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### SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING October 4, 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, and invited everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our Country followed by a moment of silence to honor the men and women of our Armed Forces, Law Enforcement, Fire and Safety Professionals.

Directors Present: Michael Seiler, Tony Tieber, Judy Tieber, Steve Stonehouse, Jim Woodford, Tom Pocklington, Sharon Coleman, Sharon Clayton

Members Present: Connie Ralph, Glenn Kopp, Valerie Gerken Rios, Alan and Fran Cornell, Mark Kukuchek, Michael Raya, Jamie Tobitt, Prudence Prince

Guests Present: Margaret Raya, Tom Money, Mike Clowers, Sylvia Robledo, Victor Avina, Jessica Mier, SD County Sheriff Crime Prevention Specialist Julio Garcia, CHP Officer Pete Thepkulchon

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Tony Tieber moved to approve the September 6, 2017 meeting minutes, Tom Pocklington 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimous approval.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Steve Stonehouse presented report.

Checking	\$1,448.12
Certificate of Deposit	\$3,452.76
Ending Balance	\$4,906.95

Report accepted as presented.

#### **Law Enforcement Reports:**

CHP Officer Pete Thepkulchon reviewed activity stats for August and September 2017. Total citations were 72/55 respectively. Most activity continues to center around Winnetka and Frisbee Streets. We had a discussion about the continued car wash employees parking illegally along Lynwood. Officer Thepkulchon will be sure to patrol that area more frequently.

SD County Sheriff Crime Prevention Specialist Julio Garcia told us we had six crimes in the County portion of Bonita last month including four assaults. Two were random and two were known to the victims.

Discussions followed about the availability of County-offered free Hepatitis "A" shots to anyone, but most importantly to law enforcement, first responders, and the homeless. Apparently, law enforcement is finding fewer homeless in our open spaces: one person by Morrison Pond, 3-4 behind Kaiser buildings. The downtown homeless are relocating to Balboa Park, Hillcrest and

Banker's Hill. Others have now been seen along Paradise Valley Road heading into National City. The City will open a large tent shelter at 20<sup>th</sup> and B in hopes to provide better sanitation and living conditions for the homeless of San Diego.

Further discussion centered around the need to have a Chula Vista City representative on our SVCA Board as a way to promote better communication between County and City issues affecting the Sweetwater Valley. President Seiler took the assignment to liaison with the City of Chula Vista to identify and assign a Chula Vista representative to the SVCA. It was suggested that John McCann would be a good place to start.

### **Elected Representative Reports:**

Victor Avina—Supervisor Greg Cox Office: Mr. Avina complimented our community spirit during Bonitafest celebrations. He did ride a horse in the Twilight Parade, and he thoroughly enjoyed the Melodrama. We were again encouraged to get the free Hepatitis "A" shots because you just never know when you can come in contact with this disease. As of October 3, 2017, there are 481 confirmed cases, 337 hospitalized, and 17 deaths. Those at greatest risk are the homeless, drug users, and those who interact with them. The County plans to **vaccinate** 42,000 people, provide **sanitation** stations (portable wash stations and hygiene kits), and **educate** everyone about the dangers associated with Hepatitis A disease. Public Health staff members are hitting the streets to talk to people, hand out the hygiene kits, and educate the homeless. The epicenter is downtown San Diego. If you frequent downtown and want the shot, please call 211. Concern was expressed by meeting attendees that they see the homeless from around Morrison Pond area coming to local fast food restaurants to use the bathroom and clean up. The No Trespassing Sign installations are not being pursued at this time because the major focus is on Hepatitis A.

After Victor Avina's prepared remarks, the discussion shifted focus to the on-going neighborhood concerns about the deterioration of the Bonita Village Shopping Center. This center is on Bonita Road, but within the City of Chula Vista boundary. Mr. Avina told us the County Code Compliance and Fire Safety officials have completed their review, and the County is now trying to elevate the shopping center condition to the City of Chula Vista. Bottom line, residents feel this center is very unsafe. Tenants won't raise a fuss because they don't want to have rents increase or be kicked out of their spaces. President Seiler mentioned that this is precisely why we need Chula Vista representation within our association. Members mentioned a variety of observations needing County attention and our thanks for a job well done:

- Traffic lights at Allen School/Bonita Rd, Acacia/Bonita Rd, and Briarwood/Robinwood are too slow to respond to waiting traffic, even when no cross traffic is present.
- Don't purchase fresh fruit, vegetables and honey from road side vendors because we have no idea if products come from safe and clean sources.
- At entrance to Bonita Library the stop sign line needs to be repainted and the palm trees trimmed.
- Too many dead trees, especially palms, in the open space park areas. Since rats live in these palms, we have a very serious health threat as well as a significant fuel source for wild fires.

- The long awaited repaving of Sweetwater Rd between Central and Bonita Rd looks wonderful.
- Our community is very appreciative of the smoothed-out pathway along south side of Sweetwater Rd and the newly painted crosswalks at Central/Bonita Rd.
- Tony Tieber also reminded us that problems can be reported to County using the new app: Tell Us Now...

### **Continuing Business:**

Website Update: Tony Tieber reported the New Bike Park presentation and the County Park demographics report have both been placed on the SVCA website.

Long-term plan remains the Community Calendar. At this time, he did not have any additional activity to report.

Neighborhood Director Appointments:

Following meeting discussion and follow-up emails, the following list is the most current:

Seat 1: Possibly Mike Clowers if he decides to join SVCA (Eastern section of Bonita/Sunnyside)

Seat 2: Stephen Stonehouse

Seat 3: Jim Woodford

Seat 4: Vacant (East of Glenn Abbey over to Allen School area)

Seat 5: Stephen Stonehouse

Seat 6: Guillermo Torres

Seat 7: Vacant (Northwest area of Bonita)

Seat 8: Sharon Coleman (needs to be confirmed)

Seat 9: Sharon Coleman

Seat 10: Vacant (in area of animal shelter west to Sylvia St)

Seat 11: Tom Pocklington

Seat 12: Sharon Clayton

We thank Ken Pitney for his many years in the Seat 4 Director position.

### **Community Forum:**

Fire—Tom Pocklington: Reported the Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Station received 130 medical emergency calls and 10 calls for fire last month. One fire, just behind the Museum, was quickly extinguished by Museum staff. Another fire by Emerald Ranch /highway 54 was also put out quickly. Members expressed a big “thank you” to fire Department for quickly extinguishing fire in open space behind the Galloping Way Cul-de-sac just off Corral Canyon Rd. We were also reminded that a Code Compliance Officer is in residence at the Safety Center every Monday 8-4:30.

Traffic and Roads—Tony Tieber passed around a chart from State of Bonita listing road re-surfacing schedule.

Sweetwater Community Planning Group—Steve Stonehouse: Reported action items addressed by SCPG included updates to the Parkland Dedication Ordinance and our wish list for using

developer-paid parkland funds in our area. A community garden somewhere in the County-owned Sweetwater Riverbed open space, possibly by Pinery, was number 1 on the list. The Storage Unit proposed on land east of Fire Station has not come back before the SCPG.

Membership—Sharon Coleman: Ms. Coleman reported our membership is composed of 14 individuals, 21 family, 3 silver, 12 gold, and 7 organizations.

Senior Volunteer Patrol—Jim Woodford: We learned that the Sr. Volunteer Patrol academy graduated the two new members, Stan Osborne and George Hillman. They are now patrolling our streets and neighborhoods. They have stayed busy patrolling, helping with traffic control in Imperial Beach area and keeping an eye on the cemetery brass flower pots.

September 2017 Statistics:

Hours on patrol	236	Number of Patrols	20
Number miles driven	1,000	Vacation checks	91
YANA Visits	0	YANA Calls	19
Citizen Assists	13	Traffic Control	0
Number of Volunteers	21	New Patrollers:	George Hillman Stanley Osborne

Round Table:

Tony Tieber acknowledged success of “Bonita Blast” evening.

Mike Clowers asked if the portable speed trailer could be set up along San Miguel Road. Unfortunately, Jim Woodhouse announced that trailer was not available just now.

Tom Pocklington Moved, Sharon Coleman seconded to adjourn. President Seiler adjourned meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Tieber  
Secretary, SVCA