



Making the Sweetwater Valley the Best Place to Live

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

SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING September 2, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: The 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: Michael Seiler, Tony Tieber, Stephen Stonehouse, Elizabeth Stonehouse, Carol Freno, Sharon Clayton, Sharon Coleman, Bill Coleman, and Jim Woodford.

Members present: Irene Blacklock, Daryl Hern

Guests present: Officer Pete Thepkulchon, CHP, Julio Garcia, Sheriff's Office, Michael De La Rosa from Supervisor Greg Cox's office, Jessica Mier from Congresswoman Jessica Davis' office, Amanda Schoedel, Website Administrator, Mark Zambon, Rep. Susan Davis' Office, Robert Kay

MINUTES: Minutes from July 1, 2015 meeting. Jim Woodford moved to approve, Steve Stonehouse 2nd Minutes Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer's report dated September, 2015, accepted as written.

Checking account balance:	\$ 1,872.71
Certificate of Deposit:	<u>3,451.38</u>
Ending Balance:	5,342.09

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

Sheriff's Dept: Safety Officer Julio Garcia reported Sheriff's Dept. stats for August. There were three thefts from cars, four petty theft/larceny and two thefts from buildings. He told us that Bonita was one of the safest places to live. The most serious of the thefts was of car license plates. The second being bicycles. The main reason they are not returned to their owners is that the owners don't know serial numbers. The suggestion was to take a photograph of the bicycle and the serial number and keep it with you. Also, people are urged to return unused drugs to a drop-box location. Ours is at the Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Station. Do NOT give them to a friend, flush them down toilet, and throw them away in the trash. He reminded us, if we see suspicious activity or people, call the non-emergency number at 1-858-565-5200.

Daryl asked what the County does with them. Answer-destroy them.

Highway Patrol Officer Pete Thepkulchon gave this report, covering June, July, and August: Total citations were 79 for June, 46 for July and 9 for August. The 79 broke down to: 36 for speeding, 0 restraints, and 3 cell phones 1 stop sign, 21 Failure to obey signs, 18 Equipment, and 5 non-injury collisions. For July, 10 Speeding, 0 restraints, 4 cell phone, 2 stop signs, 7 Failure to obey sign, 17 equipment/other and 6 Dui arrests. 2 injury collisions. And in August: 1 speeding, 1 restraint, 0 cell phone, 0 stop signs, 3 failure to obey signs, 2 equipment/others and 2 DUI arrests. 7 non-injury collisions and three injury collisions. There was one property damage in August. The reason the report was declining was due to Officer Scott Panfil being on vacation. Homeless people all seem to have bicycles.

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Item #6A out of sequence: Proposal to approve web master services at the “Premier Level” from Amanda Schoedel starting in September 2015. Introduction of Ms. Schoedel: Tony gave this report: He was tasked with figuring out how to better communicate with the community. Foolproof Marketing recommended Ms. Schoedel for the transition period. Steve motioned, move to appoint Ms. Schoedel and begin at the premier level. Liz seconded. Liz also asked for a description of this level. Answer: It includes what you already have plus upkeep and adding other things such as FaceBook and Twitter. Sharon Clayton asked why we should spend \$50 more a month. Because we have available money in our CD which isn’t generating much income, and we will not have to pay for insurance at the Library Meeting Room.

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES REPORT: Michael De La Rosa from Supervisor Greg Cox’s Office had this to say: The situation for Planning Group with design guidelines is that they should be emailed to Judy Walsh Jackson. The Supervisor will be at a booth at Bonitafest. Now school has started again, Murali is looking at the crosswalk at Belle Bonnie Brae in anticipation of putting lights there for children to cross. There is still some undergrounding being done near Briarwood. The road resurfacing is going along. There is no current map of waterlines in the Valley. Sweetwater Little League All Stars made it to the quarter finals. They really did a good job. There was a reception for them at Summit Park yesterday. It went very well. They paid their way as 95% of their money came from fundraisers. Jessica Mier from Congresswoman Susan Davis’ office gave this report: Congresswoman Davis is in town for August. There are several federal grants she is involved in. One is 5.2M dollars to the Sweetwater Authority for the desalination plant in National City. She introduced Mark Zambon, a wounded veteran who is working on the Congresswoman’s staff to aid other wounded warriors. There was a discussion about the dangers of lack of water, the most serious among them plumbing that stops working.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

6.B

- Bonitafest will be September 19th, at Bonita Vista High School which is at the southeast corner of Otay Lakes Road and East H Street. The Bonita Vista High School Music Department gets whatever monies the Bonitafest makes. Carol moved that we participate in the Bonitafest. Sharon seconded. \$50.00 registration fee. Mike Seiler and Carol Freno agreed to man the booth, but both stated they need help. The booth will be set up under the solar panels so it should be cooler there.
- 6.C. Undertake a 91902 Zip Code Mailing (Every Door Direct Mail) to tell community about SVCA . After discussion it was decided to drop the idea as there isn’t enough money to go around. Michael De La Rosa said he would look into other avenues of funding.
- Mike made the motion that we revisit this in March when we better understand where we stand with the website. Irene seconded. Approved

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COMMUNITY FORUM:

Fire Department: Tom Pocklington wanted to remind everyone that there would be a Flag Exchange at the flag pole at 6:40 with our meeting to begin at 7. Liz will make up a flyer to be disseminated. Sharon Coleman remarked that Winnetka is still a speedway, since the police presence has gone. There were counters across the street today. She will report when she can find out what they are for.

Membership: Liz Stonehouse reported we have:

- 64 renewed R memberships.
- 8 Life memberships
- 7 Group memberships

Senior Volunteer Patrol: Jim Woodford sent in his activity reports

	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>
Hours on patrol	248	262
Number of Patrols	21	22
Number of Miles Driven	1021	1,115
Vacation Checks	120	97
YANA Visits	None	None
Citizen Assists	12	7

Tony Tieber said that he had brought a lot of posters, but he wasn't sure what they were for. He has two websites for locating roads. Let Judy know if you need this information.

Irene stated that The Friends of the Library is having a book sale, fantasy, Si-fi-buy one get one free in paperbacks. All hardbacks \$2.00 paperbacks \$.50.

There was a short discussion on how to involve the community. Organizations should be able to put their messages on our website.

The Tip of The Hat exhibit of Cowboy Artists of America is ongoing until the 13th of September. Carol Freno is exhibiting from the 16th of September until October 24th in the Five Facets exhibition of art through various media. The reception for this will be September 18th, 5:30 until 7:00P.M.

Planning group had a presenter from Verizon Cellular who wants to put a 50' tower in the Preserve. The issues with that include building a ten foot berm to house the generator and the tower, making the tower 60' tall. After a long discussion, Verizon was sent back 'to the drawing board' with numerous suggestions.

Jim Woodford said we have a new member, Robert and Valerie Kay. Welcome. He also told us that the Volunteer Patrol car was down for a week.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted, Liz Stonehouse for
Judith A. Tieber, Secretary