

**SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
October 5, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by President Mike Cohen; Ken Pitney, Ray Ymzon, Mike Seiler, Steve & Liz Stonehouse, Don Scovel, Susan Kopp and Tom Pocklington.

Carol Freno was excused.

MINUTES: The minutes for the September meeting. Accepted.

TREASURES REPORT: Treasurer's report. Currently: \$4237.54 including a Membership deposit for \$105.00: Account fees \$15.00 CD 3431.49. Balance total: \$7669.03.

Motion to accept Mike S. Second Don S. Approved.

Law Enforcement Reports:

Due to the rain, no law enforcement people were available. Retired Sgt. Bob Cobb dropped by to receive a plaque commemorating his many years of service to the community and Civic Association.

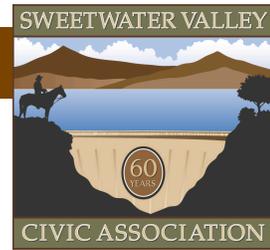
He made a short speech about how happy he was to live in the Bonita area, he has a new house. He also is taking trips with his motorcycle while the weather is still good.

Mike C. mentioned that there was one incident at the Bonitafest which the CHP handled with dispatch. As for the Parade, the CHP was patient with us and helped in every way as well as the Volunteer Patrol.

Supervisor Cox's office report:

Michael De La Rosa from Supervisor Cox's office gave this report:

Congratulations to the Bonitafest Committee. In spite of many challenges for both the Committee and the County due to the newness of the procedure, they did well and we had a beautiful parade.



The pathway project on San Miguel Road is continuing. The curbs for the trail will be made from asphalt as per the wishes of the residents. The County started putting in concrete, but the residents requested asphalt as it is in better fitting with the character of the area, and will drain water better.

The Supervisor is working with Otay Water to align the water pipeline not down Corral Canyon. Right now work is in progress to align it down Procter Valley. The advantage to this is that if the pipeline goes down the road through the area which is to be closed, then Otay Water will not have to repave the road, and we get a trail.

Mike S. asked whether funding for this is through the County.

No. The issue now is Fish and Wildlife. They are willing to assist in closing the road, but need a buffer for the open space. Right now there are no funds for the maintenance of the closed road. Cal-Trans owns the space.

Mike S.: Otay Water was supposed to return to us with some solutions.

Tom P.: I don't think they were ready to meet this group. I applaud the Supervisor for taking a stand.

Supervisor Cox, upon hearing about the eighty-eight year old lady and her difficulties with 211, contacted the Chief of Staff who helped her. 211 is an agency which is supposed to aid people in getting the appropriate services for their issues, not give a life history in order to get this information.

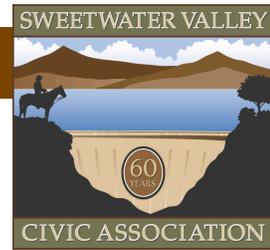
The Supervisor needs to hear of problems with the system so they can be repaired.

Mike S. The traffic is stacking up again on Central at Corral Canyon. The timing of the light needs to be looked at again.

A member, Margaret Raya made this statement: There is a gun shop opening in the Von's shopping center between Vons and Baskin-Robbins. In this current atmosphere where guns are smuggled from both sides of the Border, and the use of guns in drug deals by cartels, why a gun shop in Von's Center?

Several people answered. Among them Steve S. Our area is not Chula Vista. I know it sounds as though it might be, but we are a County organization. We really have no authority in Chula Vista.

Tom P. Stated as well that in Chula Vista we have no authority, and if the Police Department has signed off on the shop, it was legal.



In answer to a question about automatic weapons: there is a federal law concerning them, and it is illegal to sell them anywhere. But TDS can sell legal weapons to anyone who passes a gun check.

What you should do is get a few people in your neighborhood to go to a City Council meeting and voice your complaint to them. But you should be sure of your facts before you go, and make sure you speak for only a short time. You also need to know what you want to happen. You can also start a letter writing campaign.

The consensus was that the same number of people would be against the gun shop as would be for it.

The last word was that Civic Association does not take a stand on political issues.

SPECIAL REPORT: Anne Bessinger of Sullivan Solar came to speak about the benefits of solar power.

Solar power is efficient, convenient, reliable. There is a tax benefit for users. It will reduce or eliminate electric bill and power which is sold back to the power company can generate money. It is also a hedge against utility bill increases. It increases property value and creates a sustainable future.

There are no moving parts in the system, and virtually no maintenance. You do have to wash the panel once in a while to get the dust off. The company has a fifty-five year track record. The inverter, which converts dc power to ac has a ten year warranty, but a fifteen year life expectancy.

They offer both roof and ground mounted systems. Solar panels need to be away from shade trees and any other structure which will block them.

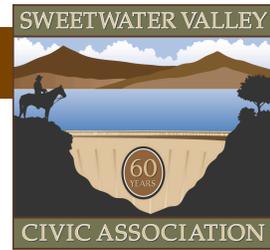
Several slides were shown which showed placement of panels around homes.

There cost benefits, such as Cal Solar will purchase at \$.25 per watt of unused electricity. A 30% rebate of Federal Tax out of pocket is immediate. Net metering is yearly not monthly, however the state pays wholesale not retail in pay-back. Most of your expenditure will be billed in the first cycle.

You can also lease the system which takes away the 'up front' cost barrier.

However the system is owned, operated and maintained by a third party.

This deal is only available until October 24th.



In answer to question about billing cycles. Three months. How long to see a return on investment, Ray. Six to nine years.

A typical system for 3000 sq ft costs \$28000. Cost is about \$182. Lease is about \$132. It will never be more than \$612 a year. The cost will never exceed the cost of electricity by the electric company. A lease is transferable.

California law requires HOA's to allow systems, but can regulate where they can go.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Tom P: The Julian fire is contained. There is an increase in home fires. The rain is a blessing or a problem depending on where you stand. The Department is doing well with no changes in employees. A contract was signed recently with no changes for three years. We give our credit for our stability to Chief Scott Walker who has been with us for thirty-two years and a Chief for nine.

Bonitafest was very easy for us. We had paramedics out for the Motorcycle show.

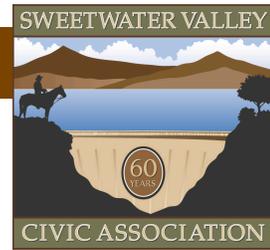
FLOODING AND WATER: Don S. Mike covered most of the issue with Corral Canyon and Central Ave. There is worry about Otay water tearing up Corral Canyon laying their pipe.

TRAFFIC AND ROADS: No report

PARKS: No report

PLANNING GROUP : There are amendments to the flood control channel. The County is planning to work in the drainage channel, built in 2007, to be faulty. Their 100 year flood control is now a six year control. The Schott property will be the first to receive needed repair. This property is on the north side of the School crossing in the lowest part of the land. Surprisingly, since she has lived there the longest, she complained the least.

The County intends to plug and seal the weeping tiles in her wall, open drains that do not drain, and cap of exit drains which do not work. This will keep water from entering the areas of Dawsonia and Hazelhurst where the rains made the biggest impact. Some of this work is not approved yet and has to return to the Board of Supervisors.



MEMBERSHIP: No new members

PROJECT REPORTS: No

SENIOR PATROL: no

ENVIRONMENTAL : Mike S. stated that they are striping Corral Canyon for water pipes and down Central Ave. Michael De La Rosa suggested that he look on the County website to see whether the County is doing it.

NEW BUSINESS: none

CONTINUING BUSINESS: It is time again to talk about renewing Erica as our webmaster. She is asking for \$1200 a year. Tom P. so moved. Mike S. Second.

Steve S. asked about how she was found. Mike C said that his IT guy recommended her. Steve also questioned the issue of having only one person who knows how to run the website. Mike agreed that someone else should learn how and that was permissible. In fact, it would be a good idea for upcoming events.

Vote passed unanimously.

ROUND TABLE:

Mike S. applauded the Bonitafest put-up and tear-down. It was done quickly and without incident.

Meeting adjourned 8:24 PM The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Elizabeth Stonehouse
Secretary