

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Beautification Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 16, 2023, 5:30pm
Caruso's Italian Kitchen 10504 Mt Gleason Ave. Tujunga, CA 91042

Roll Call: 5:47 pm	
*Carol Hutchinson	Absent
Roger Klemm	Present
Nelly Luboff	Present
Gerardo Barrientos	Present (at 5:50)
Angela Nordhagen	Present
Curtis Brown	Absent
Matt Walker	Present (at 5:47)
	*STNC Board Member
Committee Quorum: 4	quorum met at 5:47

Additional Attendees: Marjorie Maxon, Ricardo Flores- Senior Area Representative, CD 7

1. Call to Order and Welcome – Co-Chair Klemm calls meeting to order after meeting quorum met at 5:47.
2. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda items— Nelly Luboff 1) There is going to be another tree watering event on Sept. 17, meeting at the Ralph's 2) There is going to be a meeting of STNC Committee Chairs on August 25th, Co-Chair Klemm agrees to attend.
3. Approve June 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes – no proposed changes. Co-Chair Luboff moves to approve, Member Nordhagen seconds. All in favor. No objections, abstentions or corrections. Minutes approved.
4. Alternative Day for Meetings. Co-Chair Luboff — emailed the head librarian but so far no response whether the library is available on the 3rd Thursday for our September meetings. The change of day is necessary because there is some sort of activity using that room when our meetings used to be. She is also concerned about next month because the library usually requires 30 days notice. Attendee Maxon suggests using the patio in back of Bolton Hall as an alternative site since its a public space with large benches and no advance notice is needed to book a table. Motion: Meet Thursday, September 21st at the library next month at 5:30 or time library is available. If no availability, meet at patio behind Bolton Hall at 5:30. All in favor, no opposed motion passes.
5. (Taken out of order) agenda item 2 —Ricardo Flores, Senior Area Representative, CD 7 — He is in charge of a large area, Sunland Tujunga, Shadow Hills, Lake View Terrace and La Tuna. There are 18 members of CD 7 staff who are responsible for the needs of 250,000 residents. CD7 is working on having an additional Field Deputy, for his area, they currently have 2.

As far as the issues with Howard Finn Park, he is reactivating coordination with various City departments: Rec. and Parks, LAUSD and the library. If you see drug activity in the park, report it. He walks often in this park. Graffiti is cleaned up right away. He notices 3 groups of people using this Park: the unhoused in the morning, kids that should be in school later in the morning, seniors coming to play cards in the afternoon. There is no office for Recreation and Parks at this pocket park, they do come once a week to empty the trash cans. Services are contacting the unhoused and a contractor is going to be coming to contact the kids who are supposed to be in school.

The road to Riverwood Ranch is one of the area's more pressing problems with illegal picnicking resulting in access problems for residents, and massive amounts of trash. The City is working on the problem with parking enforcement, sanitation and operation Bright Spot. Attendee Maxon thanks Representative Flores for his efforts, the turn out at Riverwood is looking much better.

Co-Chair Luboff notes that there are also problems further up on Big Tujunga Canyon Road all the way to the County line. After some discussion regarding what can be done, Representative Flores agrees to provide a dumpster at the Oro Vista turn out for a clean up on September 9th.

Member Walker is concerned about merchants on Foothill Blvd. who don't pay for a dumpster and use the City's street trash cans instead, making them too full for others to use. Representative Flores notes that many years ago the investigations division of code enforcement was defunded. Now code compliance is based on reports. Representative Flores does walk Foothill Blvd and visit La Tuna Canyon and Riverwood regularly since these are the current dumping hot spots in our area.

Co Chair Klemm appreciates the new parking facility at La Tuna Canyon. Representative Flores notes they will be putting new trash cans there soon.

Representative Flores offers to assist with trash if there is too much for committee members to handle when cleaning the Welcome Garden and areas of trash on Foothill. He can also provide trash bags if he has a week's notice. Co-Chair Luboff wonders if there could be regular street cleaning on Foothill. Representative Flores responds there is not enough trash to justify this service because other areas of CD 7 are worse. They do occasional street sweeping and Operation Bright Spot is available for problem spots if committee members let him know where they are.

6. Motion: Approve KT Traver's application to join Beautification Committee. Member Walker moves, Member Barrientos seconds, all in favor no oppose or abstain. Motion passes.
7. Update on Pinewood Mural – Member Barrientos got a voice mail from the LAUSD's Director of Maintenance and Services informing him they are going to send an engineer to see what can be done about the drainage issues on the retaining wall where the rest of the mural was going to go. He will call this Friday to set up an appointment.
8. Beautification T-Shirts - Co-Chair Luboff informs the committee the new shirts are ready for pick up.
9. DOT box maintenance – postponed until next month.

10. Suggestions for Additional Projects / Workdays – postponed until next month.
11. Sunland Welcome Nature Garden/ request for professional Oak tree trimming – Roger is co-ordinating with the Department of Urban Forestry about who can trim the oak trees. President Grant says the STNC might have the money to do this next year.

Next meeting: September 21, 2023 at 5:30 pm, at the Sunland Tujunga library if available, otherwise at the patio behind Bolton Hall at Little Landers Park, 10110 Commerce Ave. Tujunga 91042

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.

Minutes by
Marjorie Maxon