



## 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 March 1, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER: President Judy Tieber called the** meeting to order at 6:38 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 people 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, Sharmane Estolano, Tony Tieber, and Stephen Stonehouse, Mike Clowers, Sharon Coleman.

**Members Present:**, Mike Sampsel, Jim Woodford, Shlomit Haim, and Mike Parnell.

**Guests Present:** Angel Marquez of Senator Alex Padilla's Office and Michael Rivas of Representative Juan Vargas' office. Other guests present were Mike Parnou and Lynn Putit,

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Stephen Stonehouse reported the March 2023 Treasurer's Report.

	<u>March 2023</u>
Checking	\$ 81.21
Grant Received	\$ 1,165.21
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 1,429.94
Ending Balance	\$ 2,676.36

Previous Balance was \$2,856.34.

There was a charge to KIG of \$180.00 for Web Service.

The report was accepted as written.

**Fire Safety: Bonita Fire Chief Mike Sims:** Chief Sims reported that there were 145 calls in February.

The Fire Department is sending 2 engineers to a Captains Academy to prepare them for their future roles. This is called succession planning.

Bonita will be participating in a statewide data gathering project to track drug overdose incidents. This will help focus on targeted areas hopefully bring state and federal dollars to our region to battle the drug epidemic.

There is a County Wildland drill set for May 1,2,3 at Barona.

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Steven Rucker Staff Ride is being organized for May or June.

The Burn Institute Boot Drive will occur on March 9, 2023. So, look for the firefighters out on the roads holding a boot and show them some love.

The Art Contest winners at each school will be announced at each school's pizza party which the Fire Department will attend. The tentative dates set are March 9, 13, and 17.

The Department will participate in a special training session to review previous fires that occurred and those fires that resulted in a fatality(s).

### **Law Enforcement Reports:**

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

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

### **Elected Representative Reports:**

**Andrew Harvey, Supervisor Nora Vargas Representative:** Andrew Harvey was not in attendance. However, Board Of Supervisors Chair Nora Vargas was at the Bonita Library for the "Reading to Children" event where she read a story to the kids Andrew was also there and provided the opportunity for Judy to talk to Supervisor Vargas. Judy asked Supervisor Vargas to check on the Hawk Light at Sunnyside Elementary School, The signage along Sweetwater Road by Valley Vista Elementary school, and a follow-up Geolocation survey by SANDAG for SR125 toll avoidance traffic. Supervisor Vargas is also the chair of SANDAG. She also asked SVCA/Bonita Community to put together a list of all the things we need fixed/added to Bonita. She will work on that with community input.

Andrew also conducted a tour of Bonita to view several areas of interest. Mike Clowers was on that tour. Please see Mike's report for the tour specifics.

**Council Member John McCann's Office representative Amanda Angulo.** Amanda was not in attendance but did send a report which Tony read. The report follows.

Amanda reported that Mayor McCann will be hosting this month's First Friday Breakfast. This breakfast has been a long partnership between the City of Chula Vista, the YMCA, the County, and the Chula Vista Chamber of Commerce, and each partner can host the breakfast and present guest speakers.

As our first month hosting, Mayor McCann will be our first speaker, and will present on Chula Vista's exciting future, along with several projects that are coming to the City. The Breakfast will be this Friday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30am at the Chula Vista Golf Course on 4475 Bonita Road. We encourage everyone to arrive at 7:15am to have enough time to check-in and find a seat. You can register at <https://tinyurl.com/4czuau6> or by scanning the QR code in the flyer (attached). The link to register will be closing tomorrow morning.

Mayor John McCann invites you to



# The First Friday Breakfast

Please join Mayor McCann as he presents

## Chula Vista's Exciting Future

Friday, March 3rd

Check in starts at 7:15am

Meeting starts at 7:30am

Chula Vista Golf Course

4475 Bonita Road, Chula Vista, CA 91902

Register by clicking the link below or  
scanning the QR code by Wednesday,  
March 1st

<https://tinyurl.com/4czuauf6>



Additionally, in regards to the broken fence that both Judy and Michael Clowers brought to my attention, I have been consistently sending it up to Parks and Rec, asking for updates, and was only recently told that they finally have all the material they need, but they are waiting for the rain to clear and dry up so they can pour in cement, to stabilize the fence.

We are also looking for Chula Vista residents who would like to volunteer for the City of Chula Vista. If you are interested, we are looking for people who will be dedicated to serving the City in Boards and Commissions. You can view vacancies and applications on our City website at <https://www.chulavistaca.gov/departments/city-clerk/boards-commissions>.

**U. S. House of Representatives (52<sup>nd</sup> District) Juan Vargas Office Representative Michael Rivas.** Michael Rivas was in attendance and that attendance was appreciated, Juan Vargas represents California District 52. His contact information is <https://Vargas.House.Gov> Michael's contact information is [Michael.Rivas@mail.house.gov](mailto:Michael.Rivas@mail.house.gov). Thank You Michael for attending.

**California State Assembly Representative David Alvarez:** David Alvarez represents California's district 80. His representative, Mayra Hernandez was not in attendance.

**State Senator (18<sup>th</sup> District) Stephen Padilla office representative Thomas Lawton.** Thomas Lawton was not in attendance.

**U. S. Senator Alex Padilla Office Representative Angel Marquez.** Angel Marquez reported that Senator Padilla represents three Counties, was at first appointed and then re-elected. He is currently assigned to the Water committee and recently obtained \$64 million to fund an area that had wildfires and are prone to wildfires. Angel reminded us that local ideas or needs must come to the attention of our elected officials. Tony mentioned that obtaining federal funding for desalination plants in California would be a good idea.

Angel reported that the senator stands ready to provide services to his constituency such as financial help with things like state taxes, etc. If you need assistance you just need to ask.

Angel's contact info is as follows:

Angel Marquez, Field representative for  
U.S. Senator Alex Padilla  
600 B Street Suite 2240  
San Diego Ca. 92101  
Phone: 619-239-3884  
Fax: 202-228-3863  
[Angel\\_Marquez@Padilla.Senate.Gov](mailto:Angel_Marquez@Padilla.Senate.Gov)

**New Business.** Judy Tieber talked about the Art Contest and its current progress. She noted that the contest asked elementary students at three schools to paint scenes that described what they liked about Bonita and describe how they would take care of Bonita's resources that they had painted. She also said that the SVCA and the Fire Department will visit each of the three schools to celebrate the contest winners.

Judy Tieber reported that she is preparing a new grant request to the county. She said that she plans to submit the request sometime in the Month of March.

**Community Forum: Traffic and Roads Mike Clowers:** Mike reported on a tour of Bonita led by Andrew Harvey who was accompanied by Mike Clowers, Tony Tieber, and Harriet and John Taylor. Mike reported that three locations were visited: two along San Miguel Road and one by Plaza Bonita. The first San Miguel location related to storm run-off from the road onto adjacent properties. The second location was related to run-off onto a property by the creek that runs through that area. The apparent issue is poor creek drainage. The third location was visited to get an idea of how and where the homeless were living. No action was taken on the tour but may occur at a future date.

Mike also reported about the wood fence along Bonita Road by the golf course. He reported that a tree had fallen during the storm and had knocked down another section of the fence.

Mike talked about the Hawk Light on San Miguel Road at the entrance to Sunnyside Elementary school. Mike said that he had reliable information that the contract for the Light had been awarded and the construction of the light is being scheduled.

**Sweetwater Community Planning Group Stephen Stonehouse:** Stephen noted that the CHP had issued tickets to drivers illegally turning onto Frisbee Street from Central in the morning.

Sharon Coleman commented that speeding is really bad on Winnetka, and that she has not seen any CHP officers in that area.

Mike Clowers commented that he has been informed that two new CHP officers have been hired to enforce traffic laws in Bonita.

Judy reported that a meeting sponsored by the SVCA will occur in March and both the CHP and Sheriff will be at the meeting to discuss traffic in Bonita and enforcement of traffic laws.

Stephen also reported that a representative from the County's Health and Human Services Department was at the February Sweetwater Community Planning meeting and that the representative made a presentation.

Stephen also notified everyone that the County will remove graffiti from both public and private property, but in the case of private property a request will have to be made to the county for removal of the graffiti.

Tony talked about the Ace Storage facility that has been presented to the county. The project is along Bonita Road next to the Fire house and already has had a vote at the Planning group which recommended to the County that the facility not be built. Tony wondered if the Planning Group would ever get to see all the questions presented and theoretically answered by the County regarding CEQA. Sharmane further reported that a client she represented asked her to inquire about the availability of the land on which Ace Storage is tentatively planned. However, the owner was not interested in selling the land.

**Senior Volunteer Patrol Jim Woodford:** Jim reported that the Senior Patrol currently has only 10 members. Consequently, it is exceedingly difficult to accomplish everything that needs to be done. Jim also reported that the Senior Patrol has one YANA (you are not alone) client that gets called on a regular basis.

Chief Sims commented about Sheriff Traffic patrols in Bonita and their occurrence.

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

Individual 13

Family 16

Gold/Org non-profit 1, for profit 1

Gold 18

Silver/Family 1

Org/Profit 4

Org/Non-Profit 5

Sharon commented on the Art Contest celebrations at the three elementary schools and offered to help with those celebrations if needed.

**Trails Report Mark Kukuchek:** Mark was not in attendance.

**Other Announcements:** Sharmane commented about a coffee shop in Bonita that has recently added a drive through. This is a different coffee shop than the planned Starbucks drive through.

Mike Parnell, President of the Bonita Highlands Association requested that the SVCA change the date of the traffic meeting. Judy Tieber was originally scheduling the meeting for March 14, 2023. Judy said she would look at scheduling the meeting another day.

**Meeting adjourned** at 7:35 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.