

Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council

Special General Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 10, 2024

This meeting is being held by the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council using teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.8(a)(2)(B).

1. Call to Order, Welcome - Lydia Grant, President, 7:04 pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance, Led by Leny Freeman
3. STNC President's Updates:
 - A. Notice of Board Vacancy: Region 4 Representative. *Area is south of Foothill Blvd, between Sunland Blvd. on the west & Tujunga Canyon on the east. Geographical Representatives shall represent the interests of the stakeholders within their region. Geographical Representatives shall maintain lines of communication with the various neighborhoods, businesses, and other organizations operating within their districts. Geographical Representatives shall actively outreach to stakeholder groups and individuals within their regions. One (1) Geographical Representative from each region shall attend all Outreach Committee meetings. Region boundaries shall be based upon population density, distinct neighborhoods and geographical size within the community, and distribution of diverse populations and interests. It is expected that region boundaries may need to be changed over time, and that these changes will be made by means of bylaws amendments.*
 - Lydia commented she has one person who has expressed an interest and will follow up with them.
 - B. L.A. City Budget: Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates hosting City Budget Town Hall, Sat. April 27; Budget Advocates Report - Region 1 - <https://www.budgetadvocates.org/reports> and Save the Date for Budget Day on Sat. June 15 @ L.A. City Hall.
 - Lydia provided additional details about the events and encouraged people to attend.
 - C. Reminder to not leave water standing as it invites mosquitoes.
 - D. Effective Monday, June 3, 2024, individuals must be current on the five mandatory trainings to vote on funding and non-funding items. The five mandatory trainings are: 1) Ethics, 2) Funding, 3) Anti-Bias, 4) Gender Expression and Gender Identify, and 5) Code of Conduct. Are all items now available on Cornerstone? Update regarding new Code of Conduct Policy for Board and Committees. Lydia commented that there is a new Code of Conduct that people sign where people do not have to repeat annually.
 - E. Congratulations to Mt. Gleason Marathon Runners. Cheryl commented about the event and expressed pride in the runners completing the 26 mile marathon.
4. Roll Call, Voting Eligibility – Cindy Cleghorn, Corresponding Secretary
 - A. Completion of City / DONE Required trainings status for the STNC board – no outstanding trainings at this time

- B. Announce any Board member recusals or paid lobbyists in attendance – Lydia will recuse herself on upcoming items 10 and 11 in agenda.

- *Note: Ross Herman left 7:53pm.*

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Lydia Grant	Present	Yes	President
Lallah Rowe	Present	Yes	1st VP
Ross Herman	Present	Yes	2nd VP
Carol Hutchinson	Present	Yes	Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Correspondence Sec
Karen Moran	Absent	Yes	Recording Sec
Leny Freeman	Present	Yes	Region 1 Rep
KT Travers	Present	Yes	Region 1 Rep
Sherry McCoy	Present	Yes	Region 2 Rep
Mapuana Moran	Present	Yes	Region 2 Rep
Mike Goglia	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Peter Darakjian	Absent	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Jon von Gunten	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Belinda Woodruff	Absent	No	Region 4 Rep
Trevor Schmidt	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Mark Seigel	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Chris Rowe	Present	Yes	Education Rep
Cheryl Schmidt	Present	Yes	Public Safety Rep
Nina Royal	Present	Yes	Senior Rep
Vartan Keshish	Present	Yes	Community Interest Rep
Quorum: 17 present at roll call, 3 absent (<i>see note for late arrivals</i>)			

5. Discussion/Q&A with LAPD, Elected Officials/Representatives, DONE, NC Budget Advocates, City Departments

- Declan Floyd, Senator Portantino's Office, noted that bill SB411 includes a directive about having meetings with additional restrictions directed by the City about how hybrid meetings are conducted. Declan noted that the City budget deficit will have impacts going forward. KT had a question about when new members would be sworn in.
- Senior Lead Officer Coloca provided stats for the Tujunga area with overall crimes being down. Lydia commented that other NCs were promoting that people put apple air-tags in cars for tracking purposes; be careful about putting valuable in a car that are visible; consider traveling different routes and times when carrying high price items/money on a routine basis.
- Senior Lead Officer Godoy provided stats for the Sunland area and commented that no-trespassing signs have now gone up in Cocoa's lot. Jon V asked about a shooting that was rumored to have happened; Officer Godoy provided information about the event which did not result in any injuries. Carol commented that neighbors were very happy with the condition of Sunland Park at this time. Carol asked about the ability of the car's blue-tooth to be vulnerable to attack; Officer Godoy suggested just powering these devices when using them. Lydia commented that no-trespassing signs need to be put up in private property as well as commercial to prevent people from coming on to their property, which Officer Godoy agreed with and expanded on. Sherry McCoy asked about availability and expiration of no-trespassing signs. Lydia commented that the no-trespassing signs are important when even temporarily vacating a house (for vacation). The no-trespassing signs have to have the city penal code; Lydia commented we would get the forms to request the signs. Nina had a question about squatters moving in when people go on vacation; Officer Godoy provided suggestions that included talking with neighbors and using security devices.
- Diana Oganessian, L.A. County Supervisor Barger's Office. Diana commented about the Assessment Appeals process and that it would be streamlined in the future. There is a motion to explore the status of Whitman airport including the economic analysis of the airport remaining open or potentially closing. The Board approved a motion to waive the transportation and storage fees charged by the department of the Medical Examiner for L.A. County residents who have passed away. Supervisor Barger introduced a motion proclaiming April 24th as a remembrance to the Armenian genocide.
- Raul Preciado, NEA DONE. The Department is working on Neighborhood Council homeless liasons where NCs can appoint people who are interested to working on this issue; the Department will facilitate bringing all members together (virtual or in-person). The first meeting is planned for May. The Awareness and Engagement Division will coordinate regional outreach round tables with the intention to provide more resources to the NCs. If there are events the STNC has that the Department can support, please let them know. Raul reminded that he can help with any training needed. Lydia commented that our committee's cannot act independently of the Board to have events or take other actions which Raul confirmed. KT asked about Committees, where members were not Board members and would have limited access to Cornerstone training, what the requirements were for training. Raul said that it was an issue being worked at this time but felt the training would need to be completed. Cindy asked for clarification about the Homeless Liason and Regional Outreach Round Table membership qualifications.

6. INFORMATION / UPDATES: Pending Land Use Committee projects:

- A. Public Hearing April 20, 2024 @ 9AM re: 9604 Hillhaven - ZA-2023-3187-ZAD-SPP – Lydia said that this morning there was a public meeting about this property. This is a project that's almost 4,000 square feet where no permits have been filed. The zoning administrator took the information on advisement. A lot of damage has been caused to the next door neighbor's house; there is a civil case pending. More information will be forthcoming from the Zoning Administrator. The owner was directed by the Zoning Administrator to come to the STNC within the next 30 days which may require a special meeting by the Board.
 - B. STNC Land Use Committee Vacant Seats – People are encouraged to join the Committee.
 - C. Next Special LUC Meeting Monday, April 15 @ 7:30PM will include: 6456 W. Olcott St. (Parcel Map Application Case No. AA-2020-3222-PMLA) - Presentation will be held with Steven J. Reyes, MPP / Principal Planner / Blue Oak Planning.
 - D. Discussion/Action: STNC response to Draft Ordinance regarding Mayor's Executive Directive 1 [ED1] goes before the City Council PLUM Committee.
 - E. Lydia noted that she was at Starbucks, Haines Canyon, and there are issues that are being addressed. The project was given an ok to remove/disturb a protected tree that is NOT on the property where the project is being built. Trenches and retaining walls are being built and the roots of an Oak tree are being damaged in the process. Lydia suggested that STNC members object to the policy that allows damaging a tree that belongs to someone else.
 - F. Lydia noted that Scott Weiner is trying to remove the California Coastal Commission in order to be able to build large buildings along the beaches which might restrict access to beaches; STNC should get involved to protect coastal zones.
4. Discussion: Should STNC refer to committee: The [Congress - Budget Advocacy Contribution Form](#) is updated to raise money from the NCs. Should STNC contribute to the Neighborhood Council Budget Day option to contribute to the Budget Advocates.
- Lydia noted that discussion can be forwarded to the Committees for their recommendation.
 - Glenn Bailey, Co-Chair of Budget Advocates, said that this is a critical month with the budget being announced for next year. The budget for next fiscal year is under that council File 240600. Glenn provided resources for further information and where comments can be given and explained the process for budget review/approval. Time is critical if anyone wants to make suggestions or influence allocations. Cindy commented that the June 15th date is important for the budget and encouraged people to get involved. Lydia noted that the Board has to approve any budget advocates before the event.
8. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (FUNDING) - Note: Consent calendar items are considered to be non-controversial and will be treated as one agenda item. Any Board member or stakeholder may request that an item be removed. There will be no discussion of these items unless an item is removed from the consent calendar, in which case it will go to the end of New Business and be considered as time allows.
- MOTION: The STNC Board approves the funding consent calendar: [Budget Committee approved 4-2-24]
- A. Discussion/Action: Approve March 2024 MER
 - B. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$90.00 for two - 100 ft extension cords

- C. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$150 for two Halogen stand lamps
- D. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$25 for cable ties
- E. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$ 350 for one Portable inverter 600w
- F. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$550 for two Portable inverters 300 w
- G. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$140 for 6 strands string lights
- H. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$1,550 for Movie in the Park Night on 6/22/24 (tentative date)

Motion made to approve items B, C, D, E, F and G. Not items A and H. Motion made by Lallah and seconded by Nina.

Item 8. Motion to approve the Consent Calendar (Funding) for Items B, C, D, E, F and G (excluding A and H)					
Motion: L Rowe, Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, M Moran, Darakjian, von Gunten, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal, Keshish 15 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent	Goglia				Herman, K. Moran, Woodruff, T Schmidt,

Motion made to approve Item A. Motion made by Cindy and seconded by Nina.

Item 8. Motion to approve the Consent Calendar (Funding) for Item A					
Motion: Cleghorn, Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, M Moran, von Gunten, Siegel, C Rowe, Royal, Keshish 13 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 7 absent					Herman, K. Moran, Goglia, Darakjian, Woodruff, C. Schmidt, T Schmidt,

Motion made to approve Item H. Motion made by Cleghorn and seconded by L Rowe.

- Discussion, Item H, Movies in the Park. KT felt that it was the first time we were seeing it and we need to know more about Movie Night. Per Lydia, Movie not picked yet but will be a family friendly movie. Need funding to pay for the movie and the park fee, doing in partnership with Sunland Park and have invited Council Office to participate with us and will invite other service groups in the community to participate also. We don't need a projector or screen if we use Sunland Park's equipment. Money might also be used for popcorn or water.

Item 8. Motion to approve the Consent Calendar (Funding) for Item H					
Motion: Cleghorn, Second: L. Rowe					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, M Moran, von Gunten, Siegel, C Rowe, Royal, Keshish 13 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 7 absent					Herman, K. Moran, Goglia, Darakjian, Woodruff, C. Schmidt, T Schmidt,

9. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (NON-FUNDING) - Note: Consent calendar items are considered to be non-controversial and will be treated as one agenda item. Any Board member or stakeholder may request that an item be removed. There will be no discussion of these items unless an item is removed from the consent calendar, in which case it will go to the end of New Business and be considered as time allows. MOTION: The STNC Board approves the non-funding consent calendar:

- A. Discussion/Action: Approve March 2024 STNC Board Meeting Minutes
- B. Discussion/Action: Motion of **NON SUPPORT** for Recreation and Parks policy RAP 24-059 to allow hard alcohol in parks during special events
- C. Discussion/Action: Motion of **SUPPORT** with amendments to Mayor's ED-1: 100% Affordable Housing Streaming Ordinance" Exhibit A - Draft Affordable Housing Streamlining Ordinance for CPC.pdf (lacity.gov) - If supported, could include possible amendments: See <https://planning.lacity.gov/project-review/executive-directive-1> and United
 - 1. Eliminate all waivers and off menu incentives
 - 2. Require 15' set backs to allow for trees to grow and storm water to be captured
 - 3. Prevent post development conversion of non residential spaces to market rent units
 - 4. Exempt the Coastal zone, R-1 zones, HPOZs, Historic districts, substandard streets and High Fire Zones.
- D. Discussion/Action: Motion to **OPPOSE** request for City Council opposition to the 2024 Legislative Platform of bills that weaken the Coastal Act. Support for this motion will request the City Council take a position in its 2024 Legislative Platform to **oppose** the following proposed state legislation which will significantly weaken protections in the Coastal Act:
 - 1. AB 2560 Removes the Coastal Zone exemption from the State's density bonus law)
 - 2. SB 951 Excludes urbanized San Francisco from the Coastal Zone and clarifies the Commission's role in Housing approvals

- 3. AB 1881 Allows the Governor to appoint a geologist/environmental engineer instead of a person who works with environmental justice communities. Letter to be sent on STNC letterhead to City Council with CC to Sacramento legislators.
- E. Discussion/Action: Motion of **NON SUPPORT** for SB 834 (Amendment to SB 834) which will nullify any existing Los Angeles City Preferential Parking Districts within ½ mile of public transit and exempt from parking minimums. This bill would require the local authority to revise the boundaries of any such preferential parking district to exclude those developments from its boundaries. Bill Text: CA SB834 | 2023-2024 | Regular Session | Amended | LegiScan
- F. Discussion/Action: Motion of **NON SUPPORT** of [CF 23-0002-s116](#) The City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-2024 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for U.S. Senator Alex Padilla's Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program Establishment Act, which would establish a national, low-income water assistance program. 23-0002-S116_misc_03-22-24.pdf (lacity.org)
- G. Discussion/Action: Motion to Approve Traffic Town Hall meeting on Saturday, June 15th from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at a location to be determined with \$200.00 for refreshments. LAPD, LADOT, CD7, stakeholders, board-members / committee members who are interested in traffic-related issues.
 - Motion made by Carol and seconded by Lallah to approve all items.
 - KT requested that C be removed.

Item 9. Motion to approve the Consent Calendar (Non-Funding) for Items A, B, D, E, F, and G					
Motion: L Rowe, Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, M Moran, Goglia, von Gunten, Siegel, C Rowe, Royal, Keshish 14 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 6 absent					Herman, K. Moran, Darakjian, Woodruff, C. Schmidt, T Schmidt,

Motion made by Travers and seconded by L Rowe to approve item 3 as amended.

- Discussion with KT, Lydia and Glenn Bailey resulted in C4 words amended to say “Exempt the coastal zone, all single family residential zones, HPOZ historic districts, historic and cultural monuments, substandard streets and fire zones.”

Item 9. Motion to approve the Consent Calendar (Non-Funding) for Item C4 as amended.					
Motion: Travers, Second: L Rowe					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent

Grant, L Rowe, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, M Moran, von Gunten, Siegel, C Rowe, Royal, Keshish 13 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 7 absent					Herman, K. Moran, Goglia, Darakjian, Woodruff, C. Schmidt, T Schmidt,
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- At this time, Lydia Grant recused herself on next two items (10 and 11) below.

10. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve STNC support for changing the California Constitution to take authority away from Sacramento regarding local building and give that control to local Cities and Counties.
- Comments from Jon, Mark, Carol and Leny, Lallah and KT comments emphasized the importance for local control and not being dictated to by Sacramento.

Motion made by Cindy and seconded by Nina that STNC supports changing the California Constitution to take authority away from Sacramento regarding local building and give that control to local Cities and Counties.

Item 10. Motion to approve STNC support for changing the California Constitution to take authority away from Sacramento regarding local building and give that control to local Cities and Counties					
Motion: Cleghorn Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
L Rowe, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, M Moran, von Gunten, Siegel, C Rowe, Royal, Keshish 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 1 recuse, 7 absent				Grant	Herman, K. Moran, Goglia, Darakjian, Woodruff, C. Schmidt, T Schmidt,

11. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve STNC support for using Our Neighborhood Voices Ballot Initiative as an Outreach tool to bring the community together until it becomes an actual ballot measure.
- Motion made by Carol and seconded by Cindy that the STNC use our Neighborhood Voices Ballot Initiative as an Outreach tool to bring the community together until it becomes an actual ballot measure.
 - Per Carol, it is a ballot measure that gives STNC an opportunity to improve outreach into the community.

Item 11. Motion to use our Neighborhood Voices Ballot Initiative as an Outreach tool to bring the community together until it becomes an actual ballot measure					
Motion: Hutchinson, Second: Cleghorn					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
L Rowe, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, M Moran, Siegel, C Rowe, Royal, Keshish 11 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, 0 ineligible, 1 recuse, 7 absent		Von Gunten		Grant	Herman, K. Moran, Goglia, Darakjian, Woodruff, C. Schmidt, T Schmidt,

Subsequent to the vote, Lydia commented that the state is dictating how many units of housing must be built in each community and it favors developers (e.g. not required to build units for low income residents). The Ballot would restore the ability for the cities to decide what is best to build for their community. A group of elected officials in a group called Cali has joined with the another group and created our neighborhood voices to address this issue. Currently if the cities are not meeting the numbers the state is demanding, the state can and will sue the cities. LaCanada, Beverly Hills, etc. are being sued at this time. This is a ballot initiative that NC can take a position on before it becomes a ballot measure. Lydia recused herself because has been asked to take over the outreach for the entire LA area. Lydia requested that people read Neighborhood Voices for more information and will send out a link for a meeting on Thursday night.

12. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- Glenn Bailey thanked Lydia for her leadership and others on the NC Board for their efforts.
- Lallah Rowe - April 13th, 4-6pm, Artists is the World Art Day for 2024 **at the Tujunga Canyon** Mission, 9913 Commerce Avenue. RSVP to Susan at 808-599-7102 or to Lallah.
- Jon - the traffic committee is hosting a tree care event Saturday, May 4, from 8 -11 am with have tcooperation of North Valley City Hall and our Council district. They will be providing the water and the venue. Bring water jugs to water around 100 trees along Foothill Blvd.
- KT Travers - The Foothills is in the process of selecting the next Poet Laureate and next month at McGroarty there will be a passing of the laurels, date is to-be-determined. Lydia will send info to Board when available from KT.
- Leny Freeman – Leny has a routine each week to drive around and report illegal dumping and encourages others to do so also.
- Nina Royal - The Elks is having a dinner dance on Saturday, the twentieth, all invited to come. And the Elks will do the cooking of the barbecue for national night out on Tuesday, August 6th. Upcoming Town Hall is still in planning.
- Mary Ellen (Public) provided comments on the protected oak tree located at the rear of 6733 Shady Grove Street noting that the law says that if protected trees or shrubs are found to be impacted by a project, a report needs to be submitted and include measures

to ensure that the trees and or shrubs are not damaged. There is no tree report that can be found. Letters have been sent to Forestry to see if anything can be done. Lydia said that she checked on the tree today and cement was already being poured.

13. Committee & Liaison Reports - by committee chairs present

- Community Improvement & Government Affairs:
- Outreach:
- Beautification:
- STAT:
- STARC:
- Youth & Adult Education: Lydia noted that a mother and son attended the last Executive Board Meeting and would make an excellent candidate for the YEAC Committee. Lydia will send information to Lallah.
- Budget & Finance:
- Executive:

12. PRESENTATION & TRAINING on the Neighborhood Council (NC) System

- A. Bylaws, Standing Rules, BONC Policies, Brown Act (Meeting Agenda Posting, ENS)
- B. NC Meetings: Agenda Items, Presenters, Meeting Agendas, Making Motions, Community Impact Statements
- C. NC Alliances (Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils - VANC meets 2nd Thursday on Zoom; LANCC meets 1st Saturday at 10am; PlanCheckNC meets 2nd Saturday at 10am, STNC Community Events/Meetings, Other Training Opportunities

13. FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- SAVE THE DATE – MAY 8, 2024 - STNC BOARD MEETING PRESENTATION BY LA SANITATION RE: ORO VISTA GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CORRIDOR PROJECT - Safe Clean Water
<https://tinyurl.com/4h3ndshe>
- Cindy - The VANC meeting will be tomorrow night) and is an opportunity to catch up on any funding questions for the City Clerk. Also a reminder for the Saturday morning PlanCheckNC meeting at 10am; the City Attorney will talk first, followed by a presentation from the Planning Dept.
- Easter event was great, per Lydia. Thank you to STNC members for their support
- Cindy, next month a presentation on the Ora Vista Green Corridor District Project (May 13th)

14. ADJOURN, 9:24pm