

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA
Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council
General Board Meeting
Minutes

September 10, 2025

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

1. **Welcoming remarks:**

- a) Call to order & Flag salute - Lydia Grant, called to order at 7:03pm, Flag Salute led by Leny
- b) September 11 Remembrance – a moment of silence

2. Discussion/Possible action to appoint **Education Representative**. Cindy said there are no applicants at this time.

3. Discussion/Possible action to appoint **Region 2 Representative**. Cindy said there are no applicants at this time.

4. Discussion / Possible action to appoint **Region 4 Representative**. Cindy said there are no applicants at this time.

5. **Discussion/Q&A with LAPD, LAFD, Elected Officials/Representatives, DONE, NC Budget Advocates, City Departments**

- Nick Ferrari, LA Fire Department (FD). Lydia asked if there was any information about the trash can fire and noted we are starting the committee for Emergency Egress. Nick had no knowledge about the trash can fire, and commented they have been doing a lot of work for evacuation planning and there is a new program called Genesis that divides areas into zones they are partnering with the LAPD and Valley Bureau with. Nick said they would be willing to come in to a future meeting and also set up training, and will be in contact with Lydia. Lydia noted that our area has some areas inaccessible for fire trucks.
- Officer Caloca, LAPD. Statistics for crimes are not available for this period of time, but Officer Caloca commented on local encampments, noting that vacant properties are enticements for homeless to move into, resulting in lengthy eviction processes. Please let her know if there are vacant properties. Other states have implemented laws for squatters but California has not. Jon asked what the criteria was for protecting squatters

and Caloca responded that it is showing evidence of living there (e.g. receiving mail, anything connecting the property to their name, etc.).

- Officer Godoy, LAPD. Statistics for crimes are not available for this period of time but commented on homeless situations. Park Rangers worked with the LAPD to remove people from Sunland Park who had moved in with a trailer. Pat Kramer asked about pedestrian accidents; Godoy doesn't have information but can get back to Pat. Pat asked if we can get the speed limit reduced on Foothill Blvd and Godoy commented that the DOT is responsible for doing this and he can get the phone numbers to Pat.
- Ricardo, Field Rep, Rodrigues Office. Ricardo commented on upcoming events at Hansen Dam and said that the Dept of Recreation and Parks is continuing their park assessment study. He will look into what can be done to reduce the speed on Foothill Blvd. Cindy asked about the Sanitation truck which was torched; Ricardo is looking into the cause at this time. Jon asked about impacts to Foothill Blvd because it is a state route; Ricardo responded that we do have to follow state laws.
- Alex Avanesyan, Field Representative at California State Assembly, gave an overview of bill status in the state legislature, including SB79, and said that there are exemptions for fire hazard severity zones. He noted that the Assembly has not voted on it on the floor yet and affirmed that Nick Schultz will attend a future meeting when Lydia inquired.
- Jose Galdamez, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA), gave an overview of upcoming events including a Homeless Liaison meeting September 18 (6-9pm) with USC Homeless Policy Research Institute presenting a report and reminded people that they have to register for the event. Also the Congress of Neighborhoods will meet September 27th, and the Neighborhood Congress is coming up with parking provided. Jose commented about changes for the Board and encouraged people to contact him with questions. Lydia said we are having a Board Retreat on Sunday and will send a copy of agenda to Jose when completed. Victoria, Jon and Cindy commented about training status currency and Lydia said that she has completed the treasurer training.

6. **Roll Call, Voting Eligibility** - Karen Moran, Recording Secretary & Completion of City / DONE

Required trainings status for the STNC board & committees

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Lydia Grant	Present	Yes	President
Armen Mardirousi	Present	Yes	1st VP
Melissa Sagastume	Present	Yes	2nd VP
Barry Glover	Absent	No	Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Correspondence Sec

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Karen Moran	Present	Yes	Recording Sec
Leny Freeman	Present	Yes	Region 1 Rep
Brenna Gibson Redpath	Absent	Yes	Region 1 Rep
Sherry McCoy	Present	Yes	Region 2 Rep.
VACANT			Region 2 Rep
Mikal McEnany	Absent	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Dillon Dorothy	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Jon von Gunten	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep.
Vicky Cerpa	Present	No	Region 4 Rep
Dante Jose Calvo	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Mark Seigel	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
VACANT			Region 4 Rep
Cheryl Schmidt	Present	Yes	Public Safety Rep
Nina Royal	Absent	Yes	Senior Rep
Vartan Keshish	Absent	Yes	Community Interest Rep
Barbara Nitkin			MC, and Board Member Northridge East NC
Doug Chapin			MC
Pat Kramer			MC, STAT Committee
Roger Klemm			MC
Joe DeCenzo			MC, STARC

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Paul Amsbrusder			MC
Peter Derakjian			MC
13 present; 5 absent (18 total); Dillon Dorothy came in late (~ 7:45pm)			

7. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

8. Funding Items

- a) Discussion/Possible Action: To approve \$10,267.67 in roll over funds to be placed in the STNC Budget Outreach category. *[motion approved by Budget & Finance Cmte 9/2/25].*

Item 8a. Motion to approve \$10,267.67 in roll over funds to be placed in the STNC Budget Outreach category					
Motion: Cleghorn Second: Sagastume					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Seigel, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Sagastume 11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total			Cerpa		Redpath, McEnany, Glover, Royal, Keshish, Schmidt

- b) Discussion/Possible Action: Board Retreat expense up \$600 for refreshments, supplies and printing - Sept. 14 at 12noon *[motion approved by Budget & Finance Cmte 9/2/25]*

Item 8b. Motion to approve Board Retreat expense up \$600 for refreshments, supplies and printing - Sept. 14, 12pm					
Motion: Cleghorn Second: Freeman					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent

Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Seigel, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Sagastume			Cerpa		Redpath, McEnany, Glover, Royal, Keshish, Schmidt
11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total					

- c) Discussion/Possible Action: Support NC Congress up to \$250 to be held Sept. 27 @ 7AM and who will be attending. Register at:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfJkjAqEt74MGY-GHQSS6JMKpjbMi_XzVnFV_KrOJdHJXNcUw/viewform?mc_cid=35ce98c1e4 [motion approved by Budget & Finance Committee 9/2/25]. Cindy encouraged people to attend including the community. Pat plans to attend and Melissa hopes to. Parking is free but need to register.

Item 8ac Motion to approve supporting NC Congress up to \$250 to be held Sept. 27					
Motion: Cleghorn Second: Sagastume					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Seigel, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Sagastume			Cerpa		Redpath, McEnany, Glover, Royal, Keshish, Schmidt
11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total					

9. Discussion/Possible Action: To approve outstanding General Board Meeting minutes.

Item 9. Motion to approve Outstanding General Board Meeting minutes					
Motion: Cleghorn Second: Grant					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent

Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Sagastume		Seigel	Cerpa		Redpath, McEnany, Glover, Royal, Keshish, Schmidt
10 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, 1 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total					

10. Committees of the STNC and Motion to approve committee members

- a) **Land Use Committee** - Meeting Oct. 6 @ 7:00pm - Zoom - Motion to approve meeting location on Zoom, once a month on first, second or third Monday at 7 p.m. Committee members: Richard Marshalian, Cindy Cleghorn* Nina Royal* Liliana Sanchez, Vartan Keshish*, Betty Markowitz, Berj Zadoian, Peter Darakjian, David Jenkins, Jorge Martinez, Stephanie Mines (alternate), one vacant seat and three vacant alternate seats (quorum 7). Comments from Cindy encouraging people to join. A motion was made and the vote passed.

Item 10a. Motion to approve Land Use Committee (LUC) meeting location on Zoom, once a month on first, second or third Monday at 7 p.m. Committee members: Richard Marshalian, Cindy Cleghorn* Nina Royal* Liliana Sanchez, Vartan Keshish*, Betty Markowitz, Berj Zadoian, Peter Darakjian, David Jenkins, Jorge Martinez, Stephanie Mines (alternate), one vacant seat and three vacant alternate seats.					
Motion: Seigel Second: Mardirousi					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Seigel, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Sagastume			Cerpa		Redpath, McEnany, Glover, Royal, Keshish, Schmidt
11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total					

- b) **Land Use Committee - Motion to support or non support for 45 ft Wireless**
Telecommunications Facility (WTF) at 8325 Foothill Blvd. Sunland 91040-Case: ZA-2025-923-CUW - public hearing to be held 9/17/25 at 9:30 am.
- This was discussed and voted on during the Special General Board meeting.
- c) **Beautification:** 9/18 @ 6PM - in person @ ST Library - Motion to approve meeting location ST Library on third Thursday of each month at 6pm and committee members:

Nelly Luboff, Roger Klemm, Angela Nordhagen, Matt Walker, KT Travers, Gerardo Barrientos and Marjorie Maxon is our minute taker. (quorum _____). A motion was made by Jon and seconded by Leny, a vote taken and the motion passed.

Item 10c. Motion to approve Beautification Committee meeting location at the ST Library on the third Thursday of each month at 6pm and committee members: Nelly Luboff, Roger Klemm, Angela Nordhagen, Matt Walker, KT Travers, Gerardo Barrientos and Marjorie Maxon is our minute taker.					
Motion: Von Gunten Second: Freeman					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Seigel, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Sagastume <i>11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total</i>			Cerpa		Redpath, McEnany, Glover, Royal, Keshish, Schmidt

- d) **Outreach Meeting** - 9/18 @ 7PM - Zoom - Motion to approve meeting location on Zoom on the third Thursday of each month at 7pm with committee members: Melissa Sagastume (chair per STNC bylaws), Leny Freeman - Region 1, Sherry McCoy – Region 2; Mikal McEnany - Region 3; Dante Calvo - Region 4 and Karen Moran is our minute taker. (quorum _____). Melissa described the committee and invited others to join. A motion was made by Melissa and seconded by Sherry that passed.

Item 10d. Motion to approve Outreach meeting location on Zoom on the third Thursday of each month at 7pm with committee members: Melissa Sagastume (chair per STNC bylaws), Leny Freeman - Region 1, Sherry McCoy – Region 2; Mikal McEnany - Region 3; Dante Calvo - Region 4 and Karen Moran is our minute taker.					
Motion: Sagastume Second: McCoy					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent

Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Seigel, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Sagastume			Cerpa		Redpath, McEnany, Glover, Royal, Keshish, Schmidt
11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total					

- e) **STAT** - 9/23 - @ 6PM - virtual Zoom - Motion to approve meeting location on Zoom on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6pm with committee members: Pat Kramer (chair), Jon von Gunten (co-chair/board member), Dante Calvo (board member), Cheryl Schmidt (board member), George Arakel (quorum ____). Pat described the function of the committee which focused around traffic and safety. Pat also commented about the active tree watering events and thanked Cheryl and Melissa for finding sponsors for food for the recent event. Pat mentioned the Tree Adoption program which is very successful with over 70 trees having been adopted and thanked Pat for tree chart. A motion was made by Leny and seconded by Melissa which passed.

Item 10e. Motion to approve the STAT meeting location on Zoom on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6pm with committee members: Pat Kramer (chair), Jon von Gunten (co-chair/board member), Dante Calvo (board member), Cheryl Schmidt (board member), George Arakel					
Motion: Freeman Second: Sagastume					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Seigel, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Sagastume			Cerpa		Redpath, McEnany, Glover, Royal, Keshish, Schmidt
11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total					

- f) **STARC**: 9/23 @ 7:30PM - in person @ McGroarty Art Center - Motion to approve meeting location on Zoom, fourth Tuesday of each month at 6pm with committee members: Joe De Cenzo (chair), Dawn Jenkins, Gerardo Barrientos, Joanna Gates, Corey Stein, KT Travers (quorum 4). Joe D provided a description of the STARC whom he has been a member of for many years. Joe shared that it is a great connection point for artists and a letter of support for artists from the committee can go a long way if applying for a grant, etc. Comments also from Lydia. The vote, with a motion from Cindy and seconded by Armen, passed unanimously.

Item 10f. Motion to approve STARC meeting location on Zoom, fourth Tuesday of each month at 6pm with committee members: Joe De Cenzo (chair), Dawn Jenkins, Gerardo Barrientos, Joanna Gates, Corey Stein, KT Travers.					
Motion: Cleghorn Second: Mardirousi					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Seigel, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Sagastume <i>11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total</i>			Cerpa		Redpath, McEnany, Glover, Royal, Keshish, Schmidt

- g) **Youth & Adult Education:** - TBA
- h) **Emergency Preparedness** - Upcoming CERT training in Spanish, Armenian & English
- i) **Budget & Finance:** 9/24 @ 6:30pm - Zoom - Motion to approve committee members: Barry Glover (Chair, per bylaws), Carol Hutchinson, Nina Royal, Lydia Grant (quorum 3)

Item 10i. Motion to approve Budget & Finance Committee committee members: Barry Glover (Chair, per bylaws), Carol Hutchinson, Nina Royal, Lydia Grant					
Motion: Seigel Second: Mardirousi					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Seigel, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Sagastume <i>11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total</i>			Cerpa		Redpath, McEnany, Glover, Royal, Keshish, Schmidt

- j) **Budget & Finance:** Motion to approve Karen Moran, STNC Bank Card Holder and access to Funding Portal to upload receipts and related tasks.

Item 10j. Motion to approve Karen Moran, STNC Bank Card Holder and access to Funding Portal to upload receipts and related tasks					
Motion: Mardirousi Second: Freeman					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Seigel, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Sagastume <i>11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total</i>			Cerpa		Redpath, McEnany, Glover, Royal, Keshish, Schmidt

- k) **Community Improvement & Government Affairs (CIGA) 9/24 @ 6:15pm - Zoom -** Motion to approve committee members: Armen Mardirousi (Chair, per bylaws), Lydia Grant, Carol Hutchinson, Cindy Cleghorn. Lydia described what CIGA does. A vote was taken, made by Cheryl and seconded by Jon, which passed.

Item 10k. Motion to approve CIGA committee members: Armen Mardirousi (Chair, per bylaws), Lydia Grant, Carol Hutchinson, Cindy Cleghorn.					
Motion: Schmidt Second: Von Gunten					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Seigel, Dorothy, von Gunten, Calvo, Sagastume <i>11 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 6 absent, 18 total</i>			Cerpa		Redpath, McEnany, Glover, Royal, Keshish, Schmidt

- l) **Executive:** 9/24 @6:30pm - Zoom - Committee members per bylaws: Lydia Grant, Armen Mardirousi, Cindy Cleghorn, Melissa Sagustume, Karen Moran, Barry Glover (quorum 3)

11. **Discussion/Action: SB79 Update** - City voted to oppose; stakeholder letters encouraged. Lydia said that the City has voted to oppose but if it goes to the Senate, writing letters would be

encouraged. Lydia also commented about the recent local gatherings to support opposition of SB79.

12. **Committee & Liaison Reports and Confirm Assignments** - by liaison chairs present. Lydia provided a description of groups and said that anyone can join. A Homeless Liaison rep is needed per Cindy. Victoria is interested in becoming a budget advocate and Lydia said this can be voted on at the next meeting.

- a) Homeless
- b) Citywide Budget / Budget Advocates
- c) LADWP MOU
- d) LADWP Committee
- e) LANCC
- f) VANC
- g) PlanCheckNC
- h) Emergency Preparedness
- i) Sustainability

13. **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 - V ANC meets 2nd Thursday on Zoom; LANCC meets 1st Saturday at 10am; PlanCheckNC meets 2nd Saturday at 10am, STNC Community Events/Meetings, Other Training Opportunities

14. **FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a) STNC Board Retreat Sunday, Sept. 14 @ 12 noon; October 8 next Board meeting
- b) Lydia reminded everyone about the Board Retreat Sunday, 12pm, Caruso's Restaurant
- c) Lydia thanked Barb Nitkin from Northridge East NC for attending our meeting.
- d) Jon reminded that there is a Neighborhood Watch meeting at Joselito's on Tuesday, 10:30am. The guest speaker is the detective in charge of solving commercial burglaries in the area.

15. **ADJOURN**, 9:29pm