

Committee Chair: Joe DeCenzo

Committee Members: Gerardo Barrientos,
Lucy Berman, Joanna Gates, Dawn Jenkins, Corey Stein,
KT Travers*

Denotes Board member Quorum = 4



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Website:

**SUNLAND-TUJUNGA
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

Arts, Recreation & Culture Committee Meeting (STARC)

Tuesday, February 27, 2024 @ 7:30 PM

(In-person) McGroarty Arts Center

7570 McGroarty Terrace, Tujunga 91042

MINUTES (Draft)

In Attendance: Joe DeCenzo, Gerardo Barrientos, Dawn Jenkins, KT Travers, Joanna Gates **Guests:** Mike Alvarez, Evelyn Serrano, Patty Hencken, Ross Herman, Maja Trochimczyk, Azalia Snail, Maryellen Eltgroth, Justin and Rachel Hawthorne, Shipla Shah, Joni Anderson, Katie O'Brien, Dennis and Patti Garcia

- Call To Order; Introductions, Approval of Minutes of January 23, 2024:** Committee chair, Joe DeCenzo, convened the meeting at 7:32 p.m. He introduced the committee for the benefit of the new guests and read through the minutes of the prior month's meeting. Gerardo Barrientos moved to approve the minutes as written. K T Travers seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.
- Review mission statement; Code of Conduct; Quorum requirements:** Joe DeCenzo stated that as per the by-laws, STARC Committee's quorum is 4. He reviewed the mission statement and code of conduct and referred those in attendance to www.stnc.org and www.empowerla.org for further information.
- Public Comments/Updates for Non-Agenda Items:** K T announced that Indigenous People's Day is scheduled for October 13. Joe invited all to Bolton Hall Museum on March 24 for the "Crystal Fire" anthology reading.
- Guest Speaker:** Dennis Garcia, "Tales of the Chumash." Dennis presented an enthralling and informative lecture focused on his Chumash and Tongva roots. He associates with the Tataviam tribe which means "people who face the sun." He and his brother Ted speak regularly at such locations as the Autrey and Antelope Valley museums, various state and national parks and many local schools. His presentation table was adorned with handmade garments, rattles made from gourds and objects made from the feathers of eaglets, pelicans and hawks. Dennis is a traditional dancer and culture bearer. He told tales of native mythology described the respect his tribe has for the life force of all animals and how they coexist with nature.
- Update: McGroarty Arts Center:** Joanna Gates informed the committee that spring session will begin March 25. The ceramics show is scheduled to begin June 8.
- Presentation:** Volunteer Appreciation to K T Travers by Hanukkah in the Foothills. For her gift of service as the volunteer coordinator, K T Travers was awarded a certificate of appreciation by the organizers of Hanukkah in the Foothills. Her dedication and hard work have set a standard for all to admire.
- Discussion:/Action:** Community projects, murals, gardens, bus bench ads. Regarding the committee's interest in raising funds for the purchase of new chairs for the McGroarty Arts Center, in the event that the STNC board cannot meet the projected need, STARC Committee is willing to work with the McGroarty board of director's to develop a funding plan that would include such options as a Gofundme campaign, charity nights at local restaurants such as Joselito's and Caruso's, and an in-house auction of art and ceramics pieces as well as donated services i.e. home repair, private music lessons.
- Adjourn** 9:18 p.m.

