

SUNLAND-TUJUNGA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
10965 Mt. Gleason Middle School, Multi-Purpose Room  
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2006

Meeting was called to order by Chairman, Cindy Cleghorn at 7:15 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, Cindy introduced the City officials present including City and County staff present. Also introduced members of visiting neighborhood councils. Approximately 70 in attendance.

Minutes of the last meeting for August 9, 2006 were approved without objection.

Council District 2 – Dale Thrush, Planning Deputy for Councilmember Wendy Greuel spoke about two issues: The FAR/ICO and the proposed Home Depot. The Sunland-Tujunga Interim Control Ordinance, the law that was passed a year ago that restricts the sizes of new houses or remodeled houses on lots less than 8,000 square feet. The ordinance was passed a year ago and has now been extended by the City Council for six additional months which is all they're allowed to do at this point. There is one more six-month extension available. Permanent regulations are being discussed for a citywide ordinance in the future. Home Depot: The Design Advisory Committee letter to Councilmember Greuel of 8/24/06 requested that she appeal the issuance of tenant improvement building permits for the K-Mart building. As most of the stakeholders know, on July 24<sup>th</sup>, the Dept. of Building & Safety issued **tenant improvement building permits** for Home Depot to remodel the existing K-Mart building. Mr. Thrush said they have been working to get those tenant permits appealed and that's about to happen soon. Copies of the letter were available at the meeting for anyone interested. It was found that Councilmember Greuel cannot appeal any actions of the City, because she is part of the City, which was also the frustration of the STNC because they also could not appeal any actions of the City. In response to a question, the extension of the Sunland-Tujunga ICO is independent from other neighborhoods because each neighborhood have different types of lots. This ordinance will not overlap with horse property as they are zoned differently. Questions regarding appeal of building permits related to Home Depot and the success of the appeal process. Mr. Thrush replied that it's not strictly a building permit issue. There are two aspects to it. One is a "use" aspect which allows a challenge saying essentially that Home Depot is different than a K-Mart use. Then there's the issue whether the improvements that are proposed are consistent with the specific plan or is it a project. If it is a project, then it involves an environmental report, etc. If it is not a project, then it goes a different route, through the building permit route, and no one gets to litigate anything and the building is improved and the owners move in. These improvements are part of the Planning Dept function so that appeal will automatically go to them to decide what is or isn't a project. The building permit application for Home Depot was processed from the Metro Division which is downtown L.A.; it is not from Van Nuys. Someone questioned if it is possible for a representative of the NC or stakeholders from the area to be able to sit in on one of the FAR/ICO meetings. Mr. Thrush said that Anita Cerna would be the one to make that decision even though he felt it is a good idea. The work is being done by the Planning Dept, not the City Council. Since a recent focus-group meeting, a woman stakeholder had an understanding that the City-wide ordinance, different from the local Sunland-Tujunga ordinance update, understood it is supposed to be one City-wide ordinance with specific area. She is requesting to make sure the exception for our area is included in the City-wide ordinance. Another issue, Mr. Thrush said that Congressman Sherman has responded to our request for some assistance regarding the Oro Vista property which is good news. The fish at the Oro Vista property is called the Santa Ana Sucker. This property is still defined as habitat for the fish, and therefore is entitled under some sets of rules for protection because the fish is considered an endangered species. The City is still deciding whether or not that rule applies to private property. If there is some kind of Federal action, there can be an imposition of the protection of the endangered species.

Safety Committee Report

Nina gave credit to Donna Divan for a successful safety committee meeting that took place with 30 people from Summitrose Ave. and also people from Wendy Greuel's office. Neighbors and members of the Safety committee came well prepared with all types of suggestions and what could be done to mitigate the speeding problem on Summitrose. After about two meetings, Angela Motta from Wendy Greuel's office announced that the neighborhood will be getting a stop sign in about a month. Thanks to Wendy Greuel's office for their prompt action on this matter. This shows what can happen when the community comes together.

#### Guest Speaker

Nina Royal introduced, Deputy Chief, Michael Moore with the L.A.P.D. who is in charge of the Valley area. Deputy Chief Moore said we are at an historical low in crime even though there still seems to be more crime in the area. He said the street robberies are higher and his department is working with other government agencies, such as the FBI, trying to locate the people who are committing serial robberies throughout the San Fernando Valley. There are 175,000 in the state prison and 21,000 are in the county jails. Deputy Chief Moore said they are quite busy finding and arresting suspects of crime. Further crime reduction and ambition will be achieved through prevention, keeping kids from going into a lifestyle of gangs and other things. Other ways of prevention are for the local neighbors to put crime prevention tools in their cars, or reporting crime when they see it which will also help discourage crime. Deputy Chief Moore suggested that we do not leave valuable electronic equipment in the car, such as a GPS system which costs around \$800 retail, as these items encourage theft, and we must always lock our cars. If someone knocks on your door and asks if a certain person is there, most likely that person is a potential robber. We no longer have the ability to staff the D.A.R.E. program but we have school car officers to visit various schools and we also have school police there. Deputy Chief Moore congratulated the local community for making the local area a safer place to live. The city is cut into four corners and each of those four pieces is called a bureau. The corner of the San Fernando Valley is basically everything north of Mullholland. It's about 220,000 miles about 1.4 or 1.5 million people, maybe a little more than that. We have about 1,600 officers who work out here on patrol, and with detectives, gangs, etc. just under 400 civilians. We make up around 2,000 people that make up your police dept. in the San Fernando Valley. We have 6 area stations in the San Fernando Valley. The area that serves this area is the Foothill area. Captain Joe Currier is the captain. He's a great man, a seasonal professional, and spent a number of years in the Devonshire area and recently came to the Foothill area. He is doing great work with the other captain that is there, Jeffrey Greer as well as George Brock who is the Detective Commanding Officer and his men and women who work in the Foothill area. There's a senior lead who works in the Foothill area who is the absolute "go to" person, a problem solver. Plans in 2006 and 2007 are globally, we're trying to focus on building our ranks. There was a trash fee that was recently passed, which is going to afford an increase of 1,000 officers in the next 4 years. What we really need is recruitment. We have added officers, but we really need recruitment because every police agency that Deputy Chief Moore is aware of is recruiting police officers. He said, we'll interview 12 applicants to hire one. We're trying to put classes together of about 60 officers a month that will allow us to seed our attrition and actually grow to about 250 officers per year. So at the end of these four years, we will be at our 1,000 added goal that will put us at about 10,200 officers which will be the largest we've ever been by about 500-plus officers. This city would enjoy a much better police service with those added ones. The Chief's target is 12,000. If you'd ask me what my perfect goal is, I'd say closer to 18,000. If you ask me why did I get that number? I looked at other cities such as Phoenix, N.Y., Philadelphia, San Diego, San Francisco, other major metropolitan, Miami and look at their ratios, how large their street is, how large their area is, their population. I have no pipe dream that we're going to achieve 18,000 but I'll tell you that we've always been a very lean and small department, and that leanness and small size of our organization has limited us in our abilities of programs that we can do in a manner that we can please this city. An addition of a 1,000 will help, but if we can go to 12,500, that's when a few more blue uniforms would be the answer to the end of the question, because right now, we have so much of a focus of trying to keep those blue uniforms in uniform black and whites and detectives.

The other thing I want to focus on is emergency preparedness. As an agency, and as members of this city, we're constantly going through fires and floods. Would we all be prepared in case of an emergency? Do you have supplies

for the next 7 days? Do you have gas in your tank, water and other medical needs and food for 7 days? To an extent if you do, it's about 10% of America who is prepared for a disaster. We will be focusing on 10% of the population who cannot get out of the house, that are an invalid and who are unable to provide for themselves. If only 10% is prepared for all those other obligations, we're all going to have our hands very full. So please take notice in the next few months to be ready for the next disaster; fires, floods, locusts, earthquakes, everything including a man-made disaster.

We're trying to grow in our crime reduction efforts using new technology. If we use technology more smartly, we can appear to be a larger force than we are. One of those areas is something called a license plate reader, and the second area is what is called a close-circuit television surveillance system. CCTV systems are up in Hollywood, they're up in Rampart. We're trying to bring them up here to the San Fernando Valley. I think the West Valley area will be the first area that will have a total private partnership. Those devices allow us to be a watchman so we don't have to put a man or woman in that area. We can survey areas to see when there's nothing going on. With the exception of that, we can send police officers there. They're also a scarecrow affect. When you have a camera there, people do not go and do stupid things in front of them like crimes. Finally, the other major technology effort is something called a license plate reader. This is equipment that this council has provided for the Foothill area. This is where a camera can read 1,000 license plates as a car drives down the road and records it. It compares it with stolen vehicles and we can capture suspects that we never knew were there with that technology. It's a set of eyes that knows all the outstanding stolen vehicles and it alerts us when a stolen car just drove by and tells us what kind of car. Dep. Chief Moore thanked the stakeholders again for supporting them in this endeavor because the City's budget process to this point has not been able to support them. The Foothill area will be one of the first areas that will get this added enhancement in behalf of the neighborhood council (STNC). Everyone applauded. Mr. Moore continued to congratulate the STNC for their fiscal responsibility and endeavor of supporting this great effort. The technology should be installed by the end of this year. They've got to get the contract, get it signed, make sure the money is in the bank and then we'll get it installed.

Three stakeholders had questions. One lady asked Dep. Chief Moore, how can people prevent their property from burglary. We have crime prevention booklets; you can download it on the Internet at [www.lapd.org](http://www.lapd.org). There are senior leads and our relationship officer will come out and work with the neighborhood. But the community needs people to come in to the police meetings to sit and listen to do their part. It's not just up to the police department to prevent burglaries. Second question; one man said he was a former Federal agent and on his street there is dope dealing, cars racing and going through stop signs and these police officers drive by these areas and never bother to stop. He was frustrated over what can be done and also commented that 60 years ago there was a middle-class neighborhood in the area, but today there is no more middle-class which has been replaced by gangsters. Dep. Chief Moore requested to get this man's name to find out the address of the neighborhood to do more research. The issue of narcotics, Deputy Chief Moore takes this as a serious matter, where a complaint is taken, a court hearing and proof that it happened. The third stakeholder question as to how do you expand certain programs so you can get your recruits? F.A.V.A. is having their first annual golf tournament which the BOOSTER Association that provides the funding. The outreach effort is for the youth between the ages of 14 -18 and if they're above a C average and they're looking for police work or structure, similar to Boy Scouts, these explorer programs will help prepare them. There are parenting or counseling classes available for kids that are in jeopardy to help keep the kids from going over the edge. It's a great active program in the Foothill area and I'm one of the founders in the city for that program and also information available in the local station so you can get that person in there. One last question was if all the officers and dogs have bullet-proof vests. The answer was, the officers do as a requirement but many of the dogs don't all wear the vests.

Nina announced that the safety meeting is the third Thursday of the month. The "above-and-beyond the call of duty" awards has been changed to October 21<sup>st</sup> at the Elks Lodge, 6:00 pm it opens and 7:00 dinner begins with a \$15 donation. If there's a particular officer, or someone in the police department who deserves to be honored, please contact Nina. Right now four have been selected. They were selected by the top cop of the Foothill Division because he's the one that knows the performance of the officers that are in the area. We can take more people who you really

feel deserve to be honored. Just let us know the reason behind why they should be honored. Nina said she hopes to see many people come to this event.

#### STNC Board Roll Call

A quorum of 11 members of the STNC Board were present including: Cindy Cleghorn, Nina Royal, Linda Brand, David Cain, John Blue, Saro Minassian, Victor Castro, Mark Seigel, Jeanine Crowley, Dan McManus, Deborah Ray. Also present: Shirley Kellstrom, Parliamentarian and Shari Mehr from Apple One took the minutes. Board members absent: Joan Slater (out of town), John Van-Es (ill), Richard Stewart (family emergency), Michelle Sahfran (another meeting out of town), Janet Linsalato (working), Penny Barcena (working), Tim Borquez (working), Dr. David DeMulle (ill), George Powell (no reply to calls).

#### Public Comments

Donna Divan would like to recommend Officer Felicia McAdams for an Above & Beyond Award. Donna also commented her concern about the traffic fatality on her on Summitrose and the staggering statistics of the L.A.P.D. radar trailer that was placed there. In 4 days, before schools opened, 21,198 vehicles were recorded with speeds up to 68 mph on Summitrose. That's 5,300 cars per day on a narrow steep street without sidewalks, but with heavy pedestrian and cross traffic. Tragically, on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, a car killed a pedestrian on Summitrose at Wilsey Avenue. She said, we are grateful that a stop sign will be installed at Mc Clemont Ave. & Summitrose by September 30<sup>th</sup>. However, it is only one of a combination of traffic control measures still needed to improve the traffic. For the record, we request increased ongoing repeated traffic law enforcement. We would like to also remind the Dept. of Transportation that we need stop signs and head signs and pavement painted with limit lines and the word "STOP". We have sent in an application for speed bumps. We want to insure that they're installed with related signage and proper painting. Summitrose Street is a 25 mph street the entire length and she requested to have 25 mph speed limit signs which do not exist now. Many are not aware that the speed limit is 25 mph. She emphasized that safety starts with each of us individually and it doesn't depend only on the police; so that if this happens everywhere, then it will become a safer place to live. Donna also provided her comments in written form to be made part of the minutes on file.

Jim Adams wanted to reiterate the issues discussed by the previous speaker. He wants to get the Dept. of Transportation more involved as far as speed bumps go, he'd like to see more lighting on the street and other issues accomplished. He feels there's a good solution all the way around with the added help by the Neighborhood Council and the Safety Committee, he felt we'll get more done on Summitrose and then he would like to work on another street that needs help.

Nell Skilsky added her comments about all the accidents she's seen on Summitrose. She agreed with Jim that we need more lighting on Summitrose with the Neighborhood Council's help, we can get it done. She doesn't want to sell her house and move and wanted to congratulate the Neighborhood Council for the effort they have given to help preserve our streets.

Peter Moen added a few more comments regarding the Home Depot issue. He suggested to everyone that they pick up a copy of the letter that Dale Thrush talked about. He felt we should question if CD2 has really done everything they say they would do.

Amelia Herrera-Robles, our Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment rep, spoke regarding Budget Day held this past Saturday. She recommended that we encourage all the Board members and stakeholders to fill out the survey. The mayor's office wants to know how the 2007-2008 budget in Los Angeles should be shaped and what are the most important priorities for you. She said they ran out of copies of the survey on Saturday so Amelia advised that everyone can locate the survey on the website at [www.lacityneighborhood.com](http://www.lacityneighborhood.com) and encouraged everyone to do so since it's your tax dollars at work and it let's the mayor know how the money should be spent in the future.

Alice Debbaudt talked about the speech she gave last month regarding the tree stumps if anybody knew how to take them out at Mt. Gleason. She said, the very next day, thanks to one woman who was at the last month's meeting, Patricia Thompson, the LAUSD had their men out there who did the work. She thanked those who were behind this.

Elektra Kruger mentioned she's on the Board for the Shadow Hills Property Owners Association. On Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>, they are going to have their annual Bar-b-que and Western dance. She had some flyers at the meeting for anyone and also tickets that are \$15 for adults prior to the event, or \$18.00 at the door, \$10.00 children 6-12. Regarding fire stations, the City of Los Angeles has a program that's called "Adopt-A-Fire-Station". SHPOA has adopted station #77 and station #24. They are the ones that are on both ends of Shadow Hills. SHPOA will also adopt station #74 if the need arises. Elektra wondered if someone in the STNC would consider adopting station #74 and if there is an interest, Elektra will give Cindy Cleghorn the information. There have been some strange incidents in Shadow Hills, and Elektra feels it could happen in our local area too. She said, if anyone sees a vehicle parked that has a car cover on it, and you don't know who that car belongs to, take a peak underneath because chances are there are no doors on it, no hood on it, no anything except the wheels, so it still looks like a real car. She suggested if anyone sees a car parked on your street and it has a car cover but you don't know who the car belongs to, it might be good to contact the local police to take a look at it.

Elaine Brown commented on five items on the agenda. She first shared with everyone that today (9/13), she helped proofread the appeal for Home Depot. She emphasized to Peter, who spoke earlier, that we have the greatest appeal anyone has ever seen and it's going to tell the City that there is no such thing as tentant improvements on this project. She urged the Board to pass Items #3, 4, 8, 9, 10. Item 3 is to oppose Proposition R; Item 4 is to oppose the additional water rates; Item 8 regarding the ICO, she wants the Board to get some of the specifics of street repair and other issues into the community plan. Therefore, she urged that the Board get the community plans scheduled for review. Item 9 is hosting a political forum and coming against certain politicians who have no experience on the office they're running for. Item 5, we could use some healthy trails of community impact statement.

Cindy Cleghorn read general comments to be included in the minutes from Irmgard Von Roos as follows: "With the amount of traffic on Summitrose Street (21,198 vehicles within four days, with max speed of up to 68 mph, and one traffic death as of August of this year), without sidewalks, being used by children walking to and from school, makes safety measures a necessity. Install speed humps, and enforce 25 mph speed limit in any way, PLEASE, to avoid another tragedy."

#### Chairperson's Report

Cindy Cleghorn recommended for everyone to check the STNC web site regularly where she has been posting updates. A few copies are also available tonight. Cindy is a member of the 9-12 Commission also known as the Neighborhood Council Review Commission. Tomorrow night, Thursday September 14, they are holding a special meeting in regard to selecting an executive director who will help guide the commission in its work. There will be a meeting that has been arranged by a coalition of other NC's with regards to the affordable housing initiative, Prop H. If anyone is interested, it's being held Saturday, September 16 at 1:15 p.m. in Hollywood.

#### Treasurer's Report

Linda Brand said that we're still working on the reconciliation for the last quarter of the fiscal year ending in June 30, 2006. Linda brought attention to the the new PA system that Ed Rock and Mark researched and purchased at John Blue's recommendation. No one has to talk loud anymore and it is much simpler to use. Thanks to John Blue for recommending this new Carvin system. The board had approved up to \$450.00 for the purchase but it cost \$574.79.

So at this time, Linda requested that the Board approve the additional expense of \$124.79. At the time when our old system is sold, it will pay back this extra cost.. A motion by Nina Royal was seconded and vote was unanimous.

Minutes

Minutes of the last meeting on August 9, 2006 were approved without objection.

Board Member Reports - The following board members presented reports:

**District 1** - Victor Castro requested that Millie Jones give an update and status regarding the Haines Canyon Channel concerning the August 31<sup>st</sup> meeting which occurred at Sunland Park with the County reps and various agencies involved. Also asked about the Angeles National Golf Club regarding their application for a permit with the Dept. of Fish & Game.

Millie Jones from L.A. County Supervisor Mike Antonovich's office said, Supervisor Antonovich was very pleased to convene a meeting for the community along with Councilmember Greuel's staff. We clarified things at that meeting about the project: the fact that there would be no concreting, no one was going to pave over the pond; there was re-noticing that was done with public comment extended for an additional 30 days. If anyone is still interested to give public comments, notify the Dept. of Public Works. Additionally, Supv. Antonovich will be sending a letter to all the Angeles National Golf Course owners and also to the Dept. of Fish & Game to encourage them to expedite their process for their application. Millie said they are looking at possibly holding up on the County's portion of this project until the golf course can come along and perhaps do this project simultaneously since they really coincide with each other. The Supervisor's land-use deputy, Paul Novak, is going to be having additional meetings with all the agencies involved.

Victor Castro continued comments on this project saying that it may be brought forward in public comment on Monday Sept 18<sup>th</sup> at the DAC meeting that perhaps the DAC recommend a letter of non-approval to the city council office as well as the county with regards to the Angeles National Golf Course receiving approval for the permits they're applying for because of their inability to already accomplish certain items contained in their Conditional Use Permit.

**District 4** - Dan McManus commented that there is still a vacancy for someone to be appointed to District 4. Deborah Ray, who has been the recording secretary spoke out to be considered to fill the District 4 position.

**Business Rep** - Saro Minassian could not report until the next meeting because his brother recently passed away.

Standing Committee Reports

**Outreach** - Dan McManus reported that the Watermelon Festival was great and thanked everyone for showing up. STNC shared a booth with CD2 and the Dept. of Sanitation and also ST SERVS. The next outreach meeting will be held Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm at Joselito's West. Everybody is welcome. We are working on an event in conjunction with the Verdugo High Boosters for possibly October 7<sup>th</sup> which is the target date but not quite solidified yet. This will be a breakfast event to lead up into our election for the neighborhood council. It is also our intention to submit a motion on next month's agenda to provide support for the Historic Home Tour which is a great part of the community.

Dan moved that the STNC support the Little Landers Historical Society with \$125 toward costs of promotional materials. Motion was amended to increase this to \$300 provided that STNC is printed on materials. Motion passed as amended with one opposition. Treasurer, Linda Brand, wants it noted that she is opposed to increasing amounts during

board discussion for financial related motions and asks that recommendations come in high and then be reduced. This way the budget has been reviewed in advance to be sure funds are available.

**Design Advisory Committee** - Victor Castro noted on Page 26 a letter from the STNC Design Advisory Committee to Councilmember Wendy Greuel's office with regard to the proposed Home Depot in Sunland. Victor recommended that the STNC Board support the STNC Design Advisory Committee's letter of August 21, 2006 requesting the L.A. Bldg & Safety revoke permits issued to Home Depot and for the Planning Dept. to reverse its decision so it correctly states that Home Depot's proposed plans do indeed constitute a project, as defined in our specific plan. This will insure that the project will receive the proper environmental scrutiny that it requires. Vote was unanimous for this letter to be approved.

The following DAC recommendations were unanimously approved by the board:

1. That the STNC board supports the DAC letter of August 21, 2006 requesting the LADBS revoke permits issued to Home Depot and for the Planning Department to reverse its decision so that it correctly states that Home Depot's proposed plans do indeed constitute a "project" as defined in our Foothill Blvd. Corridor Specific Plan. This will insure that the project will receive the proper environmental scrutiny that it requires.
2. That the façade improvements for the Von's Market at Mt. Gleason & Foothill be approved.

Victor announced that the DAC will meet Monday, September 18 at 7 pm at North Valley City Hall and the agenda should be posted sometime before 12 noon on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Ad-Hoc Committee Reports**

#### Rules & Bylaws Committee

Mark Siegel moved that the Board combine the rules and bylaws committees with the following task to be completed by the November 8<sup>th</sup> STNC meeting: 1) Code of Civility and 2) Bylaws, Tier 2. Nina Royal seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Citywide Community Budget Day

Alice Debbaudt attended the Mayor's budget meeting and gave a report in the absence of John Blue & Michelle Sahfran who are the designated Citywide Budget process. There were two presentations at the Mayor's budget meeting and will be available on the STNC website. One was accounting for the millions of dollars being spent with the pie-shaped figure. The second presentation was the breakout for the community where it was said that the Board has to finish its surveys by November 1<sup>st</sup> if you really want it to go anywhere, even though it says in all the paper work that it's due November 15<sup>th</sup>. It's very self-explanatory what he's (the Mayor) going to do and what he says he's going to do. Regarding the budget chart, they talked about restricted funds. Cindy said she gave everyone the report on CD because they're in beautiful color and they're more cost efficient also. Alice expressed, in her opinion, one last thing the mayor said in his speech which wasn't in anything else. He's really after transparency in government in terms of money and what they do with it. Cindy suggested that Alice consider in the future being added on as a STNC liaison for meetings such as these. Cindy commented that John Blue and Michelle Sahfran are our appointed representatives. Michelle also attended the Community Budget Day but is not present tonight. John Blue commented that a liaison position should be made permanent on the board.

### **New Business**

#### Item #2 - STNC Elections

Cindy noted that the following people have confirmed they want to participate in this year's STNC Elections committee: Claire Knowlton, Marti Marshall, Julie Scallcup, Belinda Woodliff-Holm with Mark Seigel as Elections Committee chair at this time. Julie is busy opening a business but she is very interested. Motion to approve these recommended members of the Elections Committee. Vote was unanimous.

Item #3 - STNC Opposes Proposition R on the November Ballot

Cindy submitted a motion that STNC adopt or pass the resolution to oppose this measure. Motion by John Blue. Vote was unanimous.

Item #4 – STNC Resolution re: DWP rate increase, support MOU as amended and appoint Michelle Sahfran STNC liaison to DWP NC Oversight Committee - It was moved that these items be postponed. Vote was unanimous. Cindy requested that the STNC board return in two weeks because these recommendations have to be in by September 20<sup>th</sup>. The STNC is part of the DWP MOU so the board is required to respond. An additional board meeting will be held and Cindy will notify the board members with the date.

Item #5 - Discussion regarding STNC Board member vacancies

Cindy Cleghorn briefed everyone regarding board members who have not attended the meetings for awhile and updated the board as to notification we have received. We have not heard from the Youth rep for sometime and another youth is interested in the position. The portion of the bylaws regarding absences was read indicating that upon three consecutive absences, the board can vote to remove the board member. Cindy commented that there is also a vacancy in District 4.

Motion by John Blue that we act in accordance with the STNC bylaws to remove the current Youth Rep from the board due to three or more consecutive and unexcused absences so we can nominate a person who the board believes will be much more active. Cindy requested that the part of the bylaws be read as to how the vote for this motion can be taken. Upon reading the bylaws, it was determined that a 2/3 vote in favor would be required. Vote was 8 in favor of removal and three opposed. The motion passed. Some stakeholders felt that the other board members who have also been absent should also be considered for removal. *Note: The chairperson sent notice to the board the following day that this motion is nullified as the STNC Bylaws require 2/3 vote of the entire board in favor for removal of a board member, not 2/3 in favor of the board members present. The STNC meeting had only the necessary quorum of 11 members. 14 votes in favor would have been required to pass this motion. Therefore, the Youth rep is still a member of the STNC board.*

Motion by John Blue that Crissa Villanueva be appointed as the Youth Representative of the STNC Board. Crissa expressed that she was happy to be appointed to the Board and has been always at our meetings and was always assisting. She still wanted to come and be involved with the STNC Board. She said she has been waiting for this moment and is anticipating a lot to accomplish and is looking forward to it.. Vote was unanimous. *Note: Due to the motion to remove the Youth rep being nullified, this motion is also nullified as no vacancy exists for the Youth Representative position.*

Discussion regarding Deborah Ray serving as representative to fill the District 4 vacancy. Linda Brand commented that the executive committee needs at least 3 people which is not always easy to achieve and recommends that Deborah Ray maintain her executive board position. Cindy commented that the position in District 4 is an Outreach position which is getting stakeholders out to the meetings. Because Deborah Ray is already a board member, her outreach efforts to District 4 would be appreciated even in her current position.

Item #6, 7, 8, 9 – Due to the lateness of the hour and need to vacate Mt. Gleason a motion to postpone these items to the additional board meeting being scheduled was approved without objection.

Item #10 - Cindy recommended that the board support the Healthy Trails Community Impact Statement (CIS) (see attached). Vote was unanimous.

Announcements

Mark Seigel said he attended D.O.N.E. last night for the IEA (independent election administrator) meeting. D.O.N.E. is retraining all the field staff. They're no longer called field staff now, they're called advocates. It was supposed to be a project before and now it's out of the project status. They're working on classes for additional treasury training, parliamentary procedure training and assorted other things. They're working very hard to get all the staff trained so that when you call two different staff members and ask the same question, you won't get two different answers. We've got six IEA's now and things are progressing. They're doing lots of studies and lots of data collection and then they'll figure out what to do with the data. Mark said his Ham radio class starts September 19<sup>th</sup> in Sierra Madre. See Mark if interested.

Healthy Trails Mary Benson spoke regarding the Healthy Trails that the City of L.A. has had major funding for their bike plan and the general plan for 20 years. The trails plan has been a master city-wide since 1968 but the City did not do much more than they are now. This is an effort to move this forward for recreational trails that are dirt surfaced rather than paved by the freeways where the bikes drive back and forth. The city is behind in this. Mary said she attended the State Trails and Greenways Conference in the beginning of May. In October 18-21 Mary is going back to Illinois to attend the National Trails and Greenways Conference to learn more about Federal funding for this type of recreational fun.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Minutes taken by: Shari Mehr – Apple One