

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

**Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
General Board Meeting
Minutes**

DRAFT

**Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 6:30pm
In Person
Elk's Lodge, 10137 Commerce Ave, Tujunga, 91042**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Lydia Grant, President, 6:45p,
 - a. **3,800 sq. ft ADU – Updates.** Lydia described a bill where ADUs are allowed to be built along the line of 400 and 800 sq ft units. Due to some wording that could be interpretive, developers are building ADUs considerably larger, with one developer in Sherwood Forest building three that are 3,800 sq ft each and on a single property, renting them out for around \$55,000/month. This totally defeats the purpose of the original bill. ST is a high fire zone and we need to be vigilant about excessive developments. There is a program in process that will help determine evacuation time predictions that will be helpful.
 - b. **Dam Dredging Updates** - For more information about the mitigation area, please visit: www.dpw.lacounty.gov/wrd/Projects/BTWMA. The original concern was that the City planned to dredge two dams at the same time which could impact the ability to withdraw water for fire suppression in the event of a fire. Lydia said that she has now heard that one of the dams was not a dam where water was planned to be taken; she is talking to Ricardo Flores and will pursue it to confirm this is the case and find out where the water resource tanks/dams are located.
2. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** Opportunity to join the STNC Board and Committees. Please send an interest letter to president@stnc.org to apply. Lydia confirmed that there openings, if anyone is interested.
3. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM/ROLL CALL** - Determination of Quorum /Roll Call, Report on Voting Eligibility - Karen Moran

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Lydia Grant	Present	Yes	President
Armen Mardirousi	Absent	Yes	1st VP
Melissa Sagastume	Present	Yes	2nd VP
Barry Glover	Absent	Yes	Treasurer (resigned)
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Correspondence Sec
Karen Moran	Present	Yes	Recording Sec
Leny Freeman	Present	Yes	Region 1 Rep (<i>left ~8:10pm</i>)
VACANT			Region 1 Rep
Sherry McCoy	Present	Yes	Region 2 Rep.
Mikal McEnany	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Dillon Dorothy	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Jon von Gunten	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep.
Vicky Cerpa*	Absent	No	Region 4 Rep.
Dante Jose Calvo	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Mark Seigel	Absent	Yes	Region 4 Rep (<i>came ~8pm</i>)
VACANT			Region 4 Rep
Cheryl Schmidt	Present	Yes	Public Safety Rep
Nina Royal	Present	Yes	Senior Rep
Vartan Keshish	Absent	Yes	Community Interest Rep (<i>came ~7pm; left and back ~8pm</i>)
Members of the Community (MC) with information as identified. 9 people in audience. Note: Around 10 MCs present – only names as known as below.			
Karen Von Gunten			MC

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Pat Kramer			MC
12 present; 5 absent (17 total)			

4. DISCUSSION//Updates/Q&A:

- a. LAPD, LAFD, Elected Officials/Representatives (Mayor, CD7, State Assembly, LAUSD, DONE, Budget Advocates, City Departments, LADWP)
 - i. **Officer Coloca.** Officer Coloca provided crime stats, with comparisons for a year ago. Crime stats, have gone down, comparing to a year ago.
 - ii. **Officer Godoy.** Officer Godoy provided crime stats, with comparisons for a year ago. Godoy noted that there was a case where a vehicle was broken into and the thief took keys and registration, etc. in the glove compartment. The owner didn't change the codes and later the garage was broken into.
 - iii. **LAFD Fire Battalion Chief John Ignaczyk** talked about a recent brush fire and 4th of July safety, noting that fireworks are illegal. The Bomb squad responds for explosive fireworks. Other issues are illegal storage. The Chief talked about fire safety and weather/wind conditions, how to watch for information (i.e. WatchDuty and the City website <https://lacounty.gov/emergency/> or <https://lafd.org/alerts>), reporting brush fires, weather/wind condition awareness, heat wave power outages, and powering devices with lithium ion batteries where, if the batteries are not charged properly, thermal runaway could occur and even fires/explosions. Cheryl asked about where super scooters got their water supply and Jon asked about arsonists.
 - iv. **Ricardo Flores**, Senior Area Rep for M Rodriguez. Ricardo discussed upcoming events in the community and surrounding communities. Cheryl asked about the 4th of July parade. Nina asked about street closure for National Night Out (NNO). Cindy asked about cleans street crews and scheduling and the Oro Vista project and a project at the intersection of Tujung Cyn and Commerce Ave.
 - v. **Alex Avanesyan**, Field Representative at California State Assembly. Alex discussed bills and addressed questions from Lydia.
 - vi. **Andres Garcia**, representing Senator Caroline Minjivar. Andres discussed current bills including one that deals with reckless driving after a question from MC Pat Kramer. Menjivar hopes to support the 4th of Juy parade in ST.
 - vii. **Jose Galdamez**, *Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA) with EmpowerLA*. Jose discussed future deadlines and events including budget and fiscal year end dates noting that July 1st is first day of the fiscal year. Fiscal training is being offered through courses on Youtube, which can be taken now. Lydia asked about keeping the training table in the Empower website up to date (<https://neighborhoodempowerment.lacity.gov/stnc/>)

- viii. **Pat Kramer**, STNC STAT Chair. The Traffic Town Hall, held just before the General Board meeting at the Elk's, was very successful, with 35 stake-holders and numerous LAPD and Traffic Reps in attendance. Discussed were unsafe driving, speeding, road take-overs, and more. There were a lot of good questions and had to be cut off at 2 hours. Pat would like to see these meetings every 6 months.
- ix. **Lydia Grant**. Lydia provided an update on the 4th of July Parade. Earlier this year it was decided by someone in the City that this event would not be funded, starting with this year – the 250th anniversary. The parade has been going on in ST for 50 years. The Rotary Club has been pivotal in getting the permits and leading the effort. At this time the City has re-decided and is going to pay some subsidies for the parade. STNC has committed money to the parade (or parade events) of \$3,000 and \$300 towards a float for STNC. Lydia noted that there was a news article in the NY Post and when people became aware that the parade was cancelled, began to donate money. One news article made it's way to Australia with many views (52K). Ricardo said Rodriguez was going to donate \$5K and get the DOT to waive its' \$5K fee. With some consideration by the City, and donations, the parade is planned to go forward. Extra donations, if any, can be put towards the parade next year. Melissa had a question about the float that Cheryl can assist with. The public can donate via Facebook or the website <https://sunlandtujungajuly4thparade.weebly.com/>

b. CHARTER REFORM

c. LA CITY BUDGET ADVOCATES White Paper Released
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RhzdQWmrbZOezzaWo_CuFRYYmmd5B3EL/view

5. **STNC COMMITTEES: Discussion / Possible Action:**

- a. **Land Use** update re: Next meeting will be June 15.
- b. **Beautification** - Community Cleanups
- c. **STARC** - no longer meeting, needs chair
- d. **STAT** - Tree Watering
- e. **OUTREACH** – Melissa said that the next meeting will be in-person at Pena's Tacos.

6. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION regarding Council File 26-0600** with reference to Animal Food, Spay/Neuter and dogs playing for life budget allocations. Council File 26-0600 is the official Los Angeles City budget proposal for the 2026-27 fiscal year. Lydia explained that the proposed budget eliminated the dedicated General Fund allocation for animal food, and severely reduced medical supplies. Animal advocates and rescue organizations raised serious alarms about not providing or reducing food budgets, warning that city shelters would be forced to rely almost entirely on private donations and the Animal Welfare Trust Fund just to feed animals in their care. Motion made to approve disapproving Council File **26-0600** provision that eliminates a dedicated line item for animal food and sharply reduced medical supplies.

<p>Item 6. Motion to approve disapproving Council File 26-0600 provision that eliminates a dedicated line item for animal food and sharply reduced medical supplies.</p> <p>Motion: Royal Second: Schmidt</p>					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Schmidt, Royal, Freeman 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 5 absent, 17 total					Maridirousi, Glover, Cerpa, Siegel, Keshsish

7. **DISCUSSION: TREASURER’S REPORT:** Current fiscal year balance **\$13,414.96**; remaining financial obligations; potential rollover for next fiscal year.
- a. Motion to approve outstanding Monthly Expenditure Report for May 2026. MER not available at this time. No vote taken.
 - b. Motion to approve \$250 to NC Budget Advocates

<p>Item 7b. Motion to approve \$250 to NC Budget Advocates.</p> <p>Motion: Sagastume Second: Cleghorn</p>					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Schmidt, Royal 11 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 5 absent, 17 total	Freeman				Maridirousi, Glover, Cerpa, Siegel, Keshsish

- c. Motion to approve up to \$2,000 to Sunland-Tujunga Elks for National Night Out sponsorship.

Item 7c. Motion to approve up to \$2,000 to Sunland-Tujunga Elks for National Night Out sponsorship.					
Motion: Cleghorn Second: Schmidt					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Schmidt, Freeman, Keshsish 12 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent, 17 total		Royal			Maridirousi, Glover, Cerpa, Siegel

- d. Motion to approve up to \$1,000 for McGroarty Art Center Summer Event. A MC (Member of the Community) who is involved with McGroarty, expressed appreciation for STNC support. Cheryl asked about what band would be coming; not determined yet. Vartan suggested some music be Armenian based. Cheryl plans to have line-dancing accompanying the band.

Item 7d. Motion to approve up to \$1,000 for McGroarty Art Center Summer Event.					
Motion: Sagastume Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Schmidt, Keshsish, Royal 12 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent, 17 total	Freeman				Maridirousi, Glover, Cerpa, Siegel

- e. Motion to approve up to \$100 for Canva

Item 7e. Motion to approve up to \$100 for Canva.					
Motion: Sagastume Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Schmidt, Keshsish, Royal, Seigel, Freeman 14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 3 absent, 17 total					Maridirousi, Glover, Cerpa,

- f. Motion to approve up to Annual Budget Packet including cardholders, second signer. Per Cindy, the packet was not received; a special meeting dedicated to this item may need to be conducted. Postponed.
- g. Motion to approve annual Zoom payment up to \$300

Item 7g. Motion to approve annual Zoom payment up to \$300.					
Motion: Schmidt Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Schmidt, Keshsish, Royal, Seigel 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent, 17 total					Maridirousi, Glover, Cerpa, Freeman

- h. Motion to approve list of storage items to keep or return to City. Melissa read the list. Lydia has camera and two tablets in her possession, Cindy says old technology so add these two items to Melissa's list. Some table and chairs in storage, Melissa is our hero. Jose will help coordinate the city pickup. Was \$825/month to \$202/month.

Item 7h. Motion to approve list of storage items to keep or return to City. Motion: Cleghorn Second: Seigel					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Schmidt, Keshsish, Royal, Seigel 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent, 17 total					Maridirousi, Glover, Cerpa, Freeman

8. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Approve STNC Board Minutes for meeting held May 13, 2026. Motion made by Cindy and seconded by Melissa. Cheryl requested 2 changes. Motion approved as corrected.

Item 7h. Motion to approve STNC Board Minutes for meeting held May 13, 2026 as corrected. Motion: Cleghorn Second: Sagastume					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Schmidt, Keshsish, Royal, Seigel 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent, 17 total					Maridirousi, Glover, Cerpa, Freeman

9. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS -**

- a. A Member of the Community asked about the status of the soil testing/results in the Tujunga dump. Lydia recounted some history about testing in the past where STNC results, when tested, showed toxic materials but County testing did not. The City and County have not been forth-coming with testing results and while the issue is not forgotten, it is not clear what else STNC can do. Karen von Gunten, MC impacted by proximity to the dump, said that there is dirt piles are currently being graded by bull-dozers, disrupting the current toxic dirt and potentially spreading the toxins if there is a wind event. The City was supposed to have put clean dirt over the toxic dirt; proof that this has occurred is likely not possible to do.

10. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION:** Committee & Liaison Reports and Confirm Assignments – by liaison chairs present. *No additional discussion in the interest of time.*

- a. Homeless

- b. Citywide Budget / Budget Advocates
- c. LADWP MOU / LADWP Committee
- d. LANCC
- e. VANC
- f. PlanCheckNC
- g. Emergency Preparedness
- h. Sustainability

11. **PRESENTATION & TRAINING** on the Neighborhood Council (NC) System. *No additional discussion in the interest of time.*

- 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.

12. **FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.** *No additional discussion in the interest of time; many events already during previous discussions by City representatives.*

- a. **BUDGET DAY 27 JUN2026** at City Hall - Neighborhood Council Budget Day 2026 Tickets, Saturday, June 27 • 9 AM - 1 PM | Eventbrite, https://www.eventbrite.com/e/neighborhood-council-budget-day-2026-tickets-1987795675375?a_ff=oddtcreator
- b. Sign up for STNC Newsletter at: stnc.org • STNC is on Instagram and Facebook
- c. ST Pride at Sunland Park 12-4pm - June 13
- d. Verdugo Hills Pool Movie Night - August 22
- e. McGroarty Art Center - Burgers, Blues & Brews 6-10pm August 22
- f. 4th of July parade planning with the STSH Rotary on Tuesdays

13. **ADJOURN. 8:24pm**