



ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2020

7:00 p.m.

(Virtual)

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:05 PM

1.1 Introduction _____ Chairman, Billy Malone

Chairman Malone began the meeting leading in the Pledge of Alliance.

1.2 Roll Call _____ Veronica Jones

Patricia Sutherlen, Dorothy Wong, Gloria Sanyika, Billy Malone, Victoria Knapp, Diane Marcussen, Reginald Wilkins Nick Santangelo, Jeff Simmonds, Arron Tschida, Veronica Jones, Dr. Sandra Thomas, Jennifer Lee Sylvia Vega (15 present)
Antonio Becerra (absent)

1.3 Approve May 19, 2020 meeting Agenda _____ Pat Sutherlen

The agenda for this May 19, 2020 meeting was voted on and approved as presented.

2. OFFICERS' REPORT

2.1 Chairman _____ Billy Malone

Chairman Malone thanked everyone for their patience while everyone adjusts to the new use of Zoom for meetings. The Chairman thanked the members of the Town Council for their continued work to keep the community updated and engaged during this time of COVID-19 virus. Special thanks went to Councilmember Wong for her work on keeping the web-site updated and the Altadena Library for their partnership in helping making the virtual Zoom meetings possible.

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. All public comments are emailed in advance.

2.3 Recording Secretary _____ Veronica Jones

2.3.1. Approve April 21, 2020 meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes of April 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

Treasurer Lee the ATC checking account had a current balance of \$2,156.26. The account is balanced and in good standing. The account is funded by donations from the community.

2.5 Corresponding Secretary _____ Dorothy Wong

Corresponding Secretary Wong directed the community to refer to the ATC web-site for information on COVID-19 and other community information. More information can be found on the ATC web-site.

The ATC web site can be used to reach the L.A. County web-site for the most current information on Covid-19.

Los Angeles County: <https://covid19.lacounty.gov>

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

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

3 PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

3.1 California Highway Patrol _____ No report

3.2 Altadena Sheriff's Station _____ Capt. Jacobs

Capt. Jacobs thanked everyone for attending the town hall with Sheriff Villanueva.

The Captain reported crime in the County of L.A. had a reduction of 10%. Crime in Altadena is down 18% compared to last year. Burglaries are down 35% year-to-date. There were 4 stolen vehicles in Altadena during the month. The Captain suggested anyone making an "offer-up exchange" sell should consider using the station for the exchange of merchandise. The station could make the transaction a safer exchange.

3.3 Altadena Fire _____ Maria Grycan

Ms. Grycan reported in the month of April LACF responded to 290 calls, of those calls 256 medical, 114 transported, 2 fires and 9 traffic collisions. County wide calls for service declined during the month. Structure fires increased due to more people at home.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department has two programs that can help residents prepare for fire, Family Instructions for Rapid Escape or F.I.R.E. and Ready, Set, Go Personal Wildfire Action Plan. Both of the programs can be found on the and Ready, Set, Go.

L. A. County Fire Department web-site: www.fire.lacounty.gov

Mr. Estrada of L. A. County Parks and Recreation gave an update on the re-opening of parks, trails, equestrians courses, and the free snack programs located at Altadena Parks. The parks are scheduled to reopen with limited use. Face coverings must be worn and physical distancing is required while in the parks. The parks hours will be from 9:30-6 p.m. Playgrounds, skate parks, lawn ball parks are still closed.

Specific details for tennis and pickleball can be found on the ATC's web-site and at lacounty.parks.org.

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

4.1 Update Altadena Sheriff Station

Billy Malone

Chairman Malone presented an update on the possible closing of the Altadena Sheriff Station. The Chair thanked all the ATC for working together to collectively deciding on a position to oppose the closing of the Altadena Sheriff Station. The ATC submitted a letter stating the importance of keeping the station open and the effect closing the station would have on the community. The letter can be found on the ATC's web-site.

Many politicians, organizations, community leaders and residents have united to support keeping the Altadena Station open. There have been three town halls addressing the subject of the possible closing of the station. The Altadena Community has voiced the opposition to the closing of the station.

Chairman Malone read into record a statement by Supervisor Kathryn Barger supporting keeping the station open and intact. Her statement stresses that she is a strong advocate for keeping the station open as is. The letter can be found in its entirety on the ATC's web-site.

4.2 Devil's Gate Project Update

Steve Burger

Steve Burger, Project Manager for Devil's Gate Project, gave an update on the Devil's Gate Project. The project is set to restart on June 6th. The project is a four-year project to restore and update the dam's capacity. Planting of native plants has begun, 445, 460 thousand cubic yards of sediment has been removed to date. Routes, times and number of trucks are the same as last fall. Will begin hauling using the agreed upon summer route. Trails are closed during working hours 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Trails are open all week-end. Air quality is monitored at seven sites. During this second phase trucks are monitored for emissions as well.

More information can be found at: devilsgateproject.com
Hotline: 626-458-2507
email: devilsgateproject@pw.lacounty.gov

5. ALTADENA COMMUNITY REPORTS

5.1 Altadena Library _____ Nikki Winslow

Nikki Winslow, Director of Altadena Library reported the library is now open for curbside service. Books can be ordered by phone and pick-up the next day. The library's wi-fi is available in the main library's parking lot. New hours for the library are 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday through Friday. The annual meeting for the Friends of Library is June 6th at 1 p.m. The library Board of Trustees will have an opening as of June 1st. The Director reached out to the Community to apply and reach out to others who might be interested in the position.

The virtual summer reading program starts June 6th through August 1st. Registration for the program can be completed on the library's web-site.

5.2 Feeding Altadena, local sources for those in need _____ Council Members

There was discussion on options for getting food to those who are in need during COVID-19. Sources includes L.A. County Food Bank for seniors, the Altadena Farmer's Market has boxes of fresh vegetables on Wednesdays for seniors. Nick Santangelo reported El Patron Restaurant in collaboration with the Altadena Rotary, were giving a family of four a free meal per day. Information can be found on the ATC's web-site.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Land Use Committee _____ Diane Marcussen

Councilmember Marcussen reported that the Land Use Committee did not meet in April. The next scheduled meeting is tentatively set for July 7th.

6.2 Election Committee _____ Veronica Jones

Councilmember Jones gave an update on the election. The 2020 election was postponed due to the outbreak of COVID-19. The following recommendations were made:

1. Postpone the 2020 ATC election to November 2020, possibility aligning with the national election.
2. Allowing for Council Members to vacate their seat as of 21st day in July 2020 if they wish to not to continue to serve through the proposed November election date.

A motion was made to accept the recommendations. The motion unanimously passed.

6.3 Safe Streets _____ Dorothy Wong

Councilmember Wong suggested the Council look into "Slow Streets" signs. The signs are used to slow traffic in residential areas. There are higher numbers of residents

walking in neighborhoods because of the stay at home order. The signs would be used temporary until neighborhoods return to normal.

There is a Complete Streets Planning virtual meeting May 21st at 3:00 p.m. The meeting will be to discuss virtual street assessments for Altadena Streets.

6.4 Education Committee _____ Jennifer Lee

Education Chair, Jennifer Lee reported the biggest issue facing the Pasadena School district is a short-fall in the budget that could amount to \$35M due to the anticipated State of California's shortfall of \$50B a result of COVID-19. Budgets are a high priority issue for schools.

The 2020 Census will be an important factor in determining Federal funding. Altadena must complete census forms to ensure its share of Federal Funding.

7. General Public Comment _____ Pat Sutherlen

Vice-chair Sutherlen read into the record public comment from:

Joy Walters – Clean, healthy air – leaf blowers

Erhan Carlisle – Trails – Eaton Canyon – more entrances

8. 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