



Draft

Special Outreach Committee Minutes Thursday, August 20, 2026, 7:00 PM

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE JANUARY 1, 2026 ENACTMENT OF CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 707 (DURAZO) AND LA CITY COUNCIL FILE 23-1114, THE SUNLAND-TUJUNGA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY.

1. WELCOMING REMARKS

- b. Call to Order by Melissa Sagastume, Chair, 7:03 pm
- c. Roll Call, Present: Leny Freeman, Sherry McCoy, Melissa Sagastume, Karen Moran, Absent: Mikail McEnany, Dante Calvo.
 - Members of the Community Present: Ross Herman (Member of the Board).

2. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- b. National Night Out Recap. NNO was a successful event. Melissa noted that the count of people at NNO has been done by the number of tickets for hot dogs, but it isn't the ideal way to count because there are a lot more tickets distributed than are turned in. Melissa asked people to think about alternate ways to get a more accurate count in the future.

3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS. None.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS (Discussion and Possible Action).

- b. Review and Approval of Outstanding Minutes. A motion was made by Melissa and seconded by Sherry; a vote taken which passed (4 votes, all members that were present).
- c. Review 2026 Budget. Will follow this item up at the General Board meeting.

5. OLD BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)

- b. Review Community Survey results, discuss outreach events we can do based on the feedback.

- Melissa read the summary report from Dante. Only 24 responses to date, but highlights are below.
- 87.5% of respondents live in Sunland-Tujunga, and 87.5% have been connected to the community for 10+ years.
- 87.5% were already aware of STNC, but 83.3% have not attended a meeting in the past year.
- The biggest community priorities are traffic/road safety (62.5%), public safety (58.3%), fire safety/emergency preparedness (58.3%), and supporting local businesses (54.2%). Homelessness, development, city services, and environmental issues also ranked fairly high.
- For increasing meeting participation, the biggest requests were hybrid meetings (42.9%), clear agenda topics in advance (38.1%), and issue-specific town halls (33.3%).
- Email is by far the preferred way to receive updates (77.3%), followed by the STNC newsletter (36.4%). Text messages and Facebook were each around 27%.
- When asked how effectively STNC is addressing community needs, 66.7% were neutral, which I think shows we have an opportunity to better demonstrate what STNC is doing and how residents can get involved.
- There is some real interest in getting involved: 29.2% said they would consider volunteering or serving on a committee, and another 29.2% said maybe.

The written responses also had some recurring themes: people want more community events and activities, cleanups, support for local businesses, better traffic and public safety, and more ways for STNC to engage residents directly. Several comments suggested outreach at schools, events, parks, and other places people already gather.

- Karen thought that hybrid meetings were not allowed by the City. Melissa will verify, but thought it might only apply to voting.
- c. Community Clean Up Days. Melissa suggested meeting at a park and engaging people by helping them download and familiarizing them with the 311 app, discussing how to do bulky item pick ups. Leny – slow Down Rally – slow down on the street, 6 people on the street with SLOW DOWN signs, have done in the past.
- d. Emergency Preparedness Days.
- e. Town Hall – the next Town Hall is planned for October (before the October General Board meeting), in process. Ross suggested tying in information about the Elections in November with whatever other topics were planned.

- f. Any other ideas? Melissa suggested meeting at a park, engaging people by helping them download and familiarizing them with the 311 app and discussing how to do bulky item pick ups. Leny suggested a SLOW DOWN RALLY which was done in the past. Leny remembered about 6 people on the street with SLOW DOWN signs they would wave at speeders. Some drivers were receptive and others not so much.
- g. Burgers, Brews, and Blues Night, August 22nd (Saturday) - need volunteers. Melissa and Sherry can open up the event. Melissa will be there about 5:15-5:30 pm. Leny and Ross will coordinate to drop off and pick up the table and 3 chairs needed from storage. Melissa suggested a drop box for suggestions if the music too loud for conversation.

6. **NEW BUSINESS** (Discussion and Possible Action)

- a. Request funding up to \$5,000 for replacement of STNC Swag Items. The following items were discussed and voted on individually:
 1. Tote bags. Order up to 500 bags with a cost up to \$2,000. A motion was made by Melissa, seconded by Sherry and a vote taken which passed (4 Yes votes from 4 members present).
 2. Pet Bag Dispensers up to \$500. A motion was made by Melissa, seconded by Leny and a vote taken which passed (4 Yes votes from 4 members present).
 3. License plate holders up to \$500. A motion was made by Melissa, seconded by Sherry and a vote taken which passed (4 Yes votes from 4 members present). Melissa did note that shipping from one source was \$100; efforts will be taken to get a local supplier.
 4. Baseball type hats up to \$350. A motion was made by Melissa, seconded by Karen and a vote taken which passed (4 Yes votes from 4 members present).
 5. Hats up to \$350. A motion was made by Melissa, seconded by Karen and a vote taken which passed (4 Yes votes from 4 members present).
 6. Shirts up to \$750. A motion was made by Melissa, seconded by Leny and a vote taken which passed (4 Yes votes from 4 members present).
 7. Printing costs up to \$1,000 for printing costs at locations such as Sunland Printing and Office Depot. A motion was made by Melissa, seconded by Karen and a vote taken which passed (4 Yes votes from 4 members present).
- b. New Upcoming events (Discussion and Possible Action):
 1. August Tree Watering, August 30, 7am - 9:30am, North Valley City Hall meeting place.
 2. Verdugo Hills Pool - Movie Night – October. Sponsor drinks and snacks - up to \$300. October 23rd, Friday night at the pool. STNC will have a table there. A motion was made by Melissa, seconded by Sherry, to approve sponsoring drinks and snacks up to \$300 for Movie Night. A vote taken which passed (4 Yes votes from 4 members present).
 3. ST Forward - Indigenous People's Day - October 11th. Discuss options for sponsorship including request to use STNC tables. The event has asked to borrow tables and chairs. Melissa said that Lydia had noted they cannot borrow from STNC

unless STNC has a table at the event. Leny said that in the past they had borrowed from the school district. This item is shelved at this time.

4. Sunland Park Halloween Event - October 31st. A motion was made to sponsor candy at the Sunland Park Halloween Event up to \$500. The motion was made by Melissa, seconded by Sherry and a vote taken which passed (4 Yes votes from 4 members present). Leny did inquire about the quality of the candy and was invited to join Melissa and Lydia when they shopped for it.
 5. Chili Bowl Festival at McGroarty - December 5 & 6. Sponsorship of up to \$1,000. A motion was made by Melissa, seconded by Karen and a vote taken which passed (4 Yes votes from 3 members present with one No from Leny).
 6. Participate in Tree Lighting Event in Sunland Park to be held in December. This event costs no money; there is no date specified yet. A motion was made by Melissa, seconded by Sherry and a vote taken which passed (4 Yes votes from 4 members present).
 - c. September STNC Newsletter – Melissa asked for items/ideas for inclusion. Karen felt one entire page could be included to discuss how to get the City to pick up bulky items. Melissa will forward information to Dante.
 - d. Halloween: brainstorm possible event and “best decorated” awards - any decision on this? Karen suggested perhaps featured homes could be included in the newsletter – with the homeowner’s permission- and a contest does not necessarily have to be pursued.
 - e. Request: Dia De Los Muertos Event at McGroarty - they reached out wanting to partner on this event along with ACE, a homeschool program. Any ideas we can share? No discussion.
 - f. Requests for possible future agenda items. Sherry reminded that Town Halls should be discussed further.
7. **Next Outreach Meeting:** Thursday, September 17th at 7:00 PM, location Zoom.
 8. **ADJOURN.** 8pm