

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
March 1, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Michael Seiler at the Bonita Library Community Room. He welcomed everyone to the meeting. President Seiler 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, Steve Stonehouse, Tony Tieber, Judy Tieber, Sharon Clayton, Sharon Coleman, Jim Woodford, Guillermo Torres

Members present: Kathy Holdaway

Guests present: CHP Officer Pete Thepkulchon, Fire Chief Tim Isabell, Michael De La Rosa, Victor Avina

MINUTES: Motion by Sharon Clayton, second by Sharon Coleman to approve meeting minutes of February 1, 2017. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S MARCH REPORT: Accepted as written.

Checking Account Balance: \$ 380.15

County Grant Funds on Deposit: \$ 3,687.42

Certificate of Deposit Balance: \$ 3,452.66

Ending Balance: \$ 7,520.21

(Previous Balance was \$9,659.49) Report accepted as written. Mr. Stonehouse told us he would be filing the Federal and State tax reports this month.

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT:

Officer Thepkulchon reviewed statistics for CHP activities during February, 2017. He said the morning and afternoon assignment of traffic officers is working out well with better coverage of the problem areas. A car stolen last month was recovered today. It was found in a cul-de-sac. Officer Thepkulchon made some suggestions to County staff that would help with a few chronic problem areas:

- Repaint the red curbs in front of fire hydrants in the Robinwood and Cedarwood area because the paint is essentially no longer visible to drivers who park in front of the hydrants.
- Install one or two 35 MPH speed limit signs on Central between Bonita Road and Corral Canyon. There is a long stretch of road with no speed limit posted. Drivers seldom see the one sign that is located very close to the Bonita Rd/Central intersection.

Michael De La Rosa will look into those two issues and his replacement, Victor Avina will report back to us next month.

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Michael De La Rosa—Supervisor Greg Cox' Office:

Mr. De La Rosa announced he was moving on to a job in County Planning and Development. He introduced his replacement, Mr. Victor Avina, who came from Supervisor Roberts office. Mr. Avina is a real pleasure to work with, and he has several years of solid experience and policy

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development. Victor Avina has been working in Supervisor Cox office for the last year. He identifies with our rural atmosphere because it is similar to the area where he grew up. Mike Seiler suggested that Mr. De La Rosa introduce Mr. Avina to his City of Chula Vista contacts in an effort to keep the necessary cohesion between County and City intact.

CONTINUING BUSINESS:

SVCA Website Update: Tony Tieber reviewed the status report of our website developer, Richelle Farley. Currently the developer is working on the calendaring portion of the project. She is building pointers to the community calendar from individual group calendars. She did raise a question about that: Should our calendar point out to the individual group calendars? Or do we want to draw from the individual calendars and post on our community calendar? The consensus was to bring this information to the SVCA website and post to our community calendar. President Seiler asked Tony to write down specific milestones and planned completion dates that can be easily tracked to make sure our schedules stay on track.

Mike Seiler also reminded us that Ray Traynor, 125 Operations Manager, is scheduled for a return visit next month to address the SVCA outstanding issues.

We will be participating in the Bonita Historical Society and Museum September 9, 2017 "Bonita Blast" to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Society and Museum.

NEW BUSINESS:

After a discussion about zoning and code enforcement issues, President Seiler suggested we have a combined meeting with the Sweetwater Community Planning Group so County Staff would have to attend only one evening meeting. President Seiler will look into this possibility.

Those present also joined in with Sharon Clayton to discuss the growing number of reported vicious dog attacks, especially the pit bull attacks where other dogs have lost their lives. We need to understand the protocols and processes followed by Animal Control. Michael De La Rosa suggested that we let Victor contact Animal Control Management and let them respond directly to Sharon Clayton. She agreed with this plan; and she will report back to us.

COMMUNITY FORUM:

Fire Department: Bonita Fire Chief, Tim Isabell gave the report: The annual call volume of 1,690 calls is down from the previous year. 75% of calls are for a medical emergency. One reason for the reduced call volume is that San Diego built another fire station just north of 54. That station provides backup to emergencies in our area, and our station provides the same service to them. The January 20, 2017, wind event proved challenging and caused an increase in staffing levels for the afternoon-evening. The Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Dept. is in the "Central Zone" with the Dispatch Center in El Cajon (Lexington and Magnolia). Chief Isabell is working with Supervisor Cox, Parks and Rec to clear out the river bottom. They have accomplished a lot, but still have a lot to do. He called it a work in progress. Biologists have also joined the discussions about when can the dead palm fronds and other debris be removed from the river bed to mitigate the fire danger. Obviously, the more debris, the harder it will be to fight a fire in that area. Priority areas to be cleared out include areas closest to structures and then work toward the center of the riverbed. Parks and Rec provides the labor. Coming up on March 9th

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the fire fighters will be out in the intersections collecting donations for the Burn Institute camps which help burn survivors deal with disfigurements, provide psychological help and basically provide the opportunity for kids to interact and have fun with others burn survivors. Name of event: "Give Burns the Boot". The fire fighters will again participate in a demolition derby during the Del Mar Fair, and a pancake breakfast as ways to raise money for this worthy cause. The camps (Camp Beyond the Scars) is a most incredible experience for these kids. They can just come and have fun in a beautiful environment not far from Julian. When asked a question about call response protocols, Chief Isabell stated that they always error on the patient's side. They want to be sure they have all the resources necessary to handle a situation. He explained the medic/EMT staffing protocols along with the fact that some staff may have to leave for redeployment to a different emergency, while still needing to provide continuity of care subject of the original call.

Roads: Tony Tieber told us that he used the County "app" Sharon Coleman told us about last month called "Tell Us Now" which allows citizens to report problems to County, send pictures along with report, and receive status reports back from the County. He reported it was very easy to use. Sharon Coleman told us about a County roads report covering the period 2008 to 2016, reporting that all County roads have gone from good to at risk. Tony will post to the Website. Michael De La Rosa again talked about the funding stream challenges. Yes, we all understand the funding stream challenges, we need the solution. Victor Avina will come back next month with a report. One idea may be to go to the Federal Government for grant funds to help with the highest priorities. However, grant funding is not a solution for ongoing maintenance.

Planning Group: Steve Stonehouse told us the Sweetwater Community Planning Group (SCPG) will be meeting next Tuesday. One agenda item is to discuss/approve Sweetwater Valley area Park Land Dedication Ordinance (PLDO) alignment with SCPG area of responsibility. Also we can expect higher sewer system costs on our property tax bills.

Membership: Sharon Coleman reviewed membership status. We currently have 12 golds, 30 families, 18 individuals, 8 organizations, and 12 groups.

Senior Volunteer Patrol (SVP): Jim Woodford told us everything was going well for his group. The following statistics cover February activity:

Hours on Patrol	304	YANA Calls	23
Number of Patrols	28	Citizen Assists	14
Number of Miles Driven	1642	Traffic Control	1
Vacation Checks	63	Number of Volunteers	19
YANA Visits	0		

We also learned that Chula Vista Police no longer use our Safety Center.

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General Announcements:

President Seiler gave brief updates on health and well-being of current members unable to join us at meeting.

Sharon Coleman discussed continuing and significant amount of speeding on our residential streets. She asked about speed bumps on the road, but they are not allowed because the bumps significantly slow down emergency vehicles like fire engines. Residents are at their wits end with speeders.

President Seiler adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Judith A. Tieber, Secretary