

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA
Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
General Board Meeting
Minutes

Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 6:45pm

Draft

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. **CALL TO ORDER** - Lydia Grant, President - Call to Order & Roll Call, Confirm Quorum & Voting Eligibility, 7:03pm.
 - a. STNC Community Survey Reminder. Melissa discussed the survey; the link is on the stnc.org website. The survey is on-going.
 - b. Planning 101 Training Reminder for LUC and Board

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Lydia Grant	Present	Yes	President
VACANT	N/A	N/a	1st VP
Melissa Sagastume	Present	Yes	2nd VP
Carol Hutchinson	Present	Yes	Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Correspondence Sec
Karen Moran	Present	Yes	Recording Sec
Leny Freeman	Present	NO	Region 1 Rep

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
VACANT			Region 1 Rep
Sherry McCoy	Present	Yes	Region 2 Rep.
Mikal McEnany	Present	NO	Region 3 Rep
Dillon Dorothy	Present (joined at 7:15pm)	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Jon von Gunten	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep.
Vicky Cerpa	Absent	No	Region 4 Rep.
Dante Jose Calvo	Absent	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Mark Seigel	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Ross Herman	Present	NO	Region 4 Rep
Cheryl Schmidt	Present	Yes	Public Safety Rep
Nina Royal	Present	Yes	Senior Rep
Vartan Keshish	Absent	UNK	Community Interest Re
Vickie Nailing	Absent	UNK	Education
Members of the Community (MC) with information as identified.			
Karey Cal			MC, discussing project at 7921 Deneville
Tanya			MC
Kevin Davis			MC, Budget Advocate
14 present; 4 absent (18 total). Dillon joined at 7:15pm			

2. **Pledge of Allegiance / 9/11 Remembrance.** Pledge led by Lenny. Cindy mentioned that the Elks's would have a 9/11 Remembrance dinner.
3. **Discussion board vacancies regarding** for First Vice President, Region 1, Region 2. Lydia noted vacancies and the need to fill them.
4. **Motion to Approve Outstanding Minutes for August 12, 2026.** Motion made by Cindy, seconded by Carol, vote taken which passed.

Item 4 Motion to approve Outstanding Minutes for August 12, 2026 Motion: Cleghorn Second: Hutchinson					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Cleghorn, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, McEnany, von Gunten, Seigel, Herman, Schmidt, 12 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, 0 ineligible, 5 absent, 18 total		Royal			Dorothy, Cerpa, Calvo, Keshish, Nailing

5. DISCUSSION/ACTION: **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Current fiscal year balance; remaining financial obligations; approve 2026-27 NCFP. Carol said we now have the roll over funds, the budget has to be redone for items that increased in cost and a check was approved for Budget Advocates.
 - a. Approve July 2026 Monthly Expenditure Report. Motion made by Melissa, seconded by Leny, a vote was taken which passed.

Item 5 a Motion to approve Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for July, 2026 Motion: Sagastume Second: Freeman					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Cleghorn, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Moran, McCoy, Dorothy, von Gunten, Seigel, Schmidt, Royal 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 ineligible, 5 absent, 18 total			Freeman, McEnany, Herman		Cerpa, Calvo, Keshish, Nailing

- b. Approve August 2026 Monthly Expenditure Report. Item postponed.
- c. Approve NCFP Funding & Event Requests including Rollover funds. Item postponed.
- d. Storage. Approve list of salvage items to return to the City; include chair holder. From CHAT, list below. Motion by by Cindy, seconded by Melissa, vote taken which passed.

List of items to be sent to salvage:

- Office Chair (Qty 1)
- Beige Hon 4 drawer file cabinet (Qty 3)
- Brown 4 drawer file cabinet (Qty 1)
- Steel Table with extension (Qty 1)
- Lectern (Qty 1)
- Office supplies drawers - inventory item #57 & 58 (Qty:2)
- Wood Bookcase - inventory item #38 (Qty 1)
- Adding Machine - inventory item #42 (Qty 1)
- iPad (Qty 2)
- Mevo Camera (Qty 1)
- Folding Chair Holder (Qty 2)

Item 5 d Motion to approve Lis of Salvage Items from storage to return to the City Motion: Cleghorn Second: Sagastume					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Cleghorn, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Herman, Schmidt, Royal 13 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent, 18 total	Seigel				Cerpa, Calvo, Keshish, Nailing

6. **DISCUSSION//Updates/Q&A: LAPD, LAFD, Elected Officials/Representatives: Mayor, CD7, State Assembly, LAUSD, DONE, NC Budget Advocates, City Departments, Budget Advocates**

- a. **Officer Caloca, Senior Lead Officer (SLO) for Tujunga.** NNO was a successful event; recent break-ins being investigated. There is an Investigation into an empty property on-going. Little Lander's Park and McGroarty Park issues going on with homeless.
- b. **Officer Godoy, Senior Lead Officer (SLO) for Sunland.** Recognition of Officer Caloca's dealing with vacant property. Burglaries (break-ins) – trying to get extra patrols on the street. Most crime issues are not in Sunland and his focus has been in the Hansom Dam region. The former Coco's site is transitioning into a Denny's. the Sizzler building was set to be demolished a year ago but nothing started yet. An individual ("Elvis") has been arrested several times; his Range Rover now impounded. Cindy asked about kids on e-bikes that are

speeding unsafely. Godoy said pamphlets will be passed out at the next Coffee with a Cop defining what bikes, e-vehicles, etc. are. Calls are generated around the High Schools. Cannot always chase the kids if an accident could result. Trying to educate the parents at this time. Officer Caloca suggested Dash Cams be used in cars. Karen suggested cameras in the areas of concern.

- c. **Ricardo Flores, CD7.** Comments from Cindy, Ross and Lydia. Flores discussed doing outreach in the Foothills; Parks that are being reviewed for maintenance/improvements, future events, street closures on Commerce Ave and reviving Commerce Ave businesses. Ross thanked Flores for his assistance. Lydia also thanked Flores and talked about a conversation with neighbors near McGroarty who were asking if someone was coming from the city to check the safety of the local hills in anticipation of heavy rains this year that could create mudslide conditions. The Park is covered with stickers which makes it hard to use the park. Ricardo said that as far as rains are concerned, there are plans to look at vulnerable areas. Cindy asked if Flores could connect with the neighbor concerned about a Project at 7921 Deniville Rd. Flores gave his contact info in CHAT: ricardo.x.flores@lacity.org
 - d. **Jose Galdamez, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA) with EmpowerLA.** Galdamez discussed up-coming events, including the Congress of Neighborhoods, which will take place on Saturday, September 26, from 8-5pm in City Hall (*ref. Congress of Neighborhoods Registration Form: <https://www.neighborhoodcongress.la/>*), and a virtual webinar coming up to keep people informed about the Paralympic team. Galdamez reminded about requisite training for Board members to be able to vote. Melissa asked about Training 101, where/when the next training will be.
 - e. **Kevin Davis, Budget Advocate.** Kevin discussed the City budget and noted three things: (1) thank you for putting him on the agenda, (2) we can choose 2 reps to be Budget Advocates and if identified, please provide names, and (3) no funding for their work is provided by the City. The City budget is due to come out shortly, Kevin will try to meet with various dept heads first and advise us over the year who he is talking to so we may stay involved in issues. You can contact Kevin via the Foothill Trails which he is a member of. Cindy said we voted last month for budget advocates.
- 7. Discussion/Motion: approve salvage items from storage to City General Services. Already discussed and voted on.
 - 8. Discussion: Zone Zero / Fire Safe Meeting. Lydia gave an overview of the new law to harden your property for fire hazards which will roll out over the next 2-5 years. The first phase is to remove combustibles from near the house. The law will require fencing (wood/vinyl) to be removed if attached to house.
 - 9. Discussion: LA Zoo Tree Trimmings. Lydia became aware of a person through Facebook who hired someone to trim her tree; the L.A. zoo came out to pick up branches to give to animals to eat. Lydia made contact with the person at the Zoo and they gave Lydia a list of the types of tree branches the animals would eat. Lydia would like to see an organized effort to support giving these branches to the zoo and would like to see if someone on the Board could be the Point of Contact to organize it.
 - 10. Discussion/Action: Reaffirm STNC Budget & Finance Committee members: Carol Hutchinson (chair), Lydia Grant, Cindy Cleghorn, Karen Moran, Sherry McCoy. A motion was made by Carol and seconded by Nina, a vote taken which passed.

Item 10 Motion to approve Reaffirm STNC Budget & Finance Committee members: Carol Hutchinson (chair), Lydia Grant, Cindy Cleghorn, Karen Moran, Sherry McCoy Motion: Hutchinson Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Cleghorn, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Seigel, Schmidt, Royal 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 ineligible, 4 absent, 18 total			Freeman, McEnany, Herman		Cerpa, Calvo, Keshish, Nailing

11. Discussion/Action: Support for Appeal 7921 Denivelle. Lydia visited site today, and has concerns. Karey Call, MC and neighbor next to the property of concern, discussed the issue. Karey and other neighbors have serious concerns about the safety risks of the property going up at 7921 Denivelle. A retaining wall that is more than two stories high was built, but another is needed and there are serious cracks in the retaining wall built. A critical retaining wall on the west side has been omitted and it is a serious safety concern to neighboring homes. With problems in the past, a gas line is now encased in solid concrete and Karey hasn't had gas or hot water in more than 20 years! Karey is asking the Board to support her concerns and the safety violations that the City is ignoring. She hasn't been successful in having someone come out from the city to assess the safety concerns. Lydia confirmed that she saw the retaining wall cracks and separation and took pictures. Karey noted that you had to look at the retaining wall from all angles, some angles didn't tell the whole story. Lydia was also concerned that Karey hasn't been able to have gas in more than 20 years.

Dillon suggested using 311 to have someone come out and investigate the safety concerns. Karey said that the neighbors had hired a lawyer in years past and that was a nightmare scenario so they ended it. The property was sold to a different owner but the new owner was not fully apprised of the safety concerns. Lydia will try to make some calls to see if she can get support for Karey.

Cindy will write a letter of support, and a motion was made to support the appeal for the property concerns at 7921 Denivelle including a request that the City Planning and Grading look at and evaluate this lot. The motion was made by Melissa and seconded by Nina, a vote was taken which passed.

Item 11 Motion to approve supporting the appeal for the property concerns at 7921 Denivelle including a request that the City Planning and Grading look at and evaluate this lot Motion: Sagastume Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Cleghorn, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Seigel, Herman, Schmidt, Royal 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 5 absent, 18 total					Cerpa, Calvo, Keshish, Nailing, Freeman

12. Discussion/Action: Support for ICO regarding limiting size of ADUs to 1200 sq. ft. Note: This item has been discussed in detailed during previous meetings. Lydia said that an amendment was made to the law that was ambiguous and the size of ADUs and some have been built to 3,500 sq ft instead of the 1,200 sq ft size formerly baselined. A change in the law will stop future units, but not affect ones that are currently approved. It puts boundaries on the size that the City can enforce. A motion was made to support the ICO to limit the size of ADUs back to 1200 sq ft, the motion was made by Carol and seconded by Jon. A vote was taken which passed.

Item 4 Motion to approve Outstanding Minutes for August 12, 2026 Motion: Hutchinson Second: von Guntenf					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Cleghorn, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Seigel, Herman, Schmidt, Royal 13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 5 absent, 19 total					Cerpa, Calvo, Keshish, Nailing, Freeman

13. Discussion: Hearing regarding Cannabis facility at 7031 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga. Cindy noted there is a Community meeting on Wednesday.
14. Discussion/Possible Action: Council File (Support Amendment) CERT Trained stakeholders in Sunland-Tujunga. Per Lydia, in the past there was a requirement that Board members be CERT trained. While CERT training is important, it should not be mandatory. Lydia asked Board members to indicate if they have had the training and about 10 people indicated they had. Lydia went to a meeting with the Fire Department and mentioned that STNC didn't have access to a list of CERT

trained people; the Fire Chief gave Lydia contact info to try to get the list of CERT trained people. CERT training doesn't expire but refreshers are offered, including virtual. A motion was made by Carol and seconded by Melissa to support CERT training be offered that would be voluntary and not mandatory for Board members. A vote was taken which passed.

Item 14 Motion to approve support CERT training be offered that would be voluntary and not mandatory for Board members. Motion: Hutchinson Second: Sagastume					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Cleghorn, Sagastume, Hutchinson, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, von Gunten, Seigel, Herman, Royal 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total					Cerpa, Calvo, Freeman, Keshish, Nailing, Schmidt

15. Discussion/Possible Action: Soil dumping at Zachau Cyn update. More info later.
16. **General Public Comment** up to two minutes per person non-agenda items. Nothing.
17. ANNOUNCEMENTS / RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STNC COMMITTEES:
 - a. Land Use - VHGC, McGroarty, Hearing for: Deneville Community meeting for : Cannabis at 7031 Foothill – Tujunga. Cindy said when next meeting will be for LUC. Looking for more members. Cindy – getting Selections info out, 45 min prior to LUC meeting, join. Need volunteers.
 - b. Beautification - Community Cleanups. Oct 3rd, 8-12 cleanup, help prepare for indigenous people's event.
 - c. Jon talked about STAT efforts in watering trees with two events in August. There is a STAT meeting September 22 and new members are needed. There is a request for a speed limit change on Foothill Blvd that may be anticipated. Melissa will go through the current survey and see if anything of interest for Jon.
18. Next meeting will be Oct 14, in person. Nick Shultz and reps from the Fire Dept will attend; the FD will status where they are at with maintenance/improvements. This is the last meeting before elections, per Cindy, and there might be candidates who would like to attend a meeting and talk.
19. Adjourn. 9:04pm.