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**SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
December 7, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER: President Judy Tieber called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Library Community Room. She welcomed everyone to the meeting. We began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Judy asked for a moment of silence to honor members of our Armed Forces, Law Enforcement, Fire and Safety Professionals; and an appreciation of those currently serving to protect us, including Health Care workers and Teaching professionals.

Directors Present: Judy Tieber, Steve Stonehouse, Tony Tieber, Sharon Coleman, and Mike Clowers

Members Present: Harriet Taylor and Daryl Hern,

Guests Present Fire Chief Mike Sims, Amanda Angulo from Councilmember John McCann's Office, Julio Garcia from the Sheriff's Department; another Guest present was Diana Ocampo.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Judy asked for a motion to approve minutes. Sharon Coleman moved to approve; Mike Clowers provided the second. Minutes approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Stephen Stonehouse reported the December 2022 Treasurer's Report.

	<u>December 2022</u>
Checking	\$ 1,792.61
Grant Balance	\$ 694.38
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 1,429.87
Ending Balance	\$ 3,916.86

Previous Balance was \$4,055.83

There were charges to KIG of \$400 for Web Services in October and November and to Harriet Taylor for printing Charges for the Bonitafest. Also, \$400.00 in membership dues were received.

The report was accepted as written.

Fire Safety: Bonita Fire Chief Mike Sims: Chief Sims reported that call volume was "down" this month and that the Fire Department will be accepting toys for their toy drive through December 15, 2022.

Regarding the weed-filled property on the corner of Sweetwater Road and Central Avenue, Chief Sims said he is working on it. This is a reference to a complaint that had been lodged because of the high weeds and overgrowth on the property which is dangerous from a fire perspective. Chief Sims said that the process will take 3-4 months to get the property cleaned up.

Chief Sims addressed personnel changes for several of the fire departments in San Diego County. Many chiefs have either switched job locations or retired. The Chief indicated he would be taking on some new responsibilities.

Chief Sims volunteered to make a 15–20-minute presentation regarding the Fire Department network in San Diego County and how that network operates in emergency situations. Judy thought this was a promising idea, and that she would schedule it for the Annual Meeting in order to have a larger audience.

Law Enforcement Reports:

Sheriff Dept. Crime Prevention Specialist, Julio Garcia: Julio Garcia told us that instances of fraud and scam are increasing in the county and that people should be extra careful not to get caught up in a fraud or scam scheme. He also talked about the increase in department store thefts which has resulted in these stores locking up products to avoid theft. Many of these crimes are being perpetrated by gangs, sometimes of ten or more people. Because of safety concerns, he cautioned us to not get caught up in these theft operations. In Bonita, Julio indicated that car theft has increased.

Julio Garcia said that he would hold the Sheriff 's annual "Holiday watch for safety" Kiosk in the shopping mall on Bonita Road and Central Avenue by the Bakery. In answer to a question, Julio said there is a new owner of the Bakery and that the shop has been remodeled.

Julio Garcia talked about calls to 911. When a call is made via a land line, that call is processed quicker than if that call is made by a cell phone.

Julio provided a crime map which is included with these minutes.

Traffic and Safety. Judy Tieber talked about the split rail fence along several roads such as Sweetwater Road and Bonita Road. She was concerned about a safety issue since in some places sections of the fence are completely gone because of being hit by an automobile. Judy reminded us that people use the trails adjacent to these fences and that these people may be at risk. She expressed concern that a solution to this safety issue is required. Sharon Coleman thought the fence was merely for aesthetic appearances, and that safety presented a different issue. After additional discussion Amanda indicated that she would confer with Andrew and bring the safety issue to the County and City of Chula Vista.

CHP Public Information Officer, Jesse Matias. Not in attendance.

Elected Representative Reports:

U. S House of Representatives Sara Jacobs Office Representative Kathleen Dang. Kathleen was not in attendance, and she did not send a report.. As you may already know, Sara Jacobs is no longer our representative starting January 1, 2023. Judy will reach out to our new representative, Juan Vargas to determine if he is willing to send one of his representatives to our meeting.

Andrew Harvey, Supervisor Nora Vargas Representative: Andrew was unable to attend the meeting. So, Judy talked about two issues that she was discussing with Andrew. First, about the parking on Plaza Bonita Road. Apparently, no one is willing to act until they can find a designated parking lot location for these vehicles to move to. Until a parking location is identified, the County is concerned that the vehicles will move from one location to another, and the same problem would be created, just in a different location.

Second, regarding the big rig being parked on County Park property along Bonita Road, Judy asked Andrew to have a county park ranger/representative address the issue in a way the County decides, hopefully by telling the vehicle owner he can't park on County Park property.

Council Member John McCann's Office representative Amanda Angulo. Amanda reported that John McCann will be installed as the Mayor of Chula Vista on Tuesday December 13, 2022, at 5:00 PM in the Council Chambers and that everyone is welcome to attend. Since John McCann was the Council Member for Chula Vista District one, he will be replaced by newly elected Carolina Chavez, an economic development director.

Amanda then introduced Diana Ocampo to discuss the proposed Urban Park Food, Beverage, and Interactive Community Experience planned for Rohr Park. Diana told us that the location for this "Family Destination", on one acre, will be between gates A and B at Rohr Park, almost adjacent to Provence house but just south of that house which belongs to the County. This new Facility in Rohr Park would blend into the park and not affect currently existing trails. The planned facility would serve food and beverages and have a mini golf course. The Facility is planned to have a grand opening in the June 2023 period and to have a closing time each day at 10:00 PM. Since this facility is close to houses, Harriet Taylor was concerned about the negative effect on the neighbors.

At the meeting Diana provided us with presentation materials that I have included with the minutes. There are three pages.

New Business. President Judy Tieber presented an update on the art contest at three elementary schools in the Bonita area. The contest is proceeding well. The artwork for Allen Elementary School was digitized and can be seen on our web site. The voting on the art for Allen Elementary School closes on December 15, 2022. The artwork of Sunnyside Elementary School has been received, digitized, and uploaded to our web site. People can vote on the artwork they like now, with the voting projected to end on December 23, 2022, with a possible extension of that end date. Valley Vista is still working on their artwork. Current plans are to have an awards ceremony and celebration at the Bonita Fire Station.

Community Forum:

Traffic and Roads Mile Clowers: Mike Clowers reported that he has been discussing the broken split rail fences with Andrew but that the discussion is continuing. Also with Andrew, Mike is discussing the lane painting on Briarwood Road. That discussion is also on-going. Regarding the Bike Park and parking concerns, he reported that he does not have any additional information.

Sweetwater Community Planning Group Stephen Stonehouse: Stephen reported that the parking along San Miguel Road was again discussed, and the issue and recommendation clarified, and that the County would be notified of the Planning Group's recommendation. Stephen also told us about a presentation to the Planning group by the City of San Diego regarding a major water pipeline replacement project that will affect Bonita. Although this project is not in the immediate future, the group expressed significant concern about traffic issues and noise.

In reference to the traffic concerns regarding the San Diego project, Harriet Taylor reminded us about the traffic issues, along Sweetwater Road, for the pipeline currently being replaced. She suggested that Bonita Road was an option for those wishing to avoid the congestion on Sweetwater Road.

Harriet also suggested that the SVCA should consider using the Senior Patrol as a "Spotlight" group to notify residents of the need for people to join that group.

Senior Volunteer Patrol Jim Woodford: Jim was not in attendance for this meeting.

Membership Sharon Coleman: Sharon reported on the current membership level and provided the following membership report.

Individual 12

Family 14

Gold/Org 1, non-profit 1, for profit 2

Gold 18

Silver/Family 1

Org/Profit 4

Org/Non-Profit 5

Trails Report Mark Kukuchek: Mark was not in attendance

Other Announcements. There were no other announcements.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony P. 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 related directly to our quality of life within the Sweetwater Valley communities.