ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
July 18, 2017
Altadena Community Center, 730 East Altadena Drive
Altadena, California 91001

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:11 PM

Chair Okorie Ezieme welcomes the community, council, elected heads of State, federal government members, and representatives.

1.1. Pledge of Allegiance __________________________ Bright Future Scholars, under the direction of Dr. Sandra E. Thomas

1.2 Roll Call ________________________________ Recording Secretary, Judy Matthews

(14) Present: Anne Chomyn, Nestor De La Torre, Okorie Ezieme, Damon Hobdy, Jennifer Lee, Billy Malone, Diane Marcussen, Judy Matthews, Brent Musson, Justin Robertson, Gloria Sanyika, Patricia Sutherland, Sylvia Vega, and John E. White

(0) Excused

(2) Absent/Unexcused: Dean Cooper and Anne Lansing

1.3. Approve July 18, 2017 Meeting Agenda ______ Councilmember Damon Hobdy motions to accept July 18, 2017 meeting agenda as presented with no changes or amendments.

Motion: Damon Hobdy
Second: Gloria Sanyika
Aye: Unanimous
The motion carries.

2. OFFICERS’ REPORTS

2.1. Chairman ____________________________ Okorie Ezieme thanks fellow council members for the opportunity to chair council during the 2016-2017 term and shares the progress of projects initiated during his term and those that carried over from previous terms. Supervisor Kathryn Barger is acknowledged for her assistance in getting approval of the Altadena Community Standard District (CSD) passed by the Board of Supervisors on June 27, 2017. The CSD committee and County staff are acknowledged for their years of work towards the approval of the CSD. Chair Ezieme thanks the community for their feedback. A formal recognition of the CSD committee and County staff will be presented on Tuesday, August 15, 2017.

Chair Ezieme thanks council members for their work on ATC: John White for designing council members’ first name badge; Anne Chomyn for chairing Altadena Filming Committee, working along with the team to bring awareness, and submitting recommendations to the county to address community concerns; Damon Hobdy for the installation of bus and park benches throughout Altadena; Gloria Sanyika for rain barrels and Census Tract 4603.02’s Community Clean Up Day; and Judy Matthews and Anne Lansing for the 2017 Altadena Homeless Count. Chair Ezieme extends a thank you to council for supporting the first ATC holiday gathering and the pre-meeting briefs, which
he hopes will continue with full participation. Chair Ezieme extends his gratitude to council members who will not be continuing their service on ATC.

2.2. Vice Chairman ____________________________ Damon Hobdy informs the community that the Executive Committee (EC) consists of Damon Hobdy, Patricia Sutherlen, Billy Malone, Okorie Ezieme and Judy Matthews. The EC meets on the second Tuesday of each month. The agenda is finalized at the EC meeting and is the order of business in which council will proceed. To be placed on the agenda, community members may contact one of the EC members by 5:00 PM on the second Monday of the month. In order to make a public comment prior to the end of the meeting, the public may complete and submit a comment card to a councilmember.

Councilmember Hobdy encourages council members to provide their updated contact information to Councilmember Billy Malone.

2.3. Recording Secretary ____________________________ Judy Matthews

2.3.1. Approve June 20, 2017 updated meeting minutes as amended with suggestions by Anne Chomyn and Justin Robertson as submitted and confirmed.

    Motion: Judy Matthews
    Second: Damon Hobdy
    Aye: Unanimous
    The motion carries.

2.4. Treasurer ____________________________ Patricia Sutherlen provides a treasury report. The balance of $2,330.06 is the same as June 2017. Donations that were not received in time will be reported on the July report. Although the collection can was not available, Councilmember Sutherlen donated $1 for July.

2.5. Corresponding Secretary______________________ Billy Malone thanks Damon Hobdy for his service on Altadena Town Council and requests all new members provide their latest information and photos for the website to the newly elected corresponding secretary. He further states that he will assist with the transition of position.

3. SWARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS AND RECOGNITIONS

3.1. Swearing in Ceremony______________________ Chair Ezieme acknowledges Supervisor Kathryn Barger. Supervisor Barger administers oath of office to newly elected council members for 2017-2018 term. Billy Malone, Justin Robertson, Sylvia Vega, Veronica Jones and Dorothy Wong are sworn in. Chair Ezieme asks outgoing council to relinquish their seats, and newly elected council members are seated.

3.2. Recognitions
3.2.1. Supervisor Kathryn Barger presents certificates of recognition to outgoing council members Anne Chomyn, Damon Hobdy and Brent Musson.

3.2.2. Becky Cheng, District Director for Congresswoman Judy Chu, presents certificates of congressional recognition to outgoing council members Anne Chomyn, Damon Hobdy, and Brent Musson.

3.2.3. Dominick Correy, District Representative for Senator Anthony Portantino, presents certificates of recognition to outgoing council members Anne Chomyn, Damon Hobdy, and Brent Musson.

3.2.4. Phlunte Riddle, District Director for Assemblymember Chris Holden, presents certificates of recognition to outgoing council members Anne Chomyn, Damon Hobdy and Brent Musson.

3.2.5. Captain Vicki Stuckey, Altadena Sheriff Station Commander, presents certificates of recognition to outgoing council members Anne Chomyn, Damon Hobdy, and Brent Musson.

Chair Ezieme recognizes outgoing council members Anne Chomyn, Damon Hobdy, and Brent Musson, and a group photo is taken.

4. ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

4.1. Slate Committee Report ______________ Councilmember Anne Chomyn provides a report. The members of the Election Committee, Chair Anne Chomyn, Gloria Sanyika and Jennifer Lee, recommend the following 2017-2018 ATC Slate of Officers: chair, Okorie Ezieme; vice chair, Dr. Sandra E. Thomas; treasurer, John White; recording secretary, Judy Matthews; and corresponding secretary, Nestor De La Torre.

Chair Ezieme states that the Altadena Town Council Bylaws, Article IV, B, 2 Election of Officers, makes provisions for additional nominations from the council to be taken at the time of election and prior to a vote. Chair asks if there are any comments or nominations, and Dr. Sandra E. Thomas makes a brief statement regarding a discrepancy in the Bylaws under Election of Officers Section B,1. The statement is submitted as a matter of record. (See Exhibit A, Statement of Dr. Sandra E. Thomas.)

Due to the technicality, Dr. Thomas withdraws from the slate. Chair Ezieme accepts Dr. Thomas’ withdrawal and appoints her to the position of Parliamentarian. Dr. Thomas accepts.

The floor is opened for nominations. Councilmember Billy Malone nominates Patricia Sutherland as vice chair, and Councilmember Diane Marcussen seconds. Chair Ezieme announces the slate: chair, Okorie Ezieme; vice chair, Patricia Sutherland; treasurer, John
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White; recording secretary, Judy Matthews; and corresponding secretary, Nestor De La Torre. Chair Ezieme closes nominations. Councilmember Gloria Sanyika nominates John White for vice chair. Chair Ezieme states the nominations were closed, and the nomination is not be accepted. The new slate is announced and accepted summarily without contested positions.

Chair Ezieme makes the following appointments:

- Dr. Sandra Thomas, Parliamentarian
- Diane Marcussen, chair, Land Use Committee
- Justin Robertson, vice chair, Land Use Committee
- Nestor De La Torre, chair, Website Committee
- Michael Justin Waters, member, Website Committee
- Dr. Anne Chomyn, chair, Altadena Filming Committee
- Judy Matthews, member, Bylaws Committee
- Jennifer Lee, chair, Education Committee
- Monica Hubbard, LeighAnn Samuels and Felita Kealing, members, Education Committee

Additional committee appointments will be announced at a later date. Chair Ezieme appoints Nestor De La Torre the responsibility of updating the ATC website, effective immediately.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

5.1. California Highway Patrol ________________ Officer Mike Ulloa provides a report of May and June 2017 statistics. Officer Ulloa reports that during the month of May, he conducted 74 enforcement stops. Sixty-eight traffic citations and 12 verbal warrants, and one DUI arrest was made. CHP has been awarded Altadena Roadway Safety, which places more officers on patrol and includes an educational component for schools to assist in addressing teen driving safety. There were no documented traffic collisions for the months of May and June involving pedestrians or bicyclists.

5.2. Altadena Sheriff’s Station ________________ Captain Vicki Stuckey provides a report highlighting June’s statistics. The Sheriff Department is offering anti-theft steering clubs to victims of auto grand theft. Late 1990 Honda and Toyota models are vehicles of choice for theft. Victims are encouraged to contact the Sheriff Department’s Detective Bureau, (Lieutenant Octave, (626) 266-2131), to be issued a free anti-theft steering club. Residents are reminded to lock their cars.

The Sheriff Department’s Homicide Bureau is still seeking information regarding the July 5, 2016 murder of Salvador Esparza. There is a reward for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of person(s) responsible. To remain anonymous when reporting on any crimes, please contact Crime Stopper at (800)222-8477.
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Tuesday, August 1, 2017, at 6:00 PM is National Night Out at Farnsworth Park; and Saturday, August 19, 2017, at 10:00 AM is the Altadena Sheriff Station’s 90th Anniversary Open House.

5.3. CERT ____________________________ No report.

5.4. Map Your Neighborhood _________________ Eric Vander Velde provides a report and reiterates the importance of being prepared in case of a disaster. Mr. Vander Velde identifies the 9 steps to follow in case of a disaster. MYN trainings will be held on September 17, 2017, 4:00 PM at Altadena Country Club and November 12, 2017, 4:00 PM at Metropolitan Baptist Church. Altadena Town and Country Club is acknowledged for hosting training meetings. For more information email mynrsvp@gmail.com.

5.5. County Fire ____________________________ Maria Grycan, Community Services Liaison, LA County Fire Department, provides an overview of June’s statistics and reports that the department participated in the “Parks after Dark” program in June and the fire department’s MTZ (Mutual Threat Zone) training with fellow agencies for major brush fire incidents. Ms. Grycan may be contacted at maria.grycan@fire.lacounty.gov or (661-250-2710). The June statistics are made available to post on the website.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1. Land Use Committee ____________________ Councilmember Diane Marcussen reports that the July Land Use Committee meeting scheduled for July 4, 2017 was cancelled due to no agenda items. It is reported that there will be items to review for the August agenda, including the Palm Property Project.

6.2. Election Committee ______________________ Councilmember Patricia Sutherlen

6.2.1. Open Seat ____________________________ Councilmember Patricia Sutherlen reports that there are two census tracts with applicants for the open seats: Census Tract 4601, Victoria Knapp and Census Tract 4612, former council members Reginald Wilkins and Douglas Colliflower. It is reported that council members will be provided applicants’ statements of qualification to be considered for the August 15, 2017 Altadena Town Council meeting. Applicants will be present to present a brief statement and council will vote.

6.3. Altadena Filming Committee _______________ Anne Chomyn, Chair, provides a report and shares an overview of the committee’s end of the year report from the June 20, 2017 ATC meeting. Ms. Chomyn states that on June 23, 2017, Chair Ezieme sent the end of the year report summarizing the committee’s findings to Supervisor Kathryn Barger; Sachi A. Hamai, Chief Executive Officer, County of Los Angeles; and Paul Audley, President, FilmLA. Supervisor Barger and Sachi A. Hamai provide written replies. Ms. Chomyn reads Supervisor Barger’s immediate response to ATC’s letter. (See Exhibits B-D, letters from Chair Ezieme, Supervisor Barger and Sachi A. Hamai.)
7. ALTADENA COMMUNITY REPORTS

7.1. Altadena Library _______________ Mindy Kittay, Director, provides a report and highlights the adult program series beginning July 29, 2017. The program series will include a short documentary presented by filmmaker, Councilmember Jennifer Hall Lee. An update on Community Conversations will be presented to ATC on August 15, 2017. The Community Calendar has launched. The library’s fundraiser, “A Taste of Dena,” is September 23, 2017, and tickets are $50 per person. Sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information on programs and library events, visit www.altadenalibrary.org.

7.2. LA County Department of Parks and Recreation ___________ Meliza Hernandez, District Manager, provides a report on park activities and highlights upcoming “Parks After Dark” events and the Altadena Community Garden Annual Picnic. The event flyer will be posted on the website. For more information on park activities, visit parks.lacounty.gov or call (626) 398-5451.

7.3. Altadena Chamber of Commerce ________________ Councilmember Billy Malone provides a report and informs the community of the new members’ drive for 2017-2018, the New Business Walk with Senator Anthony Portantino’s office on September 9, 2017, 10:00 AM, and the evening mixer on August 24, 2017. The print directory will be issued before the holidays. A Power Breakfast is being planned, and it will include Women in Business and introduce the new commercial CSDs. A discussion is held, and council members Diane Marcussen and Sylvia Vega volunteer to work with chamber of commerce on the inclusion of West Altadena in the new Altadena CSD. For more information, visit www.altadenachamber.org.

7.4. Collaborate PASadena ___________ Councilmember Gloria Sanyika provides a report and gives an overview of the meeting held July 6, 2017. The Club Aspire Reading Program at Elliott School starts August 14, 2017. The Neighborhood Summit is September 18, 2017, 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM at La Casita Del Arroyo, 177 S. Arroyo Boulevard in Pasadena. The flyer is to be posted on the website. For more information, contact Councilmember Gloria Sanyika at Gloria.sanyika@altadenatowncouncil.org.

7.5. 41st Assembly Local Government Advisory Committee ______ Councilmember Judy Matthews. No report.

8. CENSUS TRACT REPORTS

8.1. 4603.01 Councilmember Judy Matthews provides a report that the missing plaque of the Buffalo Soldiers located in the equestrian ring area of Loma Alta Park is being replaced.
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8.2. 4603.02 Councilmember Gloria Sanyika provides an overview of the June 24, 2017 Census Tract 4603.02 Community Clean-up Day and thanks all participants for the success of the event. It is stated that the event will be annual and hopefully coincide with Athens Service trash collection.

8.3. 4611 Councilmember Patricia Sutherlen informs community that a resident in CT 4611 reported that she held a yard sale on a non designated weekend and the process to receive authorization was quick. Councilmember Sutherlen reiterates the Yard Sales Ordinance for unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. Yard sales are allowed only on the last full weekend of the month, the last weekend that has both a Saturday and Sunday. Registration is not required. Authorization is needed for non-designated weekends, up to two additional weekends per year.

9. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Michele Zack informs the community that Altadena Heritage, NBBA, and Altadena Library are hosting a forum on the crosstown pipeline and its connection across Altadena and Pasadena. The forum is scheduled for Thursday, July 20, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Altadena Community Center. It is also reported that donations are still being accepted for Triangle Park. A special thank you is extended to council and the community for their support. For more information and to make donations, visit www.amigosdelosrios.org/altadena-triangle-donations.

Sandra Faulkner questions whether CSD fencing changes include height, right-of-away, and highway line. In addition, she questions if it is only enforced after complaint and does the resident have to register the fence regardless. It is also asked if there are any changes to the fee structure. Councilmember Diane Marcussen will speak with resident after adjournment.

Barbie Ishida encourages ATC Election Committee to start early to obtain more participation, restructure agenda to allow more community interaction at the meetings, and establish an education committee. Councilmember Lee states that she is the chair of the ATC Education Committee which will be meeting on Aug 26, 2017, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Altadena Library in the Community Room. The meeting is open to the public, and the purpose of the meeting is to encourage enrollment in public schools. A request is made to speak with Chair Ezime after adjournment to share other suggestions.

H. Shakur inquires about the status of the vacant Ralph Grocery Market location and Altadena Market Place. Councilmember Diane Marcussen will speak with resident after adjournment.

Karen Gibson provides correct email address for MYN, mynrsvp@gmail.com.
10. ADJOURNMENT 9:02 PM

Councilmember Sylvia Vega moves, Councilmember Dr. Sandra E. Thomas seconded.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:
By: [Signature]

Judy A. Matthews, Recording Secretary
Councilmember 4603.01
Statement of Dr. Sandra E. Thomas

Good Evening Mr. Chair, Council and Community,

I would like to make a brief statement regarding a discrepancy found in the Altadena Town Council Bylaws under Election of Officers Section, B, 1, the first line that reads "nominees for office must be regular seated census tract representative members". In my heart I really do not feel being seated 15 minutes qualities me as a regular seated member. That said, I remove my name from the slate thus allowing any other council member to run for vice chair who would like to run from the floor. I am sure that our wonderful Bylaws Committee will take care of this and resolve the discrepancy. I want to thank the slate committee for making me their choice. But, it is important that if we are going to have bylaws to do our very best to abide by them and that they are clear and without question. Mr. Chair with your permission, that finishes my statement and I will officially submit this to you as a matter of record of my action this evening.

Thank you for your time.

Dr. Sandra E. Thomas
Census Tract 4603.02
Altadena Town Council Filming Committee Report and Recommendations

Altadena Town Council <hon.ezieme@cityofaltadena.us>  Fri, Jun 23, 2017 at 1:02 PM
To: kbarger@lacobos.org
Cc: Sussy Nemer <snemer@lacobos.org>, mduron@ceo.lacounty.gov, paudley@filmla.com, Anne Chomyn 
<anne.chomyn@altadenatowncouncil.org>

Supervisor Kathryn Barger

500 West Temple Street, Room 869
Los Angeles, CA 90012

June 23, 2017

RE: Altadena Filming Committee Report and Recommendation

Dear Supervisor Barger,

The Altadena Town Council appointed the Altadena Filming Committee about 14 months ago at the request of Supervisor Antonovich’s office. This request was made in response to a succession of complaints that had come in to the Supervisor’s office about location filming in one area of Altadena. The Committee was tasked with ascertaining whether such complaints were widespread in the community. Furthermore, the Committee held a series of meetings with representatives of FilmL.A., County agencies, and the California Highway Patrol to ascertain policies and procedures followed by County agencies in the filming permitting process and in enforcement.

The attached report summarizes the Committee’s findings. In light of the Motion passed on May 2, 2017 by the Board of Supervisors directing the County CEO to review County permit fees, streamline the permit process, and review the County Code with regard to enforcement of permit conditions, we believe that this report comes at an opportune time. Perhaps the most frequent complaint heard by the Committee was that permit conditions were not being enforced. The report lists a number of
recommendations aimed at mitigating some of the negative impacts of location filming on neighborhoods.

The Altadena Town Council endorses this report and its recommendations. We hope that the wishes of the community and the recommendations of the Committee be taken into account as the County strives to support a healthy filming industry, while at the same time, ensuring that negative impacts to neighborhoods be minimized.

Sincerely,

[Altadena Town Council logo]

Okorie Ezieme, Chairman
Altadena Town Council
730 E. Altadena Drive
Altadena, CA 91001

Phone: +1 (213) 610-3807

Anne Chomyn
Chair, Altadena Filming Committee

Cc: Sussy Nemer, Senior Deputy to Supervisor Barger
Sachi A. Hamai, CEO, Los Angeles County
Paul Audley, President, FilmL.A.
Altadena Town Council Filming Committee Report and Recommendations

Barger Leibrich, Kathryn <KBarger@bos.lacounty.gov>  Fri, Jun 23, 2017 at 1:17 PM
To: Altadena Town Council <hon.ezieme@cityofaltadena.us>
Cc: "Nemer, Sussy" <SNemer@bos.lacounty.gov>, "mduron@ceo.lacounty.gov" <mduron@ceo.lacounty.gov>, "paudley@filmla.com" <paudley@filmla.com>, Anne Chomyn <anne.chomyn@altadenatowncouncil.org>, "Perry, Chris" <CPerry@bos.lacounty.gov>, "Mouradian, Anna" <AMouradian@bos.lacounty.gov>

Thank you for sharing the Altadena Council Filming Committee’s report and recommendations.

I will discuss with staff and ask that our County Film Office and FilmLA review and report back on how the recommendations may be implemented. In addition, I will ensure that the Altadena Town Council is provided status reports moving forward.

Again, thank you for the report and all the work you do – Altadena is fortunate to have community leaders that strive to maintain the quality of life for our Altadena residents.

Best regards,

[Signature]

Anne Chomyn <annechomyn@gmail.com>
July 5, 2017

Olorie Ezieme, Chairman
Altadena Town Council
730 E. Altadena Drive
Altadena, CA 91001

Dear Mr. Ezieme:

ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL FILMING COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Supervisor Kathryn Barger has requested that the Chief Executive Office (CEO) and FilmLA review and report back on the recommendations in your Filming Committee’s report. In preparing this response, the CEO contacted County Counsel, the Sheriff, Public Works, and the California Highway Patrol (CHP).

Based on a May 2, 2017 Board motion, County Counsel is recommending amendments to the Los Angeles County Code which would ensure County departments have the necessary enforcement authority to address violations in the film permitting process by property owners and production companies. In drafting these amendments, the County will take into consideration the Altadena Town Council Filming Committee’s recommendations.

Additional input is provided below:

- Generally, the CHP or the Sheriff are required for any filming in the Altadena area for safety and/or filming related activity, including parking.

- The following is considered when evaluating a permit:

  1. Location, duration and frequency of filming at the hosting property, including historical use;
  2. Location, duration and frequency of activity near the requested location, including parking areas;
  3. Proximity of concurrent filming activities and other activities such as street maintenance;
  4. Production company size, number of filming days requested and proposed activities, including parking; and
  5. Any other criteria that may be relevant to the specific situation.
FilmLA currently maintains notes regarding specific community issues, concerns or complaints related to such issues as generator placement and parking restrictions at specific locations.

FilmLA has a review process in place for frequently used properties. Properties of concern are currently flagged in FilmLA’s On-Line Permitting System (OPS) and requests to film at these locations require additional review and discussion with a FilmLA Operations Manager (OM). The OM will direct the FilmLA Coordinator to contact affected stakeholders to discuss the filming request, and determine next steps in addressing concerns or potential issues.

The County requires that a Community Filming Survey be done for film permit requests that film more than five consecutive days in a row or outside of the normal filming hours. The radius to be surveyed is established by FilmLA based on the location, filming activity, and parking requirements. It is the responsibility of the Production Company to conduct the survey and return the responses back to FilmLA with enough time for FilmLA to evaluate the survey package and make permit adjustments as necessary. FilmLA can arrange review of Community Film Surveys at their office.

Riders are issued for minor changes to a film permit. Riders are not used to authorize late night or all-night shoots.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Susana Graether at (213) 893-2086 or e-mail sgraether@ceo.lacounty.gov.

Sincerely,

SACHI A. HAMAI
Chief Executive Officer

SAH:JJ:DSB
DSP:acn

c: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Fifth Supervisorial District
   Mary C. Wickham, County Counsel
   Paul Audley, President, FilmLA
   Sheriff Jim McDonnell
   Mark Pestrella, Director of Public Works
   California Highway Patrol