



## 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 September 7, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:34 by the President Judy Tieber 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 the men and women 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, Sharmane Estolano, Mike Clowers

**Members Present:** Prudence Prince, Daryl Hern, Harriet Taylor, Sharon Coleman. Jim Woodford, Mark Kukuchek, and Mike Sampsel.

**Guests Present:** Fire Chief Mike Sims, Andrew Harvey from Supervisor Nora Vargas' Office, Other Guests present were Daniel Diaz, Shlomit Haim, and Lynn Prater.

**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 September 2022 Treasurer's Report.

	<u>September 2022</u>
Checking	\$ 1,423.68
Grant Balance	\$ 2,634.45
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 1,429.80
Ending Balance	\$ 5,487.83

Previous Balance was \$6,932.41

There were grant charges to KIG for web site fees. Also, membership dues were received. There were fees to transfer money from the CD to the Checking account; \$1000 was transferred.

The report was accepted as written.

**Fire Safety: Bonita Fire Chief Mike Sims:** Chief Sims reported that the vegetation mitigation is completed for now, however, the fire department team will be back felling dead palms in late fall and into the winter as time and weather permits. In addition to felled palms, brush was cleared 15-20 feet from the roadways. The contractor has now completed their part of the work and Bonita Fire will complete the rest of the required work. Mike Clowers congratulated Chief Sims on the brush and tree cleanup but indicated that the Fish and Wildlife area along Proctor Valley Road also needs some TLC.

About the heat wave, Chief Sims reminded everyone to hydrate when working or playing outdoors. Also, watch for snakes at this time of year and to ensure that that no open fires are used.

Chief Sims talked about wildfires that are currently burning. The **Border 32** fire near Barret Lake started on September 1, 2022. Bonita E38 was on it as part of a Central Zone Task Force. The Bonita fire department team was there for 3 days. The Border 32 fire is now fully contained. The **Willow** fire in Lakeside started about twenty minutes after the Border 32 Fire. Thus, stripped a large amount of the Central Zone assets and required call backs and minimum staffing within the Zone. Thus, emergency staffing was required. This fire is now fully contained

The **Fairview** fire in Hemet has several San Diego County assets associated with it and will for the foreseeable future. The fire is only 5% contained. The **Mountain** fire in Northern California has units from the San Diego region involved and is only 30% contained.

Chief Sims reminded us of the Fire Department Pancake Breakfast on September 24, 2022, starting at 8:00 AM. The Time Capsule will be opened during the latter stages of the breakfast.

On September 11, 2022, there will be a remembrance of 9/11 and the 343 firefighters and over 3000 civilians who lost their lives.

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

**Sheriff Dept. Crime Prevention Specialist, Julio Garcia:** Not in attendance.

#### **Elected Representative Reports:**

**U. S House of Representatives Sara Jacobs Office Representative Kathleen Dang.** Not in attendance.

**Andrew Harvey, Supervisor Nora Vargas Representative:** Andrew reported that the DPW is clearing weeds and brush on areas close to roadways.

About the Hawk Light System on San Miguel Road by Sunnyside Elementary school, Andrew reported that this project has been delayed. He said that he would follow up and report on the status at the next SVCA meeting. He also said that the study on Tieber Trail appears to be stalled. Andrew said he will check on this project and report its status at the next SVCA meeting.

Andrew explained that a Hawk Light acts like a stop light when the light is activated by someone crossing the street, in this case, San Miguel Road. Guillermo Torres said that a similar traffic problem exists on Sweetwater Road near Valley Vista Elementary school. About the Senior Patrol assisting with controlling the traffic issue when school starts and lets out, Jim Woodford indicated that the Senior Patrol is not available till 8:30 in the morning. However, they are available in the afternoons when school lets out. In addition, Jim indicated that the Fire Department is often available and parks their truck with lights flashing At Sunnyside Elementary on San Miguel Road. When the Fire Department is available, the Senior Patrol assists with traffic control on Central Avenue by the rear exit from Sunnyside Elementary.

Andrew stressed that Grants are currently available and that small businesses can also apply for the grants.

The County has designated certain facilities as Cool Zones, and they are currently available for use. Andrew stressed that these facilities can be used by anyone who wants to get out of the excessive heat and stay safe.

Echoing what Chief Sims said, Andrew asked everyone to take all necessary precautions to prevent wildfires.

Andrew talked about the Hispanic Heritage Celebration on September 3, 2022, at the County Administration Building and noted that everyone is invited to attend.

Jim Groth talked about the traffic on San Miguel Road, especially near Sunnyside Elementary School. Andrew responded that the County is considering a study to assess the heavy traffic problem. The County is concerned that the children attending the school might be at risk. Attendees also talked about the parking of trucks along San Miguel Road and how the parked trucks make it difficult for walkers using the crosswalk and for cars to see the people crossing the street.

Prudence Prince talked about the need for more patrolling in her neighborhood, and that there is a serious problem with people dumping trash in that area.

Harriet Taylor talked about the surveying being done in Rohr Park for an apparent miniature golf course. Tony indicated that he did not see any surveyor flags in the area

**Council Member John McCann's Office representative Amanda Angulo.** Not in attendance.

**Continuing Business.** President Judy Tieber talked about the "At Large" position and open Neighborhood Ambassador positions, addressing the need for volunteers for those positions. Tony brought a map to show the locations of these opportunities to serve.

**New Business.** Judy Tieber talked about the status of the grant. This included the purchase and delivery of the art supplies to Allen/Daley School, reaching out to all three school principals, and going to the two schools where she got a response. Daryl Hern suggested involving the PTAs and Tony described the need to extend the end date of the grant.

Judy talked about our SVCA participation in Bonitafest including the parades, information booth, and the melodrama. She indicated she would walk in the trail parade while Tony and Sharon manned a table with water and association information at the Museum. Sharon and Judy would participate in the car parade Saturday morning, and also staff the booth during the afternoon. We will have a contest to win a small mechanical horse.

Judy notified us that she and Guillermo Torres would attend the National City Council meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup>. The purpose will be to address the RVs parked on Plaza Bonita Road and cars parked at Outback Steakhouse. Sharmane indicated that she saw clean-up crews in that area today (September 7<sup>th</sup>).

**Community Forum:**

**Traffic and Roads Mile Clowers:** Mike Clowers, a member of the TAC, talked about upcoming traffic speed certification studies that were addressed at the last TAC meeting. These involve various areas along Bonita Rd. Guillermo Torres talked about the need to adjust the speed and signs near Valley Vista Elementary school.

Attendees talked about the lack of a sidewalk on Bonita Road from Siembre to Frisbee Street. For people wanting to walk to businesses in that area, like the 7/11, it is difficult to move strollers and wagons through that area. Mark Kukuchek thought that the sidewalk was on the Capital Improvement list and that the area in question is a designated trail. He indicated that the Planning group would address the issue.

**Senior Patrol-Jim Woodford:** Jim notified us that he has been chosen to be a VIP of the Bonitafest and would participate in other events. He said he will be participating. Harriet Taylor said that the Planning group will participate in the afternoon street fair and share a space with Civic Association.

Jim provided the following report.

**AUGUST 2022 SHERIFF SR. PATROLL VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES**

Hours on patrol	84
Number of Patrols	8
Number of Miles Driven	453
Vacation Checks	11
YANA Visits	0
YANA Calls	30
Citizen Assists	4
Traffic Control	2
Front counter Safety Center	32
Number of Volunteers	10

**Membership-Sharon Coleman:** Sharon provided the following report.

- Org/Profit- 1
- Org- 3
- Family- 10
- Individual- 11
- Silver/Family- 1
- Gold/Org- 1
- Gold- 18

More renewals are coming in slowly....

**Trails-Mark Kukuchek:** Mark reported that he is still waiting for information on Tieber Trail and Bonita Animal shelter. He also talked about work that the "Ninja Trail Team" has done to repair the washed out trail on the north side of the golf course.

**Other Announcements**—Jim Groth talked about a large number of dump trucks traveling along San Miguel Road. He noted that a lot of grading is occurring on a property at the far end of San Miguel Road and that this type of work requires the posting of a permit.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 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.