



ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2017

Altadena Community Center, 730 East Altadena Drive
Altadena, California 91001

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:07 PM

1.1. Pledge of Allegiance _____ Heather Campbell, Altadena 4H Club

1.2. Roll Call _____ Recording Secretary, Judy Matthews

- (13) Present: Nestor De La Torre, Okorie Ezieme, Veronica Jones, Victoria Knapp, Billy Malone, Judy Matthews, Gloria Sanyika, Patricia Sutherlen, Dr. Sandra Thomas, Sylvia Vega, John E. White, Dr. Reginald Wilkins and Dorothy Wong
- (3) Excused: Jennifer Lee, Diane Marcussen and Justin Robertson
- (0) Absent/Unexcused

1.3. Approve October 17, 2017 Meeting Agenda ____ Vice Chair, Patricia Sutherlen, requests to add 7.6 Altadena Library, Mindy Kittay to the agenda. Additional requests to add to the agenda and accept as amended are Billy Malone, 6.3 Education Committee; Sylvia Vega, 8.3 Census Tract 4613; and Judy Matthews, 7.7 41st Assembly Local Government Advisory Committee.

Motion: Patricia Sutherlen
Second: Dr. Sandra Thomas
Aye: Unanimous
Abstention: None
The motion carries.

2. OFFICERS' REPORTS

2.1. Chairman _____ Okorie Okorie Ezieme shares that the goal for Altadena Town Council (ATC) is to present progressive ideas and positive engagement opportunities for the community, such as Get Healthy Altadena 2018. ATC & Men Educating Men on Health in conjunction with Congresswoman Judy Chu and other sponsors is providing FREE healthcare screenings on Saturday, February 24, 2018, 8:30 AM-4:30 PM, at the Altadena Senior Center. For more information, contact Chair Okorie Ezieme at okorie.ezieme@altadenatowncouncil.org. As part of community outreach, ATC will have a table at the Artisanal LA x Altadena Library Second Saturday Block Party, Saturday, November 11, 2017, 1:00 PM-6:00 PM. Councilmember Judy Matthews is leading the project and will provide additional information. As a result of community and council input, Public Comments have been advanced on the agenda. The parliamentary position has been added for consistency and compliance with protocol. Chair states that the education, community relations, bylaws, and website committees are in place to embrace, engage, and better serve the community. Additional committees will be announced at a later date. Councilmember De La Torre is acknowledged for his work on the website. ATC is active and represented at all community events. The community is encouraged to share ideas with their council representatives. Council members' contact information is available on the ATC website.



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Councilmember Dr. Sandra Thomas acknowledges council members and the community for all expressions of condolences received for the passing of her daughter, Felicia Wilson.

- 2.2. Vice Chairman _____ Patricia Sutherlen reports that the Executive Committee (EC) met on October 10, 2017 to finalize the agenda. In order to make a public comment, the public may fully complete a comment card and submit to council member seated at the end of the council table.
- 2.3. Recording Secretary _____ Judy Matthews
- 2.3.1. Approve September 19, 2017 proposed meeting minutes as presented.
- Motion: Judy Matthews
Second: Patricia Sutherlen
Aye: Unanimous
Abstention: None
The motion carries.
- 2.4. Treasurer _____ John E. White reports that the balance is \$2,221 and the account is in good standing. ATC is a volunteer organization and continued support is appreciated.
- 2.5. Corresponding Secretary _____ Nestor De la Torre provides a report and asks council members to ensure their contact information is correct. All updates are to be submitted to Councilmember De La Torre. The website committee continues to be engaged in updating the site. In response to council and the community, a notice will be displayed on the website to show changes. Inquiries pertaining to the website should be directed to Councilmember De La Torre at (nestor.delatorre@altadenatowncouncil.org).

3. PUBLIC SAFETY

- 3.1. California Highway Patrol _____ Officer Phillip Cooper provides a report and announces the relocation of the radar trailer to Lake Avenue and North of Altadena Drive. Officer Mike Ulloa may be contacted with requests for other locations for placement of trailers. Pedestrian targeted enforcement on Lake Avenue at Crosswalks will continue throughout the year to enforce vehicles yielding to pedestrians. Stats for September include 2 DUI arrests and 28 traffic collisions of which 23 were property damage, 5 injuries, and 0 DUI's. In response to council inquiries, it is stated that officers will continue to monitor and issue citations at downhill crosswalks on Lake Avenue that are not at signals. Council may contact Officer Ulloa or Officer Cooper for type of injuries. Reports may be provided to council and placed on the ATC website. Patrols around schools are routine. (Contact Officer Mike Ulloa at mulloa@chp.ca.gov and Officer Phillip Cooper at pcooper@chp.ca.gov.)



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- 3.2. Altadena Sheriff's Station _____ Captain Vicki Stuckey introduces new personnel, Sergeant Jaime Guerra. Lt. Carmichael Octave provides a report on crime stats and indicates a decrease in overall crime from 47 in August to 43 for September. Residential burglary decreased from 9 to 3 in the month of September. In response to council inquiry, it is stated that Altadena Sheriff's Department forms a unified command post with Altadena Fire Department, California Highway Patrol and all necessary resources to handle fire evacuations. It is also stated that for concerns regarding parking violations, the Altadena Sheriff's Station may be contacted 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- 3.3. County Fire _____ Maria Grycan, Community Services Liaison, LA County Fire Department, provides information that there is access to a mass notification information system through LA County that may be used for an area that needs to be evacuated. The Sheriff Emergency Operations Bureau generates message to all people involved. Landline phone numbers automatically in the system will receive notification. Residents may visit alert.lacounty.gov to enter up to 5 additional contacts. Residents are encouraged to monitor media alerts. Self Evacuation is a final option. The Mount Wilson fire is 10% contained due to the terrain, and there have been no threats reported. An overview of September activity is presented. In response to council inquiry, it is stated that firefighters are well equipped with personal necessities and that just a thank you from the community is greatly appreciated. Maria Grycan clarifies that LA County Fire Department has a different budget and is not affected by the State of California budget. In the event of statewide fires, a determination is made as to who receives the resources. A stats report is presented for posting.
- 3.4. CERT _____ No report.
- 3.5. Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) _____ Eric Vander Velde provides an overview of the importance of being prepared for a disaster and outreach to the local faith community. The goal is to map 10% of Altadena households, and to date, 5.3 households have been mapped. The next MYN facilitator training is Sunday, November 12, 2017, 4:00 PM at Metropolitan Baptist Church. (For reservations, email mynrsvp@gmail.com.)

[Altadena Coalition of Neighborhood Associations (ACONA) _____ Elliott Gold, as requested by Chair Ezieme, expresses that it is the responsibility of ACONA to address community issues received via meeting survey. ACONA presents five meetings a year, and the next meeting regarding traffic in the vicinity of Altadena charter schools and MYN is Tuesday, November 28, 2017, 7:00-8:30 PM at Altadena Community Center.]



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4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. "Granny" Shakur requests more information about the new sheriff representative for Altadena, and she is directed to contact the sheriff's station and/or speak with her census tract representative.

5. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- 5.1. Altadena Elementary School _____ Benita Scheckel, Principal, provides an overview of current enrollment and receiving a multi-million dollar Arts Magnet Grant. Altadena Elementary School is a new French Dual Language Immersion Program, which is identified as the most diverse program by the PUSD. Altadena Elementary School does not offer the "Wall to Wall" program in which the whole school is dual language immersion, but there is a choice for straight English or French dual languages. Ms. Scheckel welcomes partnerships with community leaders and organizations to participate in school programs and to tour the newly renovated campus to learn more about special programs. Tours are conducted once a month.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 6.1. Land Use Committee _____ Chair Ezieme reports on behalf of Diane Marcussen. There were no items calendared for October 7, 2017.
- 6.2. Filming Committee _____ Dr. Anne Chomyn, Chair, provides a report. The filming committee meets once a month and the committee has a new member, Councilmember Victoria Knapp. The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) is completed and has been sent to those individuals cited in the document for review. The FAQ is a summary of questions and answers acquired from various agencies and others involved in filming. The FAQ will be submitted to Altadena Town Council (ATC) and posted on the ATC website. The purpose is to encourage constituents to reach out to council representatives to address concerns regarding filming. An advance copy of the FAQ will be provided to Chair Ezieme. In response to council's inquiry, residents are directed to contact the location manager or law enforcement regarding location filming vehicles parked in the right of way. (For more information, contact altadenafilmingcommittee@gmail.com.)
- 6.3. Education Committee _____ Councilmember Billy Malone reports on behalf of Jennifer Lee. The committee meets monthly at the Altadena Community Center. On November 3 and 4, Eliot Arts Magnet Academy has a fundraiser at Pizza of Venice, 2545 N. Fair Oaks Avenue. When diners present flyer, the restaurant will donate a percentage of the bill to the school. Eliot Arts Magnet's Fall Festival is Sunday, October 29, 2017, 2:00 PM-6:00 PM. Tickets for games and food are available for pre-sale Monday-Friday, October 23-October 27, before school. Pre-sale tickets are \$5 for 10. (For more information, contact Eliot Arts Magnet Academy at 626-396-5680.)



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7. ALTADENA COMMUNITY REPORTS

- 7.1. LA County Department of Parks and Recreation _____ Meliza Hernandez, District Manager, LA County Parks and Recreation, Altadena, provides an overview of Halloween activities: (1) Trunk or Treat, Farnsworth Park, corner of Concha Street and Lake Avenue, Tuesday, October 31, 5:00 PM-7:30 PM; (2) Teen Club Halloween Dance, Loma Alta Park, Saturday, October 28, 7:00 PM-10:00 PM; (3) Spooky Halloween Celebration, Loma Alta Park, Tuesday, October 31, 5:30 PM-7:30 PM; and (4) games, prizes and contests, Charles White Park, Tuesday, October 31, 5:00 PM-7:00 PM. (For more information on park programs and activities, please visit parks.lacounty.gov or call (626) 398-5451.)
- 7.2. Chamber of Commerce _____ Councilmember Billy Malone provides a report and informs the community of the Altadena Historical Society fundraiser at Mount Lowe Brewing Company, 150 East Saint Joseph Street, Arcadia, on Thursday, October 26, 2017, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM. The chamber's annual dinner and awards ceremony recognizing Citizen and Business of the Year is Friday, February 9, 2018, at Altadena Country Club. Applications for Citizen of the Year will be issued soon. Business of the Year nominees must be a member of the chamber and selected through the chamber. Councilmember Malone shares the new logo for Altadena Chamber of Commerce. (For more information on chamber events, visit www.altadenachamber.org.)
- 7.3. Collaborate PASadena _____ Councilmember Gloria Sanyika provides a report and presents an overview of the September 18, 2017 community summit and September 27, 2017 meeting. The Pasadena Unified School District has been awarded a \$14.5 million Magnet School Assistance Program grant from the U.S. Department of Education to support programs that promote diversity and increase student achievement at Altadena Elementary School, Washington Elementary STEM Magnet School and John Muir High School.
- 7.4. Southern California Edison (SCE) _____ Councilmember Patricia Sutherlen provides a report on behalf of David Ford, Government Affairs Manager. In response to council's inquiry on September 19, 2017, it is clarified that the state of California requires a minimum 4 foot tree clearance around power lines since the lines may sag from high temperatures and sway from the wind. SCE will trim trees to provide clearance to accommodate the sagging and swaying to save trees from repeated line clearance.
- Councilmember Jones asks residents to review SCE monthly bill for possible credit. For more information regarding the credit, contact the number located on SCE bill.
- 7.5. Altadena Historical Society (AHS) _____ Rob Hallwachs provides an overview of AHS. AHS is a non-profit organization founded in 1935 and is one of the oldest volunteer organizations in the county. On Monday, October 23, 2017, at 7:30 PM, Biographer Ronald C. Woolsey will be at the Altadena Community Center to discuss the



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life of Will Thrall, who dedicated his life to the preservation of the San Gabriel Mountains. The Altadena Historical Society fundraiser is Thursday, October 26, 2017, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM at the Mount Lowe Brewing Company in Arcadia. AHS will receive 10% of proceeds. Volunteers are welcomed at the AHS. For more information on AHS and upcoming events, visit www.altadenahistoricalsociety.org.

- 7.6. Altadena Library _____ Mindy Kittay provides a report. Upcoming events are: (1) Story Hour at Farmers' Market every Wednesday, (2) Community Conversation-Cocktails and Conversation, Wednesday, October 18, 2017, 7:00 PM-8:30 PM, at Altadena Ale & Wine House, and (3) Community Conversation-Coffee Conversations, Saturday, October 21, 2017, 9:00 AM-10:30 AM at Sidewalk Café. Community Conversation opportunities will be offered in the morning and evening of the third Wednesday and Saturday of each month in various locations. Mindy Kittay announces that Altadena Library received Pasadena Weekly Readers' Best of Pasadena 2017. The net revenue received from Taste of Dena is \$13,300.00. Covered California Health Insurance resources will be available during Open Enrollment, November 1 – January 31, 2018.

Council members are invited to attend the library's board meeting on Monday, October 23, 2017, at 5:00 PM and share comments about the library. In response to posting information on the community calendar, events are posted by the user. Councilmember Nestor De La Torre offers assistance to council. The community is encouraged to post community events. For more information on programs and events, visit www.altadenalibrary.org.

- 7.7. 41st Assembly Local Government-Advisory Committee _____ Councilmember Judy Matthews reports that the Altadena Homeless Count is Tuesday, January 23, 2018, 8:00 PM-11:00 PM. LA County Parks and Recreation will determine the deployment site for Altadena. The community is asked to get involved in the 2018 count. Sponsors will be announced at the November meeting. Former council member Anne Lansing was a panelist for No More Homeless Women in the City of Pasadena on Sunday, October 15, 2017, at All Saints Church.

A Veterans Day event is being held at Two Strike Park in La Crescenta on Saturday, November 11, 2017, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM.

Southern California Women's Health/Beauty and Empowerment Conference & Exposition is Friday, November 3, 2017, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM, at the Pasadena Hilton Hotel. For more information, visit www.thesocalhealthconference.org or contact Lena L. Kennedy at (626) 765-6206.



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8. CENSUS TRACT REPORTS

8.1. 4603.01 Councilmember Dorothy Wong provides a report on Altadena Crest Trail Restoration Working Group's progress addressing Lincoln Avenue Safety Roadside route, Loma Alta Park South to Altadena Drive to Hahamongna Watershed Park. The purpose is to enhance safety for trail users, pedestrians, and students of Aveson Charter School walking to and from Loma Alta Park adjacent to traffic on Lincoln. LA County Department of Public Works-Road Maintenance Division is discussing the possibility of reclassifying the road. Another proposed improvement is the Shady Lane connection and crosswalk at Sunset Ridge Road. The Altadena Crest Trail Restoration Working Group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Altadena Community Center. The next meeting is Tuesday, November 14, 2017, 7:00 PM.

Devil's Gate Reservoir Sediment Removal and Management Project Update: A meeting is scheduled for Saturday, October 28, 2017, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM at the Altadena Community Center. For more information, visit www.devilsgateproject.com.

8.2. 4603.02 _____ No report.

8.3. 4611 Councilmember Sylvia Vega reports that there has been positive feedback on the new take-out restaurant, Baja Cali Fish and Tacos, located at the corner of Washington Boulevard and Valencia Avenue. Council members have met with the owner/manager to address parking congestion concerns. The Altadena Sheriff's Department is monitoring the situation. Census tract representatives are working with LA County for updates on concerns.

Comments from the Chair: Chair Okorie reminds the public of the Altadena Market Place hearing that will be before LA County Department of Regional Planning on Wednesday, October 25, 2017, 9:00 AM.

Procedures for community participation to lead the Pledge of Allegiance at monthly Altadena Town council meetings are being drafted for council review and consideration.

9. ADJOURNMENT 8.54 PM

Motion: Nestor De La Torre

Second: Dr. Sandra Thomas

Aye: Unanimous

The motion carries.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

By: _____ 11/21/17
Judy A. Matthews, Recording Secretary/Councilmember 4603.01