

Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
General Online Board Meeting
Meeting date: June 10th, 2020 6:45pm
ZOOM Meeting Online or by Telephone

Called to Order: 6:45 pm by Liliana Sanchez, President.

Board Member	Roll Call (for both Regular and Special Meetings)	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Liliana Sanchez	Present	Yes	President
Lydia Grant	Present	Yes	1st Vice President
Nina Royal	Present	Yes	2nd Vice President - Outreach
Sandy Capps	Present	Yes	Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Secretary
Lallah Rowe	Present	Yes	At-Large Group Representative
Vartan Keshish	Present	Yes	Region 1 Representative
Mark Norling	Present as Member 8:00	No	Region 1 Representative
Glen Belt	Present at 6:58	Yes	Region 2 Representative
Arsen Karamians	Present	Yes	Region 2 Representative
Oscar Alvarez	Absent	Yes	Region 3 Representative
Rafi Shaheenian	Present	Yes	Region 3 Representative
Carol Hutchinson	Present	Yes	Region 4 Representative
Pati Potter	Present	Yes	Region 4 Representative
Arnie Abramyan	Present	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Kresse Armour	Present	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Vacant			Stakeholder Group
Garbis Khanjian	Present	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Melody Seraydarian	Present as Member 8:00	No	Stakeholder Group
Vicky Cerpa	Absent	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Jon von Gunten	Present	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Ivan Spiegel	Present	Not Applicable non-voting consultant	Parliamentarian
Quorum: 11 15 Present for Roll Call at Regular Meeting; 18 at Special Meeting and Resumed Regular Meeting			

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Pre Meeting Comments at 6:30pm by Gibson Nyambura, Done Advisor – this meeting is audio only. If a member of the public wants to make a comment, press *9. If anyone needs translation services or closed captioning for STNC online/telephonic meetings they need to give DONE at least 48 hours’ notice.

Item 1. (a-b) Call to Order and Welcome, President Sanchez—Meeting called to order at 6:45 , Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call --Meeting quorum met. Meeting attended at least in part by 22 other participants, including public employees and members of the public.

Secretary Cleghorn notes that all votes will be by roll call, and she will be the moderator of the meeting. Please dial *9 or use Zoom’s raise hand feature. Please be respectful and if there is any background noise from where you are calling, put yourself on mute.

Announcement from DONE Advisor Gibson Nyambura: Meetings will be online until further notice. DONE is meeting with Neighborhood Council Chairs regarding collaboration. DONE staffing is subject to citywide staffing furloughs and some have been reassigned to disaster staffing. This is the final month to submit revised Bylaws. The new Neighborhood Council censure procedures were approved by BONC and will become part of the Bylaws.

Item 1. (c) STNC Board Member Training update: VP Grant confirms that she has completed her live ethics training.

Item 2. Discussion / Possible Action to approve March 11, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Approve March 11, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes				
Motion: Lallah Rowe; Second: Lydia Grant Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour				Alvarez, Cerpa
16 yes, 0 abstain, 2 absent, motion passed				

Item 3. President’s Report:

- A. STNC Update on COVID 19 Emergency** the STNC spent \$4,500 for masks and emergency food giveaways. Many thanks to the volunteers and organizations involved: Making It Happen, United Methodist Church, Tujunga, Sunland Shadow Hills Rotary, Jain Center of Los Angeles, Tujunga, and LAUSD.
- B. National Night Out** more volunteers are needed for this event.

Item 4. Representative Announcements and Reports

Caroline Menjivar, Mayor Garcetti’s East Valley Representative – many things have happened during the past two weeks. The City of Los Angeles received the County’s okay to move into stage 3 of the State’s stay at home order which allows gyms and museums to re-open if safety protocols are followed. Nail Salons, Tattoo Parlors, Massage Parlors, Movie Theaters and Live Performances are still closed. Please refer to and promote the City of LA’s safer at home website, which has all the details. As for the civil unrest the City is into the 5th or 6th day of no vandalism. There will be no punitive fines for those arrested for curfew violations, those with looting or vandalism charges are still subject to prosecution. The City is still working on a plan to help those businesses impacted by the looting and with those who need rental assistance. As far as the City’s budget goes, nothing is definite when it comes to cuts and allocations. There will be a telephonic meeting of the budget and finance committee next week and the public will have the opportunity to call in. Member Rowe inquired about the rental assistance program. Representative Menjivar responded there will be more information by July 1st, there is 100 million in the fund right now and some Council

Members are contributing some of their discretionary funds, along with private contributions. More information is available on the City's Housing and Community Investment Department's website: <https://hcidla.lacity.org/>

Ardem Tajerian, Senior Librarian, Sunland Tujunga Library – it has been 10 weeks since they left the building. The branch staff has worked delivering meals to seniors, adding staff to support homeless shelters, 2 have been reassigned to be contact tracers. They have been busy. The ST library is looking forward to opening soon, but as of now it is closed, including the book drop.

Arturo Garcia, Office of California Assembly Member Luz Rivas-- The office is still closed; the staff is working from home helping constituents, especially those with EDD problems. So far the EDD has processed 5.1 million unemployment claims and paid 60 billion in benefits. AB 1845, to create a Secretary of Housing Insecurity and Homelessness to co-ordinate the 13 agencies that have homeless programs passed the state Assembly and is now going to the state Senate.

Theresa Lamb Simpson, Office of U.S. Representative Adam Schiff – the offices are closed; staff is working from home with constituent issues.

Vickere Murphy, Office of California State Senator Anthony Portantino – The bills Secretary Cleghorn inquired about, SB 902 etc., are going into the suspense file. June 18th is the next hearing on the senate floor. If after June 18th you see they are still in suspense, they are stopped in suspense. If you have problems with the EDD or any other state agency, feel free to contact her office. As far as the EDD fixing claim problems, they are two weeks out for simple problems, three weeks out for complex problems.

Eve Sinclair, Area Director for Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez – The council office has been supporting local food pantries such as those at Making it Happen, Our Lady of Lourdes, United Methodist Church. DOT officers are working with the food banks to make sure they are safer in light of the tragic death of one of the food bank volunteers. The council office is also working on getting meals delivered to seniors. Construction of the Summit View veteran's housing project is well underway. The Sylmar Armory Women's shelter is going to open in July. The Sunland Park lighting project with 1200 led lights that automatically turn off and on is complete. The LA Conservation Corps is planting 60 trees from Marcus Ave. to Lowell. They will water them for 3 years.

Q&A: Q: By President Sanchez—the STNC Beautification Committee is concerned about the trees that were planted a few years ago in Sunland being watered. Can Council District 7 help? A: Street trees are watered for 3 years when they are considered established; you can then ask the merchants to water the trees in front of their businesses. Q: By President Sanchez—is there a completion date on the North Valley City Hall remodel? A: There is no completion date set; progress continues there are new windows and drywall being installed. It is highly doubtful the building will be ready in time for National Night Out. Q: By V.P. Grant – are the bathrooms by the Basketball Courts at Sunland Park still closed? A: Does not know; Sunland Park staff would know. Q: By member Potter: Since the windows are new, the STNC should not tape notices on them? A: This would be a good idea. Q: By Pat Kramer, STAT Committee – What is the status of the left hand turn signals on Foothill Blvd.? A: LADOT has been very busy dealing with COVID 19 street issues and civil unrest issues, does not have any updated ETA, will update when she knows. The left hand turn signal at Foothill / Apperson was supposed to go in this fall. Q: By member Belt: Have the Park Rangers reassigned someone to cover our area, including Sunland Park? A: There are two park rangers who cover our area, Captain Barron and another ranger, she will provide member Belt with their contact information.

Item 5. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:

Pat Kramer: I have seen news about cutting LAPD funding, hopes this will not impact STNC's request for a much needed additional traffic officer.

Nina Royal: If anyone has concerns about the LAPD, there is a community advisory board set up to address them. They are online, the second Thursday of the month at 6pm.

Item 6. Selection of Stakeholders

- A. Region 1 Representative candidate: Mark Norling – Is 64 years old. Has lived here for 4 years and thinks it is an amazing community with natural beauty. He thinks some things could be improved upon. This is his first time participating in any sort of organized local government. He has the time and interest so he would like to put his hat in the ring.

Q&A: Q: By President Sanchez: have you attended any STNC meetings? A: No. I have attended other local meetings but not STNC meetings. By Member von Gunten: Thanks for volunteering. What is your philosophy on development, rural views vs. business development? A: Over the long term, trees and maintaining the environment is the most important because they will remain when businesses are gone. Does not see a conflict between the environment and commercial development. Our area does not seem to attract the sorts of businesses that should be attracted given the natural beauty. This type of development would be a win-win. Q: By Member Belt: Can you define the area of Region 1? A: Region 1 goes from Mt. Gleason to the west into the mountains, including the hog farm; at least this is what it looks like from the map. Q: By Member Khanjian: Thank you for volunteering; I am a new member too. It is learn as you go. Q: By VP Royal: Everyone has to serve on a committee. She recommends the Outreach Committee.

Motion: Select Mark Norling as a Region 1 Representative				
Motion: Lydia Grant ; Second: Lallah Rowe Roll call vote				
Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour				Alvarez, Cerpa
16 yes, 0 abstain, 2 absent, motion passed				

- B. Youth Representative Melody Seraydarian—she is a 16 year old high school student. She has a demonstrated history of volunteering in politics and tech support. She knows Adobe Photoshop. She would like to reach out to local youth via social media like Instagram and Twitter. Young people are not used to looking at websites. Is interested in attracting new business to Sunland Tujunga and in making the STNC more efficient.

Q&A: Q: By Member Rowe: Glad to see someone volunteer; what are you planning? A: She lives in Tujunga and didn't even know other young people lived in her area. Instagram and Twitter is what young people check. Member Keshish: Welcome to the meeting are you involved in any other local groups? A: I worked as an intern at Senator Portantino's office doing graphics, social media, phone banking. Has also worked on the Montrose public library blog and is a member of the debate club. Q: Member Abramyan: Welcome. We are missing our youth outreach committee and getting local youth involved.

Motion: Select Melody Seraydarian as Youth Representative				
Motion: Carol Hutchinson ; Second: Lydia Grant Roll call vote				
Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour				Alvarez, Cerpa
16 yes, 0 abstain, 2 absent, motion passed				

Secretary Cleghorn notes she will contact the new board members regarding the necessary training.

Parliamentarian Spiegel notes there needs to be a motion to move to the 8:00 special meeting and a new attendance roll call taken. VP Grant moves, Member Belt seconds. No objections voiced by any board member.

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Special Agenda Item 2 Community Impact Statement: Increase in Neighborhood Council Funding to \$100,000 for upcoming fiscal year

MOTION: The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council is requesting that all Neighborhood Councils have an Increase in our Neighborhood Councils' Annual budget to \$100,000 for the upcoming fiscal year commencing July 2020. CF 20-0692.

President Sanchez supports this motion to further fund Community Food Banks, Multi-Cultural Events, Traffic Safety Education, Public Schools and After School programs through Neighborhood Purpose Grants and Community Improvement Projects. VP Grant notes this Community Impact Statement was started by the Central Alameda NC and other neighborhood councils are signing on.

Pro Arguments by board members: If you think small you get small, the price of everything is going up, it can't hurt to ask, it will help stimulate the local economy.

Con Arguments by board members: the City Budget is already in extreme turmoil with city employee furloughs and budget cuts in most departments, including the LAPD, and a big cut in Neighborhood Council Funding. This motion makes the STNC look greedy, silly and unaware of what is going on. This amount of money would cause the STNC to lose focus and look like a non-profit piggy bank.

Motion: MOTION: The Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council is requesting that all Neighborhood Councils have an Increase in Neighborhood Councils' Annual budget to \$100,000 for the upcoming fiscal year commencing July 2020. CF 20-0692.				
Motion: Lallah Rowe ; Second: Pati Potter Roll call vote				
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Absent
Sanchez, Capps, Rowe, Karamians, Shaheenian, , Khanjian, Armour	Grant, Royal, Cleghorn, Keshish, Belt, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, von Gunten,		Norling, Seraydorian	Alvarez, Cerpa
7 yes, 9 No, 2 Ineligible, 2 absent, motion fails				

Motion to adjourn Special Board Meeting, resume General Board Meeting made by VP Grant and seconded by Member Belt at 8:15.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING (CONTINUED)

Item 7. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of Encumbrance of Unspent 2019/2020 Funds

MOTION: The STNC approves Encumbering FY 19-20 funds to FY 20-21 identifying vendors and purpose of encumbered funds for 2020/2021 fiscal year. The vendors will be:

US Storage (Storage Space - \$3,143.00); Webcorner (Website - \$1,800.00)

USPS (Post Office Box - \$326.00); Zoom (\$149.90); Ring Central (\$840.00); Constant Contact (\$714.00); Total \$6,972. 68.

B. Approval of Web Corner Invoices

MOTION: The STNC Board approves Web Corner Invoices 19854 & 20153 in the amount of \$63.00 for domain name and yearly renewal of stnc.org

C. Approval of Rollover Funds for 2020/2021 Fiscal Year

MOTION: The STNC board approves \$10,000 of FY 2019/20 funding rollover to FY 2020/21 according to the City's policy.

D. NPG Application from Parents, Educators/Teachers & Students in Action (PESA)

MOTION: The STNC Board does not approve of the NPG application for \$5,000.00 from PESA due to lack of budget funds this fiscal year.

E. NPG Application from North Valley Caring Center

MOTION: The STNC Board does not approve of the NPG application for \$5,000.00 from North Valley Caring Center due to lack of budget funds this fiscal year.

F. Request for Cooling Station (Liliana Sanchez, President)

MOTION: The STNC Board shall send a letter to Mayor Garcetti, Supervisor Kathryn Barger, and Councilmember Monica Rodriguez requesting an update on a proposed Cooling Station for Sunland-Tujunga.

G. CIS Requesting Rollover of 2019-2020 Neighborhood Council Funds (Lydia Grant)

MOTION: The STNC Board approves the submission of a Community Impact Statement on Council File CF-20-0416 supporting that all remaining NC funds on June 30, 2020 be rolled over to 2020-2021 budget for each and all Neighborhood Councils.

H. Hold On Discretionary City Planning Approvals (Liliana Sanchez, President)

MOTION: The STNC Board approves letter to City Planning regarding the hold on Discretionary City Planning approvals.

I. Community Impact Statement (CIS) in Support of Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates 2020 White Paper (Cindy Cleghorn)

MOTION: The STNC shall submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) re Council File 20-600. Supporting the work of the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates and their 2020 White Paper and its call for “radical transparency”.

J. Selection of 2020-2021 STNC Budget Representatives

MOTION: The STNC Board shall select its 2020-2021 STNC Budget Representatives. Current reps are Lallah Rowe and Sandy Capps.

Motion: Approve Consent Calendar Items A-J				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Lallah Rowe Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour				Alvarez, Cerpa
16 yes, 0 abstain, 2 absent, motion passed				

Item 8. Treasurer Reports

A. Approval of March 2020 MER

Motion: Approve March 2020 MER				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Glen Belt Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour				Alvarez, Cerpa
16 yes, 0 abstain, 2 absent, motion passed				

B. Approval of April 2020 MER

Motion: Approve April 2020 MER				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Glen Belt Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour				Alvarez, Cerpa
16 yes, 0 abstain, 2 absent, motion passed				

C. Ratify Expenditures for COVID-19 Emergency Funding

Motion: Ratify the following expenditures for COVID-19 Emergency Funding as allocated by the President: MAKING IT HAPPEN - \$1,000; FACEMASKS -\$500; LAUSD, GRAB AND GO - \$1,000; MAKING IT HAPPEN - \$500; HOPE FOR HOMELESS YOUTH - \$500; MAKING IT HAPPEN - \$500; TUMC \$500; Total \$4,500.				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Lallah Rowe Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour				Alvarez, Cerpa
16 yes, 0 abstain, 2 absent, motion passed				

D. Approval of 2020/2021 Administrative Budget Packet

Motion: The STNC approves the Administrative Budget Packet for FY 20-21				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Lallah Rowe Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Karamians, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour		Belt		Alvarez, Cerpa
15 yes, 1 abstain, 2 absent, motion passed				

Item 9. New Business

A. Community Impact Statement (CIS) Opposing the Purchase of Foreclosed Properties for Homeless Housing

Motion: The STNC Board approves the submission of a Community Impact Statement in opposition to Council File 20-0491 which would allow the City to acquire properties that go into foreclosure due to the financial hardships of the Corona Virus and purchase them for homeless housing.				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Glen Belt Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour				Alvarez, Cerpa
15 yes, 1 abstain, 2 absent, motion passed				

Member Grant notes this motion is prompted by a Council File suggested by LA City Council member Bonnin who wants the City to buy foreclosed homes at bargain prices so they can be occupied by multiple homeless people in each bedroom. All STNC board members who spoke were opposed to this as immoral, kicking people when they are down due to COVID 19, making one set of people homeless to house other homeless. They noted that if there is money it should be used to help homeowners or landlords in distress due to non-paying tenants. Board Member vonGunten noted it also does not make sense to scatter homeless about where it will be hard to connect them with services.

B. Mobility & Open Space Access in Sunland-Tujunga during COVID-19

Motion: The STNC shall send a letter to Mayor Garcetti and Councilwoman Rodriguez opposing Mayor Garcetti’s Slow Streets initiative in Sunland-Tujunga. Sunland-Tujunga is a Very High Fire Danger Area and all streets need to be left open for evacuations.				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Nina Royal Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Abstain	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Khanjian, von Gunten, Armour	Abramyan			Alvarez, Cerpa
15 yes, 1 no, 2 absent, motion passed				

VP Grant notes that during the COVID 19 stay at home orders places like Venice were closing streets so there would be more space for people to bike and walk while maintaining 6ft social distancing. Secretary Cleghorn notes that the Mayor wants the community to pick streets for closure. Member Rowe thinks it is dangerous to close streets when the COVID 19 emergency is temporary. VP Royal, Member Potter and Member von Gunten agree that this plan is a poor fit for our community.

- C. Selection of Community Forestry Advisory Committee Representative** – Secretary Cleghorn notes this group meets the first Thursday of every month. This would be someone that is interested in saving protected trees. Member Potter notes that someone from the STNC Land Use Committee might be interested.

Item 10. COMMITTEE / ALLIANCES / LIAISONS UPDATES: STNC Committee Reports --

- a. RYLAN (Ready Your LA Neighborhood) Update - Sandy Capps** – there have been no meetings due to Covid 19
- b. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS** – The board needs a liaison to attend monthly meetings
- c. NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH** – **Jon von Gunten** the LAPD Foothill Division has had zero cases of Covid 19, which is quite remarkable. Very few violent crimes and uptick in vehicle and home break-ins. He is working of setting up neighborhood watch zoom meetings.
- d. ST TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION (STAT) Committee** no report.
- e. OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE** – VP Royal: the T-shirts should be done by next week. It is only 8 weeks until National Night Out; volunteers are needed but plans are uncertain due to the ongoing Covid 19 situation. The next online meeting is June 17 at 6:30pm.
- f. LAND USE** – next meetings June 15 and June 20
- g. Beautification Committee** – next meeting June 17, @ 6pm
- h. ST ARTS, CULTURE & RECREATION (STARC) COMMITTEE** - next meeting June 23
- i. Executive Committee** – July 1, 2020 @ 7:30 pm
- j. NC Budget Advocates** – City Regional Services Regional Town Hall Breakout Session & BA Elections on 6/27 at 1pm. The budget is now very upside down. Lallah Rowe would like to resign her budget advocate position because of her committee co-chair duties and because the lack of budget honesty is frustrating. Gary Fortis, a budget advocate from another NC would like to make a comment on this agenda item-- The 78 million dollar surplus has turned into a 200 million dollar deficit due to not factoring in pay raises for police, fire and other city employees. The 200 million dollar figure is before COVID 19 revenue losses. He is upset that the neighborhood councils got cut 24% and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment got cut 30%, as well as having staff reassigned to disaster relief work. The City Council is doing budget meetings next week so there is very little time for neighborhood council input.
- k. VANC** – no meetings yet

- I. **DWP MOU / DWP Committee – Meets 1st Saturday @ 8:30 a.m. @ LADWP**
- m. **LANCC – Meets 1st Saturday @ 10 a.m. @ LADWP**

Item 16. Final Announcements President Sanchez notes there are only 11 months and 9 days left for the current STNC term, so make it count. Volunteer for a committee.

Adjourn at: 9:20 pm

Minutes by Marjorie Maxon

DRAFT