

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

Draft

February 11, 2026, 7pm
In Person

Elk's Lodge, 10137 Commerce Ave, Tujunga, Ca. 91042

1. CALL TO ORDER - Lydia Grant, President, 7:11 pm

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS.** Lydia gave an overview of what STNC was working on with a focus on the Emergency Preparedness Committee which has just convened. Meetings for the committee are planned for Sunday afternoons (e.g. 2pm). Lydia is Chair but may need to relegate to others in the future.
- The STNC is looking for people to fill the roles of Education Representative, Region 1, 2 and 4 Representative. Please send a resume and cover letter to president@stnc.org to apply. Board members are also welcome to apply. Members, per Lydia, are needed for multiple committees. If some committees do not gain membership, they will have to fold.
- STNC Committees require at least one board member. We need a Boardmember for the Beautification Committee. If you have an interest please email president@stnc.org
- Determination of Quorum /Roll Call, Report on Voting Eligibility - Karen Moran

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	Present	Yes	Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Correspondence Sec
Karen Moran	Present	Yes	Recording Sec

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Leny Freeman	Absent	Yes	Region 1 Rep
VACANT			Region 1 Rep
Sherry McCoy	Present	Yes	Region 2 Rep.
Mikal McEnany	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Dillon Dorothy	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep
Jon von Gunten	Present	Yes	Region 3 Rep.
Vicky Cerpa	Absent	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	Present	Yes	Senior Rep
Vartan Keshish	Present	Yes	Community Interest Rep
Members of the Community with information as identified.			
Pat Kramer			Member of the Community (MC)
Karen Von Gunten			Member of the Community (MC)
Tony Rodriguez			Member of the Community (MC)
Ross Herman			Member of the Community (MC)
Mark Dutton			Member of the Community (MC)
15 present; 2 absent (17 total)			

- Announcements from STNC Committees: Land Use, Beautification, STARC, STAT, Ad-Hoc Bylaws. *This item was not addressed.*
2. **DISCUSSION//Updates/Q&A:** LAPD, LAFD, Elected Officials/Representatives (Mayor, CD7, State Assembly, LAUSD School Board), DONE, NC Budget Advocates, City Departments. **Presentation**

of Certificates (Certificates were not presented because the recipients were not present for the meeting; they will be sent later.)

- **Officer Caloca**, LAPD SLO, gave a status of crime for the previous month, including burglaries and homeless encampments/RVs. Tuesday's Taco's with a Cop continues (monthly); all are invited (Joselito's Restaurant). MC noted an area that has become a major dumping site. Caloca said that they have to witness the event to take action, but will review the pictures that have been taken.
- **Officer Godoy**, LAPD SLO, discussed on-going events, giving a picture of a typical day (8 individuals arrested within a span of 6 hours). Being short-handed, a typical day may be very busy and responses to non-critical concerns challenged. Cheryl asked about how civilians might provide support; Caloca responded. Pat (MC) commented that products from cannabis shops are stronger than in the past and mental problems could result (e.g. schizophrenia). Ross (MC) had a question about community awareness of repeat offenders which both Godoy and Caloca responded to. Lydia requested a follow up on the car fires (i.e. arson); Godoy said that the FD would take the lead on this investigation because it is arson related.
- **Ricardo Flores, Senior Representative, CD7**, provided a status of on-going activities including the Tujunga Canyon Wash, Earth Day (April 18th), and illegal dumping concerns. Members of the Community (MCs) were particularly concerned about illegal dumping. Lydia reminded that efforts to raise fines for illegal dumping were ignored in the past by the City; raising fines from \$5K to \$10k would be an effective way to discourage illegal dumping. Ross (MC) has a question about the ability to endorse a candidate that Flores was not able to address (for legal reasons). Ross said that pre-planning meetings for the 4th of July parade are at Caruso's, 7pm, on Tuesdays. Pat (MC) thanked Flores for supporting STAT. Pat asked about slowing down traffic on Foothill Blvd. Flores discussed specific areas of concern; Mark and Lydia brought up other areas that are a problem. Nina and Melissa reminded Flores about National Night Out. Cindy pointed out that the NC plans to hold a Town Hall to discuss development in Commerce Ave. Pat and Lydia expressed frustration that STNC does not have a voice in changes that impact the community; 'weigh-in' is superficial at best. Lydia recognized Flores's continued support.
- **Pat Kramer, STAT**. Pat talked about the concerns that the community has with traffic. Pat said that the STAT committee plans to organize a Town Hall in the March/April time-frame to discuss concerns, and invited people to attend and anyone interested to join the STAT committee. Pat also talked about what the STAT committee has done to care for trees (mulching, watering) on a monthly basis and invited people to join this effort also. Pat recognized people who have been active in this effort. Lydia mentioned that she talked recently to a Sustainability group who was very interested in Pat's efforts.
- **Jose Galdamez, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate**. Jose provided a status of events coming up and dates including a meeting to address Charter Reform. New templates for meetings were sent out to NCs.

3. **Presentation: Department of Sanitation.**

- Reps for Dept of Sanitation were Nicholas Nuccio, Environmental Engineer Associated, Department of Public Works, L.A. Sanitation and Environment, (213) 820-5685 and Tristan Marier, Service Coordinator, L.A. Sanitation and Environment, (213) 863-2690.
 - Nicholas presented a power-point that gave basic information of the scope of waste collection including collection services for different sized residential units; curbside services; bulky items collection; dead animal collection; S.A.F.E. locales for hazardous materials.
 - **Green bins.** Nicholas discussed green bins with bins being offered to more residents, and how to contact customer service in the City. Smaller bins are available. A Member of the Community commented that some residents did not comply with what should be put into a particular (color) bin; Nicholas said that there is a limited 'patrol' that looks at what is put into the bins and will tag the bin with what should not be put in bin. Cheryl asked about curbside pickup of tree/branch debris and how it had to be prepped. Nicholas presented what should (and shouldn't) be put in green bins; essentially items that won't break down should not be added such as plastics and palm fronds (palm fronds are hard and can break the equipment that tries to crush it into smaller pieces). Cheryl asked about composting; the City offers composting work-shops. Vartan asked about bins that are on the street when it isn't trash day; there is a law that is being drafted at this time to address this issue - with fines attached. Karen asked about preliminary efforts to ensure there aren't objects going through that will be problematic; there are people who screen first and can remove items (e.g. furniture)
 - **Blue Bins** – Nicholas discussed what can go into blue bins; these include many plastics. Cheryl asked about preparing items. Keep caps/lids and labels on. labels. Cleaning should be quick, there is no need to waste water cleaning. Nicholas showed a short video about how items are sorted mechanically. Fires are a problem, primarily from batteries.
 - **S.A.F.E. Centers** collect hazardous waste (e.g. electronics, microwaves, computers and laptops). L.A. Public libraries take loose batteries; large electronics and appliances can be taken by Bulky item pickup.
 - **SORTLA app** can be used to find out correct disposal of household items. Nicholas demonstrated how items could be researched on the app.
 - Lydia invited Nicholas back and he indicated he would be very willing to come again.
4. **DISCUSSION/ACTION:** Regarding the start of the Dam release of water on December 24, 2025 from the Big Tujunga Dam during heavy rains. Need for better communication for the entire Sunland-Tujunga community. This item was not addressed. Per Lydia it will be addressed at a later time.
 5. **DISCUSSION/ACTION:** Regarding Big Tujunga Reservoir Restoration Project - For more information about the project, or to be added to the project mailing list, please email reservoircleanouts@pw.lacounty.gov or call (626) 458-6119. Lydia said that the City plans to shut down 2 dams at this time which is a concern because it could impact water collection if

there was a fire. Lydia said she would like Public Works to come out and address rain issues and run-off concerns with the Land Fill (Zachau Site in Seven Hills)s.

6. **DISCUSSION/ACTION:** Motion to approve outstanding Monthly Expenditure Reports for January 2026. *Not available for this meeting.*
7. **DISCUSSION/ACTION:** To approve outstanding General Board Meeting minutes for January 2026.

Item 7. Motion to approve the January General Board minutes. Motion: Cleghorn Second: Moran					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, Von Gunten, Calvo, Seigel, Schmidt, Royal, Keshish 14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 3 absent, 17 total					Glover, Freeman, Cerpa

8. **DISCUSSION/ACTION:** To approve members of the STNC Emergency Preparedness Committee: Cheryl Schmidt.

Item 8. Motion to approve adding Cheryl Schmidt to the Emergency Preparedness Committee. Motion: Cleghorn Second: Keshish					
Yes	No	Abstain	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Grant, Mardirousi, Sagastume, Cleghorn, Moran, McCoy, McEnany, Dorothy, Von Gunten, Calvo, Seigel, Schmidt, Royal, Keshish 14 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 ineligible, 3 absent, 17 total					Glover, Freeman, Cerpa

9. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

- Ross said that Prep meetings for the 4th of July parade are now going on; contact Ross for information.

- Cindy said there is a Walking Tour which will meet at Bolton Hall on February 28th at 11am. This is hosted by the Crescenta Valley Historical Society hosting.
- Cindy reminded that the Valley Alliance meeting is tomorrow, (2-12-2026) at 6pm and that the General Board March meeting will include Mayor Bass. The Budget Committee meeting is on the 14th February at 10am.

10. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Committee & Liaison Reports and Confirm Assignments – by liaison chairs present.

- **Homeless**
- **Citywide Budget / Budget Advocates**
- **LADWP MOU**
- **LADWP Committee**
- **LANCC** - – see item 11
- **VANC** - see item 11
- **PlanCheckNC** – see item 11
- **Emergency Preparedness** (see Item 1, Introductory Remarks by Lydia)
- **Sustainability**

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

- Bylaws, Standing Rules, BONC Policies, Brown Act (Meeting Agenda Posting, ENS)
- NC Meetings: Agenda Items, Presenters, Meeting Agendas, Making Motions, Community Impact Statements
- 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

12. FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS – The next General Board meeting will be March 11 per Lydia.

13. Adjourn, 9:20pm