



## Making the Sweetwater Valley the best place to live.

P.O. Box 232, Bonita, CA 91908 [www.sweetwatervalleyca.org](http://www.sweetwatervalleyca.org)

### SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING June 5, 2019

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Michael Seiler at the Bonita Library Community Room. President Seiler welcomed members and guests who may be contemplating membership in the SVCA. He reminded us that tomorrow is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day and read a brief description of the operation. 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, Mike Clowers, Glenn Kopp, Sharon Coleman.

Members Present: Prudence Prince, Jake Hill, David Corcoran, Sharmane Estolano, Lisa Martin-Goodsell

Guests Present: Julio Garcia San Diego County Sheriff's Dept, CHP Officer Pete Thepkulchon, Bonita Fire Chief Mike Sims, Marshall Anderson, Maria Bojorguez-Gomez, Tonda Johnson

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Steve Stonehouse moved to approve, Tony Tieber 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Stephen Stonehouse reporting.

|                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| Checking               | \$ 129.22  |
| Certificate of Deposit | \$3,453.97 |
| Ending Balance         | \$3,583.19 |

Report accepted as presented.

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

**CHP Officer Pete Thepkulchon** apologized that activity stats were still not available due to a change in the statewide system. He could tell us, however, that Officer Hale and others gave out a total of 45 citations, mostly for speeding. 15 citations were handed out on Frisbee. Officer Thepkulchon did follow up on the report of possible squatters in a barn on Acacia Avenue, but he saw no activity. Good news in that we will be getting more CHP attention here in Bonita. Officer Thepkulchon is getting a partner starting in July. It was suggested that the officers start spending more time patrolling Bonita Mesa and Mesa Vista Way for speeders. Bonita Mesa is similar to San Miguel Road in that it is a mile long, straight road through a residential neighborhood. Residents also complained about "For Sale" vehicles parked on Central by Post Office. Dave Corcoran thanked the officers for patrolling Central past Corral Canyon. Officer Thepkulchon told us problem speeding continues with uphill speeders on both Bonita Woods Drive and Winnetka off Sweetwater.

**Julio Garcia**, Crime Prevention Specialist, S.D. County Sheriff Dept., told us about minimal criminal activity in Bonita—2 cases of theft from a motor vehicle, and a motor vehicle theft. The

primary message he wanted us to take home is the ongoing problem of Elder Abuse. Reporting elder abuse is tricky because most often it involves family and care takers. He passed out a pamphlet to those present entitled "Protecting the Greatest Generation". (Judy has extras and will bring to future meetings). We should all watch for signs of abuse such as isolation, physical abuse, financial issues, and withholding of drugs. We were also told that Lt. Ted Greenwald has now been assigned to the Imperial Beach Station. Lastly, Mr. Garcia told us the County ordinance on hosting social events has been updated to include the prohibition of marijuana for anyone under the age of 21. Remember this ordinance is the one that makes party hosts liable for patrons who drink too much and want to drive home, and for allowing underage drinking. We were told the problem now revolves around the increased use of marijuana. No one is drinking, they are doing "weed". Mr. Garcia is available for security consultation for both home and business locations. He can be reached at the Imperial Beach Substation at 619-498-2400.

**Chula Vista Police Officer Jeff Pace** not available.

**Fire Safety: Bonita Fire Chief Mike Sims** reported the Bonita Fire Dept handled 136 calls in May. Seventy-five percent were medical related. He told us the new recruit had an eventful first week with one fire, one animal rescue and one bomb threat. We were reminded about the upcoming annual pancake breakfast. In addition to good food, they will have face painting, dog handler exhibition, and other fun activities. With weeds growing back due to recent rains, the Chief predicted our fire season would be delayed about three months. He encouraged everyone to tackle their weeds and eliminate wild fire fuel.

Agenda rearranged to allow Continuing Business presenter, Kenton Jones, DPW Traffic Engineering, to give us an update on the San Miguel Road resurfacing and traffic rechanneling project. Mr. Jones gave us a bit of background on the wide part of San Miguel Road. We are now up to 10,000 cars a day using this road. The plan is to condense the roadway after the upcoming resurfacing project. He had several plan layouts posted around the room for us to look at. This effort will start at entrance to Sunnyside School and finish at intersection with Conduit. Members of the SMR/PVR traffic committee thanked Kenton for all his help in bringing this plan to reality. Again, the work is scheduled this summer in the July/August timeframe.

### **Elected Representative Reports:**

**Maria Bojorguez-Gomez**, from Representative Susan Davis' office, told us the Congresswoman is busy on several significant issues including: HR 5, the Equity Act to strengthen anti-discrimination protections for LGBTQ Americans, Protection for Americans with Pre-existing conditions, Major Climate Action Now Bill, and other important topics. Everyone was encouraged to take a copy of the Davis Dispatch home after the meeting.

**Marshall Anderson**, from Supervisor Greg Cox's office, told us County is reviewing the sight lines along Central by the Post Office. If County feels it is necessary, they will install signs for "No Commercial Parking". The ribbon cutting ceremony for the Community Garden is scheduled for 6-29-19. For anyone interested in more information about renting a plot, please call Josh Bugiel at 619-818-8401. The Bike Park is under construction and should be done by end of the year. Also, if anyone is interested in a position on the Fire Advisory Board, please talk to Marshall. He also confirmed the State of Bonita scheduled for August 7<sup>th</sup> in this same Community Room.

**Samantha Trickey** not available

**New Business:**

Mike Clowers told us about the May 3, 2019, meeting with Michael Schwarting, Roadway Operations Manager, and Ryan Ross, Acting Division Director of Toll Operations. The purpose of this meeting was to obtain SVCA input on a SANDAG plan to develop and move forward with a marketing plan aimed at all households and especially those that currently bypass SR 125 and travel on our community roads instead. Their study shows that approximately 7,163 cars/day are avoiding the SR125 toll road. As it stands now, their marketing plan has two phases: Now, and follow-up in November to see if the plan has encouraged more drivers to use the 125. There is no plan to reduce tolls, not even on the most northern stretch which was built with taxpayer money. The collective SVCA reaction to this meeting lies in our ability to keep pressure on Supervisor Cox to promote free or a greatly reduced toll on the stretch of road from SR 54 to San Miguel Ranch Rd. exit. In our opinion, that is the only action that will change usage patterns.

**Community Forum:**

**Bonita Alliance:** Lisa M. Goodsell told us the Rohr dog park plan is moving through the process. There has been no word back from John McCann regarding a meeting to review the Bonita Alliance letter. Lisa will follow-up on that.

**Traffic/Roads** – Tony Tieber told us about the new median City of Chula Vista put in that prevents drivers heading south over the new bridge from turning left into the Jack-in-the-Box restaurant driveway. Also, restriping makes turns difficult, including Kaiser exit and entrance.

**Planning Group** - Steve Stonehouse reported that last evening's meeting included discussion about a tree close to the intersection of Mesa Vista Way and Bonita Vista Road. This was tabled pending the need for more information. We were also told about a draft County ordinance for small cell towers. The FCC is coming out with a directive that communities must allow for these with minimal cost to communications companies. Obtaining County permission is relatively easy and will be through the ministerial process. Planning Groups only get a notice. We cannot discuss or worry about health risks/concerns. The County filed a lawsuit against the FCC because of local community impact. These small 5G towers need an underground box holding the fiber optic cables. President Seiler asked Marshall Anderson to keep us up to date on this important issue.

**Membership**—Sharon Coleman reported membership numbers and told us that it is time to renew our memberships. The new year starts on July 1, 2019; and she asked us to do our part in getting the word out there that we have a great organization working diligently to keep our community safe and thriving. Membership cost: Family \$25, Individual \$15, Gold \$250, Silver \$100, and organizations are \$50. Current membership numbers: Individuals 24, Family 38, Silver 2, Gold 12, Organizations 7.

**Sr. Volunteer Patrol - Jim Woodford** told us the old patrol car has been replaced with a white Crown Victoria. It does not have a trailer hitch, but it does have over 100,000 miles on it. Jim mentioned that the number of patrols have been low without use of a car for the second half of the month. In the meantime, no patrols, no vacation checks and no school patrol. Luckily school will be out for summer break.

Sheriff Sr. Volunteer Activities, June, 2019

|                        |     |                   |    |
|------------------------|-----|-------------------|----|
| Hours on patrol        | 168 | Number of patrols | 14 |
| Number of miles driven | 800 | Vacation checks   | 31 |
| YANA visits            | 1   | YANA calls        | 13 |
| Citizen assists        | 3   | Traffic control   | 12 |
| Number of volunteers   | 17  |                   |    |

**Trails –Mark Kukuchek** not available.

**Updates:**

The ACE Storage facility presentation to the Planning Commission has been moved from July to next winter sometime. No new date at this time.

President Seiler thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting around 8 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.