

## Making the Sweetwater Valley the best place to live.

P.O. Box 232, Bonita, CA 91908 [www.sweetwatervalleyca.org](http://www.sweetwatervalleyca.org)



### SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING May 1, 2019

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by President Michael Seiler at the Bonita Library Community Room. President Seiler welcomed members and guests who may be contemplating membership in the SVCA. 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, Jim Woodford, Mike Clowers, Glenn Kopp, Sharon Coleman.

Members Present: Prudence Prince, Donna Hodge, David Corcoran, Alan and Fran Cornell, Eugene Cook

Guests Present: Julio Garcia San Diego County Sheriff's Dept, CHP Officer Pete Thepkulchon, Bonita Fire Chief Mike Sims

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Steve Stonehouse moved to approve, Tony Tieber 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Stephen Stonehouse reporting.

Checking	\$ 279.22
Certificate of Deposit	\$3,453.91
Ending Balance	\$3,733.13

Report accepted as presented.

#### **Law Enforcement Reports:**

**CHP Officer Pete Thepkulchon** apologized that activity stats were not available due to a change in the statewide system. He could tell us, however, that about 30 speeding tickets were issued along San Miguel Rd, Winnetka, Acacia/Tim St, and the Central/Corral Canyon area. Officer Hale reported giving several tickets for sign violations on Frisbee. There were two hit-and-runs near Soapy Joe's, and one accident by Glenn Abbey. We were told of a memorial service for Sr. Volunteer Patrol Officer George Hernandez from Lakeside. David Corcoran told Officer Thepkulchon about a continuing speeding problem on Central past Corral Canyon. Officer Thepkulchon reported that they have been patrolling that area during early evenings. He assured Mr. Corcoran that that area will now start getting more attention.

**Julio Garcia**, Crime Prevention Specialist, S.D. County Sheriff Dept, reminded us that the weather is warmer, and we should still close and lock windows and doors when leaving our homes. Leaving a door key hidden outside is never a good idea. Criminals know all the spots to check. If your key is out there, they will find it and use it. Leave an extra key with a neighbor. He reviewed area criminal activity including stolen tools and a bike from a patio. National City Police were in Bonita doing a search/investigation. We were told that area law enforcement

agencies have enforcement authority for the whole State of California. Discussion followed about continuing problem on Acacia Ave. with mail removed from mail boxes and thrown all over both Tim and Acacia. There are lots of homeless in the area. A resident of Acacia reported that homeless may be living in a stable located to the back of an empty lot at 4030 Acacia. She noticed the stable door was open. Julio will follow up on this tomorrow, and suggested a call to County Code Compliance. Mr. Garcia is available for security consultation for both home and business locations. He can be reached at the Imperial Beach Substation at 619-498-2400.

**Chula Vista Police Officer Jeff Pace** not available.

**Fire Safety: Bonita Fire Chief Mike Sims** reported that April was a bit slow with only 114 calls. Crews attended a big wild fire drill over a 3-day period. They also drilled on confined space rescue so overall had a busy month. The Annual Pancake Breakfast is scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup> from 8-11:00 a.m. We were all encouraged to come for a great meal that serves a great purpose. He reported the large palm by the Fire Station has been cut down and removed. They now have a green light from County to start cutting down dead palms in the riverbed. A new fire professional has been hired and two are planning retirement next year. There is increased hiring going on by area Fire Departments so new recruits are hard to come by. Mike Clowers asked about weed abatement. He called the County about coming to Bonita to clear weeds/tall grasses along the roadways. County says it will be at least three months before they can address it. The Chief reported he is still working with SDG&E, Chula Vista, and Fish and Wildlife to continue the work along Proctor Valley Road. The Fire Dept will be sending out annual property owner weed abatement letters soon. Glenn Kopp reported that Bonita Highlands will start mowing open spaces on May 13<sup>th</sup>. When the seeds drop, we mow.

**Elected Representative Reports:**

**Victor Avina** not available

**Jessica Mier** not available

**Samantha Trickey** not available

**Continuing Business:**

Mike Clowers spoke on behalf of The San Miguel Rd/Proctor Valley Rd Traffic Committee. The April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting with County did occur. Purpose was to review and agree to the re-striping plan for the wide section of San Miguel Rd. As stated previously, the schedule is set for this summer following the road resurfacing project. Kenton Jones wants to present this plan, in person, at an upcoming SVCA meeting. A meeting is scheduled with representatives from SANDAG to discuss the toll road ridership rates. SANDAG is working on a plan to incentivize drivers to use the toll road and avoid side streets.

**New Business:**

Mike Seiler announced the State of Bonita address will be August 7<sup>th</sup> so no regular business will be conducted. The July meeting will be busy with elections and, hopefully, Kenton Jones here to present.

**Community Forum:**

**Bonita Alliance:** No report.

**Traffic/Roads** – Tony Tieber told us about the SANDAG proposal to shift money from roads to increase rapid transit routes. To meet required future air quality standards, we have to shift our commutes from individual cars to clean energy rapid transit. The County Supervisors have mixed feelings about this since many highway projects have been delayed due to lack of funding.

**Planning Group** - Steve Stonehouse reported there is no Sweetwater Community Planning Group meeting scheduled for May.

**Membership**—Sharon Coleman reported membership numbers: Individual-24, Family-38, Silver-2, Gold 12, Organizations 7. She will start the renewal process and hopes everyone will support the SVCA through their continuing membership. Sharon also told us that SDG&E is replacing gas pipes along Winnetka and a few connecting streets. She expressed concern about how the roads are being torn up. Since the gas pipe replacement project just ended on San Miguel Road, members assured her that SDG&E will be responsible to have the road resurfaced upon project completion.

**Sr. Volunteer Patrol - Jim Woodford** told us about a planned fund raiser for the Sr. Volunteer Patrol Officer George Hernandez who met an untimely death. We also learned that one of the YANA (You are not alone) clients passed away. Still have one other client. The patrol car is out of commission due to an accident. He doesn't know if car will be repaired or replaced. So, in the meantime, no patrols, no vacation checks and no school patrol. Mike Seiler will send a letter of support to the County Sheriff in an effort to get the Sr. Vol. Patrol "back in business".

Number of volunteers	17		
Hours on Patrol	102	Number of Patrols	9
Number Miles Driven	370	Vacation Checks	14
YANA Visits	2	YANA calls	55
Citizen Assists	3	Traffic Control	2

**Trails –Mark Kukuchek** not available.

**Updates:**

- Mike Seiler wants to write a letter to Chula Vista City Council thanking them for the Willow Street bridge project.
- Sharon Coleman asked about updating the SVCA flier. Sharon will check with Parisa to see if she has flier update completed. Sharon likes to hand these out to prospective members.
- Glenn Kopp reported on a kid riding a small electric bike going way too fast. He created a very dangerous situation.
- Mike Clowers told us the Rohr dog park project is moving forward. There will be a 25 ft. setback from the park property line.
- Library construction update: Start the end of September and finish in May 2020.
- Community Garden: No one here to give an update.
- Max Branscomb has started planning for this year's Bonitafest and Melodrama.

President Seiler thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 7:45 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.