

**Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council**  
**General Board Online Meeting**  
**Meeting date: August 12th, 2020 6:45pm**  
**ZOOM Meeting Online or by Telephone**

**Called to Order:** 6:45 pm by Liliana Sanchez, President.

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Voting Eligibility	Board Appointment
Liliana Sanchez	Present	Yes	President
Lydia Grant	Present	Yes	1st Vice President
Nina Royal	Present	Yes	2nd Vice President - Outreach
Sandy Capps	Present	Yes	Treasurer
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	Yes	Secretary
Lallah Rowe	Present	Yes	At-Large Group Representative
Vartan Keshish	Present	Yes	Region 1 Representative
Mark Norling	Present	No	Region 1 Representative
Glen Belt	Present	Yes	Region 2 Representative
Arsen Karamians	Present	Yes	Region 2 Representative
Oscar Alvarez	Present	Yes	Region 3 Representative
Rafi Shaheenian	Present	Yes	Region 3 Representative
Carol Hutchinson	Present	Yes	Region 4 Representative
Pati Potter	Present at 7:00	Yes	Region 4 Representative
Arnie Abramyan	Present until 8:40	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Kresse Armour	Absent	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Vacant			Stakeholder Group
Garbis Khanjian	Present	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Vacant			Stakeholder Group
Shirley Kim	Present	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Jon von Gunten	Present	Yes	Stakeholder Group
Ivan Spiegel	Present	Not Applicable non-voting consultant	Parliamentarian
Quorum: 11 16 Present for Roll Call; 17 for most of meeting; 18 after new member added			

**GENERAL BOARD MEETING**

**Pre Meeting Comments at 6:45pm by Secretary Cindy Cleghorn** – President Sanchez will run the meeting. Attendance and voting on motions will be by roll call. Meeting attendees will be muted, use raise hand feature to comment on Zoom or dial \*9 on phone. Comments by public limited to two minutes.

**Item 1. (a-c) Call to Order and Welcome, President Sanchez**—Meeting called to order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call --Meeting quorum met. Member Norling has not completed all of his board training yet and will not vote on funding matters.

**Item 2. President's Report:**

Evelyn Serrano requests that items 10B be removed from tonight's agenda. There are 3 Group Representative Vacancies on the STNC board (two by end of meeting). President Sanchez hopes qualified stakeholders will apply for a position on the Board. This next year's STNC elections on April 27, 2021 will be vote by mail.

**Item 3. Representative Announcements and Reports**

**Foothill Division Commanding Officer Captain Johnny Smith**—Introduces self as new commanding officer of the Foothill Division; he used to be at the neighboring Mission Division. Is excited to join the Foothill Division, which is closer to home. This is his second week in command. The main challenge he has found so far are the weekly protests, occasional confrontations between the BLM and pro-Trump protesters who meet at Foothill and Lowell on Friday.

**Senior Lead Officer for Tujunga, Gloria Caloca** – Is still having a problem with auto thefts and theft of items left in vehicles. It is a good idea to hide any valuables left in car. For older vehicles such as cars from the 80's and 90's a steering wheel club is a good deterrent. If you need a club, call her.

**Senior Lead Officer for Sunland / Lake View Terrace / Shadow Hills, Cesar Contreras**-- Crime statistics for the area are flat after the 20% increase. Most of the auto thefts are around Foothill Blvd. There are also growing homeless camps around Sunland Park since LAMC 56.11 clean ups are on moratorium due to COVID 19. He was successful getting one RV that was leaking sewage towed. Is also working with campers trying to get them to have smaller, cleaner camps and with retailers who sell alcohol to keep their premises clean. Has also asked Eve Sinclair to send outreach workers to the camps. Fires have been a problem, particularly around Hansen Dam and the Tujunga Wash. There have been site inspections, starting the process to get wash campers removed.

**Officer Q & A:**

Mary Soracco, ABRA – has been organizing the Friday protests at Foothill and Lowell, would like to liaison with the LAPD to make the protests safer. A: By SLO Caloca – she will continue the ongoing dialog

Evelyn Serrano – is also interested in more dialogue. She also wonders if the LAPD contacts with unhoused people include mental health support. Concerned there will be more homeless with people losing housing in the coming months. A: By Captain Johnny Smith—The police do not handle rent issues, thinks there is a moratorium on evictions although rent is not waived. The homeless crisis is one of the main challenges of our time. The LAPD does not have a mental health arm, but does work with the HOPE teams.

Member Abramyan – thanks Captain Smith for coming to our meeting. Q: What are the challenges you face today vs. 20 years ago? A: 50% of auto thefts are from keys left in cars or from thieves testing key fobs. Foothill is still the second lowest in reported part one crimes. From 20 years ago cannot imagine the amount of disrespect that officers are dealing with. They have lost 9 officers and 2 civilians in the Foothill Division. Feels the LAPD is being blamed for problems thousands of miles away, of 1.7 million police-civilian encounters, there have been 26 people shot. When there is a mistake, the LAPD owns it. The LAPD has collaborated with the LA City council and the community for years. If you see an officer, smile and wave.

**Eve Sinclair, Area Director for Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez** – The council office has been very active delivering meals to seniors, over 112,000 meals have been delivered. The drive in food bank event at All Nations Church on July 31 handed out food for 1,950 families. This is the last week for the Summer Play LA

program at Sunland Park since school starts this week. The council office has conducted two of three online safety webinars that have been well attended: Emergency Management and Wildfire Protection. The third webinar next Monday is Evacuation Planning. If you missed the first two webinars, the links are on Monica Rodriguez' Facebook page. 57 new trees have been planted on Foothill from Marcus to Lowell Ave. They will be watered for three years. 300 new street trees have been planted in CD 7. Tujunga Canyon Blvd is going to be re-surfaced from Hanes Canyon to Foothill. The dangerous intersection of Valmont and Foothill has been re-striped with a no right on red traffic sign. The left hand turn signal has been approved but as of now funding has not been found. Operation Bright Spot is concentrating on Sunland Tujunga for the next two months with street sweeping, tree trimming, median cleaning, and power washing sidewalks. This week they are doing Foothill from McVine to Mt. Gleason. Commerce St is next week, then Foothill to Lowell.

**Q&A:** Q: By VP Grant— What are the plans for the West Valley Animal Shelter? A: Does not know, will look into it. (See Caroline Menjivar's answer below)

**Caroline Menjivar, Mayor Garcetti's East Valley Representative** – The West Valley Animal Shelter, along with another shelter were closed on April 13 due to staffing shortages because City staff was being re-assigned to emergency pandemic response. Animal Services has proposed having the shelter operated by a non-profit animal rescue organization. The public meetings are over but you can still make a public comment. There are still many people in this area who need to respond to the U.S. Census, this is even more crucial since it is ending a month early on Sept 30th. There is going to be a census event this Sunday 10am to 12 noon at Vons in Tujunga where the Mayor's office will be handing out free masks and there will be tablets for those who need to fill out the census. The tablets will be cleaned after each use. The Covid 19 testing site at Hansen Dam will be closed Friday and this weekend due to the heat wave. The testing center at Dodger Stadium will still be open.

**Vickere Murphy, Office of California State Senator Anthony Portantino** – This is a big week in Sacramento, if a bill does not come out of suspense by August 20th, it has to wait for the next session in January. If your EDD claim is still stuck, you should call her office now because their office has a waiting list too. If you have already contacted Luz Rivas' office, tell their office so they can coordinate and not have longer waiting as a result duplicate requests.

**Q&A:** By VP Royal—are the two housing bills that passed yesterday now law? A: Thinks they are now back in the assembly.

**Arturo Garcia, Office of California Assembly Member Luz Rivas**— Census outreach is critical, Los Angeles is only at a 50% response rate, please fill out the census if you have not already done so. Still working on lots of EDD problems and is coordinating with Senator Portantino's office. The Assembly Member's bill, AB 1845 to coordinate the various state offices working on homelessness is on its way to the Senate.

**Q&A:** By Member Royal: Are the land use bills on Member Rivas's radar? A: She did support AB 1120 in committee because she sees that affordable projects are being stalled in local government. She does understand the concern about density in high fire zones and is working with Senator Weiner to get an exemption for high fire severity zones which would apply to all of Sunland Tujunga. By VP Grant – What about the lack of parking? Does she support zero parking in places like Los Angeles where they have already reached housing goals? A: There is a housing crisis and the affordable housing is stalled in the review process. Q: By Member Khanjian is this for homeless housing or for affordable housing? A: This is to streamline the process for affordable homes and ADUs.

**Maria Leonido, Neighborhood Housing Services of Los Angeles County** – this is a non-profit who helps low and moderate income homebuyers and small businesses with services such as financial education, debt counseling, and low cost loans. More information is available on their website: [nhslacounty.org](http://nhslacounty.org) or call (213) 381-2862.

**Gibson Nyambura, DONE** – is being reassigned. President Sanchez presents DONE advisor Nyambura with a Certificate of Appreciation for all his help during the past months.

**Kelly Gonez, LAUSD Board Member, District 6** – per the Governor’s order, LAUSD will begin the school year with distance learning. This year will be more structured, starting with a 2 day orientation for students and parents. There will be a set schedule with daily live instruction as well as offline work. There will be special programs for homeless, those with learning disabilities, those in foster care. The Grab and Go program will continue at Mt Gleason Jr. High from 8 to 11am. Is working with public health, they will likely move to a hybrid campus when it is safe to do so. The LAUSD is also organizing into communities of schools. Of the 11 schools in our community of schools, 9 are within STNC’s boundaries. Cammina Narcoda is the administrator for this community of schools.

**Q&A:** By President Sanchez: regarding the Chrome notebooks donated by the Jain Center in Tujunga. Were these computers donated to local children? A: Does not know, she was on maternity leave in May she will check with her staff. By Member Abramyan-- How are working parents home schooling? What does next year look like? A: The situation is evolving, was hoping to offer child care, but then the second wave of infections came and public health said no. As soon as the Governor’s targets are met the hybrid classes will start. This might happen in January. With the hybrid system some students would be in class some days, in child care other days, allowing parents to work a 5 day week. By Member Grant-- Regarding the NC elections next year, will you help getting information out to parents? A: Yes. By Member Abramyan-- Will the kids have to wear masks? A: Staff and children above 2<sup>nd</sup> grade required to wear masks. Masks are encouraged, but not required for the younger children.

**Item 4. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:**

Evelyn Serrano – Is withdrawing her request to form an ad hoc committee (agenda item 10B). Is going to apply to be a Stakeholder Group Representative for ABRA instead.

Eric Early – Is running for the 28<sup>th</sup> District U.S. House seat. He is thankful for the LAPD. Crime is a big issue for him. Homelessness is a crisis in this state; other states do a better job. Has a plan to rebuild our nation’s health care system. He is a lawyer. His campaign office is in Burbank.

**Item 5. Selection of Shirley Kim, Shekinah Church, to Fill Vacant Stakeholder Group Representative Seat**

<b>Motion: Approve Shirly Kim, Shekinah Church as a Stakeholder Group Representative</b>				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Lallah Rowe Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Belt, Karamians, Alvarez, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten	Keshish, Norling,			Armour
15 yes, 2 no, 1 absent, motion passed				

Candidate Introduction: She moved here from Burbank last year. When her organization found their location, they were very surprised at how beautiful the area was. She is an attorney who also produces independent films. Working with the City on improving their property has been hard because everything is done by Zoom meeting. Has experience serving on an HOA board when she lived in Santa Ana.

**Q&A:** By President Sanchez: Are you hands on? Can you come and help with events as well as attend meetings? A: She would always prioritize her time for beneficial events. Sunday events on short notice would be problematic due to her church duties. Is a people person and likes meeting new people. Q: By Susan P., member of Public: Would you only represent one church? A: She would represent all of the

Christian faith. : By Member Belt – where does the church meet? No congregation because of Covid 19, has meetings with church leadership on their property. By VP Royal – is the property a church? A: The property is both commercial and residential. They have the leadership meetings on the commercial side. Member Potter adds that Board members vote on all kinds of issues, not just issues involving your group. By Member Abramyan – Welcome and thanks for your interest. Are you aware of the Verdugo Hills Ministerial Association? A: Is interested and will look into this.

**Item 6. Treasurer Reports/Consent Calendar Funding Items**

**MOTION:** The STNC Board approves the consent calendar:

**A. Approval of June 2020 MER**

**MOTION:** The STNC Board approves the June 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report

**B. Approval of July 2020 MER**

**MOTION:** The STNC Board approves the July 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report

**C. MOTION:** The STNC Board approves the Land Use Committee request for a G-Suite Business Account at \$12 a month / \$144 yearly for LUC Committee email accounts. (Outreach)

**D. MOTION:** The STNC Board approves the STAT Committee request for up to \$500 for 50 Coroplast yard lawn signs for stakeholders who request them as a preventative measure to slow down speeding drivers. (Outreach)

**E. MOTION:** The STNC Board approves a request from Beautification Committee for up to \$850 for repair to the Sunland Welcome Sign located at Wentworth/Foothill. Repair: Installation of a new double sided graphic panel. Material to be used is .080” thick aluminum with applied digital prints. (Community Improvement - Special Clean Streets Fund)

**F. MOTION:** The STNC Board approves a Sunland Printing Invoice #191237 from March 11, 2020 in the amount of \$387.63 for printing costs of STNC board and committee meeting packets. (Office)

<b>Motion: Approve Consent Items A-F:</b>				
Motion: Sandy Capps; Second: Arnie Abramyan Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Belt, Karamians, Alvarez, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten,  16 yes, 2 ineligible, 1 absent, motion passed		Norling, Kim		Armour

**Item 7/8. Consent Calendar, Non Funding Items**

<b>Motion: A)Approve June 29, 2020 Meeting Minutes; B) Approve July 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes</b>				
Motion: Lallah Rowe; Second: Lydia Grant Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Norling, Belt, Karamians, Alvarez, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Kim  18 yes, 1 absent, motion passed				Amour

**Item 9. Old Business – none**

**Item 10. New Business**

**A. Selection of Community Forestry Advisory Committee Representatives Rafi Shaheenian and Mark Norling**

<b>Motion: Select Rafi Shaheenian and Mark Norling as STNC representatives/liasons to the City’s Community Forestry Advisory Committee which meets the first Thursday of every month</b>				
Motion: Lallah Rowe; Second: Nina Royal Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Norling, Belt, Karamians, Alvarez, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Abramyan, Khanjian, von Gunten, Kim  18 yes, 1 absent, motion passed				Amour

President Sanchez and VP Grant both thank Members Shaheenian and Norling for volunteering for this committee.

**B: Creation of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion AdHoc Committee -- removed per Ms. Serrano’s request.**

**C: Add Signature Duties to the STNC Standing Rules**

<b>Motion: Add Signature Duties to the STNC Standing Rules that in the event the President is unable or unwilling to sign that the First Vice President, Second Vice President or Treasurer shall sign in that order on behalf of the STNC</b>				
Motion: Lydia Grant; Second: Carol Hutchinson Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Ineligible	Recuse	Absent
Sanchez, Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Keshish, Norling, Belt, Karamians, Alvarez, Shaheenian, Potter, Hutchinson, Khanjian, von Gunten, Kim  18 yes, 1 absent, motion passed				Amour, Abramyan

Since President Sanchez wants to speak on this matter she needs someone else to chair this discussion. VP Royal declines to chair since she is having problems with her computer. Treasurer Capps agrees to chair. President Sanchez wishes to propose an amendment to the motion:

<b>Motion: Amend Motion to include a 5 day turn around for signature, then confirm to STNC Board that letter was sent via email</b>				
Motion: Lilliana Sanchez; Second: Lydia Grant Roll call vote / BAC signed				
Yes	No	Ineligible	Abstain	Absent
Sanchez  1 yes, 13 no. 3 abstain, 2 absent, motion to amend fails	Grant, Royal, Capps, Cleghorn, Rowe, Belt, Karamians, Alvarez, Potter, Hutchinson, Khanjian, von Gunten, Kim		Keshish, Norling, Shaheenian	Amour, Abramyan

President Sanchez notes there have been a few problems with board letters getting signed after the pandemic, particularly in March and June. She asked DONE reps Nyambura and Elbarbary and they both said it was not necessary to have a signature if the board voted to approve the letter. The Bylaws say the Secretary is directed by the President to send the letters. VP Grant does not think unsigned letters can be sent. This is why she favors having other Board officers being able to sign documents. Secretary Cleghorn, VP Royal and Member Rowe think this is a different issue than the present motion. Member Potter and Land Use Member Betty Moskowitz note that with land use letters, the City deadlines are very tight, sometimes less than 5 days. VP Grant notes she is able to go the Secretary's place of business in the daytime on short notice if necessary. After discussion on failed amendment there is a vote on the original motion.

## **11. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REPORTS – Committee Chair Updates & Meeting Announcements**

- A.** Beautification – August 18 @ 6 PM - via Zoom
- B.** Budget & Finance – August 26 @ 6 PM - via Zoom
- C.** RYLAN (Ready Your LA Neighborhood) Update - Sandy Capps [2] - Webinars Aug 3, 10, 17 Treasurer Capps notes she listened to the webinars on Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.
- D.** Emergency Preparedness – *Need liaison to attend monthly meetings*
- E.** Neighborhood Watch – Jon von Gunten written report - meetings via Zoom
- F.** Land Use – Pati Potter - Next Meeting Presentations: Aug 17, Sept. 21 @ 7 PM - via Zoom – A presentation on hours of Operation at the Smart and Final in Tujunga is on the agenda for Aug. 17th.
- G.** STAT - Safe Traffic & Transportation Committee next meeting Aug. 25 @ 6 PM - via Zoom
- H.** Outreach & Community Improvement Committee – Next Meeting Aug 20 @ 6:30 PM - via Zoom  
National Night Out - Tuesday Oct. 6. VP Grant notes that these meetings have changed from the third Wednesday to the third Thursday of the month. Member Norland has a great idea he is going to present at this meeting.
- I.** STARC – Arts, Culture & Recreation Committee, Aug. 25 @ 7:30 PM - via Zoom
- J.** Executive Committee – August 26, 2020 @ 7:30 PM via Zoom
  - i. STNC Bylaws Updated 6/29/20
  - ii. STNC Board Elections April 27, 2020 - Vote By Mail
- K.** NC Congress - Saturday, Sept. 26 - 8:30 AM—This event lasts approximately 3 hours will be via Zoom.
- L.** NC Budget Advocates – Liliana Sanchez / Sandy Capps [1] – ncbala.org - via Zoom
- M.** VANC - August 13 @ 6:30 PM via Zoom w/Mayor Garcetti
- N.** DWP MOU / DWP Committee – Sept. 5 @ 8:30 a.m. via zoom
- O.** LANCC Update on meeting with the Mayor – Next Meeting Sept. 5 @ 10 a.m. via Zoom--  
VP Grant notes that Mayor Garcetti will be attending these meetings until the Covid 19 crisis is over, at least through December 2020

Adjourn at: 9:09 pm

Minutes by Marjorie Maxon