

DRAFT

Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Association (STFNA)
Board of Directors Meeting
November 19, 2009

Board members in Attendance:
Matt Freeman-President
John Hesler- Vice-President
Rick Mandel—Treasurer
Lynne Paulson—Recording Secretary
Eleanor Basa--Director
Stacie Shih—D2 Community Outreach
Manager and Proxy for Ash Kalra
Laura Cowen—District 10 Council
Assistant and Proxy for Nancy Pyle

Absent:
Nancy Pyle—Director
John Cunningham—Secretary
Ash Kalra—Director
Jon Reinke--Director

Next STFNA Board Meeting

Tentatively scheduled for Thursday December 17 but date and location will be confirmed later.

Other Upcoming Events

Saturday December 5 District 2 Holiday Appreciation Event 1:30-3:30pm at the Southside Community & Senior Center, 5585 Cottle Road, San Jose (corner of Cottle and Poughkeepsie)

Action items

1. John Cunningham Prepare minutes from Oct 15 STFNA Board meeting.
2. Laura Cowan Request that Foothill Park Planting Repair project retain the existing doggy bag dispenser.
3. Jacqueline Price Continue to lead the STFNA Scholarship Committee.
4. Lynne Paulson Continue to keep the Board informed regarding progress on our issues on the Santa Teresa Park Historic Project.
5. Stacie Shih and Laura Cowan Set up meeting with Nancy Pyle, Ash Kalra and some other STFNA Board members to discuss the Coyote Alamitos Canal trail plan. The third week of December may be the best time.
6. Lynne Paulson, John Hesler, Matt Freeman Locate large map showing ownership of the land along the Coyote Alamitos canal.
7. Matt Freeman Determine when to initiate letter writing campaign and survey related to trail section between Snell and Cahalan.
8. Stacie Shih Find out information about VEP Community Association group solar purchase program and provide the information to John Hesler.
9. John Hesler Continue to develop a plan for residential solar equipment purchase for STFNA members that would result in discounted prices.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The draft minutes of the October 15 Board meeting are not yet available. John Cunningham had volunteered to prepare them (Action Item 1). The draft minutes for the 10/29/09 STFNA General Meeting were approved with the inclusion of two comments from Matt Freeman regarding who was on the scholarship team and the location of the bicycle accident.

Financial Report

Rick Mandel presented the financial report for the time period of October 15, 2009 to November 18 (Attachment 1). A detailed spreadsheet tracking the scholarship money was also provided (Attachment 2). Some membership donations and a scholarship donation were received. Some expenses are still outstanding such as the printing for the Fall newsletter. The financial reports were approved unanimously.

Foothill Park Landscaping

Laura Cowan reported on the upcoming project "Foothill Park Planting Repair Plan". This project includes work at Foothill Park to beautify the entrance area with plantings and also includes sprinkler and sidewalk installation. Funds from District 10 Parks budget were approved by Nancy Pyle for use on this project. Laura was requested to make sure there is still a doggy bag dispenser in the plan since there is one there currently (Action Item 2).

Stabbing of Santa Teresa High School Student

A Santa Teresa High School student was recently stabbed to death in his backyard (located in District 10). Two suspects have been apprehended. It is believed that the murder is not gang related and is not a random act of violence.

Announcements/News from City Council Districts

Stacie Shih, City Council District 2 Community Outreach Manager reported on these items:

- Ash Kalra is holding a District 2 Holiday Appreciation event on Saturday December 5 at Southside Community Center from 1:30-3:30pm. Individuals have been nominated for Community Leader awards for their community service. Winners will be announced.
- There will be a holiday canned food drive at Southside Community Center. Canned goods will be collected in barrels and they will be donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank.
- The next Quarterly District 2 meeting will be held on December 8. The topic will be the High Speed Rail that is expected to be developed along Monterey Highway.

Laura Cowen, City Council District 10 Council Assistant reported on these items:

- District 10 is funding the previously discussed improvements at Foothill Park.
- Movie nights for kids are being planned. The next one will be Jan 19. An announcement will also be included in a monthly STFNA email to our membership.

Scholarship Program

At the recent General Association meeting, \$45 was collected for the scholarship fund. Jacqueline Price has volunteered to lead this effort during the coming year (Action Item 3). Volunteers for the scholarship committee will be requested.

Santa Teresa Park Historic Area Project

Lynne Paulson discussed the Santa Teresa Park Historic Area project. During the public process, there have been errors by the Parks Dept. in the documentation that has been provided. These errors have caused issues with public access to information, issues with visibility of public comments and delays to the project. Comments were recently submitted on the traffic study. Progress is being made on the key issues of accessibility

to trails and alternative routes for bicyclists and dog walkers. Lynne will obtain some additional information and keep the board informed by email (Action Item 4). The next important meeting is the December 15 Board of Supervisors meeting where the project will be up for approval.

Additional information is being obtained related to the County Parks rules on dogs in historic areas.

Coyote Alamos Canal Trail

Plans related to the Coyote Alamos Canal Trail were discussed. A presentation handout provided by Roland Lebrun was passed out to the Board and an overview was discussed. The handout includes information we have reviewed previously and summarizes some of the history and issues related to the plan to open the canal road as a trail. Many of the concepts in the handout coincide with information areas of interest to us. The main difference is that Roland proposes that a section of the canal road within Santa Teresa Park be opened as a trail as a next step.

One action we have been pursuing is obtaining approximately \$100K from the District 2 and District 10 budgets so that work can be done for planning a minimal solution to open a commonly used section of the road as a trail. We had previously selected the section from Snell to Cahalan for this purpose. Rick Mandel had reviewed a USGS map that indicated this trail length was 1.7 miles though there was some disagreement on the accuracy of this number. The \$100K funds were originally estimated to cover items such as:

- Purchase of easements by the city
- Environmental documents
- Public hearings and community meetings
- Landscaping and remedial work
- Signage

It was decided that the next step would be to set up a meeting of some board members with Nancy Pyle and Ash Kalra. Stacie and Laura volunteered to arrange this, possibly in the 3rd week of December (Action Item 5). It would be useful to bring the large map showing ownership of land along the canal. Lynne, John and Matt will look to see who has a copy they can bring (Action Item 6). The section of road from Snell to Cahalan could be viewed as a potential nature path and/or a multi use transportation corridor. A discussion of possible funding sources identified these possibilities: Open Space Authority, SCVWD, federal government stimulus funds, in addition to City of San Jose.

We need to organize a letter writing campaign to increase this item as a priority for the City Council members. It may also be important to conduct our own survey of the current trail usage by getting hiker counts. Matt will determine when these should be initiated. (Action Item 7)

Status of Previous Action items

Matt Freeman noted that previous action items from the Sept 17 Board meeting were completed.

Solar Power Equipment Group Purchase

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John Hesler has been investigating options for group purchase of residential solar power equipment. He spoke to someone who was in the business who volunteered at the General Meeting. He has also spoken with Jessie Denver, Solar Program Coordinator from the City of San Jose, who had spoken at our Spring General meeting. He has some information on the process used by Almaden Community Association for a group purchase program. Stacie Shih volunteered to find out additional information about the VEP Community Association solar purchase program (Action Item 8). John will develop a process that includes sending out a request for bids from solar equipment suppliers, checking references and references, etc. (Action Item 9). Participants would need to provide evidence to the supplier that they were current STFNA members. It is estimated that information regarding the program can be provided in a Spring STFNA newsletter.

Election of Officers

Election of STFNA Board officers was delayed until a future meeting where some additional members could be present.

Submitted by Lynne Paulson, Recording Secretary
Minutes approved at (date to be added later) Board Meeting

DRAFT

Attachment 1
Budget Report

STFNA

Budget Report

October 15, 2009 – November 18, 2009

October 15 beginning balance **\$ 4412.11**

Deposits and Credits

Nov 18 Donations via PayPal	39.78
Nov 5 Scholarship donations made at the general meeting	45.00
Nov 5 member donations made at the general meeting	180.00

Withdrawals & Debits

- none -

November 18 ending balance **\$ 4676.89**

Notes:

- Earmarked for Curie Parkstrip Beautification Project (grant – Jaqueline Price contact) \$ 87.69
- Fall newsletter printing costs estimated around \$500
- Adjusting the ending balance for the earmarks, there is about **\$4,089** unencumbered in the account.
- For STFNA Scholarship, there is \$45.

Attachment 2

Scholarship Report

STFNA Scholarship

Date	Donations		Payments	Description
	Receipt	Deposit		
2009-10-29	\$45			Checks
2009-11-05		\$45		Deposit at Wells Fargo

Total
 \$45 \$45 \$0

Receipt => When treasurer receives money

Deposit => When money gets deposited into bank

Payment => Scholarship money paid out