

Santa Teresa Foothills Neighborhood Association (STFNA)
Board of Directors Meeting
January 11, 2007

In Attendance:

John Hesler-Vice-President
Danielle Spreier-- Secretary & Webmaster
Lynne Paulson--Recording Secretary
Ash Kalra—Director
Dave Smith--Director

Absent:

Matt Freeman-President
Rick Mandel--Treasurer
Jacqueline Price--Director
Forrest Williams-Director
Nancy Pyle / Eric Crane—Director and Proxy
Mike Bosworth—Legal Advisor

Next Meetings

Thursday Feb 8 7pm —Regular Board STFNA meeting.

Saturday January 27 8:30am-11am—San Jose City Strong Neighborhoods Initiative
Project Advisory Committee (additional information provided in meeting minutes below)
April /May --STFNA General Meeting

New Action Items

1. Danielle Update STFNA letterhead to include the current Board members.
2. Danielle Revise treasurer's report and provide to new Treasurer for reporting at the next meeting
3. All STFNA Board—consider attending Jan 27 San Jose city meeting for the newly forming Neighborhood Commission and let other Board Members know of your plans to attend. See further details below.
4. John Hesler—check on general availability of City Geologist as a potential speaker
5. Lynne Paulson—continue to work with County Geologist to confirm if he can be the speaker for the next General Meeting

Open Action Items from Nov. 9, 2006 Board Meeting

Please review previous action items listed in the Nov. 9, 2006 meeting minutes. A report on any open items is requested before or at the next Board Meeting.

Agenda Items

Vice Chairman John Hesler led the meeting in the absence of the Chairman.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes from the November 9, 2006 Board meeting were approved unanimously by Board members who were present at that meeting. Thanks to Rick Mandel for issuing them so quickly after the meeting.

Financial Report

Financial report for October-Dec 2006 was provided by previous Treasurer Danielle Spreier due to Rick Mandel's absence and due to the transition. Danielle plans to revise the report to specify the time period covered as Oct 24-Dec 22, 2006. She will also add the total funds available after the funds earmarked for the Curie Grant project and the BEST project are subtracted. The money doesn't include the funds from the eWaste event yet.

STFNA checks require 2 signatures. The individuals currently authorized to sign are John Hesler, Matt Freeman and former Board Member Ron White. A visit to the Bank is required in order to change the signee from Ron to Rick Mandel.

Update on BEST

Dave Smith discussed the BEST project. Dave has proposed some new ideas on the project including the proposal that winners must be present to win. He also proposed a letter to nominees that would request their signature on participation in the event and invite them to attend the General Meeting where the awards will be made. The letter would also allow them to identify a proxy if they could not attend. A discussion took place regarding the letter and the purpose of the BEST project, however the discussion will be continued at the next Board Meeting.

Neighborhood Commission Forum

Danielle Spreier and Ash Kalra each attended a January 6 meeting at San Jose City Hall that was a Neighborhood Commission Forum. The city was introducing the concept of a Neighborhood Commission that would be formed. This is part of new mayor Chuck Reed's initiative to make sure that neighborhoods have more representation on city issues and plans.

This commission would be a broadening of the original Strong Neighborhoods Initiative Project Advisory Committee (SNI PAC). Additional neighborhood participation is desired. It is proposed that the new commission be formed with representatives of the San Jose city neighborhoods with approximately 30 people. It was discussed at the meeting that a commission with that many people may not be able to work effectively. The commission will be an advisory group for the City Council.

As outlined in a handout Danielle provided from the meeting, the stated mission of the SNI PAC is: "Represent all SJ neighborhoods while protecting the interests of the SNI areas by building strong neighborhoods through community participation, communication, partnerships, shared accountability, and diverse community celebration."

It is important that STFNA keep involved and track and volunteer for this commission. Volunteers from the STFNA Board are requested to attend the next meeting on this Commission on Saturday January 27 at 8:30-11am at San Jose City Hall—Council Chamber, 200 E. Santa Clara St., San Jose, CA. Agenda items include The Future of the Commission and Emergency Preparedness.

Please alert the STFNA Board members via email if you can attend this session. We'd like to have more than one representative there.

Association Meeting

Plans for the next Association meeting were reviewed. The timing should be April or May to avoid the Spring holidays and to coordinate for Springtime selection of BEST winners. (Easter is April 8).

As discussed in the Nov. Board meeting, the proposed speaker will be the County or City Geologist. John Hesler is contacting the City Geologist. Lynne Paulson is contacting the County Geologist. The topic will be an explanation of the geology of our neighborhood and the Santa Teresa Hills.

So far Lynne has talked to County Geologist Jim Baker. He is willing to speak to the group however he will need a letter requesting this so he can get approval from his management. Also due to his work schedule, he is only generally available on a Monday or Friday evening. Since we would not expect good participation on a Friday, it will be investigated if the next General Meeting could be on Monday April 30 or Monday May 7.

A newsletter will be prepared so it can be issued shortly before the General Meeting.

Other Items

An agenda item for the next General Meeting was requested on ideas for increasing membership and donations.

Dave noted information about Santa Teresa crime prevention in a flyer he received. The website is

Groups.yahoo.com/group/santa-teresa/

The website indicates it is a Santa Teresa Neighborhood Watch Network that was “established to provide citizens in the Santa Teresa Neighborhood in the 95123 zip code with a channel for reporting crimes and suspicious behavior...”

This could be something we want to link to our STFNA website.