



ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2016

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

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:05 p.m.

- 1.1. Pledge of Allegiance _____ Councilmember Anne Lansing.
1.2. Roll Call _____ Recording Secretary, Damon L. Hobdy.

(13) Present: Billy Malone, John White, Okorie Ezieme, Gloria Sanyika,
Damon L. Hobdy, Patricia Sutherlen, Diane Marcussen
Judy Matthews, Dean Cooper, Anne Chomyn,
Anne Lansing, Justin Robertson, Michelle Martinez.

(3) Excused: Sylvia Vega, Brent Musson, Jennifer Lee.

(0) Absent/Unexcused: None.

- 1.3 Approve January 19, 2016 Meeting Agenda__ Chair Diane Marcussen.
Request to add Census Tract report for 4610 (Councilmembers Michelle Martinez
and Brent Musson). Additionally, Lt. Phil Marquez will do the Officer's report
for the Altadena Sheriff's Station. Councilmember Billy Malone moves that the
Agenda be approved with the previous mentioned changes-all in favor 12, opposed-
none, abstain-none.

2. OFFICERS' REPORTS

2.1 Chairman _____ Diane Marcussen reports regarding two (2)
lighted stop signs – one at Santa Rosa and the other at Allen. There is a project that
the Board of Supervisor passed a Motion for Public Works to undertake a pilot
program to determine the use and effectiveness of the Stop signs. The pilot
program includes intersections in the unincorporated areas of supervisorial districts
1,4 and 5. The pilot program will collect traffic data for two (2) years to evaluate the
effectiveness of the signs. Also, there has been some discussion about getting water
from Devils Gate Dam into spreading fields. The Dept. of Public Works has engaged
a specialized consultant to determine the best means to have a pump system in
Devils Gate Dam. Community feedback will be solicited before a final decision is
made on the pump system to utilize. Further, there is a new store on Washington at
Lake that is called Seed (it is a bakery making bread). This store is not in Altadena
but sells its bread at the Altadena Farmer's Market. There is a new business coming
in at Washington and Altadena Drive called Extend Bar which does dance, ballet and
pilates which will open in 2016. On Tuesday, January 26, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at the
Altadena Community Center ACONA is meeting and Chair Marcussen will be doing
part of the presentation. Finally, the Board of Supervisors voted on January 12th to
look into the Pasadena Humane Society taking over Altadena's Animal's control.
Chair Marcussen will keep the community apprised of new developments.

2.2 Vice Chairman _____ Okorie Ezieme reports that the
agenda that is set before the community was approved by the Executive Committee
when the Executive Committee met. If a community member wants to make a



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comment concerning any matter, please fill out a comment card and you will be able to comment at the end of the meeting. Finally, if anyone wants to be on the agenda, please make your request to the Executive Committee by the second Monday of every month by 5:00 p.m., so that the Executive Committee can consider the request.

- 2.3 Recording Secretary _____ Damon L. Hobdy reports concerning The November 17, 2015, and December 15, 2015, ATC Meeting Minutes. Comments were received by Councilmembers Anne Chomyn, Patricia Sutherlen and Justin Robertson concerning the November 17, 2015, minutes. However, Councilmember Robertson's comments concerned grammatical errors only and the corrections were made. Based upon the substantive comments to the "white paper" under Item No. 5.7 in the November minutes, Councilmember Hobdy proposed the following additional language be implemented. "NBBA requested the ATC to endorse the "white paper." There was much discussion on this subject by Councilmembers. However, since the function of the ATC under the by-laws (Article V Subsection A (2)) is not to endorse the "white paper" of the NBBA but to facilitate the relationship with the Supervisor's Office and/or the County including appropriate County agencies, ATC (through the Chair) agreed to facilitate the communication with the Supervisor's Office by sending a letter explaining that NBBA had concerns with the proposed building at Lake and Calaveras." Motion to approve the Meeting Minutes with the addition of the suggestion proposed by Councilmember Judy Matthews to include a reference to the specific Article in the By-laws (Article V Subsection A (2)) that governs the behavior of the Town Council in reference to the action to take regarding the "white paper." Seconded by Councilmember Ezieme; discussion occurred. In favor of Motion – total 8 (Councilmembers Hobdy, Matthews, Lansing, Sutherlen, Malone, Ezieme, White, and Robertson). Opposed – total 2 (Councilmembers Cooper and Chomyn). Abstain – total 2 (Councilmembers Sanyika and Martinez). Motion passes.

Motion by Anne Chomyn to postpone approval of the November 17, 2015, Meeting Minutes to the February 16, 2016, ATC meeting to permit the ATC time to have a discussion regarding the language concerning NBBA's "white paper." Seconded by Councilmember Robertson; discussion occurred. In favor of delaying approval of the ATC meeting minutes - 5 total (Councilmembers Chomyn, White, Robertson, Cooper, and Sanyika). Opposed - 6 total (Councilmembers Hobdy, Ezieme, Malone, Sutherlen, Lansing, Matthews). Abstain - 1 total (Councilmember Martinez). Motion does not carry.

Motion by Justin Robertson to amend the statement regarding the "white paper" to include the following language: "However, the Executive Committee determined that the function of the ATC under the By-laws Article V Subsection A (2) is not to endorse etc." Seconded by Councilmember Chomyn. In favor of amending the verbiage of the amendment - 3 total (Councilmembers Chomyn, Cooper, and Robertson). Opposed - 7 total (Councilmembers Hobdy, Matthews, Lansing, Sutherlen, Malone, Ezieme, White). Abstain - 2 total (Councilmembers Sanyika and Martinez). Motion does not carry.



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Motion to Approve the December 15, 2015, ATC Meeting Minutes as distributed to the Council. Seconded by Councilmember Malone. In favor – 12 (unanimous), 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

- 2.4 Treasurer _____ Patricia Sutherlen reports concerning the ATC bank account balance for the end of January 2016. Also, the ATC runs strictly on donations, so if any community member wants to donate, it would be appreciated.
- 2.5 Corresponding Secretary _____ Billy Malone reports the following: If there is any community member over the age of 50 and you are having trouble with your income taxes – beginning January 28, 2016, and every Thursday thereafter, the person can have their taxes done for free. The County is collecting Countywide data regarding information on how to better our parks. Altadena Heritage is having a meeting at the Community Center on Thursday, January 21, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., to gain input on things concerning the parks. The Citizen and Business of the Year have been named and will be announced on February 5, 2016, at the Altadena Country Club. All community members are invited to attend. The Citizen of the Year is Jane Brackman, and the Business of the Year is 2 Dragons Marital Arts Club.

3. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

- 3.1 _____ California Highway Patrol Officer Mike Ulloa reports that the toys for tots toy drive was a successful event in December 2015. CHP is focusing on school zones. School zones are a priority because on December 18, 2015, in front of Jackson Elementary a student was hit by a car. CHP is also working on Traffic complaints. If there is a citizen Complaint or concern, please call CHP at 626-296-8100 or go on to the website at chp.ca.gov.
- 3.2 _____ Altadena Sheriff's Station Captain Vicki Stuckey reports and thanks the Town Council and other community members for their donations (toys and food) to help Altadena families during the holiday season. Approximately 200 families in Altadena were assisted. Subsequently, Lt. Marquez provided the crime report for the month of December 2015. Altadena ended 2015 with an 11% drop in Part 1 crimes versus 2014, which is a difference of 64 fewer crimes. There was a 44% drop of Part 1 crimes over the past 5 years which is a difference of 416 fewer crimes. Lt. Marquez thanks the community and the Council for their efforts to reduce crime in 2015. However, in January 2016, there is an increase of thefts, larceny, and residential burglaries. The Altadena Sheriff's station will continue to use social media to assist, so that community members' property can be protected. Lt. Marquez also thanks those involved in the toy and food drive in December 2015.



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3.3 _____ CERT (no report).

3.4 _____ County Fire Stephanie English - LA County Fire Department Public Information Officer/Liaison to Assistant Chief reports and thanks to the Council and community for participation in the toy drive. For the month of December 2015, there were 4 structure fires; but, for the year of 2015, there were 32 structure fires. 0 Mobil structure fires in December 2015; but, 10 for the entire year. The Fire Dept. responded to 257 emergency medical calls; but, for 2900 for the entire year. Good intent calls for December 2015, there were 15; but, for the entire year there were 209. False alarm calls 25 for December 2015; but, 254 for the entire year. Please continue to prepare for El Nino for February and March 2016. You can pick up sand at two locations – Station 11 (626-797-0379), and Station 12 (626-797-1911).

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

4.1 Pasadena City College _____ Dr. Vurdien, Superintendent-President. Councilmember Malone introduces Dr. Vurdien reports that Pasadena City College has been in existence for 90 years. PCC is ranked #1 in the State for the number of Degrees awarded and those awarded to minority students. PCC is ranked #2 for Degrees awarded to Asian Americans. PCC is #1 in the number of associate degrees for transfers offered. Last year fall (2015) 31,000 students were enrolled, and for Spring 25,000 approximately were enrolled. Of these students 771 are from Altadena. PCC is a landmark for education. Also, Bill Thomson (newly elected Pasadena City College Trustee for Area 4) thanks the Council, Community and specific persons who contributed to his election.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 Land Use Committee _____ Diane Marcussen: The Committee took action on the below item:

5.1.1 R2015-02165 Request to sell alcohol (beer and wine) onsite at Amy's Patio Café located at 912/900 E. Altadena Drive. Councilmember Chomyn/White. Councilmember Chomyn indicates that this is a type 41 License to sell beer and wine. It is a license for sale of beer and wine on and off premises at the eating place. The owner Amie Moore will sell beer and wine only for consumption with meals inside the restaurant and not outside the premises even though permitted. The owner will not install a bar, and will not serve alcoholic beverages at the outside tables. The County requires that the requested use at the proposed location will not adversely affect the use of a place used exclusively for religious worship, school, park, playground, or any similar use within a 600-foot radius. Such places are referred to as "sensitive use" by the County. The County has identified eight such sensitive use sites within a 600 foot radius of Amy's Patio Café. There have been no opposition to the proposal from any of those eight sites which have been talked to. Further, Councilmembers Chomyn and White undertook community outreach by door knocking on residences in the area. 14 people were in favor, 2 were neutral, 2



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undecided and 4 residents were opposed to the application. The owner received 2 letters that were given to the Councilmembers since the Land Use Meeting addressing the application. The owner has also received more than 400 signatures from the community supporting the application. In light of the large amount of support and low level of opposition the LUC recommended approval of the application with the following conditions: the sale of beer and wine should be limited to the hours of between 9:00 a.m. and 10 p.m., no alcoholic beverages to be served at outdoor tables, the sale of beer and wine to be sold only in conjunction with purchase of food inside the restaurant. Motion by Councilmember Chomyn that the ATC send a letter to Regional Planning recommending approval of the application with conditions as previously set forth above. Seconded by Councilmember Robertson - Unanimous with 1 abstention.

5.1.1 Public Comment by Vern Guilt, Robert C. is in favor of the application.

6. ALTADENA COMMUNITY REPORTS

- 6.1 Altadena Public Library _____ Mindy Kattay (District Director) reports that the Library Business Office starting on January 1, 2016, will be open 6 days a week instead of 5. The Library is getting brand new computers. Second Saturday returned in the month of January and will continue. The Latino American 500 years of History program will start up again in February 2016. In May 2016, there will be a Latino Cultural Arts Festival. There will be art sold, live music, food, panel of authors, and art projects and inspiration stations throughout the Library. A new program will be starting called "Read to Cedar" where young readers read to a dog. A new book club is starting called from "Page to Table." The program will be every other month on Saturday.
- 6.2 LA County Department of Parks & Rec ___ Meliza Hernandez - no report.
- 6.3 Chamber of Commerce _____ Councilmember Billy Malone reports concerning the Installation Dinner for the Board of Directors and presentation of the award for Business and Citizen of the Year. The event will be held on February 5, 2016. Councilmember Malone will be installed as the new President of the Chamber of Commerce.
- 6.4 LA County Parks Needs Assessment _____ Michelle Zack reports that the Altadena Heritage is running the meeting rather than the County. But, the County has done a lot of research and taken a survey of all parks to determine the needs for such. Ms. Zack is hoping to prioritize projects and determine which parks to place capital improvements from a community standpoint.
- 6.5 41ST Assembly-Local Government Advisory Comm _____ Judy Matthews reports that in response to the request for the 41st District Advisory Council to recommend service outreach programs, Councilmember Judy Matthews proposes (1) seniors government resource seminar, (2) disaster and emergency preparedness forum, (3)



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veteran job resource, (4) youth empowerment programs, and (5) housing as healthcare, in order to offer informative seminars and events for the community.

On January 26, 2016, there will be a San Gabriel Valley Homeless Count. Volunteers are needed in the following areas: census taking, phone bank, and material preparation for all deployment sites. Phone banking and material preparation will take place at Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). In an effort to ensure sufficient volunteers, community organizations have been contacted. Youth volunteers will also participate in the event. Please log onto Assemblymember Holden's website to view legislation that will go into effect in 2016.

7. CENSUS TRACT REPORTS

- 7.1** 4601.01 Judy Matthews/Damon Hobdy. Councilmember Matthews reports that set guidelines for proposing red curbs at Holly grove Lane and North Canyon Crest Avenue for motorist visibility. There is a pending proposal for the guidelines that is before LA County Public Works.
- 7.2** 4603.02 Gloria Sanyika/Dean Cooper. Councilmember Sanyika reports that on January 23, 2016, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. the Second Annual Meet and Greet will be held at Hillside Tabernacle Church on Fair Oaks. All are invited to attend.
- 7.3** 4610 Brent Musson/Michelle Martinez. Chair Marcussen reports for Councilmember Musson and indicates that Walmart on Lincoln is closing at the end of January 2016. Councilmembers Musson and Martinez will be in touch with the owner of the building regarding any tenants who are proposing to come into the building.
- 7.4** 4612 Anne Lansing/Jennifer Lee. Councilmember Lansing reports that the employees of Walmart are eligible for assistance through the Foothill Workforce investment Board which is located at 1207 E. Green Street in Pasadena. Telephone number is 626-796-jobs. Layoff assistance includes unemployment assistance, job placement, and job training.
- 7.5** 4602 Okorie Ezieme/Billy Malone. Councilmember Ezieme reports concerning Palm Street Area Resident Association is a group between Marengo and Fair Oaks. Every year the community comes together to bring toys and food. This has been an exceptional event each year.

8. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None

9. ADJOURNMENT: 9:03 p.m.

Okorie Ezieme moves/Billy Malone seconded-unanimous.