



ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2017

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

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:07 PM

1.1. Pledge of Allegiance _____ Charlotte McDonald, Ava Rubbo and
Lavinia Shong, 5th Graders
High Point Academy, Girl Scout Troop # 201

1.2. Roll Call _____ Recording Secretary, Judy Matthews

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

1.3. Approve November 21, 2017 Meeting Agenda _____ Vice Chair, Patricia Sutherlen, requests to add 6.3 Education Committee and 7.6 41st Assembly District Local Government-Advisory Committee. Dr. Sandra Thomas requests Community Relations Committee is added to agenda and placed monthly for permanent reporting. Item 6.4 Community Relations Committee is added and will be placed permanently on monthly agendas. Vice Chair motions to accept the agenda as amended.

Motion: Patricia Sutherlen
Aye: Unanimous
Abstention: None
The motion carries.

2. OFFICERS' REPORTS

2.1. Chairman _____ Okorie Ezieme shares that the goal for Altadena Town Council (ATC) is to present progressive ideas and community engagement opportunities. It is the duty of ATC to be accessible, actively engaged and visible in the community. Chair Ezieme acknowledges veterans and their families in attendance. ATC is seeking the name of the oldest living veteran in Altadena to be recognized. Chair shares some of the events council members attended within the last month, including Chair Ezieme and Councilmember Victoria Knapp's participation in a guided tour by Joe Gaydosh, LA County Department of Public Works, regarding tree removal and concrete pavement, an Eliot Magnet School fundraiser, and Congresswoman Judy Chu's (CA-27) Annual Congressional Recognition of Excellence Award (CREA). CREA is a Los Angeles County program showcasing and recognizing various ways Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) federal funding is used in Los Angeles County communities. Bright Futures Scholars and Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation were recognized at the event. On November 9, 2017, Chair Ezieme attended a panel on senior health hosted by Assemblymember Chris Holden. ATC & Men Educating Men About 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. Members of the community are



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encouraged to direct community concerns to council representatives. For more information or to submit the name of a living veteran 95 years or older, contact Chair Okorie Ezieme at okorie.ezieme@altadenatowncouncil.org.

- 2.2. Vice Chairman _____ Patricia Sutherlen reports that the Executive Committee (EC) met on November 14, 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.

[Chair extends a holiday greeting to the community and an invitation to the December ATC meeting and holiday gathering on Tuesday, December 19, 2017.]

- 2.3. Recording Secretary _____ Judy Matthews
2.3.1. Approve October 17, 2017 proposed meeting minutes as presented.

Motion: Judy Matthews
Second: Patricia Sutherlen
Aye: Unanimous
Abstention: 2
The motion carries.

- 2.4. Treasurer _____ No report.
- 2.5. Corresponding Secretary _____ Nestor De La Torre provides a report and shares correspondence received from the community. Norma Ramirez, Pasadena Foothill Association of Realtors, provided the 2017 3rd Quarter Market Trends Report for Pasadena/Altadena area. Congresswoman Judy Chu (CA-27) and Mike Eng's Annual Holiday Party and Toy Drive is Sunday, December 3, 2017, 1:00 PM-3:00 PM, Arcadia Elks Lodge 2025, 27 W. Huntington Drive, Arcadia. Attendees are asked to bring unwrapped new toys to benefit needy children and local organizations. For more information or to RSVP, contact Becky Cheng at (626) 667-4699 or rsvpforjudychu@gmail.com.

The website committee continues updating the site. Approved ATC and Land Use Committee minutes are being placed in a central location. Inquiries pertaining to the website should be directed to Councilmember De La Torre (nestor.delatorre@altadenatowncouncil.org). Chair Ezieme acknowledges Councilmember De La Torre for his diligence in updating the website.

3. PUBLIC SAFETY

- 3.1. California Highway Patrol _____ Officer Mike Ulloa provides a report and introduces new officer, Paul Patton. In October, there were 41 traffic collisions with 22 sustaining property damage, 9 injuries, 2 DUI arrests, 2 vehicle/pedestrian, and 1



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vehicle/bicyclist traffic collision. There was an increase in hit and runs involving parked cars. The enforcement report shows 22 citations issued, including unsafe speed, seat belts and cell phone usage. In response to council's inquiries, it is stated that a radar trailer with "School Zone" signage will be placed in the Jackson Elementary School area of Woodbury Road and Casitas Avenue/Crosby Street and at Windsor Avenue and Figueroa Drive. Officer Ulloa will contact LA County to request pavement embedded flashing-light systems are placed in the roadway at the areas. The designated sites to drop off toys for Altadena California Highway Patrol's CHIPs for KIDS Toy Drive are identified on the flyer which will be posted on ATC's website. The community is reminded to drive safely and designate a driver.

- 3.2. Altadena Sheriff's Station _____ Lt. Carmichael Octave provides a report on crime stats and indicates a decrease in overall crime from 43 in September to 37 in October. Larceny thefts decreased from 15 to 10 in the month, and vehicle theft decreased from 10 to 6. In response to council's inquiries, it is stated that hedging and height deter residential burglary, and the presence of sidewalks in front of a home is not a deterrent against crime. It is further stated that time of day and obstruction of visibility will impact crime. Residents are asked to report alleged crimes to Sheriff Station and not social media. Robbery strong-arm is defined as the taking of property or stealing something from a person by using force or threats but without use of a weapon. Toys for Altadena Sheriff Station's Christmas Toy Drive may be dropped off at the station up to Christmas.
- 3.3. County Fire _____ Maria Grycan, Community Services Liaison, LA County Fire Department, provides a report for October. LA County Fire department does not have a way to distinguish between bicyclists and pedestrians when reporting. These reports are shown as pedestrians. LA County Fire Department and ABC7 are hosting Spark of Love Toy Drive. Non-profit organizations and churches in need of toys for children may visit fire.lacounty.gov to complete an application. In response to council's inquires, the difference between property and content fires is explained as property is the house and content is the personal belongings inside the house. Maria Grycan will speak with Councilmember Robertson regarding request to provide traffic collision locations on pedestrian vs. bicyclist incidents in reports. The October report is being submitted for posting to website.
- 3.4. CERT _____ No report.
- 3.5. Map Your Neighborhood _____ Eric Vander Velde provides an overview of the importance of being prepared for a disaster and acknowledges the success of the facilitator training at Metropolitan Baptist Church. Additional facilitator training is every other month starting January 2018. (For reservations, email mynrsvp@gmail.com.)



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4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. "Granny" Shakur expresses concern regarding the liquor license for Grocery Outlet, the new market coming to the vacant Ralph Grocery Store lot. She is directed to attend the Land Use Committee's December 5, 2017 meeting.

Jazmin Jimenez, Day One's Health Policy Coordinator, introduces the community-based nonprofit organization. Day One provides culturally sensitive public health education, raises awareness about underage drinking and youth access to alcohol, intervention, policy development, empowering youth and igniting change. (For information on upcoming events, visit godayone.org.)

5. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- 5.1. Pasadena Showcase House _____ Vicki Sung provides an overview of Showcase House and announces its return to Altadena after a 16 year-hiatus. Showcase House will be open to the public April 22, 2018 to May 20, 2018, Saturday through Thursday, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, and Friday, 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM, excluding Mondays. The Showcase House is closed Mondays for media visits. Showcase House will take possession of the home in January, and the construction period is three months. In response to council's inquiries, Showcase House is working with Los Angeles County on permits. Off site parking will be provided at Santa Anita Race Track with shuttle transportation to the Showcase House. In addition, there will be fundraising opportunities for arts education by musical participants from Altadena, Jackson, Franklin and Webster Elementary Schools, and the Showcase will coordinate traffic concerns with the Filming Committee. (For more information, visit www.PasadenaShowcase.org or call (626) 578-8500.)

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 6.1. Land Use Committee _____ Chair Diane Marcussen reports that the November 7, 2017 meeting was a presentation and discussion on LaVina II Project's outreach and conditions. Councilmember Judy Matthews provided a report to bring council members current on the project. Tuesday, December 5, 2017, LUC meeting agenda includes a presentation from Grocery Outlet. Grocery Outlet will be located at 2270 Lake Avenue and is applying for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to sell alcohol. The presentation on the property at 638 West Mariposa Street is a proposal for subdividing one lot into a four-lot plot plan. In response to a resident's inquiry regarding the status of development at the corner of (Morada Place and Lake Avenue), if a property can go into a location without any conditional use permits, it is handled by the LA County and does not come before the LUC. The resident's contact information and query on the Grocery Outlet will be presented to Daniel Harlow, LUC Representative for Census Tract 4612.



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- 6.2. Filming Committee_____ Dr. Anne Chomyn, Chair, provides names of committee members: Councilmember Patricia Sutherlen, Councilmember Victoria Knapp, and community members Kenneth Meyer and Dr. Anne Chomyn. The Filming Committee met in November and created a new mission statement. The Mission Statement was approved by the Executive Committee and is read into the record. The committee agreed to meet as needed but at least every two months. Dr. Chomyn reports that the completed Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) report was presented October 17, 2017 to representatives of Film LA, Department of Public Works, Altadena California Highway Patrol and Altadena Sheriff's Station. There were no corrections or revisions received prior to the report being presented to ATC Executive Committee for review, distribution and posting on the website. Suggested revisions were received from Film LA after the FAQ was submitted to the Executive Committee.

The completed FAQ is updated periodically, and the Filming Committee suggests that since the report is based on conversations, emails and county documents, the FAQ is accurate and that the first update may take some time. It is the recommendation of the Filming Committee that the current report be reviewed by council members as is.

Councilmember De La Torre requests that the Mission Statement is provided for posting on the website. In response to council's inquiry, Chair Ezieme indicates that the report was just received, but once the Executive Committee has reviewed it, it will be presented to the entire body for feedback. (For more information, visit altadenafilming.org or contact committee at altadenafilmingcommittee@gmail.com.)

- 6.3. Education Committee_____ Councilmember Jennifer Lee reports that Altadena Elementary School is hosting a neighborhood mixer for residents within the school boundaries on January 21, 2018 at a private residence. The purpose of the event is to introduce the school to residents. Flyers will be made available for the public at the December meeting. The committee will host a second town hall meeting in January. The date is to be determined. Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at the Altadena Community Center. Flyers and reports to be provided to Councilmember Nestor De La Torre for website update.

[Chair Ezieme requests a joint meeting with the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) and the Education Committee.]

- 6.4 Community Relations Committee_____ Councilmember Dr. Sandra Thomas, Chair, provides names of committee members: Councilmember Judy Matthews, Councilmember Dr. Sandra Thomas, and community member Elliot Gold. The purpose of the committee is to encourage a sense of connection and neighborliness with council and the community, to communicate shared information to council and community about upcoming events not reported by council, and to report outcomes and results of different events. The community is encouraged to reach out to their representatives regarding needs and concerns. It is the committee's intent to celebrate and



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acknowledge citizens of Altadena in conjunction with other organizations. Council members are acknowledged for their attendance at recent community events and the positive responses received from the community. Due to discussion on school closures and consolidations, the community requests that ATC regularly reports on the PUSD's schools within prospective census tracts. Chair Ezieme has received and provided the request to the chair of the Education Committee.

At the request of Councilmember Thomas, Councilmember Nestor De La Torre reports that resident Gary McCarthy approached him about a mural to be placed at Lincoln Center, located on Lincoln Avenue and Altadena Drive. Mr. McCarthy questions if council will be present for the unveiling and to present a certificate of recognition. Councilmember Marcussen encourages census tract representatives to follow up with the appropriate party and LA County to ensure permits have been approved before requesting involvement from council.

7. ALTADENA COMMUNITY REPORTS

- 7.1. Altadena Library _____ Mindy Kittay, Director, provides a report and shares the success of the block party. Open Mic Night is the last Tuesday of each month. The annual year-end (June 30, 2017) audit, will be reported at the November board meeting. Ms. Kittay provides a brief overview of the financial report, which includes a net profit increase of \$578,571.00, and acknowledges achievements during the past three years. (For more information on events and annual audit, visit www.altadenalibrary.org.)
- 7.2. Chamber of Commerce _____ No report.
- 7.3. Collaborate PASadena _____ Councilmember Gloria Sanyika provides a report and presents an overview of the October 25, 2017 meeting. A presentation by Dr. Marisa Sarian addressed Linked Learning and preparing students for college, career and life. A discussion on strategies to help students reduce college debt was held. The next meeting is December 6, 2017. (For more information, email gloria.sanyika@altadenatowncouncil.org.)
- 7.4. LA County Department of Parks & Recreation _____ No report.
- 7.5. Southern California Edison (SCE) _____ David Ford, Government Affairs Manager, provides an overview of challenges on the major upgrade of the infrastructure regarding replacing eight circuits and increasing the voltage on each from 4kV to 16kV. Mr. Ford indicates SCE's commitment to better communication with the community. SCE is committed to promptly addressing issues and engaging more stakeholders, Altadena Town Council, and other communities who are sensitive to the infrastructure path of the circuits. SCE is dedicated to delivering a clean energy future for the State of California. There are three remaining circuits, and SCE will be working



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with council and LA County to minimize impact and duration of outages as the holiday season approaches. In response to council's inquiry, SCE will give more accuracy and duration of outages, and pending rate increase will be addressed before ATC. (For more information on the project, contact Mr. David Ford at (818) 585-9149 or david.a.ford@sce.com.)

Mr. Ford announces that SCE International is awarding \$40,000 scholarships to 30 high school seniors who want to make a difference in the world by studying science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) in college. The deadline is December 1, 2017. Information will be provided to chair of the Education Committee for distribution to council. For more information, visit <https://www.edison.com/home/community/edison-scholars.html>.

- 7.6 41st Assembly Local Government-Advisory Committee _____ Councilmember Judy Matthews reports that the Altadena Homeless Count is Tuesday, January 23, 2018, 8:00-11:00 PM at Loma Alta Park, the deployment site for Altadena. Committed sponsors and supporters are announced. Committee members are Councilmember Judy Matthews, Councilmember Dorothy Wong, and community representatives, Anne Lansing and Pamela Burton. For more information and to sign up for the Altadena Count, visit www.theycountwillyou.org.

A transportation hearing on "Advancing Sustainability in Regional Transportation Projects" was held November 22, 2017. Assemblymember Holden joins California Water Association to provide Thanksgiving dinners for Flintridge Center Families. The community is invited to attend the Open House & Shoe Drive, Tuesday, December 12, 2017, 5:30-7:30 PM, 600 N. Rosemead Boulevard, Suite 117, Pasadena. For more information, call (626) 351-1917.

8. CENSUS TRACT REPORTS

8.1 4601 ___ Councilmember Victoria Knapp reports that on October 25, 2017 the Regional Planning Committee met to discuss Altadena Marketplace's proposed Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the sell of beer and wine. The committee voted in favor to approve and extend the term of the CUP from 5 years to 10 years. LA County Department of Public Works' concrete curb repair tree removal project is continuing throughout the month of December. The project identifies trees that are causing significant damage to curbs and sidewalks in the public right-of-way. If determined the trees cannot be root pruned, the trees are removed, and curbs and sidewalks are repaired. The original project sought 60 trees for removal. After receiving feedback from the community, LA County scaled back the tree count to 21 and then again to 15. The removal of 15 trees will be completed the week of November 20, 2017. Affected homeowners were offered replacement trees at LA County's expense. In response to council's inquiry, all census tract representatives will be provided a list of trees and locations in their area for a walk through.



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8.2. 4603.01 ____ Councilmember Dorothy Wong reports that on November 7, 2017, the LA County Board of Supervisors approved a scaled down sediment removal project for the Devil's Gate Dam, reducing the maximum total volume of sediment removed by 700,000 cubic yards. Instead of 2.4 million cubic yards, the project was reduced to remove a maximum of 1.7 cubic yards from the Hahamongna Watershed Park.

In addition to other tasks, LA County Department of Public Works (DPW) will assist the US Army Corps of Engineers in completing the Arroyo Seco Ecosystem Restoration Study, including the provision of funds in an amount of \$2.5 million; coordinate with City of Pasadena to improve stormwater capture and groundwater replenishment at the reservoir and within the Arroyo Seco Spreading Grounds; and provide Board of Supervisors an annual report on the cost and progress on the sediment removal project and all changes covered in the revised Environment Impact Report (EIR). In response to council's inquiry, the pipeline project on New York Drive is not going forward at this time. Mature trees within the project will be moved to facilities in Sunland and sediment moved to Irwindale. Council members and the community are encouraged to get involved.

Councilmember Wong expresses gratitude for the support of Supervisor Kathryn Barger.

Councilmember Judy Matthews reports that "No Parking" signs have been installed on Altadena Drive. There is no parking on Altadena Drive between Lincoln Avenue and Olive Avenue on the north side of the street on Thursdays from 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM and on the south side of the street on Wednesdays from 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM. This was done to clean up debris near the sidewalks and to make Altadena streets more beautiful, safe and clean. The report reflects the completion of Damon Hobdy's 2016-17 no parking signage project.

8.3 4610 ____ Councilmember Veronica Jones reports on street signs placed in census tract. LA County removed three extra signs. Signage is being placed in the area of Jackson Elementary School. Traffic issues along Windsor Avenue and Ventura Street are being addressed. There are jobs available for the Devil's Gate Dam Project, and Councilmember Jones requested outreach for local hiring. Dirt from the Big Dig will not affect the residents or homes during construction. The project is not scheduled to begin before Spring 2018. In response to council's inquiry, it is stated that the center turn lane on Windsor Avenue from Ventura Street to Woodbury Road for bicyclists will be addressed with LA County Department of Public Works. To learn more about Jackson Elementary School's holiday fundraiser to raise money for a parking guard, visit (<https://www.jacksonwinterfestival.com/tree-sales>).

[Public Comments: Ms. "Granny" Shakur expresses concern regarding traffic on Ventura Street and Windsor Avenue blocking residents from exiting their property on Mountain Avenue.]

8.4 4602 ____ Nancy Rothwell, resident, reports Palm Street Area Residents' (PSARA) 7th Annual Holiday Food and Toy Drive will take place on Saturday, December 9, 2017, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.



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9. ADJOURNMENT 9:19 PM

Motion: Dr. Sandra Thomas

Second: Patricia Sutherlen

Aye: Unanimous

The motion carries.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

By: _____

Judy A. Matthews, Recording Secretary/Councilmember 4603.01