

STNC MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 10, 2010

North Valley Neighborhood City Hall
7747 Foothill Blvd., Tujunga, CA 91042

Attendance: 76, Audience: 59, Board: 16

1. **Call to Order** at 7:08 p.m. by Dan McManus, STNC President & Flag Salute. **Introduction of STNC Board:** John Blue, Mark Seigel, Belinda Woodruff, Marti Marshall, Berj Zadoian, Nina Royal, Cindy Cleghorn, Dan McManus, Tomi Bowling, David Cain, Barbara Johnson, Rick Grubb, Janet Linsalato and John Laue, Richard Stewart and Linda Casteel.
2. **CD2 Updates:** Mary Benson, Field Deputy for CD 2, said there was no damage to report from the recent storms but that work needs to be done on Oro Vista where the river has diverted. She's working on a list of the 40 worst properties in the STNC area. If anyone has properties to suggest for that list, please contact her at the CD 2 field office. She also has a list of the 13 medical marijuana places in town that the STNC has on file. She said the Department of Building and Safety would be the enforcing agency when that process moves forward.
3. **City Budget Updates:** Nina Royal attended the City Council Budget Committee meeting and learned that the NCs may lose their credit cards. She noted that this would slow down the payment process by 2 – 3 months. Dan added that the budget is in critical condition and encouraged stakeholders to give input to the city as it reflects on STNC's future.
4. **STNC President's Report/Comments:** Dan announced that Write-In Candidates can file for the STNC Election until Feb. 25, 2010 at 5 p.m. The election takes place on March 27th from 1 pm – 7 p.m. at North Valley City Hall. The forms for candidates are on the STNC website. The following candidates for STNC's board introduced themselves and the office they are running for: Nina Royal, President; David Cain; Vice President-Outreach; Barbara Johnson, Region 3; John Laue, Region 1; Tomi Bowling, Vice President-Community Improvement; Janet Linsalato, Region 1; Belinda Woodruff, Region 4; Thomas MaCauley, Youth Rep; Cara DiCaro, Student Rep; Olina Lowe, Senior Rep; Nanci Caillouet, Historic Rep; Dan McManus, President; John Blue, Veterans Affairs; Cindy Cleghorn, Secretary; Richard Stewart, Service Club Rep; and Mark Seigel, Treasurer.

The STNC candidates will speak at the next STNC board meeting on March 10 and the CANDIDATES MIXER on March 24, 2010 at North Valley City Hall.

Dan also announced the new 2010 forms for the STNC Best of Business Awards are available on the STNC website.

5. **SurveyLA** - James Ebert and Lester Probst of the Office of Historical Resources alerted the board that surveyors will be in our area starting in April for this joint project between the Getty Foundation and the City of L.A. There are 860,000 structures in the city of LA that have been identified as 'historic.' This three year project will send two-man teams out in to the field to identify the resources' architectural, physical, and visual qualities and characteristics; assess the impacts of changes or alterations; and document overall condition through photography.

Surveyors will not need to obtain access to private property or ask questions of property owners or residents. They asked anyone interested in volunteering to fill out the neighborhood volunteer registration form at: www.surveyla.org or if someone wants to document a historic site, to fill in information on the historic resources ID form. *Note: The STNC through its Land Use Committee has a compiled list with photographs and information consisting of over 200 pages on file and CD2 and Survey LA have a copy.*

6. Community Outreach Presentation: - Tomi Lyn Bowling presented The Foothills Forum site's founders Mike Wilken and Kara Hansen with a certificate of appreciation. She also coordinated the news coverage efforts of KCBS/KCAL 9 reporter Glen Walker in reporting the Station Fire last September. Reporter Glen Walker then thanked the board (with tape rolling).

7. Secretary's Report: Cindy Cleghorn gave the following report:

- a. A Grievance was filed with DONE by David DeMulle on Jan. 26, 2010. The complaint alleged that STNC was in violation of the Brown Act for not advertising the upcoming board election in local papers. A grievance committee was appointed to investigate the grievance and that committee found no evidence to support this grievance. The board then voted by unanimous consent to accept the findings of the grievance committee. (Nina Royal recused herself from this agenda item.)
- b. Minutes of 1-13-2010 – The board voted by unanimous consent to accept the minutes as presented.
- c. City Controller has released an audit of Real Property Trust Fund revenues.

8. Public Comment & Announcements (non-agenda items)

- David Cain brought homemade chili and Nanci Caillouet made homemade corn bread for everyone attending the board meeting tonight. David suggested the community contribute food items creating a pot luck dinner at future board meetings, making meetings more of a social gathering. David will organize this. To contact him with food contributions email: Davidcainstnc@gmail.com.
- Marc Dodell noted that the cities of Burbank and Glendale are using empty storefronts as make-shift art galleries. He suggested doing the same in Sunland-Tujunga.
- Debi Acosta, principal Mt. Gleason Middle School, introduced Assistant Principal Kevin Sites, who oversees the Counseling Office. He is not only a school administrator but is also a graduate of Verdugo Hills High.
- Thomas Macauley, of VHHS, spoke about the UCLA Blood Drive on March 13th at VHHS.
- Linda Casteel, S-T Friends of the Library, announced the book sale on Sat., March 13, 10 – 4 p.m. at the Sunland/Tujunga branch library.
- Marlene Hitt spoke about the Poet Laureate Content for S-T. She invited the public to join the Poetry and Literature Committee of McGroarty. For more info: www.villagepoets.org.

- Sean Rivas, board member of Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council, came to the meeting to share his experience as their Outreach Chair. He invited everyone to their candidate's forum at the Granada Hills Pavilion. Go to: www.GHSNC.org for more info.
- Nina Royal, publisher of the North Valley Reporter, issued an invitation for the public to attend upcoming Budget LA and Saving LA Project meetings.
- Richard Stewart: ST Rotary Club, announced their fundraiser, which will include a Barbershop Quartet performance, Russian speakers, and a March 6th performance of a 14 piece dance band and dance contest salsa, swing, hip-hop, fox trot at the Elks Club.
- Dan McManus spoke about the possibility of becoming a 'test community' for Google's new high speed internet system. He would like a committee or study group to review and fill out the application to volunteer S-T for this content. The deadline for the application is March 26th.

9. Board Member Reports:

Ricky Grubb, STNC's environmental rep, said he would not be running again for a board seat but asked the community to step up and cover this important function.

David Cain spoke about flood prevention efforts including the flood control basin above Seven Hills and Haines Canyon.

John Blue said that he has created Archives of previous meeting hand-outs for the past 2 – 3 years. He asked anyone with information on STNC board meetings to share it with him for the Archives, particularly from STNC's early founding days.

Belinda Woodruff thanked Richard Stewart for his efforts in transforming an empty lot in Tujunga into something of artistic beauty and mystery.

Marti Marshall noted that the Boy Scouts are very active with many troops.

John Laue spoke about the rising waters in the Tujunga Wash. He also asked for information on getting trees donated for Eldora Place.

10. Land Use Committee Chair Report –

a. (Bowling) moved on behalf of LUC that STNC accepts a letter written by LUC recommending a moratorium on wireless telecommunications facilities in the City until an ordinance is in place. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

b. Report: Chairperson Tomi Lyn Bowling acknowledged the presence of City Councilmember Krekorian and Commissioner Alarcon at their last Land Use Meeting regarding saving oak trees on McGroarty. She spoke about a problem/eyesore with a Verizon cell tower in Tujunga. Verizon has said they will fix it. On a similar note, AT&T and T-Mobile cell towers are cropping up all over L.A and that is creating problems for the residents. At the Verdugo Hills Golf Course a Tees on the Green restaurant is re-opening. Clear Wire, another wireless provider, is submitting applications for wireless transmitters in the community. – Sean Rivas, from GHSNC, said this company is known for its tactics with trading out telephone poles for larger, unsightly poles that carry protruding metal rods. The Angeles National Golf Course has a March 23rd

hearing for the transfer of their land (the parcel at Oro Vista), the appeal by Fish and Game and for their Certificate of Occupancy.

The next LUC meeting is Feb. 22 when auto uses along Foothill Blvd. are to be discussed.

13. Safety/Outreach Committee Report: Nina spoke about the new Police Captain, Joe Hiltner, who was assigned to the Foothill Division. She invited the public to join the Community Police Advisory Board which meets once a month. The first Detective/ Police Community Training, a 10-week course, will be starting soon. She is also working on another Safety Fair but said it won't happen until the end of the year. Anyone interested in CERT training can sign up with her. They need a minimum of 25 students, 18 years or older, to hold a class. The next Safety & Outreach meeting is on February 18 at the Tujunga YMCA.

14. Treasurer's Report.- Mark Seigel said he has been filing paperwork as required by the City Controller's audit. He has been informed that NCs are losing their petty cash funding as of March 31 due to city budget cuts. Mark still asks that board and stakeholders step forward to assist with the paperwork.

15. New Business

a. Family Fireworks Event Funding: (Bowling/Grubb) moved, "That the STNC board approve up to \$6,000 for the 4th of July Family Fireworks Festival 2010 with \$5,000 to be forwarded immediately, as a deposit, to either Pyro Spectaculars, Inc. for the fireworks display or another approved vendor, as provided. The remaining \$1,000 is to be encumbered to cover permit fees and costs, should they be required by the City of LA Fire Dept. or other agencies." (McManus and Stewart recused themselves from this vote). The motion carried unanimously.

b. Administrative Costs: (Cleghorn/Linsalato) moved, "That STNC approve an office administrative cost of \$75 to repair office equipment." The motion carried unanimously.

c. Folding Chair Expense: (Cleghorn/Bowling) moved, "That STNC approve up to \$1,000 to cover the cost of 80 folding chairs for the NVCH auditorium. The chairs will be marked with 'STNC' on the bottom. Note: Do-It Center has provided estimates of \$12 per chair plus tax." The motion carried unanimously.

d. Parliamentary Motion: Tabled.

16. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Minutes by Pat Kramer, Kelly Services