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



SWEETWATER VALLEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING January 3, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: President Judy Tieber called the meeting to order at 6:35 at the Bonita-Sunnyside 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, Tony Tieber, Stephen Stonehouse, and Sharmane Estolano.

Members Present. Mike Clowers, Richard and Josie Calderon Scott, Daryl Hern, Karen Henry, Jim Woodford, Mike Parnell, Tom Pockington, and Bill Coleman.

Guests Present: Lynn Prater, Fire Chief Mike Sims, FBI agent Dayna Kendall and associates, John and Margaret Pool, Martha E. Rodriguez, Minerus T. Wirick, and Beatris Chong.

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

Special Welcome. Judy welcomed the members, guests, and representatives of elected officials , and all those who might contemplate joining SVCA. A special welcome was extended to Members of the FBI team that were going to make a presentation.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Stephen Stonehouse provided the January 2024 Treasurer's Report.

	<u>January 2024</u>
Checking	\$ 5,651.04
Dues Received	\$ 50.00
PayPal to Mailchimp	\$ (45.00)
USPO—Box Rental	\$ (194.00)
KIG –Grant Deduction	\$ (540.00)
Mission Fed CD	\$ 10,000.00
Interest on CD for December	\$ 19.68
Grant Status –Original Grant	
\$12,118.00	
Deductions to Date	
(2,759.67)	
Ending Balance	\$ 15,670.72
Previous Balance was	\$16,380.04.

The report was accepted as written.

Fire Safety: Bonita Fire Chief Mike Sims: Chief Sims reported the following:

- 1,611 total emergency responses for BFD in 2023; 65,600 total emergency calls in 2023 for the Central Zone. This is a 2.81% increase from 2022.
- Sandbags are available at the fire station, free of charge. No hours. Self service,. Limit to ten per household.
- Movie night at the fire BFD station on January 23, 2024, at 6 PM, for a special showing of the Movie: "Pueblo". Tickets are free but there are only fifty tickets. Tickets can be picked up at the BFD on Monday thru Thursday from 8AM-4PM.
- The new Fire Engine will be ordered next week pending approval from the Fire Board.
- Firefighter Paramedic Amado Rodriguez was selected as the Bonita Fire Fighter of the year.

Law Enforcement Reports:

Sheriff's Department: Crime Specialist Julio Garcia reported the following:

- Bonita/ Sunnyside - Crime Activity during December 2023," (The Crime Map accompanies these minutes). Although there were a few home and car break-ins, crime in the Bonita Sunnyside area is low.
- New "H.A.W.K." (High intensity Activated Crosswalk) light system is operating on San Miguel Road at Sunnyside Elementary School. County of San Diego Department of Public Works H.A.W.K flyer was distributed by email to members ahead of this meeting and to community members.
- The Blue Envelope Program (included with these minutest) is designed to promote inclusivity and serve as an enhanced communication awareness tool between law enforcement and community members diagnosed with a condition or disability. The program is voluntary and self-implemented.
- It was Julio's last night presenting crime activity to the SVCA due to his pending retirement. More information is available at www.sdsheriff.gov.

Elected Representative Reports:

Andrew Harvey, Supervisor Nora Vargas Representative: Andrew Harvey was not in attendance. However, Judy Tieber reported that she had received a message from Andrew that the supervisor was having an event next month, on February 20, 2024, 6:00-8:00 PM at the fire station.

Council Member John McCann's Office representative Amanda Angulo. Amanda Angulo was not in attendance.

California State Assembly Representative David Alvarez: David Alvarez represents California's district 80.His representative, Lisa Schmidt, was not available.

State Senator (18th District) Stephen Padilla office representative Thomas Lawton.
Thomas Lawton was not available.

U. S. Senator Alex Padilla Office Representative Angel Marquez. Angel Marquez was not available.

U. S. House of Representatives (52nd District) Juan Vargas Office Representative Genevieve Fong: Genevieve Fong was not available.

New Business.

FBI Special Presentation Relating to Faud and Elder Abuse. FBI agent Dayna Kendall of the Elder Justice Task Force and Complex Financial Crimes Squad presented on elder fraud. Dayna Kendall reported the Following:

- Senior citizens are sometimes victimized by their own families.
- Seniors need to be aware of on-line fraud which may be initiated locally or overseas.
- Often, seniors do not understand what the fraudsters are saying or asking for. In that case, the fraudsters will walk the seniors through the process, step by step, to get money. "Never send money to someone you don't know."
- In some cases, the fraudsters will come to your house to pick up the money.
- A fraud "red Flag" occurs when a fraudster offers money to the senior but asks the senior to send "good faith" money to get the promised money (i.e., pay money to get money). "If it sounds too good to be true, it usually is."
- Before you send money to anyone, stop, and think about the situation, slow down, and do not make quick decisions. (debunk urgency).
- Beware of any transactions that deal with precious metals or crypto currency.
- Beware of unsolicited offers, which sound good, but require a contract.
- Do not provide personal information to unknown solicitors. On the other hand, assume people have your personal information which they obtained from the web.
- Do not send money to unknown solicitors.
- Always be cautious of what personal information you put on the web.
- If you lose money due to fraud, you need to report that loss to the proper authorities such as the police or the FBI. The report must be made even if you are ashamed that you got defrauded.
- Report crimes via the Internet Crime Complaint Center. The web site address is www.ic3.gov.
- Beware of purchasing gift cards. Scammers can put special fraudulent gift cards in place of the real cards in purchasing locations. When the fraudulent cards are used, the bogus cards access your account and can steal all the money in your account.
- Regardless of who you are or how intelligent you are, you could be a victim of fraud.
- Check your bank account daily.
- Beware of pushiness or a desire to move to a different communication platform, or an unrecognizable email address. There is no need for secrecy (verify the source).

Secretary's note: I did not obtain the actual digital or printed presentation from the FBI. However, I did collect seven pamphlets they the FBI provided on a table I selected the following documents:

1. Internet Crime Complaint Center

2. Elder Fraud
3. Prevent Abuse of Older Veterans
4. A Caregiver's Guide to prevent Elder Abuse
5. Financial Fraud and Scams
6. Prevent Elder Abuse
7. Prevent Financial Abuse

The above documents are not included with the minutes.

Community Forum:

Traffic and Roads Mike Clowers: Mike Clowers reported that the H.A.W.K. beacon was operating on San Miguel Road crosswalk near Sunnyside Elementary School. County of San Diego's H.A.W.K. flyer (SVCA distributed by email) explains what to do as a pedestrian and as a driver. A driver should stop with a "red light," then proceed with caution if people are present.

Sign replacement is progressing. Removal of the steel plate on Bonita Road and Central Avenue is still in the works.

Sweetwater Community Planning Group Stephen Stonehouse & Harriet Taylor: There was no report this month.

Senior Volunteer Patrol Jim Woodford: Jim reported that the crossing signal on Central Avenue that supports the crossing of children from Sunnyside Elementary school has been repaired and is working as required.

DECEMBER 2023 SHERIFF SR. VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Hours on patrol	33
Number of Patrols	3
Number of Miles Driven	231
Vacation Checks	0
Citizen Assists	1
Traffic Control	3
Number of Volunteers	7

2023 YEAR SHERIFF SR. VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

Hours on patrol	1,208
Number of Patrols	101
Number of Miles Driven	6,743
Vacation Checks	58
YANA Visits	0
YANA Calls	335
Citizen Assists	27
Traffic Control	35
Front counter Safety Center	177 Hours
Number of Volunteers	11

Membership Sharon Coleman: Sharon was not in attendance, but she did send the following report.

Membership:

Family- 16

Family/silver- 1

Individual- 15

Gold- 21

Org/Non-profit 2 (still chasing down three not included: (Bonita Horseman from 21/22) and Bonita Optimist and Bonita Historical Society from 22/23) I will contact them one last time.

Org/for Profit- 2

Org/for Profit Gold -2

Org/Non-Profit Gold- 1

INCLUDES NEW MEMBERS 1- FAMILY, 1- IND

Sweetwater Authority Karen Henry. Karen did not provide an oral report at the meeting. However, she did provide a report which is included with the minutes..

Other Announcements. There will be a San Diego County meeting to discuss the San Miguel Road flooding on January 4, 2024, in the Library Community room.

Meeting adjourned: The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Anthony P. Tieber, Secretary, SVCA
tony.tieber@cox.net

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.