

SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
February 4, 2009

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Mike Cohen at 7:00PM. Members present were; Mike, Ray Ymzon, Rick Blacklock, Ken Pitney, Liz and Steve Stonehouse, Don Scovel, Carol Freno, Susan Knopp, and Tom Plockington.

MINUTES: Tabled

GUEST REPORTS:

Sgt Cobb of the California Highway Patrol gave this report:

In general the stats for this month are down.

Patrols are now on 12 hour shifts.

There were two collisions on Otay Lakes, and two on Otay Mesa.

The toll road is patrolled on an overtime basis.

Don commented that Corral Canyon speed was thirty five. Sgt. Cobb said they did use radar there.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

- Michael De La Rosa from Supervisor Cox's office gave the following report:
He will address the speeding situation on San Miguel Road to staff again.
One problem with San Miguel Road is the Trail and Pathway improvement.
People have encroached on the right-of-way and will be really annoyed when this gets started. We are looking at sending the preliminary findings to Chula Vista, then to Planning Group later this year.
In answer to the ongoing question of what can be done about the landscape and general care of vacant houses in the area, we are going to have to use what tools we already have to solve this.

We are using other tools to decide what width the trails and the pathways should be and adding road widths to get funding for the project.

Planning Group sent a letter to the Board in December trying to get a response on this issue.

The County's response is that it is not stated that the County is to enforce Community Standards. The County is responsible for health and safety.

About the fastest way to go is to find out which agent is handling home and threaten them with small claims.

Don said that “shadow mortgages” made that way is nearly impossible.

SPECIAL REPORT: Update on Website.

Mike reported that there are several things we need to get underway fast to keep the site going. First, our funding from the County runs out July 22, Which corresponds with a new voting period.

Tom wondered whether there would be better attendance if we changed to every other month meetings. The consensus was no. We have from March to July to decide what the best approach is. Right now we have to start contacting businesses to convince them to put a link on our website. We do get a lot of hits.

I do not want Erica to go away. I will get her to quote us a price for maintenance of the website of X a year.

Liz mentioned that she got a check from Sweetwater Farms for their link and will send them a thank you note.

Ken asked whether his national organization would be welcomed.

Mike mentioned that the Planning Group might be asked for financing for their Hot Line.

Carol mentioned that the director of the Chula Vista Nature Center wanted to be included.

Rick saw a distinct difference from use of the site and the hits on it.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Tom spoke about a meeting he attended at Sweetwater Authority about the water rationing situation. Apparently, everyone has to cut their water back ten percent by July. After that there will be a warning letter and possible fines. However, the amounts are being averaged from 2004, 2005, and 2006 totals. Tom mentioned that he would reach out to Sweetwater Authority for more information.

FLOODING AND WATER: no report

- **TRAFFIC AND ROADS:** no report
- **PARKS:** No report

- **PLANNING GROUP :** Already covered.
- **MEMBERSHIP:** No new members
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- **PROJECT REPORTS:** None
- **SENIOR PATROL:** They seem to be growing and are very busy.
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- **ENVIRONMENTAL:** None

NEW BUSINESS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ROUNDTABLE: Don mentioned a huge washout at the end of Wild Oats. The horse trail had been completely destroyed and the sewer line almost gone. The County came out and fixed it quickly though.

Rick questioned the help the city of Chula Vista was giving on Allen School Lane. Apparently, few people stop, even for the school busses. The County owns the road, but the City maintains it. It would be a good idea for no parking except School Busses signs to be posted all along that area.

A long time member asked why no one ever painted the Willow Street Bridge. The answer is that it is due for retrofitting and rebuilding in 2011.

Ken mentioned that he had been driving around Bonita and noticing fire hazards. 479-2346 is the front office at the fire station. Bob French is the person to contact. Or code enforcement.

Most of the places he named are on private property.

A former member, Pat Mounts had suffered a fall and broken her hip, Tom said. Also George Kost is falling now, and he himself has fallen.

Meeting adjourned 8:20 PM

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE ON March 4, 2009 at the Bonita Fire Station.

**Elizabeth Stonehouse
Secretary**