

ALTADENA TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes

January 17th, 2023 7:02 PM – 9:21PM

Watch on YouTube

<https://youtu.be/4pmVuUexpJo>

1.0 CALL TO ORDER 7:02pm

1.1 Flag Salute was led by Chair Jones.

1.2 Swearing in New Councilmember Rod Bryce by LT. Dion Batee.

1.3 Councilmember Wong called role.

Attending - Victoria Knapp, Billy Malone, Dorothy Wong, Veronica Jones, Nic Arnzen, Diane Marcussen, Reginald Wilkins, Chris O'Malley, Rod Bryce, Pat Sutherlen, Doug Colliflower, Sylvia Vega, and Alan Peck. Councilmember Dr. Sandra Thomas was excused. Moved forward with a quorum.

1.4 Vice Chair Knapp made motion to approve January 17th, 2023 meeting Agenda with the following changes; Lt. Dion Batee name spelling corrected, CERT Presentation moved to Item 3.4, moved Land Use Committee report to 6.1, added 6.1.1 Historic Highlands action item and 6.1.2 Public Comment, Safe Streets moved to item 6.3, 4603.01 Census tract report added. Approved Unanimously.

OUT OF AGENDA ORDER- Tournament of Roses Queen and Altadena resident Bella Ballard entered meeting and was introduced by Chair Jones, spoke to attendees and acknowledged by all. She was presented with gift from the Council. She was scheduled to do the Flag Salute but was tied up at another appearance.

2.0 OFFICERS' REPORTS

2.1 Chair Veronica Jones conceded her time to the memory of Jamie Bissner. Councilmember Doug Colliflower gave historical reflection honoring Mr. Bissner.

2.2 Vice Chair Victoria Knapp thanked fellow Councilmembers and the community for helping with the holiday party.

2.3 Recording Secretary Nic Arnzen motioned to approve December 20th, 2022 Minutes. Approved with two abstentions- Rod Bryce and Billy Malone.

2.4 Treasurer Chris O'Malley gave a year-end report. Started December with \$2096.75 ended with \$2056.74. Deposit in the amount of \$117 from community and Councilmember donations. Withdrawals totaling \$157.01 (\$139.13 for a year of web service through GoDaddy.com and a charge of \$17.88 for Cyber security)

2.5 Corresponding Secretary Wong made special announcements that can be seen on the ATC website. They included reminder to attend Farmers Market, January 21st they will have milkweed giveaway. Reminder the Greater LA homeless Count for Altadena is happening on Jan 24th. Upcoming Huntington Hospital Blood Drive, details available on the ATC website.

3.0 PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

3.1 California Highway Patrol Report by Officer Keller. November had 20 collisions, 5 involved injuries, 1 hit and runs, 2 were DUI, 1 fatality on Mendocino and Marathon. Chair Jones amplified Council and Community hopes for more CHP street speed monitoring. Officer Bay reported they are patrolling but limited to two officers in Altadena. Councilmember Sutherlan highlighted the dangers of traffic at Woodbury and El Molino. Councilmember Wong expressed excitement to work on education on Public Safety at local schools. Councilmember Knapp expressed gratitude for increased patrolling on Altadena Drive.

3.2 Altadena Sheriff's Station Lt. Dion Batee reported local problems have been vehicle thefts and those numbers have gone up leading to saturation of problem areas. Encouraged locking vehicles and not leaving valuables in cars. They have more cars patrolling the area. Highlighted January events.

3.3 L.A. County Fire Altadena spokesperson Maria Grycan reported 388 responses, 369 medical, 16 traffic collisions, 3 fire calls (1 outdoor, 1 home with no extensive damage -rug on floor started by space heater, 1 structure with minimal damage (wood logs ignited from a smoker).

3.4 CERT report by Deb Halberstadt. Discussed new fire extinguishers and Radios available through fire dept. Next meeting February 8th, 5:30pm at Altadena Community Center.

4.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

4.0 ChapCare Representative Magdalena Prado reported on their available services.

5.0 COMMUNITY REPORTS

5.1 Parks and Rec representative Guillermo Portilla reported on upcoming events.

5.2 Director Nikki Winslow reported on activities at the Altadena Libraries.

5.3 Judy Matthews of the Chamber of Commerce reported on activities and upcoming events.

6.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 Land Use Chair Diane Marcussen introduced Dean Edwards from Dept of Regional Planning.

6.1.1 Dean Edwards provided an overview for the proposed New Historic Highlands District Designation Project. Land Use Chair Diane Marcussen motioned the ATC send a letter to Regional Planning recommending County hold one more hearing and partner with the ATC to ensure effective outreach.

6.1.2 Public Comment concerning this project. Available for viewing on YouTube.

6.1.3 Vote was taken on Councilmember Marcussen's motion. 13 for, 1 against

6.2 Election Committee Chair Sylvia Vega explained special election to fill vacancies in tracts 4601 and 4603.01

6.2.1 Connor Cipolla and Alison Crawford gave statements for filling the spot in 4601. Next Sanda Cea, Milissa Marona, and Daniel Morales gave statements to fill the spot in 4603.01

6.2.2 Full Council voted and highest number of votes went to Connor Cippola for 4601 and Milissa Marona for 4603.01.

6.2.3 Both new Councilmembers were sworn in by Lt. Dion Batee.

6.3 Safe Streets Chair Dorothy Wong reported on Supervisor Barger's motion on January 10th ordering a 45 day review on traffic safety in Altadena focused on Fair Oaks Ave. between Loma Alta and Altadena Dr. and on Holliston from New York Dr. to Altadena Dr.

7.0 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice Chair Knapp read a letter from SENCH neighborhood Watch Association concerning recent gas rate increase.

Rex Mayrice spoke about climate change and highlighted the group called Citizens Climate Lobby and their involvement in the Black History Parade coming up on February 18th.

Tom Reilly spoke on his work with Councilmember Wong on traffic safety and highlighted the increase in pedestrian deaths including two in Altadena.

Michelle Zack announced the Owen Brown educational public outreach event on February 18th at 10:30am.

Eileen asked about the four story building being built on Lincoln. Chair Jones noted an update was about to happen next.

8.0 CENSUS TRACT REPORTS

8.1 4610 Councilmember Jones noted that demolition has started at Lincoln and Figueroa for four story building that includes low income housing.

8.2 4613 Councilmember Marcussen mentioned safety issues near New York Drive and Altadena Drive and is in touch with CHP. Also warned of danger in Eaton Canyon from recent rock slides and water run off. Also noted being in touch with County about Washington Blvd/Altadena Drive improvement project.

8.3 4603.01 Councilmember Dorothy Wong mentioned SCE work coming up in the Meadows and they will be releasing more info in February.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jones called for adjournment at 9:21pm