



# Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

Certified May 27, 2003

P. O. Box 635 • Tujunga, CA 91043 - (818) 951-7411 -- stnc.org

**Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council**  
**Beautification Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, February 16, 2022**  
**Online Meeting Via Zoom 5:30 p.m.**

Roll Call at:5:30 pm	
*Carol Hutchinson	Present
Roger Klemm	Present
Nelly Luboff	Present
Gerardo Barrientos	Present
Marjorie Maxon	Present
Angela Nordhagen	Present
Steve Black	Absent
	*STNC Board Member
Committee Quorum: 4	6 Present for entire meeting quorum met.

Additional Attendees: Matt Walker, Briana Mangandi, one additional caller who declines to identify

1. Call to Order and Welcome – Co-Chair Klemm calls meeting to order. Roll call-- meeting quorum met.
2. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda items –

Member Maxon: She checked the DOT box at Foothill and Tujunga Canyon Blvd. and is glad to report that so far there is no damage. She cleaned the DOT box at Foothill and Oro Vista, the clear coat is now failing on this box too. After asking if there is anything to do to repair the clear coat, Co-Chair Luboff responds she looked into this and nothing can be done. She notes that she thinks the best solution is to repaint the boxes and to table this until the mural project is complete.

Co-Chair Luboff introduces Matt Walker to the group; he is interested in joining the committee. It is explained that he needs to write a letter to the Board explaining why he wants to be on the committee and the committee will vote on his membership next month. Co-Chair Luboff gives a brief explanation of the projects the committee is working on: the Pinewood Mural and maintaining the Welcome Garden, community clean ups, and helping other committees and community groups with beautification related projects. For instance, she is going to pick up mulch for the street trees this Friday because the Sierra Club and Tree People are having a tree mulching event on Saturday. She is looking for a volunteer to help her shovel mulch. Matt Walker agrees to help her on Friday, but he is already committed to helping with the Verdugo Hills Cemetery project on Saturday. The tree mulching event participants will meet at the parking lot behind the Ralphs at 8:30am this Saturday in case any other committee members are interested.

Briana Mangandi—she is a student at Cal State LA and is doing a paper on community groups.

Co-Chair Klemm – the Verdugo Hills Cemetery Grand Centennial Celebration is April 23<sup>rd</sup>. They are having workdays every Saturday until then.



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Member Barrientos – working on a wing project for the cemetery, but needs to take it easy now to recover from recent surgery.

3. Approve January 19, 2022 Meeting Minutes – no proposed changes. Member Barrientos moves to approve; Co-Chair Luboff seconds. Minutes approved.
4. Committee Member Training—Code of Conduct and other Board Policies—

Board Member Hutchinson – She sent the Committee the whole package, all committee members have to do is sign the last page and email her a picture of the last page with their signature. Basically this committee is doing fine, but there have been problems with other committees. The Board voted to have committee members sign the current code of conduct, the new code of conduct is still being revised by DONE

Co-Chair Luboff—this code of conduct is directed to Board Members, it does not appear to be valid. She knows that this committee follows the rules.

Co-Chair Klemm – perhaps the document should be amended to include committee members.

Member Barrientos – suggests that the Board should wait until the City finalizes the revised code of conduct

Board Member Hutchinson – If you want to go to the Board and see what they will do that is a possibility. If Board Members refuse to sign the Code of Conduct, they are removed from the Board. It would be up to the Board to decide what to do if a Committee Member refuses to sign the current Code of Conduct. Members can also send STNC President Grant a letter.

Member Maxon – she is someone who has a problem with signing the Code of Conduct particularly after she heard how the Board handled the censure motion for violation of the Code of Conduct at last week's board meeting. She finds these censure procedures deeply upsetting and unfair. It serves no purpose other than to embarrass and humiliate the accused with public comments and board comments. She thinks that the accused was put through the ringer and the whole thing was over the top. She will not consent to be subject to the censure procedure under any circumstances. It is a deal breaker for her. She understands she is subject to the code of conduct, but thought the penalty for violation would be removal from the committee.

Member Nordhagen—she is not willing to sign a document to silence her when all she is doing is picking up trash. She can see just from these comments how it can be abused. She has read an open letter sent to board members and the Code of Conduct was used throughout. She is afraid that certain people will misuse the Code of Conduct and their agenda is not her agenda. If she is not welcome on this committee, so be it. She will continue to beautify the area that is her mission. She wants to be free to express her views.

Co-Chair Luboff – she thinks the Board needs to make the procedures clear. She does not want to lose committee membership over this. .

Co-Chair Klemm – it is clear that enough members are concerned that the due process needs to be better described before many members are willing to sign.



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Member Barrientos-- Remembers years ago that it was suggested he would be the chair of the Beautification Committee. He had to go through a lot of training downtown and there were so many restrictions and limitations he decided to just be a committee member. After reading the Code of Conduct and hearing President Grant promise that they were doing the changes, he decided to sign the code of conduct and send it to Board Member Hutchinson.

Co-Chair Luboff – She does not think the Code of Conduct is the problem; it is how it is being enforced and who determines whether it has been violated.

Board Member Hutchinson – Our neighborhood council has bylaws and you can see how a censure procedure is done in the bylaws.

Member Maxon—she is familiar with the censure procedure. She thinks it would be good for other board members to hear the Zoom tape of last week's meeting and decide for themselves.

Discussion how to find the Zoom link

Board Member Hutchinson – will talk to Cindy Cleghorn and she will put the Zoom link on the STNC website with last week's board meeting

5. Update on Pinewood Mural Project – Member Barrientos reports the tree root has been removed and the drainage problem somewhat fixed by bending the drainage pipe. He confirms that he still wants the lift and wants to complete the entire mural; he will do the far right side after the damage to the primer is fixed. Member Maxon agrees to send another email to let the artists know that there will not be mural painting next Saturday and that Gerardo will give one weeks' notice before the painting resumes, his recovery from surgery will probably take until March. Potential committee member Walker lives near the mural and thinks this project is great. Co-Chair Klemm thanks Gerardo and Nelly for all their efforts to keep this project going through many setbacks.
6. Pinewood Mural Grand Opening Event – Co-Chair Luboff reports that the Pinewood principal has agreed to allow the STNC to use the lower parking lot for this event. She has no idea how many people will be attending, the principal has not yet responded with an estimate to how many she is going to invite. Board Member Hutchinson suggests they go to the outreach committee. Co-Chair Luboff requests that member Hutchinson handle this event. Member Maxon was wondering if there is any way to make the refreshments for the grand opening more flexible like the Christmas cupcake decorating event, Board Member Hutchinson does not see how this could be done. The Outreach Committee meets tomorrow; Board Member Hutchinson will see what they can do. She thinks it is best if the event is scheduled before the summer school break, June 10<sup>th</sup>.
7. Update on Welcome Garden – Co-Chair Klemm shares photos of the Welcome Garden workday he took last Saturday. He thanks all the volunteers who have helped him with the garden over the years. Member Barrientos wonders if there could be some seating in the garden, maybe some rocks. Co-Chair Klemm thinks this might be a nice addition to the garden. He also needs to contact City Forestry about trimming the oak trees.
8. Next Meeting March 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. Meeting adjourned at 6:08pm.

Minutes by Marjorie Maxon