One -