

Committee Chair: Joe DeCenzo

Committee Members: Gerardo Barrientos, Debby Beck, Lucy Berman, Joanna Gates, Dawn Jenkins, Corey Stein, K.T. Travers*, Karen von Gunten, Michelle Wadler*

*Denotes STNC board member Quorum = 6

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SUNLAND-TUJUNGA
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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Arts, Recreation & Culture Committee Meeting (STARC) Tuesday, May 24, 2022 @ 7:30 PM Pacific Time (U.S. and Canada)

MINUTES (APPROVED)

In Attendance: Joe DeCenzo, Gerardo Barrientos, Dawn Jenkins, Corey Stein, Karen von Gunten, Michelle Wadler, KT Travers, Debby Beck, Joanna Gates **Guests:** Rudy Melendez, Adria Deliberto, Karen Perdue, Jelyza (VHHS Leadership)

- Call To Order; Introductions, Approval of Minutes of April 26 and May 10, 2022:** Committee Chair, Joe DeCenzo convened the meeting at 7:34 p.m. He introduced the guests to the committee. Member, KT Travers requested 1 minute of silence for the victims of the Uvalde Texas shooting that occurred earlier this day. The Committee Chair read through the minutes of April 26. Gerardo Barrientos moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Dawn Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion passed 9-0. The Committee Chair then read through the minutes of the May 10 special meeting. Corey Stein moved to approve the minutes as written. Michelle Wadler seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0-1. With regards to the minutes of May 10, guest, Rudy Melendez expressed his gratitude to Dawn Jenkins for conveying the history and relevance of the McGroarty Arts Center.
- Review mission statement; Code of Conduct; Quorum requirements:** Joe DeCenzo reminded the committee and guests that the intent and mission of STARC committee is to connect artists and organizations with the available sources for funding and promotion of their public events and presentations. At no time will gossip or pejorative statements about individuals or racial groups be tolerated.
- Public Comments/Updates for Non-Agenda Items:** Debby Beck mentioned the success of the Verdugo Hills Cemetery Centennial Event in April. She thinks it would be an ideal site for more astronomical events. Joe mentioned, Craig Durst had hosted "star viewing" events in the past. Joe will recommend to Craig that he schedules more in the future. Rudy Melendez stated that he and his wife, Stephanie, attended the lunar eclipse at Brookside Park in Pasadena. He sees the value and the interest among the community and hopes we can bring more events like this here. KT Travers mentioned the inaugural "Sunland-Tujunga Pride Festival" is booked for June 4th at Sunland Park from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Joe stated that Village Poets would be presenting there as well. Dawn Jenkins announced the Sunland-Tujunga Art Association has folded as a result of the resignation of President Nancy Bearce. She also mentioned that the McGroarty "Cup Show" will be virtual and streamed on the evening of June 4th.
- Update -- McGroarty Arts Center:** Joanna Gates notified the committee that executive director, Kylie Ruan, state the anticipated June 1st opening of the McGroarty Arts Center is now indefinitely postponed. Cultural Affairs has insisted that thorough proposals be submitted to them regarding all intent and procedures for in-person activities at the arts center. Furthermore, they will not allow outside classes without a mask mandate. Their current requirements are making it untenable for any activities throughout the end of summer 2022. Gerardo will compose a letter to Monica Rodriguez to try to push the re-opening forward.
- Discussion/Action Bus Bench shelters:** TABLED
- Discussion:** STARC participation in 4th of July parade, National Night Out. With regard to the 4th of July parade, no interest in participating was expressed among the committee members. However, regarding National Night Out, 3 committee members expressed interest in representing on August 2nd. KT Travers has concerns with the association of artists at a law enforcement event. Dawn Jenkins stated that MAC has presented several times in the past with no negative reactions. Karen von Gunten feels that supporting law enforcement is beneficial to the arts community. Gerardo moved to participate in National Night Out. Corey

Stein seconded. The motion passed 7-1-1. Gerardo and Rudy Melendez would like to wear STNC polo shirts and represent if shirts are available.

7. **Discussion:** Sunland-Tujunga Pride Festival is schedule for June 4th at Sunland Park outdoor stage area from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Joe inquired as to the standard of language that would be tolerated at the event. KT stated that former STARC member, Eric Santiestevan would be the best person to ask since he is coordinating the performers.

8. **Community project updates:** Gerardo Barrientos (Pinewood mural), stated they are still holding for repairs to the leaking water pipe. If they do not happen in the coming week, Gerardo will approach Kelly Gonez of the local school board. Michelle Wadler ("Phoenix Rising) stated that principal Chavez is very excited about acquiring the artwork for presentation and permanent display at Apperson Elementary School. KT has inspected the artwork and has committed to repairing the noticeable cracks that now appear on the surface. The artwork requires a frame for final presentation. Gerardo volunteered to sketch some ideas for an ornate metal frame.

Adjourn: 9:04 P.M.