

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 October 7, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Michael Seiler to conduct the flag replacement ceremony led by Mr. Tom Pocklington with assistance provided by local Boy Scout Troop 2010 led by Scoutmaster Mr. James Harlan. Following the ceremony, President Seiler led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Our Country and a moment of silence for armed service personnel, law enforcement and first responders. After time for photo opportunities, the Association members and guests moved into the Community Room to continue with the business meeting.

Directors present: Michael Seiler, Tony Tieber, Stephen Stonehouse, Elizabeth Stonehouse, Sharon Clayton, Ken Pitney, Tom Pocklington, Jim Woodford, and Judy Tieber
Members present: Irene Blacklock, Daryl Hern, Alan and Fran Cornell
Guests present: Julio Garcia, Sheriff's Office, Michael De La Rosa from Supervisor Greg Cox's office, Jessica Mier from Congresswoman Jessica Davis' office, Patty O'Mara

MINUTES: Minutes from July 16 Annual Meeting and the September 2, 2015 meetings. Judy listed a few corrections needed to the July meeting minutes. Liz Stonehouse moved to approve with corrections. 2nd by Tom Pocklington. Minutes Approved.

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

Checking account balance:	\$ 1,986.60
Certificate of Deposit:	<u>3,451.44</u>
Ending Balance:	\$ 5,438.04

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

Sheriff's Dept: Safety Officer Julio Garcia reported Sheriff's Dept. stats for September, 2015. There was one burglary (breaking and entering); one robbery; an aggravated assault; one theft from a motor vehicle and two motor vehicles were stolen. Also, two homeless were caught with stolen bikes and arrested. He again told us that Bonita was one of the safest places to live. He reminded us, if we see suspicious activity or people, call the non-emergency number at **1-858-565-5200**. Remember, holidays are coming so must be extra vigilant. Lock all doors and windows when leaving your home. Burglars always try the side door to the garage so check it. If you own/use a motor vehicle, don't leave items in plain view. As the Crime Prevention Specialist for our area, Mr. Garcia is available to visit your home and make suggestions to improve your home security. Call the non-emergency no: 1-858-565-5200 to make an appointment. Mr. Garcia also explained that there are only two deputies working between Bonita and Lincoln Acres. Call the non-emergency line if you see anything suspicious or out of the ordinary. Unfortunately for us, the higher staffed areas are to the north and eastern parts of the County.

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ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:

Supervisor Greg Cox' Office: Michael De La Rosa

Mr. De La Rosa told us the County is currently evaluating the addition of pavement lighting to the new crosswalk at Central and Belle Bonnie Brae. The County is committed to making that crosswalk as safe as possible. He did follow up with the City of Chula Vista re the request to keep standard design guild lines in place for our community, whether within San Diego County or the City of Chula Vista. In particular, this should address the "feather" banners seen along Bonita Road. The issue of improving safety at the intersection of Proctor Valley Road and San Miguel Road has been deferred indefinitely. The plan is to work with the Parks department to install a trail crossing there. The Traffic Advisory Committee did not approve the request from Planning Group to make the intersection a 4-way stop.

Rep. Susan Davis' Office: Jessica Mier

Ms. Mier was happy to report the legislature avoided a government shutdown. Next Deadline is December 11th. Rep. Davis will be hosting a College Affordability Forum at Grossmont College on Nov. 10, 2015. This brings together in one place experts on higher education and financial aid. Registration from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m., Program 6:30-8:30 p.m. Grossmont College Griffin Gate Room. Must RSVP to 619-280-5353. We were reminded that Susan can also nominate students to our military academies. Last year a Bonita student was accepted into the Naval Academy. Watch for more details about an upcoming El Nino event. Military is getting a 1.3% raise in salary, Those people on Social Security will see Zero increase. Jessica closed with the note, "They are always looking for interns."

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Bonitafest was successful again this year. There was a good turnout and everyone, including Supervisor Cox, seemed to have fun. It certainly kept the tradition alive. Ken Pitney and Carol Freno were there to take a shift manning the table. The Sweetwater Woman's Club joined us and shared the cost. Our assigned spot was in the shade all day so comfortable. President Seiler handed out a few membership forms along with lots of bottled water. We need a new sign for next year. He thanked Liz Stonehouse for printing the fliers and Steve Stonehouse for getting the water. As always, we could use more volunteers next year.

Website Update: Tony Tieber reported that our new website administrator, Amanda Schoedel, met with Erica Lund yesterday (Oct. 6) to officially turn the SVCA site over to Amanda. As of October 5 our contract with Amanda Schoedel is in place. All of her business contracts/payments are done on line, so that is something we have to work through. We will have the website, Facebook, and Twitter activity so if we update one medium, it affects the other two. We will need a training session to get us going. We can advertise on Facebook to all Bonita residents. President Seiler thanked Tony for getting all this in place, and expressed hope we will begin getting more local "hits" to website. He also shared the meaning of hits, visits, and unique page views. This will be added to the minutes as an addendum. Jim Woodford requested we bring the equipment necessary to bring up the website and give a demo of what we now have available. Tony will make that happen.

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COMMUNITY FORUM:

Fire Department: Tom Pocklington reminded everyone to stay vigilant for wild fires during the next two months or before the rainy season begins. In September, first responders from the Bonita/Sunnyside Fire Department rescued a near-drown child. He also reported the large east parking lot at the station has been black topped, two large piles of dirt and a good supply of sand bags are available for citizen use. The Bonita/Sunnyside Library is staffed during October by County to give free flu shots along with documentation.

Membership: Two new members.

Senior Volunteer Patrol: Jim Woodford sent in his activity report for September.

Hours on patrol	226
Number of Patrols	19
Number of Miles Driven	1016
Vacation Checks	57
YANA Visits	None
Citizen Assists	6

He also mentioned that they need more volunteers to keep the Safety Center open. Home checks are increased, and they may get two more people to join.

Roads: Tony had no new information to report. Liz Stonehouse brought up concerns from residents who live on Evergreen and Cresta Verde. The white fence around the storm drain channel is too high and drivers cannot see over the top. Depending on which road you are on trying to turn onto Sweetwater Rd., the view is blocked both to the east and to the west. It is a dangerous situation. Tony Tieber took that on as an action item. Liz also mentioned tumbleweed on hill near road.

Liz Stonehouse has been successful in getting Chula Vista City agreement to get the distractive banner/feather signs removed from Bonita Road. It hasn't happened yet, but the Departments of Public Works, Planning, and Code Enforcement will be contacting Liz to get this worked out. Frank Revera will coordinate the Chula Vista Departments to address the issues. Someone also mentioned the need to install a curb along south side of Sweetwater Road where trail was just repaired (west of Rohr Park). A general discussion occurred about which roads were scheduled for resurfacing and when.

Planning Group: No meeting held.

President Seiler reminded everyone present that all future meetings will be held at Library Community Room.

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ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 8:10 .m.

Respectfully submitted
Judith A. Tieber, Secretary