

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
General Board Online Meeting
Meeting date: September 9th, 2020 6:45pm
ZOOM Meeting Online or by Telephone

Called to Order: 6:45 pm by Liliana Sanchez, President.

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Liliana Sanchez	Present	Yes	President
Lydia Grant	Present (at 6:55)	Yes	1st Vice President
Nina Royal	Present	Yes	2nd Vice President - Outreach
Sandy Capps	Present	Yes	Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Secretary
Lallah Rowe	Present	Yes	At-Large Group Representative
Vartan Keshish	Present	Yes	Region 1 Representative
Mark Norling	Present	Yes	Region 1 Representative
Glen Belt	Present	Yes	Region 2 Representative
Arsen Karamians	Present (At 7:05)	Yes	Region 2 Representative
Oscar Alvarez	Present	Yes	Region 3 Representative
Rafi Shaheenian	Present	Yes	Region 3 Representative
Carol Hutchinson	Present	Yes	Region 4 Representative
Pati Potter	Present	Yes	Region 4 Representative
Arnie Abramyan	Present (until approx. 8:40)	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Kresse Armour	Present	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Garbis Khanjian	Present (at 6:53)	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Jon von Gunten	Present	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Shirley Kim	Present	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Vacant			Stakeholder Group
Vacant			Stakeholder Group
Ivan Spiegel	Present	Not Applicable non-voting consultant	Parliamentarian
Quorum: 11 16 Present for Roll Call; 19 for most of meeting			

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Pre Meeting Comments at 6:45pm by Secretary Cindy Cleghorn – President Sanchez will run the meeting. Attendance and voting on motions will be by roll call. Meeting attendees will be muted, use raise hand feature to comment on Zoom or dial *9 on phone. Comments by public limited to two minutes. We are

transitioning into this new environment. Please provide grace and follow code of civility. Please address comments to Board and not to individual members. Board members should not dialog with speakers other than to ask a question.

Item 1. (a-c) Call to Order and Welcome, President Sanchez—Meeting called to order, Pledge of Allegiance led by Member Rowe, Roll Call --Meeting quorum met. 48 in attendance including Board, public officials and members of the public. Member Norling and Member Kim have completed their Board training and can vote on funding matters.

Item 2. President’s Report:

A. There are 2 Group Representative Vacancies on the STNC board. Qualifications for seat read.

B. STNC Board Member Responsibilities read:

As a Board Member and/or Committee Representative of the STNC, I agree to

1. Attend all meetings and be on time unless prior arrangements are made.
2. Conduct myself in a civil manner at all times and always wait for the presiding officer to recognize me before speaking.
3. Learn the applicable laws that govern Neighborhood Councils including bylaws, standing rules, meeting procedures, the Brown Act, conflict of interest laws, city ordinances and the City Charter.
4. Take responsibility to fulfill my elected role as specified in the STNC Bylaws.
5. Support the chairperson’s effort at preserving decorum.
6. Not use my Board position for a personal agenda outside my responsibilities as assigned by the STNC Bylaws.

Item 3. Representative Announcements and Reports

President Sanchez notes that questions will be allowed. Public callers get 1 question, Board members get 1 question, plus an additional question if time is left for this item.

Senior Lead Officer for Tujunga, Gloria Caloca – There has been a 60% violent crime / 90% property crime increase in Tujunga over last year’s numbers which were very low. There was one rape in Tujunga, but this increased numbers by 50%. She has been focusing her efforts on Howard Finn Park. As of now they are not impounding vehicles as abandoned or for expired tags until October. If you have any questions feel free to email her. As for Sunland, there has been a 7% uptick in violent crime and a 60% increase in property crime.

Officer Q & A:

Member Norling: what were the other violent crimes in Tujunga? A: Biggest increase was the 48% jump in aggravated assault. There were no robberies in Tujunga last month.

STAT Committee Chair Kramer - do hit and run road fatalities like the one last month in Tujunga count in the violent crime statistics? A: No, traffic crimes are not the same as Part 1 crimes.

Sargent Ojeda, Foothill Division Community Relations Officer – Attending meeting for SLO Contreras and to check in with the community. He thanks Sunland Tujunga for their support of the LAPD.

Jason Maruca, Assistant Field Deputy Supervisor Karen Barger – Our COVID 19 numbers are much improved over last month, similar to early June. LA County is still under the most stringent restrictions, they need to see what happens after Labor Day. Health orders now allow high needs students in smaller groups to attend in person instruction to see if there are any issues. Hair Salons and Barber Shops can now operate at 25% capacity indoors. There will be a re-evaluation on Sept. 29th. The health advisory on Trick or Treating was not approved before it was released. Trick or Treating is allowed, but not suggested. The County is introducing Citizen’s Safe Path for contact tracing using Blue Tooth. This will be an anonymous tool to alert those in close contact with someone who tested positive to suppress community spread. The County is putting Measure J on the ballot to amend the County Charter to move 10% of law enforcement funding to community based programs. Supervisor Barger does not support this measure.

Q&A:

By President Sanchez: The Board sent a letter in June regarding having a cooling center in Sunland Park. The last update she received was that emergency management said there was an availability issue. A: Jason understands there is some sort of COVID issue with this facility.

By VP Grant: She received a complaint from a constituent regarding flood control channels being overgrown and causing a fire danger. A: Send me the information and I will follow up. He agrees to email VP Grant since her previous emails have not received a response.

By Member Belt: Where did the 2600 contact tracers come from? A: If you are a County worker you can be tapped for any emergency. County Health workers are assigned as well as other agencies including UCLA health.

By Member Khanjian: What is the outline for moving to the next tier? A: For LA County the case positivity rate needs to be driven down. LA County is so large it is hard to move through the tiers. The metrics are posted every day on the LA County Health COVID 19 data dashboard. The 7 day average is what they look for.

Arturo Garcia, Office of California Assembly Member Luz Rivas— AB 1845 is now on the Governor's desk for signature. This bill will centralize and coordinate the many agencies dealing with the homeless crisis to increase accountability and effectiveness. The State Controller's office has a program to postpone property taxes for residents 62 or older or those with health issues, call (800) 952-5661. The new US Census deadline is September 30th. If you cannot respond online call (844) 330-2020 for English or (844) 468-2020 for Spanish or mail in the form you were sent. As always if you have EDD or DMV issues feel free to call the Assembly Member's office.

Q&A:

Yvonne Johnson: Please let Assembly Member Luz Rivas we are very disappointed she did not listen to her constituents and vote against SB1120 A: Knows that this legislation did not make it to the Governor's desk. He agrees to relay the message.

Caller Katia Malloy—regarding the property tax is there any account for landlords to share with renters? A: Please call my office for research.

Eve Sinclair, Area Director for Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez – Operation Bright Spot-- an effort funded by the Council office in coordination with LADOT, LA Sanitation and Northeast Graffiti busters-- is spending 4 weeks on Foothill from Fenwick to Lowell and 1 week on Commerce cleaning the commercial corridor, cleaning tree wells, painting curbs, removing graffiti and street sweeping. Tujunga Canyon Blvd. from Foothill to Haines Canyon was resurfaced. CD 7 gets 40 lane miles per year. The left hand turn signal at Apperson should be operational soon. There is a new Alternative Learning Center at Sunland Park for 22 local children who need day care. There are no openings in Sunland, but there are 4 other locations in CD 7. Speed Hump applications open next Wednesday, Sept. 16th, if you want to apply do so at 8am because there are only a limited number for each cycle. Speed humps at Apperson and at St. Estaban should be installed soon.

Q&A:

By President Sanchez: Regarding CF 20-0656, Motion to report on impact of COVID 19 stay at home orders on utility bills, possible solutions. A: Has received no response from LADWP regarding alternatives.

By VP Royal— Tujunga Canyon Blvd. at Commerce is still trashy, the roof has collapsed on one of the buildings, there are people living in cars, a lot of trash on both public and private property. A: Will report this to Delia at the Councilwoman's office to investigate and clean up.

By Member Belt: Has there been any effort to identify other sites for Alternative Learning Centers in the area, as a father of 3 can say there is a need. A: There is funding for 50 sites citywide. They need to pay for staff and Wi-Fi access. Not all the centers in CD 7 are full. There are also other child care resources she can refer.

Q: By Member Grant: Is confused about the other left hand turn signals are being installed. She thought the signals at Foothill/Mt. Gleason and Foothill/Oro Vista were going to be installed first. She has also noticed that traffic backs up on Foothill and Valmont now that no right hand turn is allowed. A: The angle of the street makes it unsafe to make a right at Valmont, inching into the crosswalk to see to make the turn. The 3 turn signals have different funding sources. The signal at Mt Gleason is approved and going out to bid in April. The signal at Oro Vista had its design approved in August and will be going out to bid. They are also working on getting a beacon for the fire station on Foothill to stop traffic when they need to get in and out of their driveway. They are also working on getting a traffic signal at Marnice and Foothill.

By Caller Yvonne Johnson – Has noticed that dumping on LaTuna near the old golf course is getting really bad. A: There have been continuous problems with illegal dumping on LaTuna and Big Tujunga Canyon because they are dark. They are working with LA Sanitation to have weekly pickups every Wednesday for both of these roads.

By Caller Katia Malloy – Zoom users with background noise should mute in consideration for the hearing impaired.

Christy Holland, LADWP Public Relations—is here with Ann Santilli, CFO LADWP, to address Agenda Item 11E. The heat caused many power outages. Always be sure to report it if you have a power outage, you may be on a different circuit than your neighbor. Call (800) 342-5397 (800 – dialdwp). You can get updates on LADWP's web page.

Q&A:

By President Sanchez: re Council File 20-0656, is the LADWP looking at options to aid residents with unusually high DWP bills due to the COVID 19 Stay at Home orders? A: They could be, is not aware. Did look at council file, thought they were just studying impacts.

Jasmine Elbarbary, DONE – Introduces herself as our new DONE advocate. 1) DONE is re-designing its web site to be more user friendly, there is a workshop on this on Sept. 29th. 2) The 2021 Neighborhood Council elections will be by mail only; 3) Streets LA Day is having a webinar on Sept. 22nd from 10 to 12:30 about the tree canopy and tree planting. 4) Don't forget about the Census, there are flyers in multiple languages for outreach.

Item 4. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:

Maria Leonido, Neighborhood Housing Services of Los Angeles County – this is a non-profit who helps low and moderate income homebuyers and small businesses with services such as financial education, debt counseling, and low cost loans. They have many programs for revitalization and neighborhood pride clean ups. More information is available on their website: nhslacounty.org or call (213) 381-2862.

Katia Malloy – would like to see better access for those with hearing impairments. Also upset local Facebook groups are threatening violence against peaceful ABRA protests.

Evelyn Serrano – wants to invite the community to a clean-up at the Wildwood Area on October 24th

Elisabeth – Seconds the invitation to the Wildwood Picnic Area clean up. Thinks there has been a misunderstanding about ABRA, they all want a better place to live. They are involved with other organizations and would like to build bridges to make the community better.

Michelle Ramage – Sunland Tujunga/ Shadow Hills Rotary Club – Would like to invite everyone to the Virtual Duck Race on October 24th. This is a good fund raiser the ST/SH Rotary gets 50% of sales. duckrace.com/glendale, choose the Sunland Tujunga / Shadow Hills Rotary.

Judith Quiones – is concerned about our unhoused neighbors in the cold and in this heat. There is a need to reach out to homeless stakeholders to make sure their needs are met.

Brenda Jahelka—Sunland Tujunga Lions – is concerned about how the restrictions might impact the holidays. Lions would like to join with other groups to have a holiday house decoration contest.

Vache – ABRA protesters are ruining our community. The protesters make a mess. They left a mess in front of Pena’s last week. He moved to a small quiet community that was not like the rest of LA.

Eric Santiestevan, ABRA Foothills – Planning a community clean up on Pinewood on Sept. 26th. Is also speaking with Roger Klemm about a potential native plant makeover of the median near Foothill and Pali. ABRA is working with the group USC safe communities regarding interfacing with law enforcement.

Dekker Dreyer – just going to state I don’t like white supremacy at the Trump rallies. At the same time he is not silencing.

Item 5 (not used)

Item 6 Discussion: STNC Land Use Committee Report - Pati Potter – 1) Smart and Final wants additional service hours and to sell alcohol. They are coming to the land use meeting on October 5th to discuss any neighborhood concerns. 2) The new Lichi’s Restaurant is asking for a beer and wine license; 3) The ARCO gas station at Foothill and Creemore agreed to change their hours of operation to 5am – 11pm; the public hearing was yesterday; 3) 9700 Estaban Way, single family home - appeal to City requirement to pave roadway.

Item 7: Selection to fill vacant Stakeholder Group Representative Board seat [5]

MOTION: The STNC Board shall select a stakeholder to fill a vacant Group Representative Board seat. Letter of application received by Evelyn Serrano representing ABRA Foothills: Anti-Bigotry Responding with Action.

Applicant Statement by Evelyn Serrano – She is an 11 year resident. She is happy living here. She is part of a relatively new multi-cultural organization whose mission is to advance initiatives to fight racism and add inclusiveness.* Their approach is attending educational events, inclusive outreach, hosting clean ups and a lot of peaceful protests. They leave area cleaner than they found it after their protests. She is a teacher and artist who collaborates with others who are committed. ABRA is not interested in violence, wants to assert anti-racism.

* [Member Belt is advised by President Sanchez that he is out of order when he interrupts to disagree with this statement.]

Q&A:

VP Grant moves to table this Motion on grounds ABRA does not qualify as a community organization under section 22.801.1 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code. After discussion with President Sanchez and DONE Rep Elbarbary she reads the definition of “Community Organization ... an entity that has continuously maintained a physical street address within the boundaries of the neighborhood council for not less than one year... She notes that ABRA does not have a physical street address and has been in existence less than one year. DONE Advisor Elbarbary confirms this is correct and the City Attorney will provide this language as part of the NC file. Parliamentarian Spiegel notes the proper language is “postpone indefinitely” if the intent of this motion is to not continue this item to another meeting.

Motion to postpone indefinitely application by Evelyn Serrano to be a Stakeholder Group Representative for ABRA on basis ABRA does not qualify as a Community Organization under section 22.801.1 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Glen Belt Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Alvarez, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour, Kim	Sanchez, Norling,	Alvarez, Abramyan		
15 yes, 2 no, 2 abstain, 0 absent, motion passed				

Public Comments

Judith – it is unfortunate that the Board will not benefit from Evelyn Serrano’s input. She wants to inform the Board that ABRA is not going away. They are not a terrorist group, they are responding with action. It looks like the Board is trying to shut them down.

Lenny – Agrees with the motion. Does not like it that ABRA protesters hold signs that say F**K the LAPD and F**K Trump.

Vache—ABRA is a terrorist organization. Believes it harms the community by inviting other outside terrorist groups who promote hate. People like Mary are promoting hate and racism.

Elisabeth – we are in an unprecedented situation, having a physical address is not possible given the COVID 19 situation. ABRA is not a terrorist organization.

Brenda Jahelka – Thank you for volunteering, Evelyn. You seem like a nice person. I also ran for a stakeholder group rep seat and they wanted a physical meeting place in STNC’s boundaries. I hope we can go forward on a better foot.

Matt Walker – Is a stakeholder who lives near Pinewood. He wants the person who interrupted Evelyn Serrano to be identified in the minutes.

Cheryl – although ABRA did give the homeless water bottles during the heat wave, that does not make up for their actions during the protests on July 3rd, July 31st and Aug 13th that required LAPD intervention. They also made a fraudulent LAPD alert about a Trump protester and posted it online.

Katia Malloy – has heard a whole lot of disrespect and lies during these comments.

Joe DeCenzo – does not like speakers being interrupted mid presentation, moderator should mute the person interrupting. DONE Advisor Jasmine Elbarbary notes public comments should be addressed to Board, not individuals. She suggests the name be called, start time, then end time.

Dekker Dreyer- ABRA is not a terrorist group. Only Latinos for Trump is a terrorist group. ABRA does no advertising to encourage outside groups to come here. Someone from the Trump group brought an illegal firearm to the protest.

Claire Gordon – is a member of ABRA which is an organization to make ST better. It is not appropriate that the Board is expressing hostility. She would like peaceful protesting.

Board Comments

President Sanchez does not think Board Member comments are necessary. Parliamentarian Spiegel recommends that the Board be allowed to comment, but only on the present motion, not other issues. VP Grant-- thinks Board should be allowed to comment on the motion since President Sanchez allowed the public to comment. She is just doing her job in bringing this motion. DONE advisor Elbarbary says public comments can't be regulated but should have been limited to the present motion.

Member Belt—does not think ABRA is a valid group. They did not mention their online presence that references ACAB-- meaning all cops are brutal.

Member Abramyan – The first time he ran for the STNC he went to jail the day before. Time will tell if you are a committed group. Emotions are going wild, everyone needs to be civil.

VP Royal – you have a year to prove yourself. If you really want to get involved join the Outreach Committee.

Member von Gunten – the words in the bylaws are clear you have to be in existence one year. You can use the year to earn a place in the civil community.

Member Hutch – supports postponement because she has had many complaints about this group. Let ABRA run at the next election.

Member Karamians – agrees with member Belt about the values mentioned and all the arguments. By hearing their comments knows ABRA members need to do their homework.

Member Norling – some tempers have driven the community to a place they are not interested in going.

Lilliana – people seem shocked that there is a 1st amendment right to peacefully protest, which brings colorful characters on both sides, some from out of town.

Member Potter – problem is they don't have an address so they don't meet the requirement.

Item 8. Treasurer Reports/Consent Calendar Funding Items

MOTION: The STNC Board approves the consent calendar:

- A. Discussion:** Update on City Funding approvals regarding events during COVID 19 Stay at Home. Treasurer Capps notes the City is not approving the funding of any in person events due to Stay at Home orders. These events cannot proceed until the order is lifted.
- B. Discussion:** Sunland-Tujunga Shadow Hills Rotary NPG Report for PPE Face Shields
Treasurer Capps notes the Sunland Tujunga / Shadow Hills Rotary Club submitted their report on how this grant was used. The Rotary is very diligent in complying with City rules regarding NPGs.
- C. Approval of August 2020 MER**
MOTION: The STNC Board approves the August 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report
- D. MOTION:** The STNC Board **approves** STARC Committee request that STNC provide up to \$300 for a sponsorship/outreach for the Sunland-Tujunga-Shadow Hills Rotary Club to promote and produce a virtual Halloween pageant and contest. (Outreach)

- E. **MOTION:** The STNC Board approves recommendation to **oppose** approval of Neighborhood Purpose Grant in the amount of \$4,000.00 for The Civics Center Grant Application to provide training and materials for students in Sunland-Tujunga to lead voter registration drives. (NPG)

Motion: Approve Funding Consent Items C-E:				
Motion: Carol Hutch; Second: Glen Belt Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Alvarez, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Norling, Kim			Armour	
18 yes, 1 recuse, motion passed				

Item 9. Consent Calendar, Non Funding Items

A. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

MOTION: The STNC Board approves the August 12, 2020 minutes

B. MOTION: That the STNC Board holds a Board Retreat within next two months via Zoom *[Lydia Grant]*

C. MOTION: That the STNC Board approves letter to Mayor Garcetti and City Council supporting continuation of Zoom Meetings for Neighborhood Councils after COVID-19. *[Lydia Grant]*

D. MOTION: STNC board approves adding the following language to government agencies outside the City of Los Angeles: “opinions expressed in this letter are those of the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council, and not necessarily those of the City of LA”; approve language to add to letters and statements sent out to levels of Government outside of City of Los Angeles. *[Lydia Grant on behalf of Community Improvement Committee]*

E. Approve STNC No Speeding artwork for lawn signs recommended by STAT Committee

MOTION: The STNC Board approves the STAT Committee artwork and acknowledges Gerardo Barrientos for preparing the STNC No Speeding artwork. *Board previously approved funding. [Pat Kramer, STAT Committee]*

F. STNC requests City to reopen and maintain the West Valley Animal Shelter

MOTION: To approve letter to Mayor Garcetti and City Council to immediately fund and open the West Valley Animal Shelter as a Municipal facility and do not give it away to nonprofits. The East Valley Shelter is unable to handle the load of needs for the entire San Fernando Valley. *[Lydia Grant on behalf of Community Improvement Committee]*

G. Community Impact Statement in support of extension regarding the Housing Element

MOTION: the STNC Board approves the submission of a Community Impact Statement in **support** of Council File 20-0002-s110 to extend deadline for Housing Element submission by at least six months for the 6th RHNA Cycle covering October 2021-2029 and authorize the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to extend the application deadline for LEAP grant application submission to January 31, 2021 due to the COVID-19 crisis. *[Lydia Grant on behalf of Community Improvement Committee]*

H. Approve letter regarding 60 Days early notification for Neighborhood Councils prior to removal of protected trees

MOTION: To approve letter to Mayor Garcetti, Board of Public Works, Community Forestry Advisory Committee requesting Neighborhood Councils be given 60 days early notification notice prior to removal of protected trees because three days’ notice is not enough time. *[Lydia Grant on behalf of Community Improvement Committee]*

I. Update to Community Impact Statement regarding Slow Streets

MOTION: To add the STNC letter to Slow Streets Council File Mobility & Open Space Access in Los Angeles during COVID-19 CF 20-0838 STNC previously approved letter. This motion is to add STNC’s letter to the Council File because there was not a Council File assigned at the time our letter was approved by the STNC Board. *[Lydia Grant on behalf of Community Improvement Committee]*

Motion: Approve Non- Funding Consent Items A, B, D-I				
Motion: Lydia Grant Second: Lallah Rowe Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Alvarez, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour Norling, Kim				
19 yes, motion passed				

VP Royal requests that Item 9.C. (continuation of Zoom meetings after COVID 19) be removed from the consent items.

Item 10. Old Business –None

Item 11. New Business

A. Direct the Bylaws & Standing Rules Committee & Reconfirm its members

MOTION: The STNC Board reconfirms the Bylaws & Standing Rules Committee members Bill Skiles, Sandy Capps, Cindy Cleghorn, Peter Darakjian, Liliana Sanchez, Vicky Cerpa, Lydia Grant and direct the committee to present draft of updated / new STNC Standing Rules at the December 2020 board meeting. The committee will review existing STNC Standing Rules, recommend changes or removal of Standing Rules, recommend new Standing Rules to clarify intent of STNC Bylaws dated 6-29-20, review STNC Bylaws for any possible errors, including looking back on past Bylaws. The committee may review Standing Rules of other Neighborhood Councils across the City. *[Cindy Cleghorn]* [4]

Motion: Direct the Bylaws & Standing Rules Committee & Reconfirm its members				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Lallah Rowe Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Alvarez, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour Norling, Kim				
19 yes, motion passed				

Treasurer Capps inquires if all the potential members were asked if they want to remain on the committee. Secretary Cleghorn notes Peter Darakjian and Vicky Cepa have not confirmed, but this can be taken care of at the first meeting. President Sanchez notes these meetings are open to all and if there are 2 vacancies, other people can volunteer. Public Comment: None.

B Neighborhood Council Elections in 2021 Discussion/Possible Action: Neighborhood Council Elections Report - Council File 20-0963. Review of City Clerk report, dated August 3, 2020, relative to the conduct of Neighborhood Council elections during the COVID-19 pandemic and holding the 2021 NC Elections all via Vote-By-Mail; Creation of STNC Ad Hoc Elections Committee + Committee Members; drafting of Community Impact Statement. *[Cindy Cleghorn]* [5]

There is no motion attached to this item. Member Belt wonders why the decision to vote by mail only is being made this early. VP Grant responds that the City Clerk needs to set up systems early. Parliamentarian Spiegel notes that the City Council has already approved the vote by mail process. Some board members express concerns about potential fraud. Secretary Cleghorn notes we are a documentation council. DONE Advisor Elbarbary notes that to vote in a documentation council’s election you need to apply online. Secretary Cleghorn notes that there will be outreach to those without access to technology. Member Belt inquires who pays for this. DONE Advisor Elbarbary replies the City Clerk’s office handles the votes the Board decides how much it is going to spend for election outreach. Secretary Cleghorn thinks there should be a special board meeting to assemble a neutral elections committee. Public Comment: None.

C Motion: STNC opposes any defunding to LAPD Valley Traffic and requests funding for additional overtime for another LAPD Valley Traffic Officer in light of continued fatalities, including that of an 83-year old man in Tujunga who was killed by a hit and run driver in August. We need a strong police presence in our community that cares about our stakeholders and tickets and/or arrests those who injure or kill our stakeholders. We’ve seen a high rate of traffic-related crimes and a rise in fatalities over the past few years and it is absolutely essential that we have more Traffic Officers assigned to and patrolling our streets. That being said, we do not condone violence, discrimination or rude and hostile behavior toward people of color or those who are protesting peacefully for their beliefs. Upon approval, this letter of support will be sent to CD7, LAPD and other interested parties. *[Pat Kramer on behalf of STAT Committee]* [5]

Motion: Motion: STNC opposes any defunding to LAPD Valley Traffic and requests funding for additional overtime for another LAPD Valley Traffic Officer				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Glen Belt Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Alvarez, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour Norling, Kim				Abramyan,
18 yes, 1 absent, motion passed				

Public Comments: Pat Kramer, chair of the STAT committee – we need traffic officers more than ever, there are lots of people staying at home and lots of aggressive driving.

Some members of public think that more signage would be a better idea than expensive police. Other members of the public want more enforcement because drivers ignore the signs. Member Belt notes drivers constantly run the stop sign by his home. Board members Royal and von Gunten think fines and higher insurance for tickets speak louder than signs. VP Royal notes there are only 8 traffic officers for the San Fernando Valley, LAPD has the smallest police force per capita of any large city.

D. Update to Community Impact Statement regarding Defunding LAPD

Community Impact Statement (CIS) CF-0692 Motion to submit additional statement to Council File: Based on the present position/motion of the Mayor and City Council to Defund our LAPD \$150 million in the budget of 2020-2021, request that STNC support the DeFend The LAPD. [Lydia Grant on behalf of Community Improvement Committee] [5]

Motion: Update to Community Impact Statement, CF-0692 regarding Defunding LAPD; Support DeFend The LAPD				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Carol Hutch Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Ineligible	Abstain	Absent
Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Belt, Karamians, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour Kim	Sanchez		Keshish, Norling, Alvarez,	Abramyan
14 yes, 1 no, 3 abstain, 1 absent motion passed				

Public Comments: Cheryl – doesn't make sense to defund police. We need more police officers and more training.

Roger Swart – this is in reference to a letter he wrote a couple of months ago. As a veteran, supports police and law and order. He does not want to turn the country over to looters.

Katia Malloy – we should give the LAPD tanks and more tear gas, totally supports this.

Bren Jahelka – favors defending the LAPD, they are the best of the best.

Melanie Gold and Dekker Dreyer support the existing LAPD budget cuts. The LAPD needs to better manage funds more job training and services needed.

Elisabeth would like Los Angeles to look at municipalities like Denver that do not use armed back up.

VP Royal – suggests the public should take the 7 week civilian police training course offered by the LAPD to know what is involved in being a police officer. When you do that you will have better understanding.

Member Hutch – is for funding police. The protests have caused billions of dollars in damage, the murder rate is skyrocketing. They need to find another way to fund social workers.

VP Grant – This is an addition to the existing Council File to help Roger Swart have his voice heard, it should have been on an earlier agenda.

Member Belt – as a 47 year resident and the reality is this area has constantly fought for more units, there used to be only 2. The Foothill Division has lost 9 officers due to defunding.

Member von Gunten – Following the Rodney King incident in 2000 the consent decree made the LAPD the model agency for the nation. We have 30% fewer officers than NY. The crime statistics in LA show an increase in violent crimes.

Member Khanjian – has only lived here for 6 years but has noticed a lot of homeless camps, petty crime, open drug use, and many traffic violations.

Member Karamians – this is not an issue to solve in one meeting. Defunding the police is stupid, they need more training. We are far from a civilized society.

Member Norling – does not think we should defend the LAPD, thinks there should be more training. The LAPD killed someone near his property. Even though the response was good it was heavy handed given that the suspect was mentally ill.

President Sanchez – she supports the City Council and the Mayor on this issue. Police want to do policing, not deal with social issues.

E. Elimination of DWP Electric and Water Tiers

MOTION: STNC Board approves letter to ECCEJ Committee, City Council District 7 Monica Rodriguez, OPA (Office of Public Accountability), Mayor Eric Garcetti, City Attorney Mike Feuer. Eliminating DWP tiers. The Residents of Sunland-Tujunga are requesting that the Department of Water and Power lift all water and electric tiers during the remaining year of 2020. Los Angeles residents are not only suffering financial hardships during this pandemic but we are also experiencing climate change with historical recorded high temperatures. Our elderly are especially vulnerable during this extreme heat and limited pop-up cooling centers throughout Los Angeles are offering some relief from the extreme heat to some of our most vulnerable residents. Sunland-Tujunga residents do not have a cooling center option for their residents. We are asking that the DWP's board immediately look at the current tier rates and approve imposing an emergency tier price reduction on both electric and water use in the city of Los Angeles. [Liliana Sanchez] [5]

Motion: Elimination of DWP Electric and Water Tiers for rest of 2020				
Motion: Lallah Rowe; Second: Nina Royal Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Ineligible	Abstain	Absent
Sanchez,Capps, Keshish, Karamians, Khanjian, Norling, 6 yes, 7 no, 5 abstain, 1 absent, motion did not pass	Grant, Cleghorn, Rowe, Potter, Armour, von Gunten, Kim		Royal, Belt, Alvarez, Shaheenian, Hutchinson,	Abramyan,

Guest Speakers – Christy Holland, LADWP Public Relations and Ann Santilli, LADWP Chief Financial Officer (this item taken after Item 8 during Zoom meeting to accommodate guest speakers).

Ann Santilli LADWP CFO – The LADWP is postponing collections. If you can pay your bill, please do. All of the money rate payers pay goes to pay for the energy, water and property improvements that keep LADWP viable. It would be hard to pay for all this with Tier 1 only pricing.

Comments and Q&A:

Member von Gunten-- Thanks for sitting through a long meeting. Understands Tier 2 and 3 pricing is designed to have people be aware and conserve energy. Afraid no tiers might lead to overconsumption.

VP Grant-- When you cut costs it has to come from somewhere else.

VP Royal— Q: Understands a large % of LADWP revenue is taken to run the City. A: As of now there is no transfer of revenue from water charges, on power charges there was a \$240,000,000 transfer to the general fund.

Member Rowe – we should not expect LADWP to allow us to not pay and then ask for a lower rate.

Member Hutchinson – Q: There is so much legislation for high density housing. Does the LADWP have plans for the increased demand for water and power? A: Every time a project is approved, both the water and power systems determine these needs and require the developer to pay for extending utility lines.

Member Norling: --Q: does not understand how someone with a small house can go over tier 1 for water, power is another matter. Is this really a problem? A: By President Sanchez: yes.

Brenda Jahelka – would like the letter to include high risk children and high risk people living at home. There is a lot more toilet flushing and hand washing. 6 months seems reasonable.

Cheryl S. – If there are more than 6 people in the house, LADWP used to have an allotment, now it is very hard on large families. A: The allotment was removed in 2016 because it was hard to verify. The LADWP could revisit this during next rate review.

President Sanchez – the City Council is looking at ways to make it easier on consumers. She has noticed people have been getting astronomical LADWP bills.

Member Belt – You do save money on gas by staying at home, offsetting some of the increased utility costs.

Item 12. Announcements and Reports

- A.** Beautification – September 16 @ 5:30 PM - via Zoom
- B.** Budget & Finance – September 30 @ 6 PM - via Zoom
- C.** RYLAN (Ready Your LA Neighborhood) Update - Sandy Capps [2]
- D.** Emergency Preparedness – *Need liaison to attend monthly meetings*
- E.** Neighborhood Watch – Jon von Gunten written report - meetings via Zoom 3rd Tuesday - 9/15
- F.** Land Use – Pati Potter - Next Meeting Presentations: Sept. 21 @ 7 PM - via Zoom
- G.** STAT - Safe Traffic & Transportation Committee next meeting Sept. 22 @ 6 PM - via Zoom
- H.** Outreach & Community Improvement Committee – Next Meeting Sept. 17 @ 6:00 PM - via Zoom
National Night Out - Tuesday Oct. 6 – VP Grant encourages all to attend
- I.** STARC – Arts, Culture & Recreation Committee, Sept. 22 @ 7:30 PM - via Zoom
- J.** Executive Committee – Sept. 30, 2020 @ 7:30 PM via Zoom
 - i. STNC Bylaws Updated 6/29/20
 - ii. STNC Board Elections April 27, 2020 - Vote By Mail
- K.** NC Congress - Saturday, Sept. 26 - 9:00 AM
- L.** NC Budget Advocates – Liliana Sanchez / Sandy Capps [1] – ncbala.org - via Zoom
- M.** VANC - Sept. 10 @ 6:30 PM via Zoom w/Mayor Garcetti
- N.** DWP MOU / DWP Committee – Sept. 5 @ 8:30 a.m. via zoom
LANCC Update on meeting with the Mayor – Next Meeting Sept. 5 @ 10 a.m. via Zoom

Item 13. Final Announcements

Next STNC Board Meeting October 14, 2020. No additional announcements.

Adjourn at: 10:34 pm

Minutes by Marjorie Maxon