

**Committee Chair:** Joe DeCenzo

**Committee Members:** Gerardo Barrientos, Debby Beck, Lucy Berman, Joanna Gates, Dawn Jenkins, Corey Stein, K.T. Travers\*, Karen von Gunten, Michelle Wadler\*

\*Denotes STNC board member Quorum = 6

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**SUNLAND-TUJUNGA**  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

[www.stnc.org](http://www.stnc.org)

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

Tuesday, June 28, 2022 @ 7:30 PM Pacific Time (U.S. and Canada)

### MINUTES (DRAFT)

In Attendance: Joe DeCenzo, Joanna Gates, Dawn Jenkins, K.T. Travers, Lucy Berman, Michelle Wadler, Corey Stein

- 1. Call To Order; Introductions, Approval of Minutes of May 24, 2022:** Joe DeCenzo convened the meeting at 7:37 p.m. As no guests were present, introductions were waived. He read through the prior month's minutes of May 24<sup>th</sup>. K.T. Travers moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Michelle Wadler seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0-0
- 2. Review mission statement; Code of Conduct; Quorum requirements:** Joe DeCenzo reviewed the mission statement of STARC committee as it is listed on the STNC website. Dawn Jenkins suggested that part of STARC's mission is the promotion of artists as well as connecting them to resources and support. To this end. Dawn reminded the committee that our Facebook page is available for this promotion and that she is a strong liaison to the McGroarty Arts Center who avails their Constant Contact emails for our needs. STARC also encourages all members to attend local events.
- 3. Public Comments/Updates for Non-Agenda Items:** Joe DeCenzo mentioned a sunset hike to San Gabriel peak would be an interesting recreational event should there be sufficient interest. K.T. Travers mentioned she met with Jimmy Kim, the new head of Recreation and Parks for the city of Los Angeles. She is composing a letter to his office addressing some concerns and will keep us apprised of any developments. Lucy Berman announced that Hanukkah in the Foothills 2022 is organizing. She hopes to involve the STARC members who participated last year. S-T Forward, of which K.T. and Michelle are members have started discussion for the presentation of Indigenous People's Day (IPD). It is planned for October 9, 2022.
- 4. Update -- McGroarty Arts Center:** Speaking on their behalf, Joanna Gates stated that MAC a late summer presentation of "Burgers, Beer and Band." They intend to submit their proposal to DCA and will keep us updated regarding their progress. The "Cup Show" was presented online as was last year's ceramic contest and exhibit. There were fewer attendees than anticipated, but the board of directors was pleased with and proud of the program provided to the public. Awards were bestowed to those artisans who excelled. The Best of Show award was presented to Nate Ditzler and Laura Konecne from O'ahu Hawaii for their piece title "Plume Mug."
- 5. Review: Sunland-Tujunga "Pride Festival,"** KT Travers, Michelle Wadler. Michelle was pleased to report "It went well. Everyone felt comfortable and safe." K.T. said that state senator Portantino shared inspiring words with the crowd. Many poets led the presentations. Last year's winner of the reality show/documentary "Legends" performed. Calipso stunned the audience with her beauty and athleticism. It was encouraging to see the local turn out in light of the many established events taking place citywide. The primary organizers were

ABRA, S-T Forward and S-T Voices United. Together they awarded a \$300 scholarship to a graduating senior of VHHS who identifies as LGBTQ+.

6. **Discussion:** Participation in “National Night Out,” August 2, 2022. Joe DeCenzo, Gerardo Barrientos and Rudy Melendez have agreed to represent STARC at the upcoming event. Gerardo has volunteered to design the graphics which Joe will send to printer.
7. **Discussion:** Request for more local astronomical events. Joe contacted Craig Durst who looks forward to planning something at the Verdugo Hills Cemetery when something noteworthy occurs.
8. **Community project updates:** Michelle Wadler (“Phoenix Rising”). She will contact Gerardo about designing a metal frame for the artwork. She will then submit to the school to have them contract with an ironworker to complete. Mounting brackets will be considered in the design.
9. **Discussion:** upcoming and future events. Joanna Gates announced that on September 11, 2022 (her birthday), she will host the grand re-opening of her art studio from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Each room will be set up as an interactive art museum and studio.

**Adjourn: 9:10 p.m.**