

Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council

Special General Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 8, 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, 7:00pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance, led by Leny Freeman
3. STNC President's Updates
 - A. Notice of Board Vacancy: Region 4 Representative - South of Foothill Blvd. between Sunland Blvd. on the west & Tujunga Canyon on the east.
 - B. IMPORTANT NOTICE: All NC Board and Committee members must complete the new Gender Identity and new Code of Conduct training **by June 3** or they will not be counted in the quorum requirements nor will they be able to vote. This is in addition to any other training (Ethics and Funding) that may also need renewal. Trainings for the Board are on Cornerstone and Trainings for the Committees will be tracked by the Recording Secretary. Access is via the Cornerstone website; ask Cindy or Lydia if help needed.
 - C. STNC Land Use Committee (LUC) Vacant Seats
 - Cindy - LUC looking for members. Community involvement is welcomed.
 - D. L.A. City Budget: Save the Date for Budget Day on Sat. June 15 @ L.A. City Hall.
 - Cindy – the City is going through their budget; the budget is tight. It is a good time to get involved. NCs are part of the budget. Budget day is an opportunity to learn more.
 - E. Lydia commented on the City appointment of the DONE General Manager (Chang) who appears to not be qualified for the position and additionally Neighborhood Council's (NCs) did not have any opportunity to weigh in on the appointment, a clear violation of the City Charter.
4. Roll Call, Voting Eligibility - Karen Moran, Recording Secretary.
 - A. Completion of City / DONE Required trainings status for the STNC board
 - Lydia reminded that all NC Board and Committee members must complete the new Gender Identify and New Code of Conduct training. By June 3 or they. Will not be counted in the quorum requirements and not eligible to vote. This is in addition to any other training (Ethics and Funding) that may also need renewal. Training for the Board are on Cornerstone and Training for the Committees will be tracked by the Recording. Secretary.
 - B. Announce any Board member recusals or paid lobbyists in attendance – none

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	Absent	Yes	Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Correspondence Sec
Karen Moran	Present	Yes	Recording Sec
Leny Freeman	Present	Yes	Region 1 Rep
KT Travers	Present	Yes	Region 1 Rep
Sherry McCoy	Absent	Yes	Region 2 Rep
Mapuana Moran	Absent	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	Present	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	Absent	Yes	Community Interest Rep
Quorum: 15 present at roll call, 5 absent (see note for late arrivals/departures)			

Note: Sherry McCoy, Carol Hutchinson, Vartan Keshish arrived later; Trevor Schmidt left early

4. Discussion/Q&A with LAPD, Elected Officials/Representatives, DONE, NC Budget Advocates, City Departments (2 min per Representative including Q&A)
 - a. LAPD Officer Goudoy reported crime stats which were favorable. Jon questioned LAPD support for college campuses (demonstrations) and Officer Goudoy said that some

officers did provide support.

- b. LAPD Officer Alverado reported crime stats and reminded people to not leave items visible in cars and to make sure cars are locked. Susan Denning asked about the homeless people who have relocated from the Golf Course to various areas in town. Mark commented that it is best to put things in the trunk before you park your car so people cannot see what you are putting there. Cindy questioned local graffiti and discussed forms for no-trespassing that are available. Lydia commented that we should be pro-active in getting the forms out to the community. Pat Kramer, Chairperson of the Safe Traffic and Transportation Committee, commented that there will be a Traffic and Safety Town Hall June 15th, Saturday, 9:30-12pm.
- c. Jim Roy, District Representative for CA State Senator Caroline Menjivar, said each Senator has up to 20 bills and deadlines are nearing; the Senator is working on 2 major projects. In the ST area events that are coming up are June 1, the ST Foothill Pride at Sunland Park, and also the SF Valley Pride on June 29th. Further, the Also the Senator plans to join the 4th of July ST parade. Lydia commented that the Senator is also invited to STNC National Night Out event August 6th at Little Landers and the Movie in the Park event on June 22nd (Saturday), at Sunland Park.
- d. Declan Floyd, Senator Portantino's Office, discussed current bills in the Senator's Office, one allows students allowed to carry NARCAM and schools have fentanyl test strips available. Updated budget projections are in process; budget cuts are expected. Cheryl asked about status of a bill that taxes guns; Declan said that it has changed more to focus on unregistered guns and he will send the updated language to Cheryl (SB 1160). Jon asked if measures can be taken in view of so many people leaving California; Declan pointed to a bill (SB 1102) which encourages small business growth. Lydia asked about bills that impact coastal zones and hoped that Senator Portantino would object to these bills. Lydia noted that there is a 50 unit apartment building in planning that blocks ocean views. Lydia also noted that these units do not address low income/affordable units. Declan noted that Senator Portantino voted against SB50 and SB10 but the coastal bills from Weiner have not come up yet for review. Jim Roy asked Lydia for a list of the bills STNC object's to in order to bring them to Senator Portantino's attention. Lydia said that the State is now suing cities that do not implement their mandated developments.
- e. Diana Oganessian, L.A. County Supervisor Barger's Office, commented about a bill passed to address small businesses impacted by covid and the recent (writer's) strike, noted that the budget is decreased from last year and said that the LA County Fair going on in Pomona at this time.
- f. Michelle Vergara, Representative from the Mayor's Office of Public Engagement. Community Engagement team has been growing. Budgets now being discussed and the final budget will be voted on later this month; this is a transparent process and people are welcomed to get involved. The Office is accepting interns at this time. A Community safety survey is circulating for people to express their opinions. People can sign up for current event information if interested. Susan Denning asked for contact information; Michelle said she is the Deputy Director at the office of Community Engagement and her contact info is michelle.vergara@lacity.org. Cindy expressed frustration at STNC not being listened to in too many cases. Jon commented that it seems that the purposeful ignoring NCs only serves to tell us that we are not important and we will not be listened to. Lydia commented that the Mayor currently does not have a good image with the NCs

because the DONE General Manager position assignment was pushed through without any NC involvement, a violation of the City Charter; no one in the NC was notified. Michelle offered to talk to Lydia off-line. Carol agreed with Lydia’s comments and frustration about the appointment and said that people from the NCs who had expressed interested in the position were not even notified.

- g. Ricardo Flores, Tujunga Representative from Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez Office. discussed upcoming events. Lydia commented that the Emergency Preparedness event should include the LAPD noting that the school evacuations in the past were very bad and LAPD needs to be involved. Ricardo noted improvements in the area that are now in place. Cindy questioned if Monica Rodriguez’s office is aware of the local Hillhaven project issue. Susan Denning commented about the continuing need for traffic signals and timing. Pat Kramer thanked Ricardo for support with tree watering events. Pat also asked about the possibility of using the North Valley City Hall in the future. Carol questioned the traffic light and timing at Apperson and Foothill. Lydia commented about homeless behind Auto Zone and also about the signal at Belmont (near Auto Zone) which has timing issues.
- h. Atziri Camarena, Empower LA Civic Leadership and covering for Raul Preciado who is on paternity leave, discussed the budget meeting June 15th at City Hall, the Code of Conduct update (due June 3), offered to help with community events and trainings that are in process at this time. KT questioned why the new Code of Conduct is not on her training list; Lydia reminded people she could help if needed. Cindy asked about the Land Use training to ensure LU Committee members are trained.

6. PRESENTATION: PRESENTATION BY LA SANITATION RE: ORO VISTA GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE CORRIDOR PROJECT - Safe Clean Water <https://tinyurl.com/4h3ndshe> (20/10) – will present next month.

7. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve STNC Homelessness Liaisons

- Lydia asked if anyone was interested in becoming a Homeless Liaison representing ST. 2 positions are available. KT Travers volunteered.
- A motion was made, and passed, to approve KT Travers to be a ST Liaison for the Homeless.

Item 7. Motion to approve KT Travers to be a Sunland Tujunga Liaison for the Homeless					
Motion: Grant, Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, Goglio, von Gunten, Woodruff, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal, Keshish					M Moran, Darakjian, T Schmidt,
17 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 3 absent					

8. Discussion/Action: To submit comment letter regarding 9604 Hillhaven Avenue, Tujunga ENV-

2023-3188-CE and ZA-2023-3187-ZAD-SPP to City Zoning Administrator application.

- A draft letter to address the concerns of the Hillhaven project was read by Lydia. Carol commented that this is a major violation and the City has ignored objections for a year now; the City needs to take action. KT commented that the letter was excellent. Lallah also commented that the letter is excellent but asked if there was a way to identify fines, etc. that could be imposed; Lydia said it would be up to the City to decide. Lydia commented (after the vote) that with recent rains, major damage has been done to the neighbor’s house because the Hillhaven owner at 9604 never got grading permits when the work was done.
- A motion was made, and passed, to submit a comment letter regarding 9604 Hillhaven Avenue, Tujunga ENV-2023-3188-CE and ZA-2023-3187-ZAD-SPP to City Zoning Administrator application.

Item 8. Motion to approve submitting n submit a comment letter regarding 9604 Hillhaven Avenue, Tujunga ENV-2023-3188-CE and ZA-2023-3187-ZAD-SPP to the City Zoning Administrator application.					
Motion: L Rowe, Second: Hutchinson					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, von Gunten, Woodruff, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal, Keshish	Goglio				M Moran, Darakjian, T Schmidt,
16 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 3 absent					

9. Discussion/Action: To submit STNC City Budget Priorities for 2024-2025 Budget Council File 24-0600.

- A draft letter was read by Lydia to recommend priorities for monetary allocations in the 2024-2025 City budget. KT suggested adding funds for restoration of Sunland Grove at Sunland Park (which featured oak trees years ago) and restoration of the Club House at Sunland Park; this can be under the title of Historic Restoration. The Motion was made, and passed as amended.

Item 9. Motion to approve submitting the STNC City Budget Priorities, as amended, for the 2024-2025 Budget Council File 24-0600.					
Motion: L Rowe, Second: Woodruff					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, Goglio, von Gunten, Woodruff, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal					M Moran, Darakjian, T Schmidt, Keshish

16 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent					
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10. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (FUNDING)

- A. Discussion/Action: Approve April 2024 MER
- B. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve \$500 for Budget Advocate Day @ City Hall June 15-
[Congress - Budget Advocacy Contribution Form](#)
- C. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$1500 for Rotary 4th of July Parade Sponsorship
- D. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$150 for July 4th Parade Handouts + Decorations [need sample flyer]
- E. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$4,000 for National Night Out August 6 Sponsorship
 - KT requested this be pulled
- F. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$4,000 for Light pole banners
- G. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve 2024-2025 NCFP Admin Packet
- H. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve Event Form and budget item detail for Movie in the Park June 22 up to \$1,550 - (1) Park rental fee - \$550 Refreshments up to \$1,000 including - (1) Ice - up to \$250 - (1) Soda/water - up to \$250 - (1) Candy \$250 - (1) Popcorn \$250 and Movie. Event will be in collaboration with Sunland Rec Center (Nicole). [Board approved 4/10/24 total \$1,550 but not the detail so this is a revote with the detail.]
 - KT requested that item E be withdrawn. Lydia said that the amount the park is charging has increased and we may have to cut back on candy.
 - MOTION: The STNC Board approve submitting the funding consent calendar items A, B, C, D, F, G and H: [Budget Committee approved 4-2-24]

Item 10. Motion to approve submitting the funding consent calendar items A, B, C, D, F, G and H.					
Motion: L Rowe, Second: Herman					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, von Gunten, Woodruff, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal	Goglio, Keshish				M Moran, Darakjian, T Schmidt
15 yes, 2 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 3 absent					

- Item 10 E. Motion to approve \$4,000 for National Night Out August 6 Sponsorship
 - KT had requested this item be pulled; KT would prefer to have an event that is just for the

NC and community, and not focus on the LAPD. Nina said that we could have another event but this event partners our community with the Police; Jon agreed. Cheryl also commented that this event includes the Fire Dept and Rangers and the Fire truck was a good draw last year. Lallah also commented that the partnerships are important and the movies in the Park is our STNC event. Carol commented that the partnership with the Police is important to create the bonds with the community and the Police. Lydia said that she understood KT's concern but felt that Movies in the Park is the STNC event and updated the status of purchases for Movie in the Park which are in process at this time. Lydia noted how popular the event has been and is a good outreach event and noted there were arts/crafts events for the kids.

- Jon asked if there was a breakdown; Nina commented that the amount is consistent with last year's event. Lydia provided an impromptu list of everything covered.
- Motion made, and passed, to approve up to \$4,000 for National Night Out on August 6 sponsorship.

Item 10. Motion to approve submitting the funding consent calendar item E.					
Motion: Grant, Second: L Rowe					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Travers, McCoy, von Gunten, Woodruff, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal, Keshish					Freeman, M Moran, Goglio, Darakjian, T Schmidt
15 yes, 2 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 5 absent					

11. Motion to approve \$400 additional amount to Rec & Parks to cover increase in cost for STNC hosted Movie in the Park rental cost and take this from the printing outreach budget category.

- Lydia noted that the \$400 did not go through budget committee because there was no time to do so and still have the event. Ross commented that the extra funds might not be needed; snacks add a lot of cost.
- Ross noted that the words need to be changed to "up to \$400". The Motion was amended to include these words.
- Motion made, and passed, to approve as amended up to \$400 additional amount to Rec & Parks to cover increase in cost for STNC hosted Movie in the Park rental cost and take this from the printing outreach budget category.

Item 11. Motion to approve up to \$400 additional amount to Rec & Parks to cover increase in cost for STNC hosted Movie in the Park rental cost and take this from the printing outreach budget category.
Motion: L Rowe, Second: Royal

Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, von Gunten, Woodruff, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal, Keshish 16 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 3 absent	Goglio				M Moran, Darakjian, T Schmidt

12. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (NON-FUNDING) - Note: Consent calendar items are considered to be non-controversial and will be treated as one agenda item. MOTION: The STNC Board approves the non-funding consent calendar:

- A. Discussion/Action: Approve April 2024 STNC Board Meeting Minutes
- B. Discussion/Action: Approve STAT Committee Traffic Town Hall on 6-15-24 to be held at North Valley City Hall, 7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga
- C. Discussion/Action: Motion of support/non support - Proposed Agreement between the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks and Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Inc. for Landscaping Services for Proposition 68 Grant-Funded Projects CF-24-0367 - Lydia asked that this item be pulled because STNC had not taken a position.
- D. Discussion/Action (McOsker) - To support Ordinance re: Trucking ICO
- E. Discussion/Action: DONE General Manager appointment. Lydia requested this be pulled for further discussion.
- F. Discussion/Action: Motion of **Support** for CF 23-0002-S110 by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-2024 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 2230 (Bennett) which would clarify that California's anti-trust laws can be applied to anti-competitive practices occurring in residential housing, and would clarify that City Attorneys may investigate and prosecute anticompetitive behavior. L.A. City Council File
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=23-0002-S110> State: Bill Text: CA AB2230 | 2023-2024 | Regular Session | Introduced | LegiScan
 - Motion made, and passed, to approve funding items A, B, D, F, G and H for non-funding items (not C and E)

Item 12. Motion to approve items A, B, D, F, G and H for non-funding items.					
Motion: Keshish, Second: L Rowe					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent

Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, Goglio, von Gunten, Woodruff, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal, Keshish					M Moran, Darakjian, T Schmidt
16 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 3 absent					

- Item 12 C. Discussion/Action: Motion of support/non support - Proposed Agreement between the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks and Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Inc. for Landscaping Services for Proposition 68 Grant-Funded Projects CF-24-0367 - *this item was pulled because STNC did not take a position.*
 - Lydia made the motion to support. KT commented that she would like to add that ‘every consideration should be made to include local California native plants’. Motion made, and passed as amended, to support the proposed agreement between the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks and Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Inc. for Landscaping Services for Proposition 68 Grant-Funded Projects CF-24-0367 as amended.

Item 12. Motion to approve non-funding Item C as amended to support the Proposed Agreement between the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks and Los Angeles Conservation Corps, Inc. for Landscaping Services for Proposition 68 Grant-Funded Projects CF-24-036.					
Motion: Grant, Second: L Rowe					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, Goglio, von Gunten, Woodruff, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal, Keshish					M Moran, Darakjian, T Schmidt
16 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 3 absent					

- Item E. Discussion/Action: DONE General Manager appointment. The item had been pulled by Lydia for further discussion.
 - Carol said that we should file a comment; appointing Carmen Chang as the General Manager of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment in the manner it was done is a flagrant disregard of the NC system. Lydia suggested that a letter be sent to say how unhappy we were with the way the DONE General Manager was chosen, to include the way it was there were (there were NC members who applied for the position that were qualified but the person appears to have been chosen with no experience), displeasure with the way it was handled through the City Council where they didn’t allow NCs to participate, NCs were not notified that it was going through a vote and they refused to extend the period so NC could weigh in, and while we will look forward to Ms Chang, the process was not respected and the NCs feel that they are not respected. The motion was made, and passed, for this comment to be submitted.

Item 12. Motion to approve non-funding Item E to submit a comment regarding the DONE General Manager appointment by the City.					
Motion: Royal, Second: L Rowe					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Travers, McCoy, Goglio, von Gunten, Woodruff, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal, Keshish 16 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent					Freeman, M Moran, Darakjian, T Schmidt

13. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- A member of the public who identified themselves as the person behind the project at Haines Canyon and Foothill Blvd said that they were having issues with an oak tree and ordinances were not being respected. They have tried to get a copy of the Tree Report but without success. Lydia said we would try to get a copy of the report.

14. Committee & Liaison Reports - by committee chairs present

- Community Improvement & Government Affairs:
- Outreach: 15th May
- Beautification: 15th May
- STAT: Traffic Town Hall 6-15-24
- STARC: 28th May
- Youth & Adult Education:
- Budget & Finance: 29th May
- Executive:

15. 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
 - a. Cindy noted that the Valley Alliance was tomorrow, 6:30 pm.

16. FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS – Lydia congratulated KT for being the new ST Poet Laureate! KT shared the poster announcement of the Event ,Passing of the Laurels, which will be May 19 at the McGroarty Arts Center from 3-5pm.

17. ADJOURN, 9:38pm