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P.O. Box 232, Bonita, CA 91908 www.sweetwatervalleyca.org

SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING January 2, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by President Michael Seiler at the Bonita Library Community Room. President Seiler welcomed members, guests including Ms. Cynthia McGregor and members of Girl Scout Troup 6156. We were invited to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country followed by a moment of silence to honor the men and women of our Armed Forces, Law Enforcement, Fire and Safety Professionals.

Directors Present: Michael Seiler, Tony Tieber, Judy Tieber, Steve Stonehouse, Sharon Clayton and Glenn Kopp.

Members Present: Prudence Prince, Eugene Cook, Lisa Goodsell,

Guests Present: CHP Officer Pete Thepkulchon; Fire Chief Mike Sims, Bonita Fire District, Jessica Mier, Alysa JaQuay, Ruby Deckman, Melia Haros, Caitlyn Dwyer, Cynthia McGregor

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Stephen Stonehouse moved, Tony Tieber 2nd, to approve December meeting minutes. Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Stephen Stonehouse reporting.

Checking	\$1,462.09
Certificate of Deposit	\$3,453.68
Ending Balance	\$4,915.77

Report accepted. Stephen reminded us that if we plan to move to the Fire Station Training Room for meetings during library construction, we need to purchase insurance. During discussion it was noted that TULIP Insurance is a good option.

Law Enforcement Reports:

CHP Officer Pete Thepkulchon did not have stats available due to the Holidays. He will send to Judy Tieber for records once he has them. Absent the report, we were told that eight traffic accidents occurred in Bonita during the last month. Four were non-injury, four resulted in injury. One of the eight was a DUI. The Officer pointed out two signs on west San Miguel Road that incorrectly state that permits would be issued by CHP. The County would actually issue the tickets. Judy will take this as an action item. Discussion followed about large truck parking along Central at Post Office with concern that the view of oncoming traffic is totally blocked and creating the potential for a serious accident. Discussion centered on painting curb red, which would hinder post office employee parking, or sign pollution with "No commercial Truck Parking". Victor Avina suggested letting him discuss problem with County staff and get back to us with a recommendation. Dates were confirmed with Officer Thepkulchon for school start-up after winter break.

No San Diego County Sheriff's report was available due to absence of representative Julio Garcia.

Fire Safety: Congratulations are in order for our new Bonita Fire Chief Mike Sims. Chief Sims told us the Dept. handled 144 calls last month. Of these 144 calls, 16 were traffic collisions. He reported that 70% of calls are for medical aid. They did check out the Verizon Boxes mentioned last month and determined they would not be in the way for type 3 engines. After talking with Verizon, a decision was made (by Verizon) to move the boxes anyway.

New Business:

Girl Scout Troop 6156 members presented their proposed project to build “little libraries” and install them in areas around Bonita. They reviewed the benefits, risks, timeline and possible locations with those present. The little libraries are stacked with books, and the idea is to take a book and leave a book. The Scouts reviewed possible design options, colors, and how they intend to protect books from inclement weather. The feedback was very positive from SVCA members. A few comments included: Need to check with homeowners for design and color selection if a library will be constructed on their property. At other locations, such as Starbucks and Rohr Park, they may have to research the best person to contact for approval. Jessica Mier, from Congress woman Susan Davis’ office told the girls to contact her because she could get all kinds of books from the Library of Congress for their project. The Free Library Organization will register the little libraries and the troop plans to advertize/educate the local citizens through Facebook and Nextdoor app. The Troop leader can be contacted at: CynthiaMcGregor@me.com.

Elected Representative Reports:

Jessica Mier from Congress Woman Susan Davis’ office: The 116th Congress was sworn in on January 3, 2019. Their big issue to address is the government shutdown. Susan Davis will remain on the Armed Services Committee and the Committee on Education and the Workforce. A February 2nd workshop is planned to address cyber security and how to protect ourselves. More information is available on Rep. Davis’ website or by phone: (619) 280-5353. Ms. Mier also told us that she is being promoted to District Director. She still plans to attend our meetings.

Victor Avina from County Board of Supervisor Greg Cox’s office presented his updates. First the Supervisor has been very busy with a December meeting of the Large Urban County Caucus. Victor told us the County has voted to fund the shortfall to hire an operator of the planned Sweetwater Valley Community Garden. Work is now getting underway and the garden should be ready by next summer. The identified funds shortfall for the planned Library construction has also been fully funded so construction will start later this year. Victor will get back to us with more specific information on the construction schedule once there is more information available. The County is still busy responding to all citizen correspondence related to the storage facility. The Bike Skills Park contract will be awarded around March 1st and construction should begin shortly after.

A 12-12-18 meeting with Sweetwater Authority (SWA) resulted in a SWA resolution to move forward with the County to develop the long-awaited Loop Trail around the Sweetwater Reservoir. For now, animals such as horses and dogs will not be allowed on the trail, only hikers and bikers. Mr. Avina also updated us on the planned 170 unit apartment proposal that Chula Vista is working to approve. While the planned apartments will not be built in County, the close proximity to County calls for County to stay on top of this as it could have traffic impacts on nearby County residents/roads. The Glen Abbey trail is currently in construction with a planned completion date of April 30, 2019. He then passed out the planned County road resurfacing schedule for year two of the five year plan. Tony Tieber noted that Corral Canyon was missing

from the list. He assured Mr. Avina that Bonita residents had identified that road as high priority and Tony passed that information along to the County representative collecting the information and to the Sweetwater Community Planning Group. Victor agreed to check on it. Steve Stonehouse will forward the road resurfacing recommendations to President Seiler. Good news! The proposed Hawk Beacon was approved for Sunnyside Elementary School. The timing is not great; it will be January 2021 before it can be installed. It is essentially a red light which means drivers must stop and wait for it to turn green before proceeding. This will be a great help and safety feature for the School Patrol kids, neighbors, and traffic exiting the school driveway.

The County Board of Supervisors will meet in closed session to discuss and resolve the construction mitigation issue arising from Sierra Club’s successful challenge of the County General Plan. The plan currently allows developers to purchase mitigation land anywhere in the world to offset newly created carbon footprints. The Sierra Club lawsuit demands mitigation lands be purchased within County of project development. The Board of Supervisors has put large projects such as Lilac Hills and Newland Sierra on hold for now.

Samantha Trickey from Chula Vista Council member John McCann’s office: Absent

Community Forum:

Bonita Alliance - Lisa Martin-Goodsell reported a continuing lack of Chula Vista Council member McCann’s response/feedback to the November 9, 2018, Bonita Alliance letter. Brief discussion followed on status/non-status of Rohr Park being passed over for the legacy park designation. Ms. Goodsell also mentioned the presence of Sharp Health Care signs now present along both Bonita and Otay Lakes Roads within Chula Vista city limits. We really don’t want to see advertising along our community roads.

Planning Group - Steve Stonehouse reported the next meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2019, so nothing to report.

Traffic/Roads – Nothing additional to report. Tony Tieber did report an email communication from a resident who lives on Jonel Way in Bonita complaining that AT&T mobile phone coverage was terrible in her area. Hopefully the new Verizon Tower will have space available for AT&T to lease.

Membership—Sharon Coleman was not in attendance but did report there were no changes from last month’s membership numbers.

Sr. Volunteer Patrol - No report as Jim Woodford was absent.

December and Annual 2018 Sheriff Sr. Volunteer Activities (info provided after meeting):

Number of volunteers	18	20			
Hours on Patrol	156	2,992	Number of Patrols	13	249
Number Miles Driven	650	12,503	Vacation Checks	23	773
YANA Visits	0	11	YANA calls	26	331
Citizen Assists	2	61	Traffic Control	9	45

Trails –Mark Kukuchek was absent but Prudence Prince reported a very successful cleanup of 1,900 lbs of trash (mostly homeless) on Saturday 12-8-18 in the Western Staging Area of Sweetwater Regional Park. Well over 100 people worked for two hours to accomplish the job.

Glenn Kopp told us no work has been done by Chula Vista Parks Dept to replace the large mulch in the area of his fall.

Steve Stonehouse moved and Glenn Kopp seconded to adjourn meeting. Unanimous.

President Seiler adjourned meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Tieber
Secretary, SVCA

Mission Statement: The Sweetwater Valley Civic Association is the direct conduit to local County elected and appointed officials, law enforcement and emergency first responders to discuss and resolve issues directly related to our quality of life within the Sweetwater Valley communities.