

Special Joint Board & Executive Committee Meeting
Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council
Wednesday, August 31, 2020 at 7:00 PM
ZOOM meeting

1. Call to Order 7:01 p.m. – Liliana Sanchez, president.

Cindy read from the EVG protocol the following: Welcomed everyone to the meeting. Supporting the meeting tonight will be Cindy Cleghorn and our DONE representative, when she arrives. I will be acting as the moderator to assist the president to unmute participants who wish to speak. For everyone listening to this meeting all attendees are muted and will be unmuted when called upon. During the meeting tonight the committee will discuss the items on the meeting agenda in numerical order unless the president receives a request from a committee member to take an item out of order. When the agenda item is open to public comment the following steps must be completed to be recognized by the moderator: Telephone attendees please press *9 on your dial pad and for computer users please select the raise hand. The moderator will see all who indicated that they would like to comment and will allow comments on a first come, first serve basis as time allows. For Public Comment when it is the member of the public's turn to speak, the moderator will announce the last digits of their telephone number or state the person's name as indicated on the Zoom participant list. The moderator will unmute and ask that they state their name for the record and proceed with their comment. When their time has expired the moderator will mute the speaker and advise that their time for comment has concluded. If you have a comment for an item that is not listed on the agenda, you may provide your comment during the Public Comment period. Comments are limited to two minutes per speaker and no more than two comment periods unless the president decides differently. General public comment should be addressed to the committee rather than individuals. Please understand that there are applicable laws that limit the actions we are able to take during today's meeting thus we may be legally limited to acting on a concern that you have expressed. However your topic may become the topic of discussion at a future meeting after we have had a chance to list the item on an agenda. General Public Comment will be under item #3 on the agenda and passed the meeting to the president.

Liliana asked to please raise your hand to be called on and wait to be recognized by her before speaking. You get one question and if time allows then she will return for a second question. This is for the committee members. Please conduct yourselves in a civil manner and support the president [reading from the STNC Bylaws] in an effort to preserve decorum.

2. Roll Call: Liliana Sanchez, President, Lydia Grant, First Vice President Community Improvement; Nina Royal, 2nd Vice President - Outreach; Sandy Capps, Treasurer; Cindy Cleghorn, Secretary, Board members: Pati Potter, Vartan Keshish, Carol Hutchinson, Glen Belt. Also present: Ivan Spiegel, Parliamentarian and Seme Park and Jasmine Elbarbary, DONE and five Audience Attendees.

3. General Public Comment on Non Agenda items - Katia Loree asked how much time and Liliana said one minute. Katia said she is a Tujunga resident and asked about what sort of accessibility options to this webinar, stating that she and others on this Zoom chat are hearing impaired, what are we doing about accessibility ?

4. Introduction of Meeting Host: Cindy Cleghorn, Secretary read the protocol for the meeting.

5. Review of EmpowerLA Neighborhood Council Virtual Governance Protocols - not presented. DONE staff arrived later.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion & Possible Action: Review and confirm items on the Draft #2 September 9, 2020 Board Meeting Agenda for the following

- i. Typos, mis-spelled words
- ii. Items that can be referred to committee
- iii. Items that can be postponed to October meeting
- iv. Items that are incomplete, refer back to requestor
- v. Items that are to be consent agenda items

- vi. Items that have been added since the Aug. 26 meeting
- vii. Items that are to be moved from the order presented on the draft
- viii. Time schedule items on the agenda

Liliana asked if this is the order Cindy sees us going through Draft #2 ? Cindy read the list above and presented two items received after the posting of the Draft #2. Cindy then shared the item that has a new version to it which is Item 11.C. Pat Kramer was in contact with Liliana about. It is not incorporated into the Draft #2. Other missing info is National Night Out. Asked about the invitation to Eric Early and Congressman Schiff. Also the DWP letter. Liliana said she attended the NCSA meeting last Saturday and she inquired for more input but hasn't heard. Also asked Lydia Grant for input. Hopes to forward this letter and if revised will ask for revision on Sept. 9.

Cindy then asked in the order to review are there any typos. Liliana said that BONC and DONE sent a letter on the Censure Motion.

Cindy then said an agenda request came that day, 8/31 from Judith Quiones, motion to oppose Rock Swart's motion to submit an addition to Council File regarding Defending LAPD. Also received an agenda request to to dismiss Censure Motion on grounds that Censure Motion was improperly submitted.

Liliana asked if we could take one at a time. Cindy asked ideally if we can go through the Draft #2 agenda from the beginning. Just go down the list.

Liliana said she didn't see any typos.

Liliana asked about Item 11. D. on Draft Agenda showing Rock Swart as presenter and that now another motion to oppose Rock Swart's motion has been received, should this be referred to committee ? Topic is in regard to Defending LAPD.

Note: Lydia Grant arriving late to the meeting said some are having difficulty getting onto the Zoom meeting tonight.

Nina asked to postpone the Censure Motion until others can get into the meeting.

Liliana reminded all to use the Raise hand feature.

Lydia asked to display the agenda on the screen. Lydia commented that Item 11. D. has already been to committee.

Pati commented that between items 11.C., D. they are saying the same thing. Liliana stated no, 11.C. is by chair, Pat Kramer and preference of her wording. Pati recommends leaving both.

Cindy suggested we collect all items and then vote collectively.

Liliana then asked for parliamentary assistance.

Ivan said that the original motion that came in 11.D. went through committee and passed and the motions to oppose it are not to this committee. Your job is to place items on the agenda, not discuss the merits. Get a motion for 11.D. to place on the agenda or not. Ivan recommends one at a time. Item 11. D.

Motion (Lydia/Nina) to keep item regarding Defunding LAPD on the agenda (Rock Swart's item) passed 4 Yes (Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn). 1 No (Sanchez) Ivan then stated that Roger Swart's name doesn't belong on this and that the Committee should be indicated. Public Comments: Judith - understands that it was already on the agenda, will her request also go to committee and be on an agenda in the future, is there absolutely no recourse for stakeholders. Katia - Express deep concern, man shot 4:30 today by LAPD and doesn't think it's good to place this item on the agenda and is being pushed through. People are dying in the streets and there are people in the community not OK with this. Bren: Stands in Defending LAPD and has been in year's of meetings wanting more traffic enforcement and we need more help from LAPD and she is a long term stakeholder, victim of violent crime in the City and happy to see this on the agenda for the next meeting. Dekker Dreyer - there are 100's in the community that directly oppose this. There's no clear consensus. It will be a nightmare moving this forward.

Doesn't agree going against the Mayor and City regarding funding. Until they get control so we are aware. Phone ending in 109 - Carol - We've been going over this item and STAT has been working on it for a year and it keeps getting put off. Just stick with 11. D. Why add another motion. This community has been long asking for visible LAPD presence. We support our police and let the board vote. Elizabeth Robbins - Also long term - groups historically marginalized. Police officers do not treat people equally. Does not feel safer with cops around. Feels safer with the community helping each other. Attendees: wanted to speak a second time. Semee from DONE commented that members of the public are given time once to speak. Liliana then said she would go a second round to committee members. Ivan advised Liliana to close public comment. Liliana closed public comment. Liliana made her comment that we have already discussed Defending the police and that we don't move on this. Lydia: This is being done because of a procedural problem that brought it back to the EC. Nina: We already sent a letter that we are opposed to Defunding and requested a seat at the table. This is procedural. Pati: Not able to speak because public comments closed. She wants all to have a copy of the agenda in hand. Roll Call Vote: passed 4 Yes (Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn). 1 No (Sanchez).

Item 9. F. & G. - **Motion** (Cindy/Sandy) to move these items back to the Community Improvement Committee. Pati requested to speak but was held back as she's not on the Executive Committee. Discussion: Lydia stated there is confusion with support or oppose. Roll Call Vote: passed 5 Yes (Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn). Parliamentarian Ivan Spiegel pointed out that the item did not say what it is about.

Liliana then asked if there were any other items that needed to be referred to a committee ?

Motion: (Lydia/Nina) that Item 11. E agenda request from Matt Walker, Stakeholder, on the draft agenda should go to committee. The item:
STNC statement denouncing violence, intimidation and display of racial hate groups.
Committee: Executive Committee Agenda Motion Request: The request is to have the STNC to release a formal statement affirming the fundamental right of every American to exercise their freedom of speech and "the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." As such, they formally denounce violence and intimidation from all sides at recent demonstrations and all future demonstrations and formally recognize it as a suppression of Americans 1st Amendment Rights. Included should be formal denunciation of all displays or actions that are in support of any racial hate groups or white supremacy. Public Comment: Liliana saw four attendees requesting to speak on the item being moved to committee. Katia said she has been part of the Albertson's people hanging out there since June 5 and has been personally threatened for 3 months and watched escalation of threats and being called horrible names, threatened with mace. She contacted LAPD and they said to go home if they don't like it. She has seen her friends being violently assaulted by white supremacists, known such as Luke Vella in the community who is part of the KKK as well as Pepperwoods. She wants to thank you for putting this on here because she's sick and tired of her friends getting hit and assaulted and maced in front of the store she wants to shop everyday. Judith: Doesn't think it should go to committee, it's a no brainer. If you have to discuss denouncing violence and display of racial hate, what is there to discuss. As a woman of color in the community that people drive by and yell "white power" this should not be a discussion, this should be a no brainer. Leave it on the agenda. And color me surprised that once again that Lydia, who is a white woman, wants to go and discuss this more and Nina who is friends with Elsa A ? who brings the proud boys to Sunland-Tujunga is scoffing and laughing at public comments. If you are supposed to represent us, then listen. Decker Dreyer: Appalled that this would be considered to go to committee. It's a no brainer. We have an insurgency in. These are not a witch hunt. These are people who've had HBO documentaries made about them individually like John Based Spartan Tarano and they are coming into our community and causing racial tension. If we can't stand up as a community, stand up and say we oppose this even if just as an ideological statement, what does that mean? It should be a no brainer that this goes on and it should be a no brainer that you all vote to endorse it. Eric Boyd: As the individual who was hit with a skateboard and had his head injured at that event he confirms there absolutely has been violence there and he and a friend of his being pepper sprayed which led to him trying to disarm the person from pepper spraying and the individual decided to jump on that punching him in the back of the head. You are acting like this isn't happening in this community and not the result of people being invited into this community, got to think again. Caller ending in 109: Carol said she knows there's been a problem with hate groups coming into town, doesn't have a problem with it going onto the board agenda. Everybody has to make their social statement. Doesn't see why you have to divide racial groups or white supremacy. Racial hate groups are racial hate groups no matter what color they are. Because the hate groups did not come in last week, the Trump group rally was peaceful. So to say that hate is coming from one side is totally not true. Leave it on and let the board decide. Bren: Let it go to vote. Even prior to this election year we've had

hate crimes from our gang members since gang restrictions were lifted. It goes from graffiti to physical acts of violence. There have been some instances from prior to 2020 that need to be addressed in the community.

Elizabeth: Sunland-Tujunga is known for hate groups and white supremacy as long as she's lived here (38 yrs). It's past time for the neighborhood to get together to say that violence and white supremacy has no place here. Idea that it started in the last few months is false. Background noise.

Julia: Moved into town 5 years and fired a handyman for displaying hate material and bringing t-shirts that promoted violence against democrats. Some people are proud of the town's reputation for being that way and there's a lot of newer people that have moved into town and we're scared and shocked that this is normal here. Not supposed to be normal. Important to make this statement. Need to do for the future of this town.

Pati: Leave them both on, let the board vote. Lived here longer than anyone. If you want to say who's of color then she's of color too. Pati has never felt the way the people are talking and has not been to any of the rallies and heard both sides. Tired of people bad mouthing everyone else. There was an interruption with someone speaking out from the attendees. Public Comment was closed. Parliamentarian Ivan Spiegel then asked if there was a letter attached to this? Cindy replied that what you see is what it is. Ivan stated that the motion doesn't go anywhere. He's suggested that our role on the EC is to make sure the paperwork is ready to go. You can't ask the board to just approve this without the paperwork. You can't ask the board to approve this and then someone write a statement later. It can go to committee. Someone has to write a statement and it should be the person who submitted should probably submit that. Liliana then called on Semee Park from DONE saying she's had other (for 2 months) inquiries from other constituents for STNC to make this type of announcement to denounce the violence and racism. Liliana submitted to DONE and the City Attorney about three times the attached emails that were sent to her and she is still waiting. She can't speak for herself. It has to go through DONE and City Attorney and is still waiting for the correct language to use and now we have this motion to move this particular announcement. Semee said they do recognize being overdue in providing formal guidance. When STNC condemned a letter received by a board member that had racial undertones that was to also ensure the board stood by its board member and as a Neighborhood Council system denouncing discrimination of any sort. In this case, we are still looking for greater guidance and clarity on, Semee recommends not agendizing this item because STNC is taking a position on a group that may or may not be part of the Sunland-Tujunga area. When you're talking about violence and intimidation and racial hate groups, is it happening within the Sunland-Tujunga boundaries? Is it a specific incident? Concern with trying to limit free speech which is outside the NC purview. Should there be a City Council file on a position that the City is taking or maybe an item on the agenda where people can come to talk about racial discrimination or racial hate groups. That would facilitate dialogue within the community. Not necessarily a Town Hall per se. If there are plans for a Town Hall, a lot of planning goes into it with thoughtful speakers and an organized way for people to submit comments. Encouraging stakeholders public comment. Having all formal statements ready for the board in front of them.

Sandy: When the stakeholder submitted was a letter attached? No, he did not upload a letter? No.

Nina: Noise was a cat jumping on her. She's experienced disrespect and going to committee so it could be ironed out. Extended Matt Walker and everyone else to the Outreach meeting. We look for people to give their input.

Lydia: The reason she asked is to pull out things that aren't ready to go to the board. Not only the working but DONE and City Attorney guidance needed. Lydia then requested to table the motion and appreciate Semee's comments. Failed for lack of a second. Semee clarified that DONE has not taken a position on hate speech. Up to the committee on how to move forward. If table, then would set aside til the meeting ends. Other refer to the committee to allow a written statement for the full board. Motion to postpone Lydia/Cindy this item until the City Council issues a Council File and then we can weigh in at that time. Roll Call Vote: passed 4 Yes (Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn) 1 No (Sanchez).

Motion: Item 11. F. (Lydia/Cindy) to move this item to committee. The item: STNC Board approves letter to ECCEJ Committee, City Council District 7 Monica Rodriguez, OPA (Office of Public Accountability), Mayor Eric Garcetti, City Attorney Mike Feuer Eliminating DWP tiers. The Residents of Sunland-Tujunga are requesting that the Department of Water and Power lift all water and electric tiers during the remaining year of 2020. Los Angeles residents are not only suffering financial hardships during this pandemic but we are also experiencing climate change with historical recorded high temperatures. Our elderly are especially vulnerable during this extreme heat and a limited pop-up cooling centers throughout Los Angeles are offering some relief from the extreme heat to some of our most vulnerable residents. Sunland-Tujunga residents do not have a cooling center option for their residents. We are asking that the DWP board immediately look at the current tier rates and approve imposing an emergency tier price reduction on both electric and water use in the city of Los Angeles. [Liliana Sanchez]

Discussion: Liliana said it needs to get in right away. She attended Sustainability and talked with the energy committee and waited for their input and they were very interested because it's not something they've heard of before. It's time sensitive. Lydia said it's not understood and is why it should be postponed to get speakers. Liliana said it's an emergency situation during the pandemic and financial hardship and heat wave. Lydia says information

on how tiers work and where the cut is coming from. Liliana's intent is to support the stakeholders to help them out, not to have speakers from the DWP. Public Comment: Bren: Appreciates bringing to committee. Would it be a pro rated tier? Likes it because it affects homeowners and renters. And people are working from home and they now have unexpected bills. Thinks it should be extended through the first quarter of 2021. Judith: the pandemic has affected bills for residents. People of color are living in poverty and any kind of delay is a decision to adversely affect LatinX and people of color in our community. This is already affecting people and should be moved on as quickly as possible. Public comment closed. Nina: We had a representative Greg Bartz come to all our meetings. I Like what he is trying to do but we need to see if he can come to the next meeting for explanation. Ask for the moon and be happy if we get something. Sandy: we're just discussing to put onto the agenda. Yes, we should have someone come and speak. We're in COVID now and kids are at home and we should move forward and not refer to the committee. Liliana said to email her at stnc.president2018@gmail.com. Lydia then withdrew her motion to refer to the committee. **New motion** to leave on the agenda contingent on having someone from DWP at the meeting: Roll Call Vote: passed 5 Yes (Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn).

Regarding Item #5 on the Draft Agenda: (Censure Motion) Liliana read from a communication received today from DONE asking us to remove the Censure Motion from the agenda.

Parliamentarian Ivan Spiegel advised Liliana to stay out of this item and hand the gavel to someone else. Semee Park, DONE, said that guidance was sent to the chair and movers of the motion to not take up this item due to Brown Act concerns and how the motion is written. DONE has concerns that the language of the Censure motion may not conform to BONC Commission's policy. The motion needs to be factual in nature and not meant to embarrass or hurt anyone in that manner. Ultimately the DONE gives the recommendation to not place on the agenda due to Brown Act concerns.

Cindy asked for clarification if Liliana is stepping back from presiding for this item. Next would be Lydia or Nina to preside and they were signers on this so suggests Sandy preside for this item? Parliamentarian Ivan Spiegel confirmed this is OK. Sandy then presided for this item.

Motion: (Cindy/Sandy) that Censure Motion be removed from the 9/9 draft agenda. Public Comments: Judith supports removing items from the agenda. Appreciates Semee and Ivan's concerns. Public Comment closed. Lydia said she did this under the guidance of the BONC commission and asks it to be tabled. Apparently the advice from BONC and DONE is in conflict. Parliamentarian advises better to postpone the item.

Motion (Nina/Lydia) to postpone until October meeting. Roll Call Vote: passed 5 Yes (Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn).

Item 11. C. **Motion:** (Sandy/Nina) to place this revised item on the Sept. 9 agenda.

STAT Committee recommendation revised version received. Motion: (Sandy/Nina) to accept the revised version. MOTION: STNC opposes any defunding of LAPD Valley Traffic and requests funding for additional overtime for another LAPD Valley Traffic Officer in light of continued fatalities, including that of an 83-year old man in Tujunga who was killed by a hit and run driver in August. We need a strong police presence in our community that cares about our stakeholders and tickets and/or arrests those who injure or kill our stakeholders. We've seen a high rate of traffic-related crimes and a rise in fatalities over the past few years and it is absolutely essential that we have more Traffic Officers assigned to and patrolling our streets. That being said, we do not condone violence, discrimination or rude and hostile behavior toward people of color or those who are protesting peacefully for their beliefs. Upon approval, this letter of support will be sent to CD7, LAPD and other interested parties. *[Pat Kramer on behalf of STAT Committee]* [5]

Public Comments: Katia spoke in opposition to the motion and that signage would be better. Bren supports the motion that we need enforcement. Caller 109 - Carol - could not hear her. Public Comment Closed. Roll Call Vote: passed 5 Yes (Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn).

Item 11. B. **Motion:** (Cindy/Lydia) to postpone to October meeting. Neighborhood Council Elections in 2021. Discussion/Possible Action: Neighborhood Council Elections Report - Council File 20-0963. Review of City Clerk report, dated August 3, 2020, relative to the conduct of Neighborhood Council elections during the COVID-19 pandemic and holding the 2021 NC Elections all via Vote-By-Mail; Creation of STNC Ad Hoc Elections Committee + Committee Members; drafting of Community Impact Statement. *[Cindy Cleghorn]* [5]

Parliamentarian Ivan Spiegel stated that this motion is really two motions. Cindy requests this item go to the Executive and Community Improvement committee. Liliana attended a homeless liaison meeting and they are going to have outreach to homeless for NC elections. Cindy doesn't have an issue with making an announcement. Preparation is needed. We can always add a special meeting to fine tune. The item is not prepared. Cindy would like the board to be aware of the report and the information. Nina requests the Outreach committee be included. Parliamentarians recommended to leave on the agenda and then pull at the meeting. Lydia: Recommends Election committee be an ad hoc of the Outreach committee. Sandy: Motion to form an ad hoc Election Committee. There may be stakeholders or other board members interested. Cindy prefers to leave as she has it so as to open up the conversation. Nina and Lydia also spoke to set a special meeting to form the Election committee. Liliana recommends the Election Committee draft the CIS. Public Comment: Katia asked how you know the CIS accurately reflects the community. How do you measure community awareness. Bren agrees, let's get a committee formed. Let's inform the community of the changes under COVID. Roll Call Vote: passed 4 Yes (Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn), 1 No (Sanchez).

Consent Agenda items in the order as presented on the draft agenda reviewed and no changes recommended.

Items added since the Aug. 26 meeting were already covered in this meeting.

National Night Out under Community Improvement and Outreach. Liliana asked about CPAB. Neighborhood Watch is in Announcements and Reports.

Item #7 -- Is the order ok ? Question about the candidates running for Congress. Lydia reached out to both Adam Schiff and Eric Early and Eric Early is confirmed for the October meeting.

Time schedule items on the agenda. Review the time for each item. Liliana asked that more time be added to the election discussion. Changed to 5 minutes.

Parliamentarian asked if the committee members were named in Item 11. A. regarding the Elections Committee are committed to the committee. Cindy said Bill Skiles is confirmed as chair and all but one or two have responded. Lydia: Suggests announcement to the board and couple vacancies. Caller 109 - Carol said she attended the last round of the Bylaws committee meetings and she would like to be on the committee.

Liliana asked about Roger Swart's name being on the agenda item to be changed to the Community Improvement Committee. Cindy read the names of the Bylaws Committee members: Bill, Sandy, Cindy, Liliana, Lydia, Peter, Vicky. We need to confirm with these members and reaffirm them at the meeting.

B. **MOTION** (Lydia/Cindy) The Executive Committee approves the agenda for the General Board meeting on September 9, 2020. Discussion then went on regarding the Elections and Bylaws Committee. Public Comments: Elizabeth asked if anyone can join the Elections committee. Carol said that the meeting has been difficult Zoom wise. Decker Dreyer: Asked to clarify all committees open to stakeholders. Can anyone attend, is there a limit to the size. Katia: Enjoyed the meeting. Evelyn: Doesn't understand that the Elections committee has members ? Public Comment Closed. Cindy responded that we were talking about the Bylaws and Standing Rules committee which is a 7 member committee that already exists. All meetings of the NC whether board or committee are open to everyone. Everything goes onto an agenda and we have comments and public comments. The Elections committee hasn't formed yet. Changes to the Bylaws and Standing Rules committee members could change as well as the size of the committee. Lydia said that when committees are set up with a certain number of board members. There's also code of conduct, ethics and funding training. Parliamentarians then brought us back to the motion to approve the Sept. 9 meeting agenda. Roll Call Vote: passed 5 Yes (Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn).

New Business: None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m