

DRAFT  
Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Association (STFNA)  
General Meeting  
October 29, 2009

1. Introductions

STFNA President Matt Freeman welcomed attendees to the neighborhood meeting. He recognized first time attendees. He introduced current STFNA Board members in attendance and recognized them for their contributions. He thanked volunteers for their support including distribution of the newsletter. He also recognized Mikayla Pratt for preparing and sending welcome letters to new area residents

Approximately 54 people were in attendance.

2. Scholarship

For the first time, STFNA organized a scholarship award to honor students in our neighborhood who have had outstanding community service records. The scholarship committee consisted of Matt Freeman and Jacqueline Price.

The winners were recognized. Though the students couldn't attend since they are in school at UC Davis, their parents accepted the recognition and thanked STFNA for honoring their daughters. A \$1,000 scholarship was awarded to Haley Schorr, who graduated from Pioneer High School. A \$500 Scholarship was awarded to Christina Nichole Jize, who graduated from Santa Teresa High School.

STFNA member Dave Smith was also recognized for his initiation of the idea to have a scholarship award and for his fundraising activities.

STFNA members were encouraged to contribute separately to funding for a scholarship award for next year. Scholarship funds will be kept separate from general funds. The scholarship committee would welcome additional members.

3. Fire Prevention

R.D. Villa from the San Jose Fire Department Station 12 discussed fire prevention. This station has the equipment to be able to go up in the hillside to fight fires.

Fire prevention tips included:

- Kitchen fires increase during the holidays. Don't leave cooking unattended.
- Smother a grease fire with a lid that fits on the pan. Lay it carefully front to back to prevent an upsurge in your direction. A large container of baking soda can also be used to exclude air from a fire. A fire extinguisher can be used as a last resort.
- Watch for overloading of circuits when you put up holiday decorations.
- Watch out for candles and wood burning fireplaces. Do not leave open flames unattended.

In response to questions, Mr. Villa indicated that the Fire Dept. does assist with evacuations in case of flooding to an area. He also said that everyone should observe

signs of smoke in the neighborhood and watch to see if you can get a description of a possible suspect

#### 4. San Jose Police

Lt. Glenn Harper, SJPD, attended the meeting. Lt. Harper is the Area Commander for the Southern Division. His shift works Wednesday through Saturday from 3pm to 1am. In response to questions, Lt. Harper made these comments:

- Call the police if you see something suspicious
- Call the police if you see juveniles that should be in school.
- Our neighborhood is considered safe. There were some isolated cases such as a hold up on Cree where a cell phone was stolen at gunpoint.
- Do not leave items in plain sight in your car. Use the trunk instead.

#### 5. City Council member Nancy Pyle, District 10 [www.sanjoseca.gov/district10](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district10)

City Council member Nancy Pyle provided information on activities for Council District 10 including:

- Proposition 1B funds were allocated to street repair and 64 streets (68 miles) will be repaired in San Jose, including repairs on Blossom Hill Rd., Snell Ave., Chynoweth Ave.
- City money and Proposition 1B funds will also be used to retime signals to improve traffic flow.
- There was a community meeting on 10/28 to discuss possible changes due to the recent Alamosa Canal trail incident where a woman was killed. Ideas were collected in the meeting for review by the Parks & Recreation Commission to determine what changes are recommended in enforcement, trail signage or marking or other areas. A final decision will be made by the City Council. A suggestion was made that there be a trail watch program similar to the County's program where trained volunteers keep watch.
- The Youth Advisory Council has renewed activities and will have a public showing of a film, Coraline, on Nov. 13 at the Almaden Community Center. This is a free film but it will be a fundraiser from sale of snacks.
- See the District 10 newsletter for information about a new phone notification system.
- At the Nordstrom Rack opening 800 people attended. STFNA members are encouraged to shop at Oakridge and other San Jose stores to help maintain sales tax revenue for our city.
- Whole Foods will begin construction in November
- Everyone should watch out for a Senior Sweepstakes scam which originated overseas. It tries to obtain money from unsuspecting seniors.

#### 6. City Council member Ash Kalra, District 2 [www.sjdistrict2.com](http://www.sjdistrict2.com)

City Council member Ash Kalra provided information on activities for Council District 2 including:

- Sales Tax revenues are important and we should choose to buy in San Jose to keep the tax revenue in our city.
- There is a need to stimulate job growth and the council is working on this.
- There will be additional work on trail issues such as the Coyote Alamosa Canal trail.
- Quarterly meetings are held for District 2 to keep residents informed. The meetings have included information on high speed rail, the city budget and the

plan for Downtown. The next meeting will be a Holiday Appreciation event and canned food drive. Nominations are being accepted through Nov. 13 for community awards that will be given out. Categories include Neighbor of the Year, Community Leader Award, Exceptional Educator Award, Outstanding Teen Award, and Stellar Senior Award. See the flyer for more details.

- New projects being built in the District include Lowes, Santa Teresa Library and Edenvale Community Center.

## 7. Updates on STFNA Items

### Santa Teresa County Park Historic Area

Lynne Paulson reported on the status of the Santa Teresa County Park Historic Area project. This is a Santa Clara County Parks project to improve an undeveloped area of the park near the corner of San Ignacio Ave and Curie Drive. A site plan has been developed including a visitor's center, parking lot, trails, historic and interpretive information and landscaping. The documents are located on the Santa Clara County Parks website [www.parkhere.org](http://www.parkhere.org).

Lynne and several STFNA members have been reviewing the plans and attending meetings in order to provide comments in the areas of accessibility from the neighborhood, trail connections, traffic and other items. The next meeting is a Board of Supervisors meeting on Nov. 3 where the plan is up for approval so that the next phase of detailed design can be started.

### Website Updates

The STFNA website is being migrated in the coming months. There will be more information and there is a plan to add an area where residents can submit their recommendations for contractors to use.

### Solar Group Purchase Discounts

John Hesler is serving as coordinator for potential group purchase of solar equipment for resident's homes. Send an email to contact [@stfna.org](mailto:@stfna.org) if you want to participate in this activity.

### Election of Board Members

Election of Board Members was held with the following results:

- Matt Freeman
- John Hesler
- John Cunningham
- Lynne Paulson
- Rick Mandel
- Nancy Pyle
- Ash Kalra
- Eleanor Bossa
- John Reinke

There are still open positions on the Board. STFNA members are invited to attend any Board meeting to find out more about their activities and how they can be involved. Matt stated that STFNA Board meetings are held generally on the third Thursday of the

month at varying locations and any interested neighborhood member is invited to attend. Send an email to [contact@stfna.org](mailto:contact@stfna.org) to let Matt know you plan to attend and to confirm the meeting location.

Submitted by Lynne Paulson, Recording Secretary  
Approved at (add date later) Board meeting