

**Committee Chair:** Joe DeCenzo

Committee Members: Gerardo Barrientos, Joanna Gates,  
Dawn Jenkins, Corey Stein, KT Travers\*

**Denotes Board member** Quorum = 4



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**SUNLAND-TUJUNGA  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

## Arts, Recreation & Culture Committee Meeting (STARC)

Tuesday, February 25, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

**McGroarty Arts Center**

7570 McGroarty Terrace, Tujunga 91042

### Minutes (Draft)

In Attendance: Joe DeCenzo, Dawn Jenkins, Joanna Gates, Gerardo Barrientos, KT Travers GUESTS: Bret Perry, Genevieve L., Betsy Burcham, Maryellen Eltgroth, Debby Padilla, Abby Diamond, Alex K., 3 viewers on Zoom

1. **Call To Order; Introductions, Approval of Minutes of January 28, 2025:** Following the introduction of the committee members, committee chair, Joe DeCenzo, read through the minutes of the prior month's meeting. KT Travers moved to approve the minutes with noted typographical corrections. Gerardo Barrientos seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
2. **Review mission statement; Code of Conduct; Quorum requirements:** Joe DeCenzo referred members and guests to [www.empowerla.org](http://www.empowerla.org) for the complete code of conduct list.
3. **Public Comments/Updates for Non-Agenda Items:** KT announced that ST Forward has scheduled the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Sunland-Tujunga Pride Festival for Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. The specific time will be announced soon. Joe invited all to Bolton Hall on March 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Village Poets reading. The featured readers are Thomas A. Thomas and Tresha Faye Haefner. Maryellen Eltgroth invited all to "100 Years, 100 Images," art exhibit and reception February 28<sup>th</sup> at the Pasadena Museum of History in collaboration with the Pasadena Society of Artists.
4. **Guest Speaker: Emma Lemcke, Messy and Free: Unblock Your Creative Path.** Emma began their presentation by leading the group through a breathing and relaxation exercise for the purpose of releasing creativity. Following a beautiful and joyful song while accompanying themselves on ukulele, they discussed their career in graphic arts, design and corporate events. "Everyone is a teacher. Everyone is a student. Question rules. Don't assume they are of value." Emma often works one on one with clients, but often with a team of creatives where management and collaboration reigns. Emma will perform a musical set at the Backdoor Bakery March 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m
5. **Update: McGroarty Arts Center:** Annette Bethers was pleased to announce the success of the gathering to welcome the lunar new year. The Spring session will begin March 24, 2025. The stand up comedy class is very popular and quickly filling up.
6. **Discussion:** Guest Speaker possibilities; Arborist, Gary Knowlton will be confirmed for March. Iren Tsaturyan from Modest Fly Art Studio will be approached for future booking.
7. **Discussion/Action:** Community projects, events, murals, gardens. Joe and Gerardo will discuss possibilities for repairing the wall at the Pinewood elementary mural. KT stated the date for the first planting at the Welcome Garden of Resilience and Inclusion will be announced next week. Joe will assemble the details for a docent led tour of the Mt. Wilson Observatory.
8. **Adjourn** 9:21 p.m

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