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SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING November 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, 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. President Seiler introduced Samantha Trickey here as a representative of the City of Chula Vista. Ms. Trickey works for C.V. Councilmember John McCann.

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

Members Present: Glenn Kopp, Mark Kukuchek, Prudence Prince, Pillar Villazon, Jake and Parisa Hill,

Guests Present: Linda Brown, Xochitl Rouston, Annette Arehart, Marcia Suarez, Jennifer Duncan, A. Knautschi, Paul Brown, Todd Deckman, Samantha Trickey, Pamela Orologis, Mark Henderson, Dan Burow, Donna Hodge, Victor Avina, Jessica Mier, SD County Sheriff Crime Prevention Specialist Julio Garcia, CHP Officer Pete Thepkulchon

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Steve Stonehouse moved to approve the October 4, 2017 meeting minutes, Tony Tieber 2nd, no discussion, unanimous approval.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Steve Stonehouse presented November Financial report.

Checking	\$1,643.12
Certificate of Deposit	\$3,452.87
Ending Balance	\$5,095.99

Report accepted as presented.

Elected Representative Report:

Jessica Mier—Congresswoman Susan Davis' office: Ms. Mier told us that our Congresswoman has been busy looking out for our best interests. She continues to try and bring her congressional colleagues to the table to find a solution to the healthcare crisis. A recent survey of her constituents expressed satisfaction with their healthcare, and expressed concern that the increasing costs of healthcare will affect their ability to afford it. Those covered by Medicare were the most satisfied, and those without healthcare coverage were the most unsatisfied. Based on these findings, Medicare must be preserved, and other programs like Covered California (ACA) need fixes/changes. Ms. Davis has also been staying on top of the San Diego County Hepatitis A outbreak to ensure the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention continue to provide adequate support to our local government agencies.

Law Enforcement Reports:

CHP Officer Pete Thepkulchon did not have activity stats for October. CHP resources were pulled from Bonita and assigned to work security at location of border wall prototypes. Discussion followed that highlighted citizen concerns about Sunnyside School students being dropped off on Central Ave. where there is no place to pull over and park, drivers are running the new crosswalk lights, and there seems to be more speeding on Corral Canyon early in the morning. Tom Pocklington suggested the need for better enforcement. It is clear that Bonita needs more regularly scheduled CHP officers working our area.

SD County Sheriff Crime Prevention Specialist Julio Garcia told us we had a motor vehicle theft, two residential burglaries, a petty theft with aggravated assault and one grand theft of a purse. We were reminded that crime increases as the holidays draw closer. Thieves more readily take advantage of unlocked doors and windows. Keep your car locked and nothing in sight. If you shop and return to your car to off-load purchases, move your car to a different location before heading back into the mall or store to continue shopping. We must assume someone is watching us and act accordingly. Mr. Garcia again offered to help us start neighborhood watch programs, conduct free residential security inspections with recommendations. In response to questions about the homeless issue, he explained the different jurisdictions addressing this issue: National City, Chula Vista, CHP and County of San Diego. Currently six different County departments are working on homeless issues and trash cleanups. The County staff continues to offer vaccinations, and offer help with housing and medical needs. Out of seven homeless people recently interviewed, only one took advantage of what the County is offering. We also had information sharing on a homeless man living under the Sunnyside bridge. His aggressive actions are unnerving to trail users.

Elected Representative Reports continued:

Victor Avina—Supervisor Greg Cox Office: Mr. Avina gave us an update on the Hepatitis A disease issue. At this time, there are 536 cases, 20 deaths, and 91,000 vaccinations given. If you want to be vaccinated, call 211. County staff continues to hand out sanitation kits. We were reminded that a porta-potty is now installed at the West Staging Area of Bonita. Mr. Avina will ask Public Works to come out and fine-tune the lights on Briarwood after several people complained about problematic traffic backups and delays. County Vector Control staff are treating the drainage ditch along Sweetwater Road between Bonita Verde and Willow Street for mosquitoes. Lastly, in response to questions raised by those present, Victor Avina addressed the history of San Miguel Road and its various County designations. He did bring “slow down” signs for anyone who wants to put one on their property along San Miguel Road. He also heard complaints about trash and extra large items being left on Winnetka Dr. at Sweetwater intersection. These discarded items, large and small, are usually left during the weekends. He will ask Public Works to come pick up.

Continuing Business:

Chula Vista land use study commissioned from Urban Land Institute San Diego-Tijuana: Many meeting attendees expressed outrage at this study and resulting recommendations to the City of Chula Vista. The idea of mixed use tall buildings being constructed on Chula Vista golf course property along with the resulting traffic and loss of park space angered everyone present. Our new Chula Vista City rep, Samantha Trickey assured those present that this was a study only. There is no plan to build 2,000 apartments on current golf course property. Councilmember John McCann does not and will not support such a build-out. Chula Vista is looking at ways to best use the golf course in an effort to improve its current level of under-performance as a City

asset. President Seiler asked for a statement from Chula Vista saying this buildout will not happen. Along with the above mentioned concerns, many expressed dismay and confusion about how this level of building construction could occur in a river flood plain. Tom Pocklington also brought up the well-known fact that Sweetwater Authority has a major water line running right through the valley where the proposed build-out would occur.

In 2016 we did have a presentation about another study to re-use/reorganize the golf course/Rohr park area. We have to stay very vigilant and on top of this issue. The citizens of Bonita need full transparency from the City of Chula Vista.

Samantha Trickey also told us about a planned Public Safety Meeting being held at Monteville Recreation Center at 840 Duncan Ranch Road, Chula Vista November 8, 6-8 p.m.

Mike Seiler discussed our community concerns about the Bonita Village Shopping Center. The property is not being maintained and is a safety concern, an eye sore, and probably houses an illegal pot shop. Samantha will look into this issue and report back to us at November meeting.

Community Forum:

Fire—Tom Pocklington: Tom reiterated Fire Dept. stance that speed bumps will never be approved for our community streets because they are too dangerous for both the fire fighters and the equipment. Speeding issues have to be addressed with better law enforcement.

Traffic and Roads—Tony Tieber: Tony told us the County planned road repairs for Bonita have been uploaded to the SVCA website. One result of the increased speeding along Corral Canyon is the frequent destruction of the signs marking the traffic calming islands along that street. He asked Victor Avina what the cost is to keep replacing those signs? We also need a permanent speed feedback sign along San Miguel Road. The trailer sign is still not available due to needed repairs. Or, could we get another trailer-based speed feedback sign from the County to use along San Miguel Road?

Sweetwater Community Planning Group—Steve Stonehouse: Reported action items to be addressed by SCPG at next meeting include the status of retaining the original (temporary) vernal pool trail in addition to using the new trail. They will also get an update on the Willow Street bridge project.

Membership—Sharon Coleman: Ms. Coleman reported our membership is composed of 17 individuals, 24 family, 3 silver, 12 gold, and 7 organizations. She gave a warm welcome to Mike Clowers who is our newest member. She reviewed the rates: \$15/individual, \$25/family, \$100/silver, and \$250/gold membership.

Senior Volunteer Patrol—Jim Woodford: Jim told us the Sr. Volunteers now have a new white car in service. Since we had several new attendees present, he explained briefly what they do to assist our communities: traffic control, vacation checks, patrol handicap parking stalls and ticket cars parked without a handicap sign or license plate, assist citizens, conduct “You are not alone” calls and visits (YANA). He reviewed requirements for membership and encouraged those present who qualify to consider joining the current 24 Senior Volunteer Patrol members.

November SVP activity numbers not available.

Round Table:

Kudos to the County for repairing trail from Willow Street to Western Staging area. It looks very nice. Mark Kukuchek offered to help local Scouts identify worthy projects to work on.

Bonita Vista High School is looking terrible. The kids now refer to it as the “getto” school. Why is it not maintained and repaired as well as other schools within the Sweetwater School District? Samantha Trickey will discuss with Councilmember McCann to see if he can help and what steps need to be taken to bring BVH up to par with other schools in the district.

Pillar Villazon brought up the idea to promote a clean Sweetwater Valley. She does have a contact person who is part of on-going clean up.

Tom Pocklington reminded everyone to call 211 if they have issues the County can help resolve.

Tony Tieber feels air traffic has changed within the last two weeks. Both helicopters and planes are flying at extremely low altitudes over our neighborhoods. Someone pointed out the “Flight Aware” software that identifies which planes are flying in our area.

President Seiler adjourned meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Tieber
Secretary, SVCA