

Don't forget to sign in at the back of the room.

New-Comers, please use the GREEN notebook. Returning neighbors, please use the BLACK & RED notebook AND check off next to your name – please mark changes to address/phone/e-mail as appropriate.

** Please note that numbers in parentheses denote the time in minutes allotted for that topic. "QA" denotes the time allotted for follow-up *question and answer*. These times may be adjusted by the Chairman as needed.

PROGRAM
Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Regular Meeting, June 8th, 2005

		Community Priorities
7:00	Call to Order and Flag Salute	
	Roll Call (silent)	
	Welcome Newcomers and Guests (5)	Ken McAlpine #6
	Flag Salute (2)	Ed Condit
7:05	Executive Committee Reports	
	Minutes (2) – May 11	Cindy Cleghorn
	Treasurer's Report (2)	Robin Meares
7:15	Board Reports	
	NC Planning Coalition Report (2)	Nina Royal #1,2,3,4,6
	Hottest Topics (2)	Louise Stone #1,3,4,6
	Home Depot (5+5QA)	Don Breeding #1,2,4,6
	Verdugo Hills Golf Course (3+2)	Bob Schiele #1,2,4,6
7:17	First Public Comment (15)	
7:30	Committee Reports	
	Safety (2)	Nina Royal #2,6
	Crime Report (4QA)	SLO Martinez/Barba #2
	Fire Safety (5)	#2
	DAC (2)	Debby Beck #1,3,4,6
	Planning (5+5QA)	Dale Thrush #1,2,4
	Outreach (4)	Mona Curry #5, 6
	S-T Vision 2020 (3)	Julianne Maurseth
7:50	Program Speakers	
	A Healthy Future for Sunland Tujunga (15+5)	Dr. Neal Kaufman #1
8:45	Old Business <i>See full wording and back up materials for motion on attached pages</i>	
	MOTION: Transit Shelters (10)	Robin Meares
	New Business (40) – <i>See full wording and back up materials for motions on attached pages</i>	
	1) MOTION: STNC 05/06 Budget (5)	Robin Meares
	2) MOTION: Oak Tree Ordinance Letter (10)	Rhonda Herbel
	3) MOTION: Appoint STNC City Planning Director	
	Interview Board Representative (5)	Louise Stone
	4) MOTION: STNC board approve the "draft"	
	Standing Rules (5)	Julianne Maurseth
	5) MOTION: STNC position re: Slope Density (5)	Rhonda Herbel
	6) MOTION: Co-Sponsor Fireworks (10)	Mark Seigel
8:15	Second Public Comment (5)	#6
	Be sure to see calendar of community events with handouts.	
	Chairman's Reminders	
9:00	Adjournment of Board Business	

Mark your calendar for these upcoming STNC meetings: (also see page 3 of this packet)

DAC
Strategic Planning Committee
S-T Vision 2020 Steering Cmte
Agenda/Executive Committee meeting
STNC Regular Meeting
Outreach

Mon, June 20, July 11 & 25 @ 7:00 pm – NVNCH.
Tue. June 21 @ 7 pm – NVNCH
Wed. June 29 @ 7 pm - NVNCH
Wed, July 6 @ 7:00 pm – NVNCH
Wed, July 13 @ 7:00 pm – Mt. Gleason -Program: Neighborhood Matching Funds Grant with Michael Espinosa
Sat, July 9 @ 8:30 am – Denny's

Please email proposed agenda items, future topics or issues to: AvaWrightsman@hotmail.com
www.SunlandTujunga.org/council



Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
STRATEGIC PLAN - 2005 (DRAFT #4 – revised 3/05 – Revisions in blue)

STNC MISSION: Improving the Quality of Life in Sunland-Tujunga.

STNC PRIORITIES: The following Priorities reflect the Community Survey results from June 2004. Priorities have been grouped and synthesized from the original 10 Goal categories, to target the Community's major strategic needs.

For Strategic Plan details, see:
 pp. 2-3

- Priority #1:** Improve Community Appearance p. 4
- Priority #2:** Improve Safety & Crime Prevention p. 5
- Priority #3:** Preserve Scenic Beauty & Ecological Protections pp. 6-7
- Priority #4:** Improve Quality & Vitality of Our Business Districts p. 8
- Priority #5:** Promote & Celebrate Our Cultural Resources pp. 9-10
- Priority #6:** Strengthen Outreach Response for Long-Term Health of Community Relations

KEY STRATEGIES for success of ALL Priorities & Goals:

1. Invite and motivate others to join our 15-year "Sunland-Tujunga Vision 2020" – to become a "model Community" in Los Angeles on how to revitalize, innovate and adapt to change while enhancing our unique Community culture and values.
2. Request all STNC Committees to align their plans & activities in sync with the 6 Priorities, Goals & Strategies – and report regularly to the Community on progress regarding the top Priorities (per "scoreboard").
3. Promote and maintain a collaborative STNC Board, proactive outreach with all Community stakeholders, partnership with FTDNC and other Neighborhood Councils, and partnership with our District 2 office.
4. Build key relationships with City departments, and create buy-in at each stage. Work with inertia, not against it.
5. Continue to advocate for City Charter enforcement of Article IX regarding Neighborhood Councils.
6. Measure and reward progress - hold Community celebrations for milestones achieved together.
7. All Stakeholders - stay the course with patience for the long-term Vision while achieving short-term goals.

**Minutes
Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
May 11, 2005 - 7 PM
Mt. Gleason Middle School**

Meeting of the board of the Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council called to order at 7:14 PM by Chairman Ken McAlpine with approximately 90 people in the audience and 19 STNC board members. Newcomers introduced and spoke of their interest in coming to the meeting included Joe Cook concerned about two homes being built behind him; Polly visiting because she has clients who want to build rentals; Brett Perry, B. Warner, Camarina, and Mark regarding proposed Home Depot; Betty Ryder spoke regarding the trashy state of Foothill including signs, illegal houses without permit on Mt. Gleason. Very concerned about our neighborhood.

Flag salute led by Mr. Richard Pozzo.

Presentation: On behalf of the STNC, Ken McAlpine presented Louise Clarke-Stone with an award for her work on the DWP Task Force. Louise thanked the community for the honor and for allowing her the opportunity to work with the STNC.

Minutes of April 13, 2005 were approved as presented.

Correspondence Report - Louise read a letter from Mayor Jim Hahn supporting the STNC's position against development of a Home Depot store in Sunland Tujunga.

Treasurer's Report - Robin Meares presented an updated report of the FY2004/2005 Budget to Actual. Also distributed an advance copy of the FY2005/06 budget for the board to review and comment before the June meeting as it is hopeful the STNC board will be voting to approve it or a revised version at the next board meeting (copy attached).

Board Reports: Nina Royal reported that the Neighborhood Council Planning Coalition will hold their first meeting on May 13 at the Mission Hills Station 6-8 p.m.

Public Comments: Robin Meares reported on a tentative community meeting to be held on June 7, 2005 regarding proposed development of the Verdugo Hills Golf Course site. Two proposals are to be presented: #1 - 320 detached townhouses, #2 - 300,000 square feet of retail with 1,100 parking spaces. Jerry Poppink reported that the Historic Homes Tour sold 570 tickets. Proceeds go to Bolton Hall and Verdugo Hills High School. Thanked the community for their support. Kim Bailey thanked Joe DeCenzo for the Mother's Day brunch held at Bolton Hall and also asked about Ranger restrictions in Tujunga Canyon regarding day use. Miguel Luna announced he is the Tujunga Watershed coordinator which is a 2-year project. He wants to include neighborhood council representatives in the steering committee. March 2007 is expected completion date. Contact him at 818-968-9660 or tujungawash.org. Steve Crouch, Canyon Area Preservation commented that the possible development of the Verdugo Hills Golf Course is disturbing. If Canyon Hills is allowed to proceed, Canyon Hills won't have to honor the slope density laws. Canyon Hills is trouble in that it will change the existing land use laws. We can say now and allow them to build what is allowed. Abby Diamond asked a Louise about Mayor Hahn's letter re: Home Depot. What will Mr. Hahn do? Can we ask him. John Waters announced the JPL Open House May 14-15, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., free. Angela Motta, Mayor Hahn's rep responded that the letter is only support of the community at this time but will stay on top of it. Kristin from Wendy Greuel's office announced a community hike on May 14 at 9:30 AM. City is acquiring 145 acres for open space dedication. Also, abandoned detail has netted 70 vehicles off the street. Kristin also responded to a question regarding grading land at 11360-80 Mt. Gleason and that the

grading taking place is permitted. Elektra announced the pancake breakfast will be June 26, 8-12 a.m. \$6 adults, \$3 child, under 5 free. Frank Buchanan, Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council representative talked about the Hillside Federation meetings. A neighbor also announced the opening of new Beauty Salon, Nana's on May 1. Mark Seigel encouraged community support of Commerce Avenue businesses. They're struggling. New shops have opened recently and you should check them out. Roberta Actor-Thomas announced Planning Commission meeting and encouraged writing to public officials. Nina Royal reported on the Foothills Paper and to support advertisers. Reminder to vote on May 17. Roberta Cole spoke about Priority #1 - should be to deal with the 18 wheelers that are parking on Foothill under freeway bridge #2 - resurface Foothill to 210 freeway as its never been touched.

Hottest Topics - Julianne Maurseth gave an update on Canyon Hills procedures with the City: Wendy asked Emily Gabel Luddy to review the Slope Density Ordinance. You are encouraged to write to Wendy Greuel and ask City to give the strictest interpretation possible. 45 homes would be the only amount Canyon Hills could have (a -.14 ratio because the property is so steep). 230 was last planning approval. STNC has requested to have the City Attorney speak to us and also asked Wendy Greuel to speak with us when the interpretation comes through. Next will be the PLUM (Planning & Land Use Management committee) meeting and announcement of meeting date is expected in approximately two + weeks. Audience question: "how is it they can get an exception?" Reply: We're asking the same question. We hold the planning process accountable to the law and not allow changes.

Committee Reports

Safety: Nina Royal reports next ST-SERVS meeting will be May 19, 2005 and will focus on planning for the Disaster Preparedness Safety Fair. CERT will follow that evening. Tujung Sr. Lead Officer (temporary) Avila reported on stolen vehicles in and around Sherman Grove and Plainview (on Wentworth) and were street parked cars. Burglaries in residences where sliding doors unlocked. Recent Graffiti in the area have been photographed and sent to the LAPD gang unit and appear to be the "violent street boys" from N. Hollywood. Gang unit is working in the area also the property crimes unit. There are cars in the area doing observation work only. A truancy and curfew task force is in our area once a month. There will be a walk on Friday, May 15 7-9 PM with community members and others distributing safety info to businesses along Foothill. Question from audience regarding teenagers with firecrackers during 4th of July and New Years. Recommend calling LAPD to report. Sunland Sr. Lead Officer Larry Martinez reported that a party car shut down various parties recently. Question as to how late people can party? Anytime it bothers anyone you can be cited. 150' distance limit. ATV unit Hillrose & Hillhaven. Question regarding street racing on Foothill Blvd. Valley Traffic has been advised.

DAC: John LaRocca reported on recent projects that have come to the DAC for review. 10247-49, 8 unit apartment building; 99 seat theatre idea on Commerce receive applause from the audience - this is just in the preliminary proposal stages and not a project as yet; proposal for a cell phone tower at 10193 Tujung Cyn. Blvd. (Community Christian Church) will return with updated plans at a future DAC meeting; 8235 Foothill sign review. DAC meets twice a month on first and third Mondays and all are invited. Agendas are posted in advance include projects the DAC will review.

Home Depot Town Hall: Julianne Maurseth reported that Wendy Greuel spoke as well as Dale Thrush, Planning Deputy for CD2, Joe Barrett with the No Home Depot Campaign, Don Breeding from the DAC's Commercial Land Use Team as well as many questions and comments from the audience. Over 400 people attended the early Saturday event. We are a "walking town community" with a great economy and market statistics. Survey results so far:

226 = No Home Depot and 2 = yes to Home Depot out of 226 surveys received. More surveys are coming in and statistics will be updated soon. Encourage all to turn in a survey with your comments regarding this important site in our community. Respondents were requested to rank their reasons and the results are #1 we want a general merchandise store, no Home Depot.

Budget: Robin Meares reported that a new category NMFG (Neighborhood Matching Funds Grant) has been added to the STNC budget for FY2005/2006. If STNC allows for a budget amount it can be matched by this grant vehicle to provide some improvements to our neighborhood which are yet to be determined. Also, the Mayor's Budget includes \$100,000 to each neighborhood council for street repairs and we will work on taking advantage of this in the coming year.

Outreach: Peter Babaian gave the outreach report in the absence of board member Mona Curry, Outreach Chair. Next meeting will be June 4. Recommend supporting the Chamber of Commerce with \$200 sponsorship for a sign supporting the July 4 fireworks event.

Program Presentation

DAC's presentation: How Developers Get Approvals. John LaRocca, DAC chairman introduced Roberta Actor-Thomas, DAC Committee member who spoke about the differences between by-right vs. discretionary approvals in the planning process. A copy of the presentation is available on the STNC web site.

Unfinished Business

Motion (Robin Meares) regarding support of transit shelters in S-T postponed to June 8, 2005 meeting. Postponed to June 8, 2005.

New Business

(1) Motion by Robin Meares to appoint John and Elsa Waters as STNC 2005 Elections Committee co-chairs and allow them to appoint their own committee members. Motion passed as amended, unanimous.

(2) Motion by Nina Royal to appoint Louise Clarke-Stone with Nina Royal and Julianne Maurseth alternates, as STNC representatives to the Neighborhood Council Planning coalition with the Foothills and other interested neighborhood councils - Motion passed - unanimous.

(3) Motion by Deborah Ray that STNC send updated letter to Home Depot based on the attached draft and our mandate based on survey/questionnaire results. Motion amended to add that Deborah Ray, Mark Seigel, Barbara Howell, Michelle Sahfran and Julianne Maurseth to coordinate finalize copy. Once updated, will be sent to the STNC board for comments. Motion passed as amended, unanimous.

(4) Motion by Julianne Maurseth that the STNC approve a maximum expenditure of \$250 to be spent for advertising for volunteer clerical help for the STNC in local papers (eg. Valley Sun, Daily News, The Foothills Paper, etc.). Motion passed, unanimous.

Board Discussion regarding board responsibilities and procedures committee updates. Ed Condit commented about active participation.

Public Comments

Cindy Cleghorn asked questions and commented on the following:

1. Status of meeting with the Home Depot representatives? It was expected that comments about a meeting would be announced.
2. Recommends the board not delay their support to the S-T Chamber of Commerce Fireworks event this year (2005). Instead of spending \$250 for advertising for a volunteer clerical help she would rather see the money go to support the fireworks. Ask for volunteers to help the STNC office via a mass e-mail and other methods.
3. DAC is hosting a special meeting regarding a proposed 30-home development on Oro Vista on May 23, 2005. Important that board members spread the word to involve as many neighbors as possible to attend.

Ed Condit - letters sent to mayoral candidates have yet to receive a response from either Mr. Hahn or Mr. Villaraigosa.

Julianne Maurseth - Who did not attend the STNC board retreat? Julianne is volunteering to meet one-on-one or on June 8 at 6 PM. Three board members here tonight did not attend.

Nina Royal spoke about the "sphere of influence". Big contributor to Mr. Villaraigosa is developer of Las Lomas in Sylmar.

Louise Stone - Regarding City Planning Reform. As you see fault, send e-mail to Nina Royal, Julianne Maurseth and Louise Stone and let us know where faults are. We need feedback.

Deborah Ray - Has heard that a meeting is proposed regarding policies and procedures and how to address and adhere to them with more cooperation and friendly atmosphere between board members. Will there be a special board meeting in May? Also, what is going on regarding Home Depot and meeting with the Home Depot folks? There is misunderstanding with No Home Depot Campaign representatives. Is anything scheduled? How is it that STNC considers itself a co-sponsor with the No Home Depot Campaign and not tell the audience what's going on?

Mark Seigel - Would it be appropriate to assign No Home Depot Committee under the STNC?

Louise Stone - If sub-committee under STNC then their meetings would be subject to the Brown Act.

Chairman's Reminder's: Please see upcoming meeting dates at the bottom of the program page.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Minutes taken by Cindy Cleghorn, acting Recording Secretary for 5/11/2005.



Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA 91042 • www.SunlandTujunga.org/council • (818) 951-7411 • FAX (818) 951-7412
Overview of "Sunland-Tujunga VISION 2020" (6/05)

#1 - What is "Sunland-Tujunga VISION 2020"?

- **A proactive approach** to looking 15 years ahead and planning a beautiful, well-designed, and economically-feasible future for our Community.
- **A road map** to help us bring our Community Plan to life in tangible ways, stage by stage, over time – including:
 - A "small town" feel and a "walking community".
 - Emphasis on our historical & cultural resources.
 - Protecting our open spaces and scenic beauty.
 - "Mixed-use" housing along transportation corridors.
 - More trees, flowers, parks, fountains and gathering places.
 - Creating aesthetic design and color.
 - Eliminating visual blight, trash and unsightliness.
 - Charming restaurants and shops.
 - Slow growth – so that we do not become a Valencia!
 - And many other wonderful ideas from the Community.
- **A way to create greater collaboration** between all stakeholders – residents, business owners, conservationists, developers, and all members of the Community.
A tangible "Vision" and Plan make the difference!

#2 – How is "Sunland-Tujunga VISION 2020" moving forward?

- **In January 2004**, the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council (STNC) had a new Board of Directors who wanted to *ensure their strategic plans and budgeting were in sync and aligned with the Community's needs*.
- Therefore, the following happened:
 - **April-May 2004** – a Community Survey was sent to 16,562 residences.
 - **April 27, 2004** – a Town Hall meeting was held.
 - **June 9, 2004** - Results revealed Sunland-Tujunga's **#1 priority Goal is to "Improve Community Appearance"**. The STNC took action on the Community's priorities – including hiring an urban design consulting firm
 - **June 12, 2004** – Firms were reviewed, & MDA Johnson Favaro and Civic Enterprise Associates were selected.
 - **July 1, 2004** – Launched initiative for community-wide involvement & Phase I.
 - **Aug-Nov 2004** – Coordinated Steering Committee structure, standards & goals.
 - **Dec 2004** – MDA Johnson Favaro completed Phase I plan for Commerce.
 - **Jan-Aug 2005** – Develop "promotional kit" to seek funding for S-T Master Plan. Move forward with Phase II for Commerce Ave and Foothill Blvd revitalization.

#3 – How can you participate?

- **Stay informed:** Attend meetings, see STNC website (see above); ask questions!
- **Share your ideas** – contact the STNC; call/write Project Liaison, Julianne Maurseth at 818/352-3651; jem@awakeatwork.com. **Volunteer** to help!

Sunland/Tujunga Arts and Culture Calendar

- 6/11/05 Little Landers Historical Society Monthly Meeting
1pm - Presentation: A Look Back at Sun Valley –U.S. Postmaster Jon Esbach will speak about the history of Sun Valley from the late 1800s on. Free Admission & Refreshments
Location: Bolton Hall Museum, 10010 Commerce Ave., Tujunga; 352-3420
More Info: Marlene Hitt – 951-1041
- 6/11/05 Ceramics Guild 2nd Annual Benefit & Show (show continues 6/12-6/22)
Opening Reception
5pm-9pm
McGroarty Arts Center, 7570 McGroarty Terrace, Tujunga
For More Info: 818.352.5285
- 6/15/05 Chuparosa Writers
7:30 pm – Ongoing Poetry Workshop (meets every Wednesday).
For meeting information please call Gen Krueger at 353-0525.
- 6/20/05 Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council – **Design Advisory Committee Meeting** (DAC)
6pm (Developer presentations begin at 7pm. DAC planning discussions start at 6:15pm.)
Location: Sunland-Tujunga Municipal Building, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga
The DAC meets with developers, architects and representatives of prospective new businesses and housing developments to inform them about community standards of architecture and appearance, and to promote the preservation of our scenic areas. Everyone is welcome at the meetings. Get informed and help change things for the better!
More Info: John LaRocca - 818-266-2477
- 6/25/05 McGroarty Arts Center Registration for Summer Session Classes
Summer Session is from July 5, 2005 - August 27, 2005
Visit the website for registration procedure information: mcgroartyartscenter.org,
or call 818-352-5285
- 7/7/05 Sunland-Tujunga Art Association Monthly Meeting
7:00 pm
Location: Sunland Tujunga Library, 7771 Foothill Blvd.
For more information, please call Sylvia Saurer at 352-2484.
- 7/11/05 Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council – **Design Advisory Committee Meeting** (DAC)
6pm (Developer presentations begin at 7pm. DAC planning discussions start at 6:15pm.)
Location: Sunland-Tujunga Municipal Building, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga
The DAC meets with developers, architects and representatives of prospective new businesses and housing developments to inform them about community standards of architecture and appearance, and to promote the preservation of our scenic areas. Everyone is welcome at the meetings. Get informed and help change things for the better!
More Info: John LaRocca - 818-266-2477
- 7/13/05 Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council – Monthly Meeting
7pm More Info: www.SunlandTujunga.org
Find out what's going on around here! Ask questions and make public comments!
Hear updates about Canyon Hills, Home Depot, Ford Property and More!
Location: Mt. Gleason Middle School — Multi Purpose Room, 10965 Mt. Gleason, Sunland.
S-T Neighborhood Council Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.
Don't miss this opportunity to participate in your community. Everyone is welcome!

**If you would like your group's events listed here next month,
please email your information to:
GoodDesignNow-ArtsAndCultureCalendar@yahoo.com**

**Please include: Name of Event, Brief Description, Time, Place (including address),
Cost, if any, and Contact Name with phone number and email address. Thank you!**



Stone, Louise

From: RobinJM@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 3:22 PM
To: Stone, Louise; stncstone@yahoo.com
Cc: cindy@cmprintmail.com
Subject: Transit Shelter 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.

Stone, Louise

Subject: FW: Area Reps to interview Planning Director

-----Original Message-----

From: Julianne E. Maurseth [mailto:jem@awakeatwork.com]
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2005 10:53 AM
To: Stone, Louise
Cc: Ken McAlpine; Cindy Cleghorn
Subject: Area Reps to interview Planning Director

On 5/12/05, Greg Nelson with DONE sent a memo to the Neighborhood Councils requesting that each NC select a representative within the next 3-4 weeks in relation to the interview process for the new Planning Director (See Greg's memo below).

The City's timing and process is somewhat vague, but in general the reps from every NC will form a pool from which seven Area Representatives will be chosen to interview the final three candidates for Planning Director.

If you are interested in being considered to represent the STNC, and also the entire regional Area, please send me an email to that effect. Those interested should have a well-grounded understanding of the City Planning process, including its strengths and weaknesses. It would be beneficial if you also have experience interviewing candidates for high-level positions.

The reps role is critical as a liason to the NCs because the Planning Director who is chosen must be responsive and proactive in addressing the actual needs of our communities. Among the NCs, there is already discussion as to how to organize our Area Reps for the interviewing process, and ask the most essential questions of the candidates so that we maximize this opportunity to make a difference.

Please note that the STNC already sent a letter to the Mayor requesting the time frame for the selection of the NC reps be extended (see attached memo sent to you last week)

Thank you,

Louise

Stone, Louise

From: Stone, Louise
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2005 3:48 PM
Subject: FW: DONE: News 5-12-05

-----Original Message-----

From: DONE [mailto:done@MAILBOX.LACITY.ORG]
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2005 3:12 PM
To: DONENEWS@LISTSERV.LACITY.ORG
Subject: DONE: News 5-12-05

Date: May 12, 2004
To: Neighborhood Council Leaders
From: Greg Nelson, General Manager, Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment
Subject: PICKING THE NEW PLANNING DIRECTOR. L.A. SHARES SHOPPING DAY ANNOUNCED.

PICKING THE NEW PLANNING DIRECTOR

As you know, the Mayor has asked the Neighborhood Councils to play an unprecedented role in the selection of the new City Planning Director.

Several community meetings have been held, and input from the public has been collected. The Mayor has asked that the Neighborhood Councils interview the final three candidates. That date has not yet been set.

Therefore, it is important for each Neighborhood Council with an elected governing board to select a single representative. Please send this person's name and contact information to Jennifer Stein in the Mayor's office at jstein@mayor.lacity.org.

In three to four weeks from now, there will be a meeting held (time and place to be announced) at which those representatives will have the process and their responsibilities explained to them in more detail.

At this time, the delegates will select one person from each of the city's seven areas – as in done in the Budget Day process. Those seven people will conduct the interviews. Hopefully, they will commit to solicit suggestions from, and report back to, each Neighborhood Council in their area through each one's representative.

Through the process that is being developed, those seven people will present their recommendations to the Mayor.

The deadline for submitting the names will be just before the date of the meeting. Since we don't know the meeting date yet, we can't give you a hard date for the submission of the names. More information to follow.

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN SUNLAND-TUJUNGA

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council



7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA 91042 • www.SunlandTujunga.org/council • (818) 951-7411 • FAX (818) 951-7412

May 20, 2005

Mayor James K. Hahn
City of Los Angeles
200 North Spring Street
Room 303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Selection of Planning Area Representatives to interview
Planning Director

Dear Mayor Hahn:

We received the memo from Greg Nelson of DONE dated May 12th which provides a very brief overview of the selection process for the Area Representatives who will interview candidates for the Planning Director. We are concerned about the tight time frame to adequately involve the Neighborhood Councils in selecting their representatives. In particular, without adequate time allowed, Area Representatives might be selected who do not, in fact, represent the Neighborhood Councils or our communities on these vital planning needs, values and concerns.

A member of our Neighborhood Council, Robin Meares, attended an Area meeting a couple of months ago on the subject of the hiring process for the Planning Director, and met with Renata Simril, the Deputy Mayor. At the time, there was a discussion of Neighborhood Council input about the Planning Director's position. However, there was no clarification about the process by which the Area reps would be interviewed or selected, nor were Neighborhood Councils asked for their interest in nominating people for such a position. To our knowledge there have been no further communications with the Neighborhood Councils about the interviewing or selection process for the seven Area representatives until Greg Nelson's memo on May 12th.

(12)

Mayor James K. Hahn
City of Los Angeles
May 20, 2005
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It was brought to our attention on Friday evening, May 13, 2005 by a City manager that the selection process for the seven Area Planning Representatives to interview the Planning Director is essentially a secret one, and that we needed to be aware that the person chosen to represent our area may not actually represent our best interests. We were urged to find out what is occurring with this process before it is too late.

We hereby request that your office ***immediately*** extend the timing of the process by an additional month so that all Neighborhood Councils have adequate time for selection of qualified people, and then those representatives have adequate time to schedule and attend a meeting where only seven Area Representatives are selected. If the actual interests and concerns of the Neighborhood Councils are not adequately considered in the selection process, the Area Representatives will have no credibility in our communities. This would undermine your selection of the Planning Director and the STNC will consider filing an official protest to this process.

Thank you,


Ken McAlpine, Chair
Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

cc: Councilman Ed Reyes, District 1
Councilwoman Wendy Greuel, District 2
All Neighborhood Councils

STNC Proposed 05/06 Budget				
CATEGORY	Budget	Minus	New Budget Goal	
OUTREACH	\$ 25,410.00	\$ 2,620.00	\$ 22,790.00	
Administration	\$ 10,800.00	\$ 1,130.00	\$ 9,670.00	
STVision 2020	\$ 5,150.00	\$ 575.00	\$ 4,575.00	
Fixed Assets	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 260.00	\$ 1,840.00	
DAC	\$9,000.00	\$ 975.00	\$8,170.00	
NMF/Neighborhood Purposes Grant	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 3,100.00	
TOTAL	\$ 55,960.00	\$ 5,960.00	\$ 50,000.00	

Outreach - see attached worksheet
 Administration - see attached worksheet
 STV2020-see attached worksheet
 Fixed assets-see attached worksheet
 DAC - see attached worksheet
 NMF - Neighborhood Matching Fund Grant "Match"

I move that the STNC approve the 2005/2006 Budget as follows:

OUTREACH	\$22,790
ADMINISTRATION	\$9,670
STV2020	\$4,570
Fixed Assets	\$1,800
DAC	\$8,170
NMF/Neighborhood Purposes Grant	<u>\$3,000</u>
TOTAL BUDGET	\$50,000

I further move to enact the following approval procedures for those expenses not approved in detail in the 2005/2006 Budget:

Expense of \$300 and under:

Must be approved by the Approval Authority specified for the appropriate budget category below AND either the Treasurer or the Chairman

<u>Budget Category</u>	<u>Approval Authority</u>
<u>Outreach</u>	Outreach Chair with the following exceptions: STV2020 Chair And DAC Chair to approve their Department's Outreach Expenses
<u>STV2020</u>	STV2020 Chair
<u>DAC</u>	DAC Chair
<u>Fixed Assets</u>	Logistics Chair
<u>Administration</u>	Logistics Chair
<u>Grants</u>	Full Board approval

Expense of \$300 and above

Full Board approval

I further move to transfer \$1,250 from the 2004/2005 Outreach Budget to the Administration Budget to cover monthly Administrative costs.

Submitted By:
Robin Meares
STNC Treasurer

Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Motion re: enhanced protection for trees
June 8, 2005

I move that the Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council send the attached letter to the Los Angeles City Council, Planning and Land Use Management Committee, Mayor, and Mayor-elect, urging support for efforts to strengthen protection for trees in Los Angeles.

DRAFT

June 8, 2005

[Honorable Councilpersons]
[Honorable members Planning and Land Use Management Committee]
[Honorable Mayor]
[Honorable Mayor-elect]
[City of Los Angeles]

The Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council supports efforts to enhance protections for trees in our communities, and urges the City Council to amend the City's Protected Tree Ordinance as called for in Garcetti-LaBonge Motions (03-1459 & 03-1459-S1) in 3 major ways:

1. Expand the types of tree protected from Oaks to include 3 other native trees: Sycamore, Bay, and Walnut;
2. To eliminate the requirement that the tree be on a lot of greater than 1 acre; and
3. Provide for the potential withholding of land use permits from those who might illegally remove trees protected by the ordinance.

The Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council supports measures such as this which we believe will only serve to encourage thoughtful planning and collaboration with property owners within communities to preserve and enhance the quality of life for all in our communities. Presently, and unfortunately, there is clearly too little incentive for this collaboration, as evidenced by the alarming rate at which our biological and scenic resources are being consumed without reasonable efforts to preserve them. To be perfectly clear about this, we know that no ordinance will prevent a property owner from reasonable development, including this one, and that is not the objective. Rather, at issue is the continuing and unnecessary degradation of our communities through insensitive development standards and practices.

The stakeholders in our community have evidenced through participation in surveys, town hall meetings, and public comment that the protection of scenic and biological resources is a significant quality of life concern and continuing point of frustration in the planning and building process.

The benefits of [retaining mature] trees in our communities are numerous and well documented, including the positive impact on air quality, water quality & conservation, temperature management, energy conservation,

and alleviation of blight and increased patronage of local businesses where trees are present. One need not care about the specific trees, or the value to wildlife in order to see the numerous benefits to people.

While opinions may vary as to whether the protections should be limited to only the native tree species, and we will forego an exhaustive discussion of the merits here, we view the proposed amendment as a critical positive step towards tree protections and the native species are obviously well suited for their respective locations. It should be noted, however, that we do not specifically support continuing to exclude protection for any species classified as "rare" simply because of its common name. We refer to *Quercus dumosa*, also known as Nuttall's scrub oak, classified by the California Native Plant Society as rare, and currently excluded from protection under the ordinance.

We urge you to recognize this important tool for preserving quality of life in our communities and take this critical step in the right direction by approving the Garcetti-Labonge motions for enhancing native tree protections.

Respectfully,

DRAFT

SUNLAND-TUJUNGA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Policies & Procedures regarding small group meetings
Draft #2 – 6/8/05

The following policies and procedures were first discussed at a Special STNC Board meeting on May 19, 2005, and additions and changes were made at the DAC meeting on June 6, 2005.

Definition: a “small meeting” is one which: *(NEED TO CHECK BY-LAWS)*

- Convenes a small group of people, not to exceed 5 Board members *(and/or DAC members?)*, to address an issue.
- Is not publicly “noticed” because the rules of the Brown Act do not apply.
- Does not result in decisions made or any type of negotiations, but serves only to exchange needed information, gather facts, and educate the other party about our community’s needs, culture, etc.

Benefits to having small meetings:

- Allows people handling substantive issues to actually *get things done* on behalf of the community.
- Allows contentious issues to be addressed in an atmosphere where people are encouraged to listen to each other and be more open, rather than defensive with each other.
- Allows community to be proactive instead of reactive to time-sensitive issues.
- Allows time-critical issues to be addressed quickly and flexibly.
- In situations with a language barrier, allows more time to interpret, explain and understand.
- In circumstances where in-depth discussions serve the community’s needs, allows time to focus on an issue for a much longer period of time than would be appropriate in a public meeting.

Detriments to having small meetings:

- Can foster the perception of “secrets” kept from the community, and the appearance of hidden agendas on the part of participants.
- When the issue is emotionally-laden, can lead to further distortions in community perception about the reasons for the meetings.
- Can convey to the other party that meeting with the small group is a way to avoid meeting with the entire community.
- There can be missed opportunities for participation by those not in the small group.

Recommended Procedures:

- 1) All small group meetings related to land use go through the DAC.
- 2) NEED TO CHECK BY-LAWS: Depending on the issue, either a Committee Chair or the STNC Chair will:

- a. Identify the criteria for being a member of the small group – e.g., needed skills, experience, etc.
 - b. Select the members of the small group, and the “point person”.
 - c. Send an email to the Board/Committees –
 - i. Announcing the group members and why they were selected according to the criteria specified.
 - ii. Requesting that Board/Committee members and others with relevant information on the issue contact the “point person” directly to share your information.
- 3) The group will carefully prepare and plan in writing all appropriate steps and communications – both within and outside the group.
- 4) Prior to meeting with another party, such as developers, the group will coordinate their strategy with each other in order to represent the community in a unified, professional manner for the best interests of the community.
- 5) After a small meeting, the group will report key results at a public meeting and in writing to the Board/Committees and the community within a reasonable time frame. A reasonable time frame is considered one week or the next regularly scheduled meeting (whichever occurs first). The “point person”, or his/her delegate, will present the report.
- 6) When other Board/Committee members have concerns or questions about the functioning of a small group, they should:
 - a. Contact the “point person” directly. (consider when a phone call would be more helpful than an email)
 - b. Ask questions – don’t assume.
 - c. If there is a problem, consider there may be a misunderstanding that needs to be cleared up – and offer to assist in that clarification by being part of the solution instead of the problem.
 - d. If something is “falling through the cracks”, offer to help the group instead of criticize them.
 - e. Be constructive.
- 7) Keep in mind the following:
 - a. Some people may want to be involved in the process and don’t know how to go about being included. Let’s stay open-minded.
 - b. Let’s not allow ourselves or our community to succumb to the “divide and conquer” tactics that can harm any group.
 - c. Let’s pay attention to the on-going challenge of “just enough” bureaucracy to allow a reasonable balance between the benefits of the small group and the benefits of the public meeting.

June 8, 2005
Respectfully submitted by
Mark Seigel
STNC - Scouting Representative

Motion back up to support 2005 4th of July Fireworks.

Ginny Curry compiled and submitted the ST Chamber of Commerce financial information that was requested by Ken on Wednesday night 6/1/2005. This information was sent to all board members via e-mail in PDF format. A copy is here at the meeting if you need to review.

For June 8, 2005 STNC Board Meeting
July 4, 2005 Fireworks Motion
(Mark Seigel/Ginny Curry)
New Business - Item #1
Back Up Information

1. See attached materials from the Sunland Tujunga Chamber of Commerce.
2. STNC's exposure for this support is already in place with each of the signs on display throughout Sunland-Tujunga. It will also include all the benefits being extended to the Marshal sponsorship that the chamber describes in their packet including a banner across the front of the stage on the 4th of July and a banner on the field during each football game during the upcoming season.

3. Please see the following:

The STNC needs to provide more outreach efforts to the community,

The STNC has spent very little of its yearly budget on neighborhood community activities,

Support of community based activities will increase, improve, and help cement a stronger sense of STNC's support and visibility to our community,

The Chamber of Commerce 4th of July picnic and fireworks will afford us an excellent opportunity to dramatically increase that visibility of our support to the community,

Many of our start-up expenses from this past year's budget that were required to create a functional office will not be needed in this next year's budget, thereby freeing up a large sum of administrative costs,

This motion supports Priority #4 - 3 of the STNC Strategic Plan updated 3/05 - Develop stronger networks with business owners,

This motion supports Priority #5 - 4 of the STNC Strategic Plan updated 3/05 - Promote public gatherings, festivals, fairs, Farmer's Markets to celebrate together as a community,

The Sunland-Tujunga Chamber of Commerce would greatly appreciate our help,

It is patriotic and a nice and memorable thing to do for our community and stakeholders at large and the community enjoy it,

Fireworks is the culmination of the day of celebrating a great and wonderful American holiday,

4. Based on the June 8, 2005 Budget to Actual financial statements there exists a \$10,392.65 in total, surplus funds from this year's budget..Unused surplus \$2,076.03 unspent for equipment (sound system) due to our frugal spending. The other \$134 could come from outreach budget of which there is an overage \$3,654.80.

It takes about \$900 for monthly mailings and running the office. The year ends in 23 days.

SUNLAND-TUJUNGA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison
 January through December 2004

	Jan - Dec 04	Jan - Dec 03	\$ Change	% Change
5500 - Easter Carnival Expense				
5505 - Dumpster Rental	0.00	280.00	-280.00	-100.0%
5510 - Guadagno & Sons - Rides	0.00	28,089.00	-28,089.00	-100.0%
5517 - Security Services	0.00	608.00	-608.00	-100.0%
5520 - Start-up Money	0.00	2,400.00	-2,400.00	-100.0%
5530 - Sunland Park Usage	0.00	5,058.20	-5,058.20	-100.0%
Total 5500 - Easter Carnival Expense	0.00	36,435.20	-36,435.20	-100.0%
5600 - 4th of July Expense				
5609 - Advertising	573.43	400.00	173.43	43.4%
5612 - Cashier's Check for LAUSD	0.00	248.00	-248.00	-100.0%
5615 - Colby Poster/Signs	0.00	1,558.80	-1,558.80	-100.0%
5622 - Equipment Rental	325.00	339.77	-14.77	-4.4%
5645 - Labor	290.95	895.00	-604.05	-67.5%
5647 - Entertainment Expense	618.00	100.00	518.00	518.0%
5650 - Music Expense	0.00	300.00	-300.00	-100.0%
5652 - Miscellaneous Expense	239.19	172.00	67.19	39.1%
5655 - Porta Potties	0.00	324.00	-324.00	-100.0%
5660 - Poster Printing	0.00	106.27	-106.27	-100.0%
5665 - Pyro Spect. - Fireworks	4,400.00	7,925.00	-3,525.00	-44.5%
5666 - Raffle Prizes Expense	260.86	0.00	260.86	100.0%
5667 - Trinkets for Sale	770.50	0.00	770.50	100.0%
5668 - Security	200.00	125.00	75.00	60.0%
5669 - Sign Painting	0.00	1,698.39	-1,698.39	-100.0%
5670 - Sign Supplies/Labor Exp.	1,104.38	376.33	728.05	193.5%
5672 - Snow Sign Expense	0.00	146.76	-146.76	-100.0%
5673 - Snow Related Expense	3,071.96	2,739.05	332.91	12.2%
5675 - Start-up Money	2,700.00	0.00	2,700.00	100.0%
5680 - Supplies	90.31	51.43	38.88	75.6%
5687 - Wristbands	63.69	59.54	4.15	7.0%
Total 5600 - 4th of July Expense	14,708.27	17,565.34	-2,857.07	-16.3%
6000 - Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Expense	52,987.53	92,781.51	-39,793.98	-42.9%
Net Income	430.36	1,631.34	-1,200.98	-73.6%

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Motion** re: Transit Shelters see separate sheet. Page 9
2. (Robin Meares)

NEW BUSINESS:

3. **Motion** re: That STNC support the community by helping pay for the July 4th Fireworks in the amount of \$2,200.00 (Mark Seigel) *page 20*
4. **Motion** re: That the STNC Board approve the FY2005/2006 STNC Budget as presented June 8, 2005. See separate sheet for full text of motion. Page 14 (Robin Meares)
5. **Motion** re: That the STNC board send the "draft" letter dated June 8, 2005 urging the Los Angeles City Council to strengthen the existing oak tree ordinance. Page 15 (Rhonda Herbel/Robin Meares)
6. **Motion** re: That the STNC designate Julianne Maurseth as STNC's representative to the City's Interview Board regarding the City Planning Director position soon to be vacant. (Louise Stone)
7. **Motion** re: That the STNC board approve the "draft" Standing Rules for the STNC board dated June 8, 2005. See page 18 (Julianne Maurseth)
8. **Motion** re: Slope Density Ordinance (Rhonda Herbel)

SUNLAND/TUJUNGA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL	
ATTENDANCE:	87
AUDIENCE:	68
BOARD:	19
CARS	78

6-8-05