

SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
March 5, 2008

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

MINUTES: Minutes requested to be voted on next month. Motion Ken, seconded by Tom. Unanimous.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Steve read the following report. The checking account balance is \$1379.33 . The CD balance is \$3300.32 , which brings it to \$4679.65.

We have a guest report from Erica Lund of FoolProof Marketing Solutions, on the subject of our proposed website. Before her report, let's get the standard reports done.

GUEST REPORTS:

Sgt Cobb of the California Highway Patrol gave this report:.

There are still two members of the motorcycle group in training. But we have had our DUI arrests up in the valley between one and four AM.

If you have a youngster with less than one year experience it is illegal for him to be joyriding with his friends after dark. More young drivers are injured because they don't wear seat belts than for any other reason. And remember, it will be illegal to drive with a cellular phone in the ear in July.

As a note of interest, it is legal to get a DUI without being behind the wheel in San Diego County.

Don requested that the CHP keep an eye out on upper Central Ave where it meets Country Trails. There have been some drivers there transversing at unsafe speeds.

Officer Julio Garcia of the Sheriff's Department had this report:

This Friday there will be checkpoints manned by all law enforcement. There will be one in IB at Palm and 9th and one in Spring Valley. National City and Chula Vista will each have two. These checkpoints are in response to St. Patrick's Day festivities. If you call 619-691-5151, we will be happy to let you know where the checkpoints are.

On March 13th managers or owners of apartments are invited to a training session, which will cover tenant and Law enforcement relations. There will be an attorney for Landlord-tenant law. This seminar will be at the IB station Civic Center from 8-4pm.

- Now is the time to start protecting ourselves from crime in the coming season.
- *Do not leave packages in plain site in vehicles, or leave windows even cracked in lots.*
- *Park vehicle in well lit area at night. Be sure no one is following you. If you feel that you are in danger, go to security at the mall or store where you are and request a guard. You may have to wait, but one will be provided.*
- *Whenever you return to drop packages, move your vehicle so on one watching can think you're returning to the store.*
- *Be aware where-ever you use a credit card that only four digits of the card show on the copy that the store keeps. This is a law.*
- *And lastly, family members have been taking social security numbers and using the internet to gain access to credit cards and other things. Be careful where you leave confidential material, even in your own home.*
- *Do not leave doors unlocked and windows open when you leave home.*

Don Scovil had a compliment for the Sheriff's Department. An elderly man found wandering in the street was aided in under three minutes.

SPECIAL REPORT:

Tabled until end of reports.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

- No one attended from State Senator Hollingsworth's office.
- No one attended from Congressman Filner's office.
- Fernando Reyes came from Assemblywoman Shirley Horton's Office and gave the following report:
- Michael De La Rosa from Supervisor Cox's office gave the following report.

The resurfacing of Bridge 200 over SR-125 is over. There are planning a ribbon cutting in July, to declare the bridge and Mary Augustine trail finished and open. Virginia Stewart and Mark Kukuchek were

instrumental in the completion of this project.

From Planning Group: There is still a question of a sidewalk or pathway at the Frisbie Street barrier and we have heard about a possible expansion of the Catholic Church.

There is a work crew at the west end of Sweetwater Park getting into the encampment there. This is slated to go on for a year, and if the work is completed early, there are plenty of other projects for this crew to do.

Mike had a question about the stagnant water in the drainage channel beyond his house. Will there be any effort at mosquito abatement there? The plan called for hydroseeding and landscaping, but it has fallen into dirt and weeds. So nothing has been done.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Tom stated that there will be a water crisis this summer due to lack of water coming from our usual water sources. The biggest wasters of water are landscapers, perhaps they should look into reclaimed water for their purposes. New developments are supposed to be able to show that they will not use too much water once their projects are built.

Ray asked whether new developments should be made to pay more for water.

- **FLOODING AND WATER:** no report
- **TRAFFIC AND ROADS:** no report
- **PARKS:** No report
- **PLANNING GROUP :** Already covered.
-
- **MEMBERSHIP:** No new members
-
- **PROJECT REPORTS:** None
- **SENIOR PATROL:** They seem to be growing and are very busy.
-
- **ENVIRONMENTAL:** Susan mentioned that we should have an area to return hazardous waste. When could we expect to get one?

And Virginia lodged a complaint for Code Enforcement about loose dogs on the trails going after riders and walkers alike.

SPECIAL REPORT:

Mike introduced Erica Lund, who he had learned about from his “IT” guy, George Mitchell. She had been hired by the BBPA to work on their website, and was willing to help us with ours.

Erica handed out literature and spoke: Maintaining a web site is the most important thing. I want to help you to obtain a manageable website that almost anyone can maintain. I use the ‘Go-daddy’ platform and their main template, ‘ website tonight’ to construct the sites and to edit the information they contain.

Before we can get started there are some things I need to know, such as:

A full definition of the website,
whether you wish to share information through the website, and whether there will be a benefit to those who use the website.

Mike: We want to use this site to boost membership, and be a hub for people in the Valley to get access to much needed information.

George mentioned that the Community Center and the Library would be places that could be referred to.

Links between and among organizations could be strong. When would you want this website up and running?

We might want our website to be ready by the July State of Bonita address by Supervisor Cox. Then we could use it as a reason to raise our dues.

Mike brought up that the County could grant us start-up money if we requested it correctly. That the Supervisor is very excited about this.

Tom made a motion that a three member subcommittee be made consisting of Carol Freno, Mike Cohen, and when asked, Liz Stonehouse to look into the possibilities and report back.

NEW BUSINESS:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ROUNDTABLE: Tom mentioned that the fire Station had been broken into and copper wire stolen. AMR was spending \$5000 per month. The East County still wants to consolidate, but there is no money.

Meeting adjourned 9:00 PM

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE ON April 2, 2008 at the Bonita Fire Station.

Elizabeth Stonehouse
Secretary