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P.O. Box 232, Bonita, CA 91908 www.sweetwatervalleyca.org

**SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
November 6, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by President Michael Seiler at the Bonita Museum and Cultural Center. President Seiler welcomed everyone, and we were invited 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, Sharmane Estolano, Mike Clowers,

Members Present: Mark Kukuchek, Liz Stonehouse (Museum Liaison), Eugene Cook, Donna Hodge, Harriet Taylor

Guests Present: CHP Officer Mitchell Byrd, Bonita-Sunnyside Fire Chief Michael Sims, Victor Avina Supervisor Greg Cox's Office, Daniel Diaz, David Dullea, Barbara Johansson, Andrea Goyette

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Steve Stonehouse moved to approve the October minutes, Sharmane Estolano provided the second. Minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Stephen Stonehouse reported November Treasurer's Report.

	<u>November</u>
Checking	\$1,183.38
Certificate of Deposit	\$3,454.26
Ending Balance	\$4,637.65

Law Enforcement Reports:

CHP Officer Mitchell Byrd reported October activity numbers: 58 citations, 8 arrests in Bonita (mostly DUI), 5 collisions with 4 injuries. He also addressed speeding along Central Avenue near school crosswalk. The Officer reminded us that CHP is starting a new traffic complaint program for residents to call in and talk to a Sr. CHP Volunteer.

The phone number is: 1-858-293-6000

The more complaints received about a particular area, the more CHP Staffing will be assigned. Officer Byrd explained that this program will not address complaints about parked vehicles. Officer Byrd talked to the RV owner on Corral Canyon near Central about the RVs parked on Corral Canyon. Owner agreed to relocate vehicles to his driveway. Officer Byrd explained to us that school crossing guard rules must be followed when expecting traffic to stop as directed. Crossing guards must give oncoming traffic at least 200 ft of notice before expecting drivers to safely come to a stop.

Sheriff Dept. Crime Prevention Specialist, Julio Garcia was not in attendance.

Chula Vista Police Officer: No representative present.

Fire Safety: Bonita Fire Chief Mike Sims reported 166 calls for October. Fire Service in California was busy up and down the State. We sent a strike team to help cover 60 square miles in Riverside while their teams were busy elsewhere. Fires were kept relatively small throughout the State due to the quick and concentrated responses. In answer to a question, Chief Sims reported that in general, the military covers its own fires (such as at Camp Pendleton), but federal aerial resources are available.

Elected Representative Reports:

Jessica Mier from Congresswoman Susan Davis' Office not in attendance.

Victor Avina, from Supervisor Greg Cox's office, told us that resident concerns about safety on Proctor Valley Rd will be addressed by removing the old center-line reflectors and repainting the double yellow center lines. County will come out to address weeds and look at the possibility of installing stop signs near curves. Regarding resident request to move a 25 mph sign further up the hill on Bonita Woods Dr. so more visible, County will replace sign and move it as requested. Mr. Avina reminded us of the new California State law that allows voters to register and vote on the same day. The Board of Supervisors approved a Registrar of Voters request for additional locations throughout the County to accommodate residents wishing to take advantage of this opportunity and to facilitate vote counting.

In regard to our concerns with the large truck parking along Central in front of the church, we were told this issue is being handled by the Sweetwater Community Planning Group. He would not discuss it further. Another issue was brought up to `repaint the "Keep Clear" road sign on Sweetwater Rd at Bonita Woods Drive so drivers might actually see it and comply. Otherwise residents cannot safely access Sweetwater Rd. This is also a problem on Sweetwater Rd by the Hospice building across from the Sweetwater Woman's Club. Two Horse signs were removed along Sweetwater Rd due to construction, and were never replaced. We need those signs back up. Mr. Avina confirmed the new bike park will not have rest rooms.

Samantha Trickey, from C.V. Council Member John McCann's Office reviewed a number of items:

- Opportunities for residents to enjoy Veterans Day: Celebrations will occur at the American Legion, Chula Vista High School Assembly and Pacific Coast Christian Prep in Eastlake. Chula Vista staff worked on Bonita Vista High School grounds to remove trash and graffiti, trim bushes and do a general cleanup. We were also reminded about the upcoming Zombie 5 K run.

- Rohr Park off-leash area update: While still under construction, Ms. Trickey told us the area is scheduled for completion in December. Currently staff is working on benches with cellular connection. Adequate signage "to clean up after your dog" will be put into place. A ribbon cutting will be scheduled for the grand opening. Mike Clowers checked it out today and described progress. The west side of the dog park is about 35 ft. off neighbors' property lines.

- Chula Vista Police Dept Rep. and Traffic: Ms. Trickey has been unable to secure police officer attendance at our meetings. President Seiler expressed concern about the lack of Chula Vista City support for the community as well as the excessive Chula Vista traffic in our Bonita neighborhoods. Rather than work with SANDAG to resolve this, focus has been shifted to sometime in 2020 to begin a SR-125 toll road promotion. Seiler stated that we really need Chula

Vista to be our advocate to get this promotional program back to a higher level of importance. Seiler reminded us that since SANDAG won't lower tolls, the goal should be to get drivers (who have toll road transponders) to use the toll road more frequently. As John McCann said at an earlier meeting, a few free trips during the holidays would financially help both SANDAG and Chula Vista.

- Willow Street Bridge: Harriet Taylor brought up some issues regarding the Willow Street bridge project. The City built a large drainage ditch on the northwest corner of Willow and Sweetwater Roads. Drivers are now going through there to make right hand turns in an effort to avoid the traffic lights. The City needs to install some metal poles across that area to keep cars out. Also, the recently landscaped area now includes *arundo donex*, a highly invasive plant the County has been working to eradicate. Since the City is responsible for the planting, the City should be responsible for this invasive plant removal.

Continuing Business:

Mark Kukuchek followed up with Parks Dept regarding the ongoing concern with downed branches not being cleaned up in the Morrison Pond open space. Parks Dept did get some of it cleaned up before the chipper broke down. So following up on this will remain on his agenda.

Regarding Tony Tieber's assigned follow-up with "Keep it Growing", he reported that Richelle Farley has not gotten back to him despite two emails and two face-to-face discussions.

New Business: None.

Community Forum:

Bonita Alliance: No report

Traffic/Roads – For next meeting, Tony Tieber will bring the Scheduled Road Resurfacing Chart (presented at the State of Bonita). Discussion followed about how State SV1 legislation puts gas tax money into road repairs covering the next five years. Since our County roads are in such bad shape, the County has been "front-loading" the funding to allow more road work to get done faster.

Planning Group - Steve Stonehouse told us the Sweetwater Community Planning Group hosted Dennis Howe, Chief of County Building Permits, who gave a tutorial on the new Additional Dwelling Units (ADUs) law passed at the State level to increase the supply of low-cost housing in the State. County staff have been working to help residents take advantage of this law by developing four different house plan options along with the requirements lists. ADUs must not exceed a maximum of 1,200 sq ft. with a four ft setback. He also described the option of building a "Junior ADU" by converting a garage to a living space. While the County plans save time and some money, residents need to understand there are fees for sewer hookup and/or septic systems. He told us that current single family home owner associations (HOAs) must comply with State law and allow ADUs. It is possible to have an ADU and a Junior ADU on same property with resident home. At this time, the home owner must live on the property, but more changes are coming in January 2020 that may change this.

Membership—Sharon Coleman was not available.

Sr. Volunteer Patrol - Jim Woodford was asked to put the speed trailer up on Bonita Woods Dr. Then a neighbor asked to have it moved further up the hill. Feedback is positive that it is helping slow the traffic. The Sr. Volunteer Patrol is still struggling with too few volunteers, and patrols have been restricted. Interested people can call Dave Gillespie or stop at the Safety Center and leave a message for him. We learned about a recent You Are Not Alone (YANA) case where a client had fallen and remained on the floor for a day and a night. She wasn't answering her phone when the volunteer called so they went over to her home to check on her. They could hear her, but she could not answer the door. Luckily her contact information provided a pathway to get the key, open the door, and get inside to help her. They have one new recruit, Don Hamilton, currently attending the two-week academy in Poway. It is possible to meet up with other volunteers and car pool in a patrol car.

Sheriff Sr. Volunteer Activities, October 2019

Hours on patrol	96	Number of patrols	8
Number of miles driven	326	Vacation checks	29
YANA visits	0	YANA calls	30
Citizen assists	0	Traffic control	5
Number of volunteers	17	Safety Center hours	53
Safety Center personnel	3		

A discussion followed about the numerous massage parlors in Bonita. Harriet Taylor received a resident email expressing concern about possible human trafficking. Jim Woodford was recently approached by a building owner who expressed concerns about possible prostitution activity. Harriet added that she visited the "dripping palm" parlor about a year ago above the signage out of compliance with the community design guidelines. She did not have a good feeling about the experience. Jim told us the issue has been reported to the Sheriff's Dept. and being looked into. He emphasized that this is a Sheriff's Dept issue, not a Chula Vista issue.

Trails –Mark Kukuchek reported that he and Diane Carter met with Sweetwater Authority staff to discuss trail closures and trail alternatives expected during the 1.5 yr duration of the pipe replacement project. It is scheduled to start November 18th at southern end of Bonita Golf Course where 36" wide x 40 ft long sections of pipe will be installed. That trail will be closed, but trail users can go the other way around the north side of golf course to reach trails to the east. There will be a lot of large truck traffic looping down the hill trail by Sunnyside bridge and exiting east at Conduit onto San Miguel Rd. They will be extracting and hauling off huge amounts of dirt. Construction will then move to the Conduit Rd. extension. He told us the trees have been cut/trimmed, the fencing will be replaced, and SWA will be pumping cement into the old pipe to prevent them from collapsing. An interesting side note: SWA will be flushing out the 36" pipe with bleach water that will go directly into the river bed. Also, if anyone wants dirt, go to the SWA website for information.

The bike park is still on track for end-of-year completion. To prevent rain washouts of dirt banks/hills, the course area will be sprayed (on a regular basis) with a special binding solution to keep it all in place.

President Seiler read a letter from Sunnyside Saddle Club thanking us for our sponsorship donation for the 2019 Horse Show season. He also acknowledged and thanked Liz Stonehouse as our liaison to the Bonita Museum and Cultural Center. Finally, we were told of a planned Land Use Zoning update meeting scheduled for Nov. 19th at Sunnyside Elementary School starting at 5:30 p.m.

President Seiler thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Tieber
Secretary, SVCA

Mission Statement: The Sweetwater Valley Civic Association is the direct conduit to local County elected and appointed officials, law enforcement and emergency first responders to discuss and resolve issues directly related to our quality of life within the Sweetwater Valley communities.