



# Altadena

## Town Council

### ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL

#### Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2020

7:00 p.m.

(Virtual)

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER 7:05 PM

1.1 Introduction \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman, Billy Malone

The August 18, 2020 meeting of the Altadena Town Council was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman Malone. The Chair noted that the meeting was being hosted by Pasadena Media.

1.2 Roll Call \_\_\_\_\_ Veronica Jones

Councilmember Jones called roll. The following councilmembers were present: Okorie Ezieme, Patricia Sutherlen, Dorothy Wong, Gloria Sanyika, Billy Malone, Victoria Knapp, Diane Marcussen, Antonio Becerra, Nick Santangelo, Jeff Simmonds, Veronica Jones, Dr. Sandra Thomas, Jennifer Lee; Sylvia Vega Reginald Wilkins (15 present). Councilmember Arron Tschida was absent.

1.3 Approve August 18, 2020 Agenda \_\_\_\_\_ Pat Sutherlen

The agenda for the August 18, 2020 meeting was voted on and approved with the following additions a special report by Sam Estrada on voting, Anders Corey presenting the Altadena Public Health report and a census tract report for CT 4603 by Councilmember Wong.

#### 2. OFFICERS' REPORT

2.1 Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Billy Malone

Chairman Malone updated the community on the occurrence of rolling black-outs that may be called during extreme and potentially dangerous weather conditions. Up-to date information on black-outs will be placed on the ATC website.

The Chairman reported Field Deputy Sussy Nemer has terminated her employment with Supervisor Barger. Ms. Nemer will be truly missed by the Altadena Community and the town council. Savanna Moore will be acting Field Deputy for Kathryn Barger.

2.2 Vice Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Pat Sutherlen

Vice Chair Sutherlen stated all public comment emailed to her in advance would be read into the record under Section 7. General Public Comment. There were four public comments received for this meeting.

2.3 Recording Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Veronica Jones

2.3.1. Approve July 21, 2020 meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of July 21, 2020. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved as presented in final form. The minutes will be available on the web-site.

2.4 Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ Jennifer Lee

The ATC checking account has a balance of \$2,118.20. The account is balanced and in good standing. The report was accepted as presented.

2.5 Corresponding Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Dorothy Wong

Corresponding Secretary Wong encouraged the community to contact her to have community events placed on the ATC website. She shared information regarding the U.S. Census deadline. The deadline has been shortened to September 30<sup>th</sup> the previous deadline was October 30<sup>th</sup>.

Altadena Community events can be view on the web-site:  
[altadenatowncouncil.org](http://altadenatowncouncil.org)

All Town Council meetings are recorded and can be viewed on YouTube.

3 PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

3.1 California Highway Patrol \_\_\_\_\_ Vince Ramirez, CHP

Public Information Officer Vince Ramirez gave an update on CHP stats for the month of July.

Altadena traffic stats for the month of June includes eight property damage incidents, three accidents with injuries, four hit and runs and one DUI. Anyone needing help with child safety seat training can go to: <https://www.safekids.org>

The CHP office is open for business but no one is allowed inside the building. Using the doorbell at the entrance alerts officers when someone is outside seeking service.

### 3.2 Altadena Sheriff's Station \_\_\_\_\_ Capt. Jacobs

Capt. Jacobs reported crime in Altadena was down by 24% compared to last July. There was one homicide on August 2. Two individuals were arrested in connection with the homicide. The investigation is ongoing.

Altadena July crime stats include six aggregated assaults. Grand theft auto is down 26% during this time period. There were five incidents of grand-theft auto, mostly for catalytic converters. Thieves looking for catalytic converters are less likely to steal from cars in parked driveways. Petty theft has increased at hiking trails. She urged everyone to be vigilant in protecting their property while hiking. The Captain reported on a fire at a local barber shop is under investigation and with no conclusion to what caused the fire has been made.

### 3.3 Altadena Fire \_\_\_\_\_ No Report

L. A. County Fire Department. web-site. [www.fire.lacounty.gov](http://www.fire.lacounty.gov)

### 3.4 Special Report \_\_\_\_\_ Sam Estrada

Mr. Estrada reported on new ballot drop boxes which will be placed at Charles White and Farmsworth Park from October 24-November 3, 2020. The boxes allow 24-hour access for dropping off voting ballots. The ballot boxes are secured and bolted on cement slabs. The boxes are being put in place by the Register Records Office to ensure access to voting during COVID-19.

## 4. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

### 4.1 Altadena Health during COVID-19 \_\_\_\_\_ Andres Covey-L.A. County

Mr. Covey commented L.A. County case numbers for COVID-19 were trending in the right direction. He reported the following regarding COVID-19.

The rate for positive cases has been reduced from 12% to 5.5%. Hospitalization for the virus is down 37%. Testing capacity is good and continues to decline. The reopening of schools in the class rooms is a priority for the county. The transmission of the virus must continue to go down to ensure reopening of the schools. The virus' financial impact on the County's economy is being considered and reviewed.

Mr. Covey comment on the regulation of leaf blowers, a concern received in a letter to the ATC from Altadena citizen Ann Chomyn. He reported that the County is looking into the regulation of leaf blowers and the effect of such regulations. If regulations on how leaf blowers are used, they would have to be initiated County wide. The regulation could not be for the Altadena community alone.



## 5. ALTADENA COMMUNITY REPORTS

### 5.1 Altadena Library \_\_\_\_\_ Nikki Winslow

Library, Director Nikki Winslow gave an update on activities of the library.

The library has extended it's curbside service to includ Bob Lucas Branch. The library is offering remote printing and copying services. Lap-tops and hot-spots are available to library users.

Director Winslow presented an overview of Measure Z, a proposed ballot measure for the November 3, 2020 election. This measure would establish a Community Facilities District to help generate local funding for programs, resources for the community, repair and upgrades to both branches.

This year's Taste of 'Dena will be presented as an online watch party on September 26, 2020 at 7:00pm.

Please check library web-site for all library activities:

<http://www.altadenalibrary.org>

### 5.2 L.A. County Parks and Recreation \_\_\_\_\_ Sam Estrada

Mr. Estrada reported that summer camps had limited enrollment due to COVID-19 guidelines. After school programs will start September 14<sup>th</sup> and will be offered Monday-Friday. The Parks will be partnering with schools for the before school and after school program. PAD In-Motion is offered very Thursday evening from 5:00-8:00 p.m. and Saturday morning from 8:00-11:00 a.m. Streets around Loma Alta Park are closed to allow families, walkers, bikers and horseback riders full access to streets.

More information: <https://parks.lacounty.gov>

### 5.3 Altadena Chamber of Commerce \_\_\_\_\_ No Report

## 6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 6.1 Land Use Committee \_\_\_\_\_ Diane Marcussen

Land Use Committee Chair, Diane Marcussen reported on the Land Use Committee.

The Land Use Committee met and review an item at the August meeting but took no action. The Committee will be reviewing and voting on the land use item at the September meeting.

## 6.2 Election Committee\_\_\_\_\_ Veronica Jones

Councilmember Jones gave an update on the election.

Due to the current crises and county's "stay at home order" the election has been moved to be aligned with the national election in November, 2020. Terms for current council members have been extended until new members are sworn in after the election 2020.

Altadena Town Council members received a copy of proposed "Election Rules" for the election year 2020. The election rules can be found on the Altadena Town Council web-page.

The dates for voting were voted on and approved, early voting will be November 3<sup>rd</sup> and regular voting November 7<sup>th</sup>. Applications will be available on the web-site as of September 14<sup>th</sup>.

The following individuals have agreed to serve on the Election Committee:

Antonio Bercerra  
Bridget Brewster  
Karen Gibson  
Gloria Sanyika  
Victoria Knapp  
Nick Santangelo

Updates will be continued to be available through our website and virtual council meetings.

## 6.3 Safe Streets\_\_\_\_\_ Dorothy Wong

Councilmember Wong shared on the Safe Streets Committee.

The County has a "Slow Streets" program. The program is a response to COVID-19 allowing streets to be safer by reducing speeds and car traffic. This program is being researched for streets in Altadena.

Councilmember Wong reported on Vision Zero an action plan developed to help with efforts to increase traffic safety in unincorporated Los Angeles County communities. The Safe Streets Committee is keeping Altadena informed on County's initiatives on making our streets safer.

7. General Public Comment \_\_\_\_\_ Pat Sutherlen

Anne Chomyn – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Program- Going Green  
Elliot Gold – Leaf blowers  
Joy Walters – Leaf blowers  
Vickie Thompson – Leaf blowers

Census Tract Report

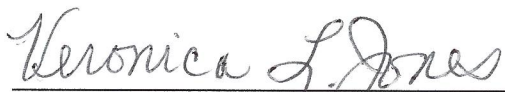
8. Census Tract 4603.01

Councilmember Wong share information regarding Altadenans coming together to raise \$19,862.00 through a go-fund me account for the victim of a fire at a local business. The Altadena Farmers Market provides outreach for seniors on Wednesdays, giving away 30 boxes of fruit and vegetables. Councilmember Wong is collaborating with the Forestry Service on cleaning up trails.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn meeting. The motion was unanimously passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. The entire meeting is available for viewing on YouTube.

APPROVED AS TO FINAL FORM AND CONTENT:



Veronica L. Jones, Recording Secretary