

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

July 9, 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- Lydia Grant thanked past board members and welcomed new Board Members
- b. Lydia said that a letter of resignation was received from Ross Herman at this time. Ross was the STNC Second VP and Chair of the Outreach Committee. Ross will be greatly missed.

2. Seating of the new neighborhood council board

- a. Introductions
- b. Neighborhood Council Board Member Oath – Jose Galdamez came to the meeting late (around 8pm) and had the new Board repeat the Oath with right hands raised.

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

- a. Officer Godoy. Officer Godoy said that the 4th of July Parade had no issues this year with about 5,000-5,500 people attending. Everyone seemed to have a good time and it was very successful. Lenny and Cindy expressed gratitude to Officer Godoy for the support.
- b. Sergeant Jesse Ojeda. Officer Ojeda commented that, as Incident Commander for the last couple of years, he recognized that STNC made a difference in the community. National Night Out (NNO), which will be August 5th, will be at Little Landers Part. Lenny asked if STNC could still borrow the barbeque equipment for NNO as done in the past. Ofcr. Ojeda will check with his team but believes that can be done. Jon asked if Tacos with a Cop could be supported on July 15th and Ofcr. Ojeda said yes.
- c. Diana Oganessian, from Kathryn Barger's Office, provided updates from the Office including that there would be a new homeless focused department from merging other departments; the City Budget is \$1.3B less than last year with 300 positions eliminated

and the Dept of Health identified issues with local beaches. Jon asked for the background on who will be the new head of Homeless Agency (Sara Madden) and if we will be able to have direct contact with her. Diana said that there would be liasons that could even attend our meetings as time goes forward.

- d. Alex Avanesyan, from Assembly Member Nick Shultz's Office, provided updates on Bills including AB361, AB1229, AB1138 and SB101. (<https://a44.asmdc.org/events>). Lydia noted that STNC opposed SB79 and wanted to be sure Shultz was aware, saying that we are a very high fire danger and the new project going in on Foothill is a major concern for evacuation as well as local parking and violating building height codes. Alex A said that the bill could undergo significant changes yet and that only when it was on the Senate floor could Shultz vote on it. Lydia asked about fire maps stating that the state redid it after the recent January fires and she would like copy of updated map. The State, County and City fire maps don't align. Cal Fire is putting out the map, as Lydia understood it. Alex A said he will look into it. Lydia said that STNC was setting up an Emergency Preparedness Committee and will address evacuation routes, noting that our egress is worse than the condition in Paradise. Jon asked about AB495 status, saying that the bill enables children to be taken from their parents without a hearing and remove them to any school they choose, and give them any mental or physical treatment without any parental involvement. Jon would like a response from Shultz. Alex will do some digging and get back to us.
 - e. Jose Galdamez, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate (NEA) with EmpowerLA, discussed a status about NCs self-assessment and the survey to fill out that addresses what NCs have accomplished. There is a transition going on for directors with NEA assignments, now going back to geographical based assignments. Board member trainings notices have been sent out to members who can log into Cornerstone to begin their trainings. Leny suggested using Chrome as the browser. Lydia said she has completed her training. Cindy said she will send the new board members contact info. Cindy asked about who is responsible for the Valley; Jose said that Gibson is the director and he works under Gibson. Jose will still be with us.
4. **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
VACANT			2nd VP
VACANT			Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Correspondence Sec
Karen Moran	Present	Yes	Recording Sec

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Leny Freeman	Present	Yes	Region 1 Rep
Brenna Gibson Redpath	Absent	No	Region 1 Rep
Sherry McCoy	Present	Yes	Region 2 Rep.
VACANT			Region 2 Rep
Mikal McEnany	Present	No	Region 3 Rep
Dillon Dorothy	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Jon von Gunten	Present	No	Region 3 Rep.
Vicky Cerpa	Absent	No	Region 4 Rep
Dante Jose Calvo	Absent	Yes	Region 4 Rep
Mark Seigel	Present	Yes	Region 4 Rep
VACANT			Region 4 Rep
VACANT			Education Rep
Cheryl Schmidt	Present	Nox	Public Safety Rep
Nina Royal	Present	Yes	Senior Rep
Vartan Keshish	Present	Yes	Community Interest Rep
Doug Chapin, Member of the Public			
16 total; 13 present, 3 absent			

5. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS** - no comments.

6. **Board Seat Appointments**

- a. Discussion and/or possible action to appoint a candidate to the Treasurer (2027) seat: Barry Glover. Lydia said that Barry, who was not yet at the meeting, is qualified with a background in accounting. He is the husband of a friend of Lydia's that she has known for over 10 years. Barry came to the 4th of July parade and met some of the Board members already. A vote was taken to elect Barry as Treasurer with the motion made by Cindy and seconded by Vartan. The vote passed.

Item 6(a). Motion to appoint Barry Glover to be STNC Treasurer.					
Motion: Cleghorn, Second: Keshish					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Dorothy, Siegel, Royal, Keshish <i>10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 ineligible, 3 absent, 16 total</i>			McEnany, VonGunten, Schmidt		Redpath, Cerpa, Calvo

- b. Discussion and/or possible action to appoint a candidate to the Education Representative (2027) seat: Melissa Sagastume. Melissa introduced herself and expressed interest in being the Chair of the Education Committee. The motion was made by Cindy and seconded by Mark and passed.

Item 6(b). Motion to appoint Melissa Sagastume to be STNC Education Chair.					
Motion: Cleghorn, Second: Siegel					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Dorothy, Siegel, Royal, Keshish <i>10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 ineligible, 3 absent, 16 total</i>			McEnany, VonGunten, Schmidt		Redpath, Cerpa, Calvo

- c. Discussion and/or possible action to appoint a candidate to the Region 2 Representative (2027) seat. VACANT. No discussion.
- d. Discussion and/or possible action to appoint a candidate to the Region 4 Representative (2027) seat. VACANT. No discussion.

7. Election of financial officers

- a. Discussion and/or possible action for designation of up to two (2) Bank Card Holders. Lydia and Karen are the two bank card holders at this time. The previous Treasurer, Carol Hutchinson, is no longer with STNC. No action.
- b. The first signer will be the new Treasurer (Barry Glover) and the second signer is Karen. If one is not available, Cindy can sign. At this time, Barry - per Cindy - needs to complete his training.
- c. Barry introduced himself. Barry is retired at this time and is a community oriented person. Barry sees business growth in the ST area. With retirement, Barry has the time

to participate in the STNC. Lydia said that she and Karen will maintain the cards and bank statements at this time to aid Barry's transition.

8. Committees. Items below were not discussed other than as noted in other agenda items.

- a. Discussion and possible action to appoint a board member as Chair of the Outreach Committee - STNC 2nd VP
- b. Discussion and possible action to appoint a board member as Chair of the Community Improvement & Government Affairs Committee - STNC 1st VP
- c. Discussion and possible action to appoint up to 4 board members and stakeholders to the Outreach Committee, one from each Region: 1, 2, 3 and 4
- d. Discussion and possible action to appoint a board member as Chair of the Beautification Committee.
- e. Discussion and possible action to appoint up to 4 board members and stakeholders to the Land Use Committee.
- f. Discussion and possible action to appoint board members to STAT, STARC Committees.

9. Funding Items

- a. Discussion and possible action to approve the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Administrative Budget Packet for Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council. This item will be carried forward; not discussed or voted on.
- b. Discussion and possible action to approve Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for June 2025. A motion was made by Cindy and seconded by Lydia which passed.

Item 9(b). Motion to approve Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for June 2025.					
Motion: Cleghorn, Second: Grant					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Dorothy, Siegel, Royal, Keshish, McEnany, VonGunten, Schmidt <i>13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 3 absent, 16 total</i>					Redpath, Cerpa, Calvo

- c. Discussion and possible action to approve replacement for lost receipt for Domino's expense at June 11, 2025 meeting in the amount of \$97.62. A motion was made by Cindy, seconded by Lenny, a vote taken and the motion passed.

Item 9(c). Motion to approve replacement for lost receipt for Domino's expense at June 11, 2025 meeting in the amount of \$97.62.
Motion: Cleghorn, Second: Freeman

Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Dorothy, Siegel, Royal, Keshish, McEnany, VonGunten, Schmidt <i>13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 3 absent, 16 total</i>					Redpath, Cerpa, Calvo

- d. Discussion and possible action to approve up to \$1,000 sponsorship to the Sunland-Tujunga Elks Lodge for National Night Out on August 5. The money covers, per Lydia, a live band for National Night Out, hot dogs and buns. A motion was made by Jon, seconded by Armen, and passed.

Item 9(d). Motion to approve up to \$1,000 sponsorship to the Sunland-Tujunga Elks Lodge for National Night Out on August 5					
Motion: VonGunten Second: Mardirousi					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Dorothy, Siegel, Royal, Keshish, McEnany, VonGunten, Schmidt <i>13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 3 absent, 16 total</i>					Redpath, Cerpa, Calvo

- e. Discussion and possible action to approve up to \$3,000 sponsorship to the Little Landers Historical Society for National Night Out on August 5. Lydia suggested changing the motion to “approve up to \$2,000 for STNC Outreach at the NNO event August 5th”. The change in wording is due to new rules by the City that now dictate that NCs list expenditures in detail 2 months in advance. It is not possible to do this for the August 5th event. Lydia noted that the payment is for water, ice, chips, craft(s), and possibly cookies. With the change in wording suggested by Lydia, a motion was made by Cindy and seconded by Lydia which passed.

Item 9(e). Motion to approve up to \$2,000 for STNC Outreach at the NNO event August 5th					
Motion: Cleghorn Second: Grant					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent

Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Dorothy, Siegel, Royal, Keshish, McEnany, VonGunten, Schmidt					Redpath, Cerpa, Calvo
<i>13 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 3 absent, 16 total</i>					

Discussion: Jon asked what the budget is for the year; Lydia said \$25K at this point but it could go up to \$32K if we find revenue sources. Lydia also said that the roll-over status is not known at this time. Lydia said that additional revenue sources could be fines from illegally cutting down oak trees or such, but the City isn't enforcing the policies that already exist. No revenue sources go directly to STNC, but have to go through the City. Lydia further commented the storage unit is \$810.50/month which is a very high expense for our reduced budget and this would need to be discussed after National Night Out.

10. Presentations:

- a. Neighborhood Council General Board Orientation Facilitated by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment staff. No additional comments.
- b. Discussion/Action: Review Calenda. Cindy expressed that if anyone wants to help develop the calendar, she would welcome the help.
- c. Mark felt that there is a need for people to be better prepared for disasters/emergencies that could be expected to happen over time, including earthquakes, winds, fires, traffic/egress road blockages. Mark would like to start a program to help people prepare and perhaps set up a committee to address it. Mark is involved with ham radios also if anyone is interested in learning more.

11. **Discussion/Action: Approve Letter re: 7937 Foothill - 6 story ED1 proposal.** Lydia provided a brief over-view of the project and Cindy read through the draft letter to Mayor Bass to provide objections from the community. A motion was made by Cindy to approve the letter. With comments from Melissa, Jon, Karen and Mark that Cindy will incorporate, a motion was made by Lydia and seconded by Nina to approve the letter as edited. The motion passed.

Item 9(d). Motion to approve letter to Mayor Bass in opposition to 6 story ED1 proposal.					
Motion: Grant Second: Royal					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Cleghorn, Moran, Freeman, McCoy, Dorothy, Siegel, Royal, Keshish, VonGunten, Schmidt	McEnany				Redpath, Cerpa, Calvo
<i>12 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, 0 ineligible, 3 absent, 16 total</i>					

12. Discussion/Action: Approve Letter to Mayor Bass - Request for Action to Restore Public Safety, Local Control & Enforcement – “A Difference of Opinion”

- a. Cindy read through a draft letter that was presented to object to critical concerns that the community is experiencing, including public safety, local control/enforcement, homelessness, etc. Cindy and Lydia had worked on the letter together. There was no motion made to approve the letter, but the draft was discussed for additional discussion at the next General Board meeting with a motion made at that time to go forward with it (or not). Comments were provided by Dillon, Jon, Lenny and Mark.

13. Committee & Liaison Reports - by committee chairs present. Lydia went over the Committees briefly, encouraging people, particularly new Board members, to consider joining the Committee(s) that would be of interest to them. There will be a need to replace the Outreach Chair with Ross no longer being with STNC. Lydia noted that there should be a member from each District to be on the Outreach Committee.

- a. Land Use Committee - Meeting July 14 @ 7:00pm - Zoom
- b. Beautification: 7/17 @ 6PM - in person @ ST Library
- c. Outreach Meeting - 7/17 @ 7PM - Zoom – NNO. Need (Lydia) member from each region to join.
- d. STAT - 7/22 - @ 6PM - virtual Zoom
- e. STARC: 7/22 @ 7:30PM - in person @ McGroarty Art Center
- f. Youth & Adult Education: - TBA
- g. Budget & Finance: 7/30 @ 6pm
- h. Community Improvement & Government Affairs - TBA
- i. Executive: 7/30 @6:30pm
- j. Other

14. PRESENTATION & TRAINING on the Neighborhood Council (NC) System. No additional discussion for items below.

- 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

15. FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS - August 13 next Board meeting.

- a. Lydia noted that the next General Board Meeting, August 13th, would not be before National Night Out (NNO). A meeting would be meeting to discuss NNO another meeting before NNO. NNO is from 6-9pm with set up starting at 4pm. Lydia provided an over-view of NNO for new Board members. There will be tables for community groups (e.g. American Legion, Rotary, etc.). Additional comments about NNO were provided by Nina, Lenny.

- b.** Sherry asked about business cards could be provided and if in time for NNO. Lydia said that it would take another meeting to approve this expenditure. Cindy will help get business cards out with input from members.
- c.** Nina reminded that volunteers would be needed to put up the banners for NNO.
- d.** Cindy noted that the Outreach Committee meeting is Thursday and someone would be needed to chair (temporary) with Ross not returning.

16. ADJOURN, 8:54pm