

Making the Sweetwater Valley the best place to live.

## **SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION**

### **MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

**April 1, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER:** This meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Michael Seiler with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Our Country and a moment of silence for armed service personnel, law enforcement and first responders.

Directors present: Mike Seiler, Steve Stonehouse, Tom Pocklington, Tony Tieber, Judy Tieber, Liz Stonehouse, Bill Coleman, Sharon Coleman, Sharon Clayton  
Guests present: Michael Delarosa, Jessica Mier, Sherry Hunter

**MINUTES:** Minutes from March meeting. Tom Pocklington moved to approve, second by Liz Stonehouse. Minutes accepted as written.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer's report dated April 2015, accepted as written with note that the discrepancy from last month was \$1.00 due to timing issue.

Checking Account Balance:	\$ 918.54
Certificate of Deposit Balance:	\$3,451.09
Ending Balance:	\$4,369.63

Previous Balance of \$4,643.19 as stated on submitted "Corrected" March 2015 report.

### **OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK:**

One member was approached by a neighbor to find out what was going on in Bonita. She suggested the neighbor start attending the SVCA meetings to find out.

### **LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT:**

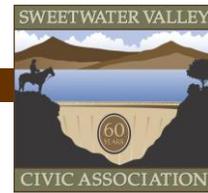
No Law Enforcement Representatives present.

Liz Stonehouse noted that guest members (County, CHP, Sheriff, Elected Official Reps) require a two-week meeting notice.

### **ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS:**

Michael De La Rosa from Supervisor Greg Cox' Office:

Michael De La Rosa announced that invitations will come out soon for the Provence House grand opening. A 9:00 a.m. walk with Supervisor Cox around the park/golf course will be open for all who wish to join. Presentation/ribbon cutting will be from 10:30-11:00 a.m. Murali Parsumathi will attend the April 7<sup>th</sup> Planning Group Meeting to discuss County proposed solution to resolve issues at Proctor Valley/San Miguel



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Roads intersection. He will also address the school crossing concern at Belle Bonnie Brae/Central intersection. Michael De La Rosa also announced that a footbridge is still planned for construction during the “winter” of 2015-2016 near Plaza Bonita Road.

Jessica Mier from Congresswoman Susan Davis’ Office:

The Congress woman has been busy on a variety of fronts such as her efforts to lead election reform efforts in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress to include (1) ending constraints placed on vote by mail voters in The Universal Right to Vote by Mail Act and (2) the Federal Election Integrity Act to prohibit a State chief election official from serving on/supervising/influencing federal campaign committees. Congresswoman Davis also supported a Sweetwater Authority grant application to increase the desalination capabilities of the Richard A. Reynolds Desal. Facility by letter to the Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation. She is also spearheading a drive within the HR to boost federal funding of the NIH. Jessica Mier also reminded us of the 2015 Congressional Art Competition.

**STANDING REPORTS:**

**Fire Department:** Tom Pocklington reminded everyone to keep brush and weeds down as the drought and heat continue. Always be prepared for a fire.

**Traffic and Roads:** Tony Tieber met again with Don Scovel before his departure, and obtained a large map that displays what roads would get improved in 2015. He also received emails re: Sweetwater Water Authority activities to replace water lines on Belle Bonnie Brae and Mirar Ct. and on Bonita Road to San Miguel Rd. SWA is doing this work ahead of the County plan to repave roads.

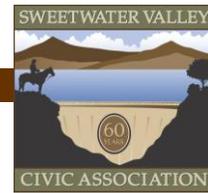
**Planning Group:** Steve Stonehouse reported there was no meeting.

**Membership:** Liz Stonehouse reported no new members. Membership Drive starts the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in May for the 2015-16 year.

**Senior Volunteer Patrol:** No report.

March 2015 Sheriff Sr. Volunteer Activities

Hours on patrol	246	Number of patrols	21
Number of Miles Driven	1,138	Vacation checks	92
YANA visits	None	Citizen Assists	4



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### **CONTINUING BUSINESS:**

First two items already discussed. SVCA website: No "counter" stats received for March, but expect the numbers continue to be very poor. Our discussions addressed:  
What is the Website purpose?  
We want to share our Vision and our Mission  
Website must support our Vision and our Mission  
Need it to post agendas and meeting minutes  
Should be a place for information/resource support for locals

Jessica Mier brought up that it is better to have a Facebook page. That is way to get feedback from young people. We should link Facebook to our website. Perhaps look for a high school or college student who can set up for us in exchange for volunteer hours.

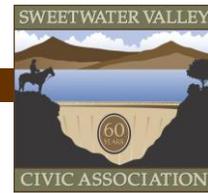
Regarding previous discussions about Association visibility, we discussed moving our meetings to the Library Community Room because there is no visibility at the Fire Station. We could set up a meeting notice sign, welcoming all to attend, and better visibility for membership drive. Tom Pocklington moved, Liz Stonehouse seconded, that we move meetings there for two months' trial (June, July). During discussion Tom noted that the homeless were still there. A sign could be made and kept at the museum. Need to reserve room with Head Librarian for only three months at a time, but Mike Seiler thinks we can get first Wednesday of each month set in stone once we are using space. Michael De La Rosa will facilitate move. Tony noted that room is cold, too large for our group, and the alarm system is a real issue. Tom feels the mental state of the homeless is a concern. On a positive note, our organization would no longer require liability insurance. Motion to move meeting passed with one abstention.

Tom will put pressure on Chula Vista Police to deal with homeless issue. Michael Seiler thanked Supervisor Cox and Michael De La Rosa for the suggestion and help to make this move. Next step is to work on signage between now and 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in June.

Steve Nelson, County General Services, meet with Civic Association Members at Morrison Pond staging area to review what appears to be somewhat unstable slopes along sections of Sweetwater Rd. He pointed out that County responsibility is only for 30 feet on either side of road. Rest is homeowner responsibility. He did point out that County will be removing a dead eucalyptus tree by Orchard Hill/Sweetwater Roads.

### **New Business:**

Judy Tieber brought up the idea of sponsoring a community walk with Supervisor Cox to celebrate the completion of our newly constructed trail between the Western Gateway Staging area and Willow Street Bridge. This would be an easy, level walk of



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approximately 4 miles round trip. We could promote this activity at the State of Bonita address in July in order to maximize enthusiasm and get the word out.

Also based on an article in the UT Judy asked Michael if he knew what trail-naming criteria the County will be using to administer the new plan of naming trails because that would be another way to get our organization's name out in front of the public. This program is so new, he will have to do some research on it and get back to us.

There is nothing new to report on Bonitafest. Mike Seiler did not get a call back from Max Brandscome. It appears, at this point, that everything will be just like last year at Bonita Vista High School. At this time, Bonitafest does not have a stand-alone, non-profit status (501C) or community support through the City of Chula Vista.

### **Roundtable:**

Tom Pocklington brought forward a \$500 financial request to the SVCA to help support the Safety Center. In the past, this was funded by the BBPA Chili Cook-off, but those funds are now nonexistent. The new Chile Cook-off, is sponsored by the Optimists and the Kiwanis, and they have not said anything to Tom about funding the Safety Center. During the discussion that followed, Dave Gillespie was identified as the best person to talk to or meet up with to discuss issues related to the Safety Center. Up until now, the Bonita Museum has been funding the Safety Center, but they can't really afford it either. The Safety Center is a vital community attribute and one we should support.

Sharon Coleman reported the "Watch Downhill Speed" sign had been removed and replaced by the Speed Feedback sign. Neighborhood wanted both signs up. Sharon contacted "Gigi" at County Roads, and the sign was put back up almost immediately. Neighbors had a trash can hit during the night. No one was hurt so neighbor did not file a CHP report. Sharon C. did call the CHP and did file the report. The traffic speed has slowed down considerably, but not slow enough. There is still much work to be done.

Tom Pocklington also shared that he participated in a wonderful tour of the Medical Examiners (ME) Office. 20,000 people die each year in San Diego County. The ME, with a staff of 55, conducts autopsy examinations on about 44% of these deaths. The ME's office also has its own cadaver dogs trained to search out bodies during a disaster. Liz moved and Tom seconded that meeting be adjourned. Passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Tieber  
Secretary