

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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Arts, Recreation & Culture Committee Meeting (STARC)

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 @ 7:30 PM

McGroarty Arts Center

7570 McGroarty Terrace, Tujunga 91042

Minutes (Draft)

In Attendance: Joe DeCenzo, Dawn Jenkins, KT Travers, Corey Stein, Joanna Gates **Guests: 33 in person, 4 on Zoom**

1. **Call To Order; Introductions**, Approval of minutes of February 25, 2025: Committee Chair, Joe DeCenzo, convened the meeting at 7:35 p.m and introduced the members to all the guests. He noted this was the largest turn out for any STARC meeting. He read through the minutes of the prior month's meeting. Dawn Jenkins moved to approve as written. Corey Stein seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
2. **Review mission statement; Code of Conduct; Quorum requirements:** Joe DeCenzo referred all to www.empowerla.org for the complete wording of the code of conduct.
3. **Public Comments/Updates for Non-Agenda Items:** Committee members/Guests. Cindy Cleghorn announced a free "Shredding" event at C&M Printing on March 29th. Documents will be shredded in full view of participants. Ross Herman, STNC Outreach Chair is seeking businesses for the "Small Business Bizaare" to promote local business resources. Emma Lemcke is working with and promoting the Foothills Pride Festival on June 14th at Sunland Park. They hope all will attend. Joe announced the Village Poets are featuring Elsa Frausto and Sean McGrath on April 27th, 4:30 p.m., Bolton Hall Museum.
4. Guest Speaker: **Gary Knowlton:** Living in Harmony with Nature in Sunland Tujunga. He has elevated his profession as an arborist to an art inviting us to step into the consciousness of the tree and reminding us that every cut is a wound that will require healing. He is philosophical as well as poetic in his approach to his work. He subscribes to the pruning principles of Dr. Alex Shigo, specifically the 3-cut method. Throughout his talk, he emphasized home safety and fire prevention through proper pruning and landscaping choices. He also recommended the installation of fire resistant vents, screens and siding on the home.
5. Update: **McGroarty Arts Center:** Annette Bethers proudly announced "Uniquely You" on March 28 & 29. There will be a variety of classes and events sponsored by the Big Read. Don't miss the Sound Bath on April 11th for a relaxing and spiritual experience. Pysanky, the art of egg decorating is coming up just in time for Easter.
6. Discussion: **Earth Day events:** KT Travers stated from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on April 12 will be the first planting at the Welcome Garden of Resilience and Inclusion. Bring gloves and 2 gallons of water. On April 19th, the planting of 100 plants will take place at the MRCA property on Big Tujunga Canyon. Back Door Bakery will be donating food to nourish the volunteers.
7. Discussion/Action: Tour of Mt. Wilson Observatory, possible dates and invitations. Joe DeCenzo announced his intention to organize an outing to the observatory. A private tour costs \$25 per person paid in advance. Ross Herman of STNC will inquire with Cindy Cleghorn and the city attorney's office to determine if this is possible to sanction this as a STARC event.
8. Discussion/Action: Membership obligation, attendance TABLED
9. **Discussion:/Action:** Community projects, events, murals, gardens, TABLED
10. **Adjourn** 9:17 p.m.

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