

DRAFT DRAFT

Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council

Special General Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

This meeting is being held by the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council using teleconferencing pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.8(a)(2)(B).

1. **Call to Order, Welcome** - Lydia Grant, President, Meeting commenced 7pm
2. **STNC President's Updates**
 - A. STNC In Person Board & Committee Meeting updates/meeting locations and update on SB411 (Portantino) regarding NC meetings on Zoom
 - B. Board Vacancy - Region 2
 - C. Land Use Committee Vacant Seats
 - D. Status of STNC Board approved Light Pole Banners
 - Waiting for Councilwoman Rodriguez to provide her support. Sites already identified.
3. **Roll Call, Voting Eligibility** - Karen Moran, Recording Secretary
 - A. Completion of City / DONE Required trainings status for the STNC board
 - B. Announce any Board member recusals or paid lobbyists in attendance

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Lydia Grant	Present	Yes	President
Lallah Rowe	Present	Yes	1st VP
Mapuana Moran	Present	Yes	2nd VP
Carol Hutchinson	Present	Yes	Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Correspondence Sec
Karen Moran	Present	Yes	Recording Sec
Leny Freeman	Present	Yes	Region 1 Rep
KT Travers	Present	Yes	Region 1 Rep
Sherry McCoy	Present	Yes	Region 2 Rep
VACANT	VACANT	VACANT	Region 2 Rep
Mike Goglia	Arrived late	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Peter Darakjian	Absent	Absent	Region 3 Rep
Jon von Gunten	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Belinda Woodruff	Absent	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Trevor Schmidt	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Mark Seigel	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Ross Herman	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Cheryl Schmidt	Present	Yes	Public Safety Rep
Chris Rowe	Arrived late	Yes	Education Rep
Nina Royal	Absent	Yes	Senior Rep
Vartan Keshish	Present	Yes	Community Interest Rep
Quorum: 16 present at roll call, 4 absent			

4. Pledge of Allegiance, led by Lydia Grant

5. INFORMATION / UPDATES: Pending Land Use Committee projects, led by Cindy Cleghorn

- a. 7665 Machrea – Subdivision into 7 single family dwelling lots, zoned RE3-1. LUC waiting for owner’s rep to schedule a second meeting. Over 40 neighbors attended the Oct. 16 meeting with several major concerns regarding this many units on that site and the impacts to neighbors’ quality of life.
- b. 9604 Hillhaven - addition to two story home and relief from 20 ft widening of street. - waiting for owner & City response to building & street width concerns by neighbors & LUC.
- c. 7577 Foothill & Plainview - Neighbor has filed an appeal to proposed 42 feet high residential building with 46 dwelling units, 89 parking spaces. Former Denny’s site. - Awaiting a hearing to be scheduled by the City regarding the appeal.

6. PRESENTATION / SPEAKERS / Q&A : Safe Traffic & Transportation Committee 2024 New Year/2023 Review Updates and Recommendations to the STNC Board.

- Pat Kramer, STAT Committee Chair, drafted a letter (to LAPD Chief Moore and Mayor Karen Bass) asking for funding for a second second traffic officer for Sunland-Tujunga area using funding from other areas that have defunded officers. Pat provided historical information about requesting additional traffic officer presence that have not been completed by the City in the past.
- Justin Grams commented regarding funding re-allocation from other districts who want to defund police in their area.
- Susan Denning inquired if additional information could be put into the letter addressing car parking in the Foothill Blvd and Plainview Ave area? Pat Kramer suggested that Susan attend the STAT meeting in January 23rd to address her concern.
- Lionel Mares from Sun Valley Area NC commented that we need more resources to address the traffic concerns.
- Jon von Gunten commented that while some money has been re-instated, we lost many experienced officers.
- KT Travers would like to amend the letter to include specific numbers which are available for accidents.
- Cheryl Schmidt – commented in support of motion.

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION: Approve letter to Chief Michel Moore and copy to Mayor Karen Bass regarding one more traffic motor officer in Sunland-Tujunga to be accomplished by reallocating from Council District 1 (Hernandez) and Council District 8 (Soto-Martinez).

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Item 7. Approve letter, as amended, to Chief Michel Moore and copy to Mayor Karen Bass regarding one more traffic motor officer in Sunland-Tujunga to be accomplished by reallocating from Council District 1 (Hernandez) and Council District 8 (Soto-Martinez)

Motion: Royal, **Second:** Seigel

Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, M Moran, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, Goglio, von Gunten, T Schmidt, Seigel, Herman, C Schmidt, Royal, Keshish 17 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 2 absent	C Rowe				Darakjian, Woodruff

8. Comments: LAPD, Elected Officials/Representatives, DONE, NC Budget Advocates, City Departments

- Budget Advocates Report - Region 1 - https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rEBKINzSjdd7Jr1so-FAcXyDpaG_Ehz4/view?usp=drive_link
- LAPD Officers Godoy and Alvarado provided crime stats and noted that use of the 311 App has been helpful. Officer Alvarado comment that Officer Andrew Reiny (new Traffic Control Officer) will be at next STNC meeting.
 - Cindy Cleghorn identified a tent (for homeless) parked on the street and asked about recent heavy helicopters circling in the area. Officer Alvarado will check on tent. Officer Godoy noted that the Homeless have been offered housing but in general do not avail themselves of it.
 - Susan Denning asked about broken windows/shattered safety glass (around 7560 Foothill Blvd). Officer Godoy has not seen any reports on it.
 - Cheryl Schmidt thanked Officers for their support and indicated the need for continued/increased surveillance in our local parks.
 - Pat Kramar commented that cars that are dismantled and parked on LaTuna Canyon and the number of homeless is increasing around golf course. Officer Godoy indicated that the car issue is being addressed.
 - Jon von Gunten talked about Coffee with a Cop in February and details will be provided later.
 - From CHAT: Any questions please don't hesitate to call. Ofcr Godoy 818 634 0705 or Ofcr Alvarado 818 634 0754.
- Michelle Vergara, Senior/East Valley Area Representative (Michelle.vergara@lacity.org), commented about accomplishments under Mayor Bass this past year. An App is available to stay in touch with Mayor Bass news - (<https://mayor.lacity.gov/news/mayor-bass-releases-2023-year-review-report-following-her-year-review-address>).
- LAFD Battalion Chief Adam Knabe cautioned to be careful about firing up heaters at this time of the year and to safely dispose of Christmas trees before they dry out.
 - Leny Freeman voiced concern about La Tuna Canyon homeless camps and potential fire hazards.
 - Leny Freeman voiced a concern about Christmas Trees that accumulate in a bin and the potential fire hazard. Fire Station 77 has a bin where trees can be deposited.
 - Jon von Gunten thanked LAFD and wanted to know if there is any authority to get rid of Christmas trees on private property.
- Jack Artan, from Senator Portantino's office (covering for Declan Floyd), commented that the State Senate has reconvened, ideas for legislation are invited and talked about State budget deficits.
- Ricardo Flores, CD7 discussed traffic signals, breaking ground remodel of Verdugo Hills pool, and working on homeless issues at the golf course.

- Lydia Grant inquired about time-line for Oro Vista traffic signal? Ricardo said within the next 2 months should have more information.
- Jon von Gunten wanted to know timeline for activation of signal in front of Fire Station 77, Should be in February.
- Pat Kramer voiced a concern about Patrick returning to the community.
- There were also questions about traffic light at Valmont & Foothill and Apperson & Foothill with the new left-hand turn signals.
- Raul Preciado sent out updates and commented about Neighborhood Council funding training.
- From CHAT: LA City Park Ranger A. Deocampo (who had to leave early) - Starting January 14th, we will have a new Park Ranger sergeant assigned to the Valley - Sgt. Carl Holmes. To report any issues in the parks, please reach out to me via email at Andrei.deocampo@lacity.org as well as my sergeant at carl.holmes@lacity.org. We can also be reached at our Park Ranger dispatch number (323) 644-6661.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (FUNDING) [Budget Committee approved 1/3/24]

- A. Approve November 2023 MER
- B. ~~Approve December 2023 MER~~ removed not available.
- C. Approve up to \$250 to cover refreshment costs for Appreciation Event for STAT committee and participants in tree care events held last year (Outreach)
 - a. Pat Kramer commented in support of continuing service to water trees; the City does not provide for watering so volunteers are needed or trees will die.
 - b. Lydia Grant suggested Outreach have a booth at watering Appreciation Event.
- D. Motion to approve moving 2022-2023 rollover funds in the amount of \$2,502.29 to Office funds under heading "Miscellaneous Office Expenses".
- E. Motion to approve moving funds returned from Arts and Education Nation from National Night Out 2023 in the amount of \$700 to Outreach under "Miscellaneous Outreach Needs". [pg. 9 of 12 in the NCFP Admin Packet].
 - **Item B was pulled for voting at this time.**

9C. Approve moving funds returned from Arts and Education Nation from National Night Out 2023 in the amount of \$700 to Outreach under "Miscellaneous Outreach Needs"

[Budget Committee approved 1/3/24]

Motion: Cleghorn, **Second:** L Rowe

Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, M Moran, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, Goglio, von Gunten, T Schmidt, Seigel, Herman, C Schmidt, C Rowe, Royal, Keshish 18 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 2 absent					Darakjian, Woodruff

Item 9A,D,E. Approve the funding consent calendar items A, D and E

- 9A. Approve November 2023 MER
- 9D. Approve moving 2022-2023 rollover funds in the amount of \$2,502.29 to Office funds under heading "Miscellaneous Office Expenses"
- 9E. Approve moving funds returned from Arts and Education Nation from National Night Out 2023 in the amount of \$700 to Outreach under "Miscellaneous Outreach Needs"

[Budget Committee approved 1/3/24]

Motion: Royal, **Second:** Rowe

Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, von Gunten, T Schmidt, Herman, C Schmidt, C Rowe, Royal, Keshish 14 yes, 0 no, 2 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent		McCoy Seigel			Darakjian, Woodruff, M Moran, Goglio

10. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (NON-FUNDING) MOTION: The STNC Board approves the non-funding consent calendar:

- A. **Discussion/Action:** Approval of the application of artist Corey Stein to be re-admitted as a STARC Committee member. *STARC Message in support of this motion: Corey Stein has served admirably as a prior member of STARC. Health issues prompted her resignation at the time. She is healthy now and motivated to serve in the foreseeable future.*
- B. **Discussion/Action:** Barbara Rowe and Roger Swart have resigned from the STAT Committee.
- C. **Discussion/Action:** Beautification Committee members resigned: J. Sutherland, Marjorie Maxon. Add Matt Walker.
- D. **Discussion/Action:** Approve November 2023 STNC Board Meeting Minutes

Item 10B. Approve resignation of Barbara Rowe and Roger Swart from the STAT Committee.

Motion: Cleghorn, **Second:** Hutchinson

Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, M Moran, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Goglio, von Gunten, T Schmidt, Seigel, Herman, C Schmidt, C Rowe, Royal, Keshish 17 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, 0 ineligible, 2 absent		Travers			Darakjian, Woodruff

Item 10A, C, D. Approval of Items A, C and D.

- 10A. Approval of the application of artist Corey Stein to be re-admitted as a STARC Committee member
- 10C. Approve resignation in Beautification Committee members of J. Sutherland, Marjorie Maxon and addition of Matt Walker.
- 10D. Approve November 2023 STNC Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Hutchinson, **Second:** Freeman

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Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, von Gunten, T Schmidt, Seigel, Herman, C Schmidt, C Rowe, Royal, Keshish 16 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent					Darakjian, Woodruff, M Moran, Goglio

11. Discussion/Action: Approve Land Use Committee’s draft comment letter regarding Jump Trampoline business at 10003 Commerce Avenue, Tujunga - Major Activity Area3 /Target Area 3 of the Foothill Blvd. Corridor Specific Plan.

- Cindy Cleghorn has recused herself on this discussion/vote due to close distance to her business.
- Comments by Karen Moran
- Conditional use permit recommended

Item 11. Approve Land Use Committee’s draft comment letter regarding Jump Trampoline business at 10003 Commerce Avenue, Tujunga - Major Activity Area3 /Target Area 3 of the Foothill Blvd. Corridor Specific Plan.						
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent	
L Rowe, K Moran, Travers, C Schmidt, C Rowe, Keshish 6 yes, 1 no, 7 abstain, 0 ineligible, 1 recuse, 5 absent	Freeman	Grant, Hutchinson, McCoy, von Gunten, T Schmidt, Herman, Royal		Cleghorn	Darakjian, Woodruff, M Moran, Goglio, Seigel	

12. Discussion/Action: That STNC supports reinstating Neighborhood Council Budgets to \$50,000 per year CF-24-0600.

Item 12. Approve STNC support to reinstate Neighborhood Council Budgets to \$50,000 per year CF-24-0600.					
Motion: Royal, Second: L Rowe					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, von Gunten, Herman, Royal, Keshish 14 yes, 0 no, 2 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent		McCoy, Seigel			Darakjian, Woodruff, Goglio, M Moran

13. Discussion/Action: Approve letter of support regarding the Sunland / Tujunga Elks Lodge 2098

- KT Travers commented about the service that the ELKs provide the community
- Hutchinson, Seigel, Royal recused from discussion and vote as they are Elks members

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Item 13. Approve letter of support regarding the Sunland / Tujunga Elks Lodge 2098					
Motion: L Rowe, Second: Travers					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, M Moran, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, von Gunten, Herman, C Rowe, Keshish 12 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, 2 ineligible, 3 recuse, 4 absent		T Schmidt		Hutchinson, Seigel, Royal	Darakjian, Woodruff, M Moran, Goglio

14. Discussion/Action: Approve letter of support regarding Mission College in Sunland-Tujunga.

- Nina Royal - The Measure J Funds were specifically allocated for Glassell Park-Atwater and Sunland Tujunga which passed in 2007. It was put on abatement because of a lawsuit that was since settled so we should be getting our college on the old Kmart Property.
- KT Travers suggested changes including ‘their knowledge’ to “our knowledge”
- Lionel Mares commented in favor of having a local campus

Item 14. Approve letter of support, as amended, regarding Mission College in Sunland-Tujunga					
Motion: Travers, Second: L Rowe					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, L Rowe, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, von Gunten, T Schmidt, Seigel, Herman, C Schmidt, C Rowe, Royal, Keshish 16 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 4 absent					Darakjian, Woodruff, Goglio, M Moran

15. Discussion: Update latest version of the [proposed new Neighborhood Council Code of Conduct](#) and consider submitting updated Community Impact Statement to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners. *[Board previously submitted non support]*

- Lydia Grant commented that the Code of Conduct is imposed at this time and there is no path to update or edit.

16. Committee & Liaison Reports - by committee chairs present *(See last page for meeting and committee member and meeting locations:*

- Community Improvement & Government Affairs:
- Outreach
- Youth & Adult Education:
- Beautification: *1/18 on zoom - this is change of day/date*
- STAT: *1/23 @ 6pm @ ST Library*
- STARC: *1/23 @ 7:30pm @ McGroarty Art Center*
 - *KT Travers stated that STARC was disappointed that requests have not made it to the General Board for (funding) decisions. Lydia clarified we can't approve requests without an associated cost and recommends going through the Budget & Finance Committee first.*
- Budget & Finance: *1/31 @ 6pm*
- Executive: *1/31 @ 6:45pm*

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17. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS.

- Justin Grams asked if the NC was endorsing any candidates for the election in March; big election in March, voting for new District Attorney, are we endorsing anyone? Lydia Grant stated that Neighborhood Councils cannot endorse candidates although individuals can as private citizens.

18. PRESENTATION & TRAINING on the Neighborhood Council (NC) System. - None during this meeting

- 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

19. FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Cheryl Schmidt reminded everyone that STNC did take a position on Gascon 2 years ago of no confidence. Pompo – new Park Ranger will be assigned (see CHAT) for contact info.
- Jon von Gunten said that there is a blood drive February 5th (Osborne Ave); he will publish the information on Facebook and Next Door.
- Nina Royal - Individual letters to the LACCD will also help our cause for Mission College. Please contact Nina at NRoyal9259@aol.com for information.
- Lydia Grant had a productive meeting with Mayors' office to discuss ways they could work with Neighborhood Councils in the future.

20. ADJOURN at 9:27 pm

Thank you to Karen Moran, Recording Secretary, for presenting these minutes.

