



ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2015

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

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:05

- 1.1. Pledge of Allegiance _____ Councilman Billy Malone
- 1.2. Roll Call _____ Recording Secretary, Damon L. Hobdy
- 1.2.1. (11) Present: John White, Damon Hobdy, Judy Matthews, Michelle Martinez, Amy Cienfuegos, Patricia Sutherlen, Sylvia Vega, Diane Marcussen, Jennifer Lee, Billy Malone, Jamie Bissner
- (4) Excused: Gretchen Seager, Brent Musson, Okorie Ezieme, Gloria Sanyika
- (1) Absent/Unexcused: Ron Adams
- 1.3. Approve April 21, 2015 Meeting Agenda___Damon Hobdy moves/Jamie Bissner seconded-unanimous.

2. OFFICERS' REPORTS

- 2.1 Chairman _____ Diane Marcussen no report.
- 2.2 Vice Chairman _____ Chair Diane Marcussen reports for Okorie Ezieme and states that the Executive Committee met and set forth the April 21, 2015 Agenda that was distributed to the community. Also, there are comment cards for anyone that wants to comment on items on the Agenda or for general public comment.
- 2.3 Recording Secretary _____ Damon L. Hobdy
- 2.3.1 Approve March 15, 2015, Meeting Minutes___Damon Hobdy states that the minutes as distributed were Amended to include changes suggested by Chair Diane Marcussen. Damon Hobdy moves to approve the Meeting Minutes as Amended, Billy Malone seconded-unanimous.
- 2.4 Treasurer _____ Amy Cienfuegos reports concerning the bank account balance as of March 2015. Also, Councilperson Cienfuegos indicates to the community that the ATC operates strictly on donations.
- 2.5 Corresponding Secretary _____ Billy Malone reports and reminds the community that Eliot Arts Magnet Middle School will have its grand re-opening at 5:30 p.m., on Thursday, April 30, 2015. All are encouraged to attend.

3. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

- 3.1 California Highway Patrol Officer Bejar reports concerning the stats for March 2015. There were 20 traffic collisions in Altadena for March 2015 (10 were property damage, 8 were injury, and 2 DUI related). Year to date in Altadena, there were 59 traffic collisions. CHP wrote a total of 76 citations in March 2015 and there are 223 citations written year to date. In February 2015, there were 19 traffic collisions. Last year in March 2014, there were 7 DUI arrests, so DUI arrests are down from last year. Officer Bejar also reports concerning the "Cheaters Program" run by the CHP that looks for people trying to dodge California registrations fees. Community members can anonymously report any persons. Also, April is distracted driving month. Distracted driving



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is not just texting and driving. It also includes eating, drinking, and anything that takes one's eye off the road. The community is encouraged to report distracted drivers.

- 3.2 Altadena Sheriff's Station Lt Robert Lewis reports that there has been a continual and significant decrease in our crime rate over the past couple of years. We are still 34% down in the crime rate for Part 1 crimes since last year. Part 1 crimes are homicide, rape, robbery (both strong arm and with a weapon), aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, grand theft auto (stolen vehicles) and arson. On March 6, 2015 there was a search warrant in the 2000 Block of Raymond Avenue. On the basis of the search warrant, 7 stolen vehicles were recovered, a handgun, and few other electronic items stolen in recent thefts. On March 12, 2015, there was a saturation patrol in conjunction with Pasadena P.D. There were 11 people taken to jail and 6 of which were from Altadena. On March 17, 2015, there was a probation and parole search where 2 people were taken to jail. On March 18, 2015, another person was taken to jail through a search warrant. Also, Lt Lewis reports that recently there have been a lot of package thefts from UPS drivers. Lt. Lewis encourages the community to report if their packages are stolen. LA County Sheriff's is on a recruitment push. There are at least 500 positions available and qualified persons can apply. Finally, there will be additional Deputies available for summer in hopes of driving the crime down further.
- 3.3 Cert Karen Gibson reports and provides an update on MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD. This program started in Washington State. The goal is to spread MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD in other areas within 3 years. MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD means neighbors gathering together in their own area to have a structured meeting on an emergency plan in times of emergency. 16 meetings have been completed or scheduled. There will be another meeting in May. CERT training is still being promoted. Hand radio training is still being promoted as well. Finally, registration is being promoted with LA County's SNAP which LA County's special needs database. Please google SNAP and get signed up.
- 3.4 Stephanie English (L.A. County Fire Department Public Information Officer/Liaison to Assistant Chief) no report.

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- 4.1 SGV Mosquito & Vector Control District _____ Jason Farned Public Information Officer for SGV Mosquito and Vector Control District that handles insects and animals that transmit diseases to humans. However, SGV's main concern is Mosquitos. Mosquito's grow in water. 3 out of the 4 stages of Mosquito's life cycle occurs in water. So if we remove the standing water in which Mosquito's develop, then we can remove a large part of the Mosquito problem. West Nile virus is the main virus that Mosquito's spread in the U.S. The virus affects birds, and the Mosquito's get the virus from the birds and spread the virus to humans and horses. In California 2014, we had 798 human cases of the virus that resulted in 29 deaths. The community is encouraged to protect itself from Mosquito's by wearing certain clothing, closing open windows in homes, watching for standing water, etc. For more information please contact SGV Mosquito & Vector Control District at 1145 N. Azusa Canyon Road, West Covina CA 91790.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 5.1 _____ Land Use Committee (LUC), Diane Marcussen



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reports that the Land Use Committee met on April 7, 2015, and reviewed Project Number R2006-2805 re: 20 E. Mariposa Avenue. The LUC voted to recommend to the Altadena Town Council that this project be approved with conditions.

5.1.1 Project Number R2006-2805 re: 20 E. Mariposa Avenue-Councilperson's Amy Cienfuegos and Patricia Sutherlen. Councilperson Cienfuegos reports that she took a census on support in the surrounding neighborhood for the project. 3 meetings for neighbors were held to get public input as well. Councilperson Cienfuegos is asking LA County to approve the project with conditions. Those conditions are set forth in "Exhibit A" and attached to these Meeting Minutes. In the matter of Project Number R2006-2805 for the property located at 20 E. Mariposa, Councilperson Cienfuegos moves that the Altadena Town send a letter to the Regional Planning Commission recommending approval of the CUP with the conditions as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto-seconded by Councilperson Sutherlen-unanimous.

5.1.2 Public Comment on 20 E. Mariposa___ Jane Warner states that she is with the school next door to 20 E. Mariposa and she is concerned about (a) the laundry facility of 20 E. Mariposa blows in the direction of the play yard and she wants the vent to be placed in the direction of the alley, and (b) fencing on the property, because the garage of 20 E. Mariposa was like a wall for the school which will now be taken away.

5.2 _____ Election Committee Patricia Sutherlen (Vice Chair) reports that the Altadena Library will be used for candidates to pick up Candidate Packages and early voting will be at the Altadena Library. Councilperson Sutherlen thanks Mindy Kittay (Director) for permitting such. Early Voting will be Tuesday, June 2, 2015, and regular voting will be Saturday, June 6, 2015. Times for voting and all polling locations for June 6, 2015, will be announced at the May 19, 2015, ATC meeting. Candidate packages will be available online by April 24, 2015, with hard copies available at the Library. Filing deadlines for the applications will be May 15, 2015, at 4:30 p.m., at the Library. Candidates will be permitted to speak to the community on May 19, 2015, during the ATC meeting. Any questions, please contact Election Chair Okorie Ezieme, Vice Chair Patricia Sutherlen, or ATC Chair Diane Marcussen.

5.2.1 Public Comment on Election _____ Marge Nichols (spoke about the need for public information to emphasize the up-coming election); Alison Amegatcher (spoke about advertising regarding the up-coming election); Monica Hubbard (spoke about the NBBA Third Annual Election Candidate Forum for candidates-date to be announced) Justin Robertson (spoke about accessibility of election information online).

6. ALTADENA COMMUNITY REPORTS

6.1 _____ Mindy Kittay, Library Director reports that the Library received 2 grants-one for \$30,000.00 to improve the internet access in the Library, and the second for \$30,000.00 to help improve the DIY program for teens. The Library is applying for a Grant from the American Libraries Association for a Grant Project entitled Latino American's 500 years of history. Goal is to bring scholarships on Latino American history.



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- 6.2 _____ Meliza Hernandez (LA County Department of Parks & Rec.) no report.
- 6.3 _____ Billy Malone (Altadena Chamber of Commerce) reports that the power breakfast in April 2015, was canceled. The next power breakfast will be in May 2015. Also, there is an event coming up on Friday, June 5, 2015, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. called "Shop Hop" hosted by the Merchants on Lake Avenue and Mariposa.
- 6.4 _____ Best Fest Diana Phillippi reports that the website is up and running concerning the October Best Fest event. The website is <http://www.altadenabestfest.com>. Also, CHP and Altadena Sheriff's are on board concerning the street closures surrounding the event; however, a meeting with the Fire Department has to be completed to finalize the street closure issue.
- 6.4.1 Motion _____ Altadena Town Council will draft a letter of support for the Best Fest event. Moved by Councilperson Billy Malone-seconded by Councilperson Patricia Sutherlen-unanimous.
- 6.5 _____ Collaborate PASadena Councilman Damon Hobdy reports that Collaborate PASadena stands for a collaborate effort between Pasadena, Altadena and Sierra Madre to ensure desired outcomes for all children and families through the alignment of resources, shared accountability, and meaningful participation of diverse stakeholders. The first meeting was held on April 2, 2015, with many representatives attending (such as, from Pasadena Unified School District, Sierra Madre Mayor Pro Tem, Pasadena Mayoral Candidate, Terry Tornek, and others). Collaborate PASadena is not just about education; but also the health, safety, and welfare of children. Councilman Hobdy encourages the community to get involved by participating in work groups. Those groups will consist of parents, students, and community members to help formalize and implement goals and programs to help our children. The next meeting is May 13, 2015, and there will be a further report at the May ATC meeting.
- 6.6 _____ Altadena Community Center Advisory Board Councilman Jamie Bissner reports that the Board is comprised of one member of each tenant of the Community Center building which meets once every other month. The Board oversees the needs of the Community facility in terms of maintenance and improvements. On the agenda of the Board is landscaping and railing being put in the back of the parking lot area. Air conditioning maintenance, drainage improvement, as well as other improvements.

7. CENSUS TRACT REPORTS

4612 Jennifer Lee/Jamie Bissner. Councilperson J. Lee reports that in the area of Lake and Calaveras she has worked with the County and gained approval to replace the cement benches with advertising with new bus benches without advertising in that area. Additionally, the County identified 22 areas of residential parts of Altadena where there are cement benches with advertising, and the County has agreed that such benches will be replaced with new benches without advertising. Councilperson Lee thanks NBBA for their idea concerning the benches. In the midst of these discussions with the County, the County is also in contact with the owner(s)



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of the cement benches and discussing the replacement of all cement benches up and down Lake Avenue.

4603.01 Damon Hobdy/Judy Matthews. Councilman D. Hobdy reports that he is working on three areas (a) Councilman Hobdy contacted the County about the feasibility of placing a pedestrian cross-walk at the corner of Olive and Altadena since none exists and this is a highly traveled roadway, (b) Councilman Hobdy was contacted concerning the speeding on Glenrose between Palm and Altadena Drive. Councilman Hobdy then contacted the County on this issue and in the next 8 to 10 weeks a meter will be put in the street to determine the number of cars traveling on the road and the speeds, and data will be gathered to determine the next step with regard to the feasibility of speed bumps in that area, (c) Councilman Hobdy also contacted the County with respect to the North side of Altadena Drive and Glenrose concerning the feasibility of placing a bus bench/shelter on that corner, because there is no place to sit for persons waiting on the bus to come.

Councilperson J. Matthews reports concerning the area of Casitas. Councilperson Matthews has been contacted concerning a specific issue in this area. There is striping in the road-way. As a result, there is a lady who is visually impaired, and the striping helps assist those who are visually impaired to be able to walk across the street. Councilperson Matthews is also attempting to have individuals living in the Northwestern portion of Altadena participate in MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ("MYN"). After MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD is placed in this area, Councilperson Matthews will move to the Meadows and then La Vina areas in hopes of instituting MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD. The goal is to complete MYN in these areas by summer.

8. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Lin Griffith provides an update from NBBA with respect to the area of Lake and Calaveras concerning walkability. NBBA is working with the County with respect to this area in terms of adding shade trees and bus benches which Councilperson J. Lee reported on (as set forth above).

Nancy Gerber/Heidi Rous comments regarding the Historic Highland Neighborhood Association and the Historic Highland Home Tour which will be held on Sunday, May 24, 2015. The homes highlighted will be on Woodbury and Mar Vista.

9. ADJOURNMENT: 8:50 p.m.

Amy Cienfuegos moves/Billy Malone seconded-unanimous.



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EXHIBIT "A" CONDITIONS FOR PROJECT NUMBER R2006-2805 RE: 20 E. MARIPOSA AVENUE

1. Any event or outside activities must end by 9pm Sun-Thurs, 10pm Fri-Sat. Parking to be off-site and off street.
2. Noise during daytime must not disrupt the school next door.
3. No non-residents are allowed to sleep over night.
4. No residents should be roaming the neighborhood after 9pm unsupervised.