

# Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council

## General Board Meeting Minutes

July 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 Pledge of Allegiance – 7:02pm; Pledge of Allegiance led by Leny Freeman
  - a. Lydia identified an alarming situation at the entrance to Riverwood Ranch. There are hundreds of cars that are double/illegally parked and much trash left around. This is in the area of Big Tujunga Canyon/Oro Vista. The City has lowered the cost of permits to \$25 for street vendor permits; KT said she counted 23 illegal vendors. Jon commented that this issue has come up in the Neighborhood Watch meetings and we should involve our SLOs.
  - b. Board Vacancy: Region 4 Representative - South of Foothill Blvd. between Sunland Blvd. on the west & Tujunga Canyon on the east – contact [president@stnc.org](mailto:president@stnc.org) for information to apply.
  - c. Board member recusals or paid lobbyists in attendance - none
  - d. Update on Oro Vista Survey & Outreach – LA Sanitation is coordinating the plans to improve this area in Sunland along Oro Vista from Foothill to Hillrose, approximately. There is a survey about what types of plants people would like to see.
  - e. Events. Lydia said that there were a lot of events this past month. Movie in the Park and 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade was successful.
2. Roll Call, Voting Eligibility - Karen Moran, Recording Secretary & Completion of City / DONE Required trainings status for the STNC board & committees
  - a. Roll call taken
  - b. Training – Lydia asked if everyone in attendance has current training, which they do.

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Lydia Grant	Present	Yes	President
Lallah Rowe	Present	Yes	1st VP
Ross Herman	Present	Yes	2nd VP
Carol Hutchinson	Absent*	Yes	Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Correspondence Sec
Karen Moran	Present	Yes	Recording Sec
Leny Freeman	Present	Yes	Region 1 Rep

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
KT Travers	Present	Yes	Region 1 Rep
Sherry McCoy	Present	Yes	Region 2 Rep
Mapuana Moran	Absent	Yes	Region 2 Rep
Mike Goglia	Absent	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Peter Darakjian	Absent	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Jon von Gunten	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Belinda Woodruff	Absent	No	Region 4 Rep
Trevor Schmidt	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Mark Seigel	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Chris Rowe	Present	Yes	Education Rep
Cheryl Schmidt	Present	Yes	Public Safety Rep
Nina Royal	Present	Yes	Senior Rep
Vartan Keshish	Absent	Yes	Community Interest Rep
Quorum: 14 present at roll call, 6 absent (* Note: Carol arrived after roll call)			

3. Discussion/Q&A with LAPD, Elected Officials/Representatives, DONE, NC Budget Advocates, City Departments (2 min per Representative including Q&A)
  - a. Officer Godoy did not have RS numbers to status. There was an active discussion about the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and the water balloon problem that continues each year. Officer Godoy that that we could make a right turn onto Sherman Grove to avoid the water balloons; Raul said this information was in a pamphlet available. Danny Trejo was water-ballooned. Jon said that about 5-6 years ago there was a 'willing to get wet' zone implemented, but people still throw water balloons throughout the parade route and more police presence would help. Lydia noted last year a Board member was injured by a water balloon. KT asked if there were any arrests made for people shooting off fire-works; Officer Godoy said that there were no arrests for fire-works.
  - b. Jim Roy, District Representative, California State Senate, said that the parade was a great event and people with super-soakers were not discouraged although there was a concern about children running in the road during the event. Jim commented about the Oro Vista / Tujunga Canyon homeless concern saying he would take a drive to the area and he encouraged people to contact his office about the problem. Jim said bills were being reviewed during August and there are 20 that are active at this time; he can give out bill numbers for review that can be put on the STNC website. KT commented that last year there were complaints by residents about Oro Vista for illegal parking; the Forestry Service would not interfere. It was suggested that maps about where people are legally allowed to park and camp be provided when they are sold permits. This is Federal land, not State land. Jim said he could suggest to the Dept of Forestry that maps

be provided. Lydia would like to get a bigger team together to resolve the problem. Jasmine Wolfe, community member, volunteers at the park and commented about permits and rules where people can park. Jim said that you need different permits to camp overnight and fires are not allowed anywhere other than a firepit; fires continue to be a major concern. Lydia said that there has been no response when open fires are reported. Lydia asked Officer Godoy about the Vellejo site that there was a homeless person who broke the window of a sanitation truck; Officer Godoy said the individual was arrested. Godoy said that the community should report trash and it will be picked up.

- c. Diana Oganessian, LA County Board of Supervisors, provided details about current charter reform initiatives and that an ethics commission will be on the ballot for voters in the future, and other legislative matters on-going. KT commented to expect more reporting of illegal vendors.
  - d. Raul Preciado, NEA at the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment for the City of Los Angeles, commented that Carmen Chang, [the new General Manager of the Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment](#), will be at a meeting tomorrow night (<https://clerk.lacity.org/calendar>). Only 1-2 people are outstanding in completion of the Code of Conduct and training. Raul said he could be reached at [Raul.Preciado@LAcity.org](mailto:Raul.Preciado@LAcity.org). Lydia said she could help with the two people who haven't completed their training.
  - e. Cristina Holland, Sr. Public Relations Specialist at Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, said that there was a new scam going around where people are posing as Dept staff to households saying that they want to test the quality of the water in their homes. Christina said to always ask to see a badge, they should have a company vehicle, but this is not something that the Dept does (to go house to house in-person). Christina also reminded that if you experience a power loss, go to the LADWP website and you will see a map that will show the outages they are aware of. People are also encouraged to call and report issues.
  - f. Public comment. Bill Pullman - Owner at 10065 Commerce Ave. has been working on the property for some time now; building a structure in the back. They are in the process of getting permits and there have been some issues related to parking. A coffee-café is desired and they would have to get a waiver for parking spaces and do a re-org of the parking and are here seeking community support. The STNC Land Use Committee will have this on their agenda next Monday for discussion and recommendation. Then it will come back to the Board.
4. Discussion/Motion RE: SELECTION INSTEAD OF CITY CLERK VOTE BY MAIL ONLY ELECTION FOR STNC BOARD ELECTIONS and adopt Chatsworth Neighborhood Council procedures and in person voting.
- a. Lydia led a discussion about the concerns with voting by mail only that the City is baselining. The City will not fund in-person elections like done pre-covid. One problem is that everyone has to submit driver's license and other identification to be eligible to vote. The Board would need to approve a process (similar to Chatsworth's NC) where elections can be in-person. Lalla moved and Nina seconded a vote to approve in-person only elections.
  - b. KT asked if the vote had to be in-person only (or if a hybrid could be done). Lydia said that the City Clerk stated that they can't see a way to do both (in-person and vote by mail). KT commented that if the candidates were present so people could meet them,

they would have to be further than 100 ft from the polling place; Lydia said this would be done. Jon noted that we are home to 6-7 elder homes and they are not internet savvy and would not have ID; they would be disenfranchised. Ross wanted to know if regulations for our election are more stringent than general election in November Lydia commented that we can work with other NCs for volunteers and we can help them also to support in-person elections; voting in the past by mail has been labor intensive.

- c. Lallah noted that in-person elections have prevented people in the past who weren't qualified to vote in our area from doing so; there were other violations and we need to handle our own elections. Chris R said that vote by mail only is voter suppression; Lydia said we would be able to do elections the way we want but we might have to change our Standing Rules to do so and that other NCs also want to do in-person. Nina said we did a good job in the past and it is good to meet the candidates. Mark commented that we did a good job in the past also, and commented that in the past we have two crews of 2-people each to assist people in the community vote if they could not get to the polling place themselves. Lydia said we should know the results within a couple of hours after polls closing.

A motion made and passed to conduct in-person elections for the STNC Board Elections and adopt Chatsworth Neighborhood Council procedures for in person voting.

<b>Item 4. A motion to approve conducting in-person elections for the STNC Board Elections and adopt Chatsworth Neighborhood Council procedures for in person voting.</b>					
<b>Motion: L Rowe, Second: Royal</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Recuse</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, von Gunten, T Schmidt, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal,  15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 5 absent					M Moran, Goglio, Darakjian, Woodruff, Keshish

- 5. Discussion/Action to approve members to the STNC Land Use Committee (LUC): David Jenkins and Jorge Martinez (former LUC member)
  - a. Cindy provided background on candidates. A motion was made and approved for David Jenkins and Jorge Martinez to join the LUC.

<b>Item 5. Motion to approve members to the STNC Land Use Committee (LUC): David Jenkins and Jorge Martinez</b>					
<b>Motion: Cleghorn, Second: L. Rowe</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Recuse</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, von Gunten, T Schmidt, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal,  15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 5 absent					M Moran, Goglio, Darakjian, Woodruff, Keshish

6. Motion to approve LUC support letter regarding 6456 W. Olcott St. (Parcel Map Application Case No. AA-2020-3222-PMLA)
- a. Cindy said this item has been on our radar for some time; it is a lot split into 3. Cindy provided a map of the location and some details about the project. The LUC has approved this project. Jon said he was happy the oak tree will be saved and questioned if the oak tree will be cared for going forward. Cindy said there are no plans at this time. Lydia suggested that a letter from an arborist go to anyone who are responsible for oak trees about how to care for them. KT said that the oak tree leaves have to remain, not be blown away, to protect the oak tree. A motion was made and approved to support the project lot splitting at 6456 W Olcott St.

<b>Item 6. A motion to approve LUC support letter regarding 6456 W. Olcott St. (Parcel Map Application Case No. AA-2020-3222-PMLA).</b>					
<b>Motion: L Rowe, Second: Royal</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Recuse</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, McCoy, von Gunten, T Schmidt, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal,  13 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain, 0 ineligible, 5 absent	Travers	Seigel			M Moran, Goglio, Darakjian, Woodruff, Keshish

7. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (FUNDING) - Note: Consent calendar items are considered to be non-controversial and will be treated as one agenda item. Any Board member or stakeholder may request that an item be removed. There will be no discussion of these items unless an item is removed from the consent calendar, in which case it will go to the end of New Business and be considered as time allows. MOTION: The STNC Board approves the funding consent calendar:
- a. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve June MER
- b. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve Tree Watering Event in August and up to \$150 for STAT committee outreach and postcards up to \$100 cost to be printed by Sunland Printing.
- c. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$4,000 for National Night Out August 6 Sponsorship
- d. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve contract be prepared by City Clerk as required by City for payment of services to the Webcorner for stnc.org website at \$150 per month.
- e. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve up to \$920 for bus bench ads outreach promoting the STARC and the STNC *[recommended by Budget Committee 6/26/24]*
- f. Discussion/Action: Motion to approve amended 2024-25 NCFP. *[recommended by Budget Committee 6/26/24]*
- A motion was made, and passed, to approve all items, a through f.

<b>Item 7. Motion to approve all Item 7 Consent Calendar Funding Items, Items a through f.</b>					
<b>Motion: Cleghorn, Second: L. Rowe</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Recuse</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Hutchinson, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, von Gunten, T Schmidt, Siegel, C Rowe, C Schmidt, Royal,  15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 5 absent					M Moran, Goglio, Darakjian, Woodruff, Keshish

8. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS (NON-FUNDING) - Note: Consent calendar items are considered to be non-controversial and will be treated as one agenda item. Any Board member or stakeholder may request that an item be removed. There will be no discussion of these items unless an item is removed from the consent calendar, in which case it will go to the end of New Business and be considered as time allows. MOTION: The STNC Board approves the non-funding consent calendar:
- a. MOTION to Support CF 24-0002-S7 - Chief Legislative Analyst report 24-05-0313, dated June 11, 2024, relative to Resolution (Hernandez, Soto-Martinez - Hutt) to include in the City's 2023-24 State Legislative Program a position on SB 1103 (Menjivar), which would providing commercial tenant protections to reduce the risk of displacement for small businesses and nonprofits.
  - b. MOTION to Support 19-0183 - Motion (Rodriguez - Hernandez) relative to directing the Fire Department to report with an update to its' comprehensive review of the Department's youth programs.
  - c. MOTION to Support 23-0600-S58 - City Attorney report R24-0219, dated April 30, 2024, relative to the number of prosecutions that have been successfully pursued with respect to illegal cannabis operations and interventions.
  - d. MOTION to Support 24-0504 - City Administrative Officer report 0150-12650-0000, dated May 2, 2024, relative to the acceptance of a non-competitive grant from Best Friends Animal Society to hire part-time and as-needed staff at City animal shelters.
  - e. MOTION to support 13-1493-S17 - Motion (Hernandez for Soto-Martinez - Price) relative to directing the Bureau of Street Services to prioritize and report on plans to implement: personally serving citations regarding violations of sidewalk vending rules, avoiding a violation in the future, provide education regarding violations and information, and how to voice feedback and complaints.
  - f. MOTION to support 24-0002-S8 - Resolution (Hernandez - Harris-Dawson) relative to including in the City's 2024-25 State Legislative Program support for SB 1201 (Durazo), which would establish transparency in the ownership of LLC's and similar corporations by requiring each entity to disclose the name of each person with substantial control over the entity both upon creation and upon submitting their required biennial business filings.
  - g. MOTION to support and submit comment 24-0548 Motion (Krekorian for Raman - Lee) relative to that pursuant to Charter Section 245, the Council assert jurisdiction over the May 6, 2024 Board of Public Works actions on Case: BPW-2024-0168 relative to an

appeal filed by the property owner on the subject of illegal protected tree and shrub removal at 8461 West Grand View Drive. STNC Comment: people who knowingly harm or remove protected trees to be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law or policies in place.

- h. MOTION to support 24-0002-S5 Chief Legislative Analyst report 24-05-0318, dated May 16, 2024, relative to Resolution (Rodriguez - Blumenfield- Padilla) to include in the City's 2023-2024 State Legislative Program position for AB 3043 (Rivas), which would require safety and licensing measures for the fabrication of engineered stone to address the increase in silicosis caused by the inhalation of respirable dust containing crystalline silica.
- i. MOTION to support 23-0002-S136 To Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee Resolution (Raman, Yaroslavsky - Harris-Dawson) relative to including in the City's 2023-24 State Legislative Program a position on AB 2909 (Santiago), which would expand the definition of qualified historic properties, under the Mills Act, and AB 2910 (Santiago), which would facilitate the conversion of commercial buildings to residential.
- j. MOTION to submit comments - 24-0465 City Administrative Officer report, dated May 29, 2024, relative to the salary recommendation for the permanent General Manager of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Carmen Chang.
- k. MOTION to support - 21-0329-S5 To Housing and Homelessness Committee - Motion (Yaroslavsky - Harris-Dawson) relative to directing the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority and City Administrative Officer, with input from the Los Angeles Police Department, Bureau of Sanitation, Bureau of Streets Services, and the Department of Transportation, to report on a plan to develop a uniform tracking system for City-directed encampment engagements and enforcement, and as further directed in this motion.
- l. MOTION to support - 24-0645 Municipal Facilities Committee report 0220-06177-0000, dated June 4, 2024, relative to authorizing the Department of Animal Services to execute a Request for Proposals process for management contracts to provide for the operation of the Northeast and Jefferson Park Animal Service Centers.
- m. MOTION to support - 24-0673 To Council- Motion (Krekorian - Lee) relative to the transfer/appropriation of funds from the Neighborhood Service Enhancements line item in the General City Purposes Fund to the Los Angeles Police Department's Foothill Division, North Hollywood Division, and Van Nuys Division to address fireworks, provide extra patrols and support for various programs, and for vehicle recycling and dismantling.
- n. MOTION to support 24-0677 City Administrative Officer report 0150-12672-0000, dated May 20, 2024, relative to authorizing the Department of Building and Safety to execute a contract with Unisys Corporation for software licenses and maintenance support, for the Los Angeles City Permitting System.
- o. MOTION to support 22-0156-S2 To Public Safety Committee Board of Police Commissioners report, dated June 13, 2024, relative to the standing reward for copper wire theft and streetlight vandalism.
- p. MOTION of Non-Support – 23-0002-S119 - Chief Legislative Analyst report 24-05-0321, dated June 18, 2024, relative to Resolution (Hernandez - Raman) to include in the City's 2023-24 State Legislative Program a position on Senate Bill 1170 (Menjivar), which would permit the use of campaign funds to pay for or reimburse mental health care

expenses for a non-incumbent candidate that does not have health insurance or has been denied coverage.

- q. Motion to Support - 24-0517 Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners report, dated June 20, 2024, relative to authorizing the Department of Recreation and Parks to accept the grant funds, if awarded, from the California Department of Education for the 2024-25 California State Preschool Program.
- r. Motion to recommend City Council support AB 30-85, which is expected to come up for a hearing on July 2, 2024. This bill would expand the punishment for those involved in street takeovers by impounding the cars of those involved for 30 days and making the registered owners pay all impound and administrative fees.
- s. MOTION to approve STNC letter regarding process to select DONE General Manager and submit to Mayor and City Council and any relevant City Council files.
- t. MOTION to support Los Angeles City Attorney re: SB 1128 - to Protect California’s Youth From Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation. [https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202320240SB1128](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202320240SB1128)
- u. MOTION TO Approve May 2024 STNC Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve all items, a through u, with the exception of item s which was pulled and discussed separately. The motion passed.

<b>Item 8. A motion to approve Consent Calendar (Non-Funding) Items a through u with item 8s not included</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Ineligible</b>	<b>Recuse</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Grant, L Rowe, Herman, Cleghorn, K Moran, Freeman, Travers, McCoy, von Gunten, T Schmidt, Siegel, C Rowe, Royal  13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 7 absent					Hutchinson, M Moran, Goglio, Darakjian, Woodruff, C. Schmidt,

*Note: At this time the Special General Board Meeting was commenced.*

- 9. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None.
- 10. Committee & Liaison Reports - by committee chairs present (See last page for committee members and meeting locations):
  - Land Use Committee - July 15 on Zoom - Update on ED1
  - Community Improvement & Government Affairs - TBA
  - Outreach Meeting July 18
  - Beautification: July 17
  - STAT: July 23
  - STARC: July 23 – *Pat wants to know how to proceed with bus bench ads. Cindy commented to contact Raul, our DONE rep.*
  - Youth & Adult Education: - No meetings
  - Budget & Finance: July 31



- Executive: July 31

***In the interest of time, Item 12 was not discussed in entirety – only the STARC comment was made.***

11. PRESENTATION & TRAINING on the Neighborhood Council (NC) System

- 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

***In the interest of time, Item 11 was not discussed.***

12. FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Carmen Chang, per Lydia, will be at meeting tomorrow night (LA City Council meeting).
- b. August 6<sup>th</sup> is National Night Out, be there at 4pm if you are assisting (and bring friends)
- c. Ross commented about Movies in the Park – there was a reasonable turn-out (over 100 people estimated) and everyone had a good time. It was a learning experience for the first time event. Lydia said people were very appreciative.

13. ADJOURN, 10:05 pm