



ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2019

7:00 p.m.

730 East Altadena Drive
Altadena, California 91001

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:04 PM

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance _____ Blair High School JROTC

Introduction, Jennifer Lee

1.2 Roll Call _____ Veronica Jones

Antonio Becerra, Veronica Jones, Patricia Sutherlen, Dorothy Wong, Jeff Simmonds, Gloria Sanyika, Jennifer Lee, Billy Malone, Dr. Reginald Wilkins, Victoria Knapp, Diane Marcussen, Arron Tschida Nick Santangelo, Dr. Sandra Thomas (14 present) Sylvania Vega, Okorie Ezieme (2 excused absent)

1.3 Approve November 20, 2019 meeting Agenda _____ Pat Sutherlen

The November 20, 2019 agenda was voted on and approved with the following additions:

6.3 Holiday Party Committee

2. OFFICERS' REPORT

2.1 Chairman _____ Billy Malone

Chairman Malone welcomed the community. The Chair explained that all donations collected at tonight's meeting will be donated to a local Altadena that recently lost the mother in a car accident. The Annual Altadena Town Council Holiday Party will take place at the December 17th meeting. Volunteers are welcomed. All organizations collecting donations during the holiday season were encouraged to send information to the Dorothy Wong, corresponding secretary. The information will be placed on the Town Council web page.

2.2 Vice Chairman _____ Pat Sutherlen

Vice Chair Sutherlen reminded everyone of the process for public comment. Council does not respond to public comment during the meeting,

2.3 Recording Secretary _____ Veronica Jones

2.3.1. Approve October 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The minutes of October 15, 2019 were voted on and approved.

2.4 Treasurer _____ Jennifer Lee

Treasurer, Jennifer Lee stated the Town Council's account has a balance of \$2,223.10. The account is funded by donations from the community. All donations from tonight's meeting will be given to the Altadena Sheriffs to be distributed to the Fuentes family.

2.5 Corresponding Secretary _____ Dorothy Wong

Corresponding Secretary, Dorothy Wong requested the community to send community events to her to be posted on the web-site.

Altadena Community events can be found on the web-site: altadenatowncouncil.org

All meetings are recorded and can be viewed on YouTube.

3 PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

3.1 California Highway Patrol _____ Officer Cooper

Officer Cooper informed the community that the Altadena CHP office will have 11 new officers in February, 2020. The office has been understaff for a while. CHIPS for kids will take place from November 30-December 22, 2019. New and unwrapped toys can be dropped off at any CHP office. CHP is gearing up for the annual Christmas Tree Lane tree lighting ceremony on December 14, 2019. Officer Cooper stressed the importance of being prepared for the rain by making sure windshield wipers and tires are in good condition.

Information on traffic collision is available at: <https://www.chp.ca.gov/traffic>

3.2 Altadena Sheriff's Station _____ Capt. Marjory Jacobs

Captain Jacobs informed the community of the recent tragic events that involved the Fuentes family. The Sheriffs have partnered with local community organizations, including the Altadena Town Council, to help and support the family during this difficult time.

The Captain commended Councilmember Simmonds and Councilmember Lee on their completion of the Sheriff's Citizen Academy.

The Sheriffs will hold their annual food and toy give away on December 21 at Farmsworth Park.

There was an overall increase in crime for the month. There were no homicides or rapes during the month. Larceny thefts are down. Cars being broken into is still a major problem in the community. The Captain stressed the importance of locking your vehicles. See something say something can help the recovery of stolen items.

3.3 Fire _____ Maria Grycan

Maria Grycan presented the fire report for the month of September. The Fire Department responded to a total of 331 calls, five fires, 277 medical calls, 18 traffic collisions and six hazard conditions calls. Precaution should be taken this holiday season with the handling and decorating of Christmas trees to ensure they are not over burden in a way that would create a hazard.

The Fire Department will be collecting toys for the Spark of Love Toy Drive. Toys can be dropped off at Fire Station 11 or 12.

3.4 MAP Your Neighborhood _____ Karen Gibson

Karen Gibson, MAP Your Neighbor introduced Sharon Collins. Ms. Collins volunteers to teaches and trains the community in disaster preparedness. The next scheduled training for MAP Your Neighborhood is February 9, 2019 at the Altadena Country Club.

Map Your Neighborhood's goal is to provide a step by step process to help neighborhoods be better prepared for disasters and know what do afterwards – evaluate their home & neighborhood after a disaster, organize teams to address immediate needs and be self-sufficient to survive and recover quicker.

4 ALTADENA COMMUNITY REPORTS

4.1 LA County Dept. of Parks and Rec. _____ Sam Estrada

Mr. Estrada reported on upcoming park events including the toy give away scheduled for December 21st at Farmsworth and Loma Alta Parks. Charles White Park toy give away is scheduled for December 14th. The Parks will be offering a holiday camp for children.

Information on these and other park events will be placed on the town council web-page.

More park information: parks.lacounty.org

4.2 Chamber _____ Doug Colliflower

The Chamber hosted two events in the month of November, a mixer with Senator Portantino and a Power Breakfast with Assemblyman Chris Holden. Both events were well attended. The next scheduled event will be the Installation Dinner of the Business of the Year and Citizen of the Year. The event will be held on January 31, 2020 at the Altadena Country Club.

4.3. Altadena Library _____ Terry Andruess

Terry Andruess, Board of Trustees for the Altadena Library, shared information on two town halls hosted by the library to collect community input on ideas on how the new design of the libraries will best represent the community.

The Altadena Library Foundation received a \$15,000 grant from Pasadena Community Foundation (PCF) to fund the purchase of a Microsoft Surface Hub “white board”. This technology allows for remote meeting capability, and an interactive whiteboard for note-taking, brainstorming, drawing, and more. This new technology will give users the ability to maximize their meeting with innovative technology.

The new library director will attend the December meeting.

4.4 Christmas Tree Lane _____ Scott Wardlaw

Scott Wardlaw, President of Christmas Tree Lane and Tony Ward gave an overview of the Christmas Tree Lane Organization. The non-profit group of volunteers has preserved Christmas Tree Lane and are responsible for the tree lighting ceremony that happens during the Christmas season. The organization also maintain the trees during the year.

The lighting ceremony will take place on Santa Rosa Avenue between Woodbury Avenue and Altadena Drive on December 14, 2019 at 6 p.m. Next year will be the 100th year of the event.

More information can be found at: www.christmastreelane.org

5. General Public Comment

Grannie Shakur – Selling BB guns at the new Dollar Store
Sam Stackhouse – homeless in Farmsworth Park

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Land Use Committee _____ Diane Marcussen

Councilmember Marcussen reported two projects were discussed at the Land Use Committee meeting on November 5, 2019. The two projects were Rayuela School and Verizon and Sprint. These projects will be voted on at a future time.

6.2 Safe Streets Committee _____ Dorothy Wong

Councilmember Wong reported the Safe Streets Committee continues its dedication to safer streets in Altadena by holding meetings at Jackson School to discuss bicycle safety and pedestrian safety and walkability.

6.3 Holiday Celebration Committee _____ Victoria Knapp

Councilmember Knapp share information regarding the upcoming Holiday Party. The date of the event December 17, 2019 directly following the next Town Council Meeting on that date. The community is invited to join in and celebrate with food, fellowship and entertainment.

7. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

7.1 2020 United States Census _____ Justin Chen, Partnership Specialist, US Census Bureau

Ms. Chen gave an overview of the 2020 Census. It is important that all Altadena citizens participate. Distribution of Federal funding is based on the results of the census. She stressed that it is important that everyone be count. The 2020 census

Census results help determine how billions of dollars in federal funding flow into states and communities each year.

The results determine how many seats in Congress each state gets. All information collected is confidential and cannot be shared.

It's mandated by the U.S. Constitution in Article 1, Section 2: The U.S. has counted its population every 10 years since 1790.

More information can be found: 2020census.gov

7.2 Loan Opportunities for Small Businesses _____ Carolina Romo, Los Angeles County Community & Economic Development

Ms. Romo shared information on two programs offered by the Los Angeles County Community & Economic Development Department. One program offers small business loans from \$20,000 to \$2M. These loans help business to be able to keep their business in Altadena. Businesses can access capital with low interest loans and terms tailored to their needs.

The LACDA has active business façade improvement programs which provide grants and technical services to assist with the improvement of streetscapes along designated commercial corridors in unincorporated communities. The façade programs provide grants that cover all costs associated environmental, design, and construction services. These programs are open to all small businesses in Altadena.

LACDA encourages community development, and empower Los Angeles County residents and business to reach their full potential.

8. CENSUS TRACT REPORTS

8.1. 4603.01 - Councilmember Wong reported on the successful Fire Safety Meeting held at Loma Alta Park. This meeting is the first of talks to establish a fire safety council organization for the Altadena foothills.

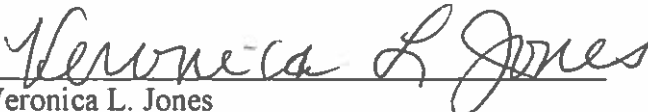
9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made to adjourn meeting. The motion was unanimously passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

The entire meeting is available for viewing on YouTube.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:



Veronica L. Jones
Recording Secretary