

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 June 1, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Michael Seiler at the Bonita-Sunnyside Library Community Room. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of Our Country followed by a moment of silence for armed service personnel, law enforcement and first responders.

Directors present: Mike Seiler, Tony Tieber, Stephen Stonehouse, Ken Pitney, Jim Woodford, Tom Pocklington, Sharon Coleman, and Judy Tieber
Members present: Bill Coleman, Valerie and Robert Kay, Glenn and Susan Kopp, Valerie G. Rios,
Guests present: Michael De La Rosa, Jessica Mier, James and Susan Carter, Suste Murphy, Sean Murphy.

With some new attendees, President Seiler asked everyone to introduce themselves.

MINUTES: Motion by Tony Tieber to approve May minutes, 2nd by Sharon Coleman. Minutes approved. We will now start sending the approved minutes to the full membership as well as posting on website.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Accepted as written.

Checking Account Balance:	\$1056.72
Certificate of Deposit Balance:	\$3,431.90
Ending Balance:	\$4,508.62

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

No law enforcement report. Officer Thepkulchon on vacation.

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:

Office of Supervisor Cox: Michael De La Rosa acknowledged the Community concern about the growing issue of homeless people living in our open space areas. Mr. De La Rosa announced that a separate meeting/forum on this problem has been scheduled for Thursday, July 28, 2016 at the Bonita-Sunnyside Library Community Room. Time: 6:30-9:00 p.m. The Forum will be directed by Supervisor Greg Cox, with representatives from Public Services, Law Enforcement and Social Services.

The State of Bonita will be held on August 3rd as part of our regularly scheduled meeting here in the Library Community Room starting at 6:30 p.m.

Congresswoman Susan Davis' Office: Jessica Mier announced that an Otay Ranch student won the art contest and will be going to Washington D.C. Jessica also reminded us that Susan Davis maintains an office "hub" in Otay Ranch for the benefit and ease of access to her constituents. Jessica will email Judy the hours of operation. As the ranking member of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel, Congresswoman Davis has been involved in the health and welfare of our military and their families, especially those in the lower ranks whose housing allowance makes them ineligible for SNAP

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benefits (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program). Another point of focus continues to be human trafficking. She has recently introduced the Empower Educators to Prevent Trafficking Act to help school districts train staff to detect signs that children are falling victims to sex trafficking.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

Tony Tieber reported the Neighborhood Reinvestment Grant application for a new association website is complete. It will be signed by officers after this meeting and electronically sent to the County office tomorrow morning. Michael De La Rosa will get a copy.

As suggested at last month's meeting, Robert Kay and other bicycle skills park enthusiasts presented their vision of what a public access recreational bicycle skills park would look like, how much space was needed, a high level overview of the development process and next steps. Robert emphasized the community benefits of such a facility, and will continue to support and work toward getting this approved and built. (See continuation of this under "Members at Large" section on page 3.) Steve Stonehouse moved that a feasibility study would be supported pending support from the Community Planning Group. Tony 2nd the motion. Jim Woodford felt we should support the concept. Motion carried.

President Seiler talked about a plan to post SVCA important notices in local HOA newsletters. He feels it would be a great asset in getting the word out to our local community. An enhanced community calendar will also be a great asset.

COMMUNITY FORUM:

Fire Department: No formal report. Tom Pocklington said last month was rather quiet, although one day had 9 calls. Everything is working fine, the pancake breakfast went well. The Sunnyside Saddle Club also had a benefit pancake breakfast to support the Fire Fighters Benevolence Association. President Seiler asked if the Fire Dept would be conducting training in the Bonita Highlands area. Answer is no, they will be training in the Otay River Valley this year.

Roads: Tony Tieber reported he received a note from Murali Pasumarthi regarding the vision obstruction on Sweetwater Road between Evergreen and Cresta Verde. A notice has been placed on the visual obstruction stating it must be removed or the County will remove it mid June. Tony did express concern that the drainage ditch needs some protection/cover to prevent accidents.

Discussion about the status of Willow Street Bridge: Work will resume after nesting season. Plan is to rebuild bridge with three lanes so fire dept can still get across.

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Sweetwater Community Planning Group: Steve Stonehouse reported the Planning Group has the following presentations scheduled for the meeting on June 7th (first Tuesday of month at 7:00 p.m.): Community input on possible changes to Chula Vista Golf Course, design and build of a self storage business on Bonita Rd, between Fire Station and drainage ditch, and Robert Kay will give his bike skills park presentation. President Seiler explained how the Community Planning Groups work.

Membership: Sharon Coleman, Membership Chair reviewed status of renewed memberships. We have 16 individuals, 26 families, 9 organizations, with two new members. Sharon also told us that the Sweetwater Authority changed days to water from 2 to 3 days. She had supporting fliers to pass out. She will also contact the publisher for Our Town to do some Association advertising. Maybe the publisher could come and talk to us sometime.

Senior Volunteer Patrol: Jim Woodford sent in his activity report and told us patrols have continued as usual, and this past month the officers spent more time talking with residents. Also drove out to Quarry Rd and Summit Park areas. The SVP now has 25 members. They did some recruiting at the Pancake Breakfast and helped direct traffic. He reviewed qualifications for membership and informed us the Safety Center has application forms.

May 2016 Activities:

Hours on patrol	304	Number of Patrols	25
Number of Miles Driven	1,306	Vacation Checks	53
YANA Visits	3	Citizen Assists	16
Traffic Control	0	YANA Calls	13

(YANA: You are not alone)

Members at Large: Valerie Rios from Lynnwood Hills area told us she lives in the County (Bonita) but has a Chula Vista mailing address. Can anything be done to change that? No, unfortunately that cannot be changed. The lines in that area between City and County are very blurred. The Federal Postal Service has responsibility for designating addresses.

Fruit vendor issue came up again. Some citizens like the rural feel of roadside stands, others do not. If set up on County right-away, not allowed. If on private property, not allowed unless property is permitted for that use. Both vendor and property own can be fined.

Robert Kay with Susie Murphy (SD Mountain Bike Assoc) discussed bike park concept in greater detail. There is a movement all over the Country to build these parks. Southern CA is behind the curve on this, but the parks have been very well-received in areas where they have been built. Mr. Kay presented an introductory Power Point presentation that addressed several issues such as how the park would be connected to our local trails, components would be a pump track, jumps, adequate parking, fencing, Porta Potties and signage. We should think of this like a skateboard park without cement and bikes rather than boards. Construction costs would run around \$100,000 for dirt. Local riders would help to build and fine tune the park. At least a quarter acre is needed. There are a large number of mountain

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bike riders in our area who would use this recreational facility. President Seiler said this would have to be a community grass-roots effort to get this moved forward to the County for approval. You need a feasibility study to figure out best way forward.

James Carter informed Association that speeding combined with aggressive drivers is very much a continuing problem on San Miguel Road. He described a scary interaction between his wife and a non-local driver. The CHP cannot be there all the time. This is a terrible burden for the residents along San Miguel Road. The issue of making the first toll road entrance/exit free would eliminate this problem. We really need Supervisor Cox to work with SANDAG to figure out how to open this up for drivers making only this short trip on the toll road. Since the expensive, north part of the toll road was built with Government funding, the remaining short stretch could easily be made toll-free. Mr. Carter was encouraged to bring this up with Supervisor Cox at the August 3, 2016 State of Bonita.

Michael De La Rosa said that perhaps the current director of 125 could be invited to the State of Bonita to address this issue.

ADJOURNMENT:

Judy Tieber moved and Ken Pitney 2nd to adjourn. Approved, meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Judith A. Tieber, Secretary

Enclosures: CHP Activity Report May 2016
 Sheriff Crime Report May 2016