



The Hacienda Heights Improvement Association

Meeting Minutes April 21, 2014

LOCATION: Hacienda La Puente Unified School District, 15959 E. Gale Ave., Industry, CA

MEETING STARTED: 7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE: The Pledge was led by CHP Officer Al Perez

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Maury Edwards, Ellen Gervase, Henry Gonzales, Sandy Keat, Joan Licari, Jeffrey Lin, Brent Palmer, Lucy Pedregon, Mike Williams, Jeff Yann, Adria Ybarra, Hanny Zamora

MINUTES: Minutes of the March 17, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously on motion by Joan Licari seconded by Sandy Keat.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Expenditures of \$169.79 associated with the annual dinner and \$184.61 for newsletter mailing were recorded since the last meeting. Receipts included a \$2,075 County grant from Supervisor Knabe and a small amount of interest. The account balance increased to \$9,746.97.

LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATE:

CHP Officer Al Perez advised that April is Distracted Driver Month and CHP officers from the Santa Fe Springs station have issued more than 1,500 citations so far. May will be "Click it or Ticket" month and CHP will be focusing on vehicle occupants not wearing seat belts. The office will be receiving ten new officers, including a family in which both parents and their son are CHP officers. Eight officers are being transferred out so the net gain is two.

Town Sheriff Brian Sanford that crime statistics to date show a substantial decline in burglaries (7 versus 24 last year) and vehicle thefts (7 vs. 16). A home invasion incident occurred on Turnbull Canyon Road with no one injured.

PROGRAM: Mary Ann Bennett from the County Department of Public Works provided information on the proposed project to provide visual screening for the walls along Hacienda Blvd. between Three Palms and Halliburton. It has been proposed to provide trellises 5'-6" high in front of the walls. Thirteen existing trees which were not planted close to the curb will be removed and replaced with new trees along the curb. Yellow jasmine and trumpet vines will be planted to grow up on the trellises. With removal of the trees originally planted within the sidewalk, the trellises can be continuous over the entire distance. The project is estimated at \$800,000. Funding has been secured by Supervisor Knabe and it is expected that construction can start in approximately two years.

COMMUNITY REPORTS

Mathew Hallman, an intern in Representative Royce's office, reported on various upcoming events and provided information on Rep. Royce's bill (HR3344) on human trafficking which has now been introduced in Congress.

Margo Tannenbaum reported on upcoming events at the Hacienda Heights Library. On May 20, singers from the L. A. Opera Company will sing arias from various operas by Mozart.

OLD BUSINESS: Brent Palmer reported that he sent the letter approved by the Board to Regional Planning supporting renewal of the CUP for the Wildwood Mobile Home Park. No changes in park configuration or use are planned.

Maury Edwards reiterated his concerns about liability issues associated with HHIA sponsorship of Jim Davis Beautification Day without insurance coverage for this event. Time is limited to both find a sponsor for insurance coverage and organize participants between now and June 28, which is the Saturday the event would be scheduled. Brent Palmer will contact the Supervisor's office to ascertain the potential for County assuming event coverage. Hanny Zamora will contact Kiwanis.

Maury Edwards stated that his boat, which has served as a float for HHIA's July 4 parade entry, will likely be moved to Flathead Lake by July 4 this year. An alternative vehicle will be required this year's parade.

Hanny Zamora suggested that action be identified to follow up on Mike Williams' suggestions presented in February to enhance awareness of HHIA's activities within the community. An ad hoc committee was suggested to recommend actions for presentation to the HHIA Board at a subsequent meeting. Joan Licari, Mike Williams and Jeff Yann volunteered to serve of this committee.

Hanny Zamora reiterated concerns she had raised earlier regarding first year Board members serving as officers. Several Board members stated that this situation is not problematic as members nominated for office are well known members of the community. No further action was taken.

NEW BUSINESS: Brent Palmer read HHIA's list of goals for 2014.

Jeff Yann requested feedback on a list of past achievements by HHIA for use in soliciting new members. Ellen Gervase expressed concern regarding heavy graffiti at the Seventh Avenue Trailhead. After discussion, it was agreed that she would prepare a letter to Supervisor Knabe requesting that County graffiti removal programs be extended to include this heavily used trailhead area.

Mike Williams cited the 100-year history soon to be celebrated by the Hacienda Heights Woman's Club.

MOTION: HHIA provide a scroll or plaque to be presented at the 100th anniversary celebration of the HH Woman's Club.

MOVED: Mike Williams

Second: Jeff Yann

Passed unanimously

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Code Enforcement: **Henry Gonzales:** Stated that he is following progress on 16 code violations reported to the County. Trash at the Mr. Swiss Restaurant and Von's parking lot is excessive.
- Community Relations: **Sandy Keat:** Reported on the upcoming activities by Kiwanis and Meals on Wheels, as well as events at various locations around the community. She also reported that the Community Center is 72 % complete and that dedication of Orange Grove Park will occur on May 28, 2014.
- Environment: **Jeff Yann:** Reported on the Eco Voices program being presented by the Youth Science Center at Whittier Narrows to implement the educational objectives of the San Gabriel River Discovery Center, which partially funded the program. He also announced that legislation to form the San Gabriel National Recreation Area has been finalized by US Rep. Judy Chu and is in final review before introduction in Congress.
- **Adria Ybarra:** Reported that HHIA has 8 new annual members and one new Life member for a total membership of 42 Annual and 331 Life members.
- Newsletter: **Brent Palmer:** Reported that a draft of the next newsletter will be complete by the end of April.
- Parks & Recreation: **Maury Edwards:** Reported on upcoming activities at Schabarum Park and the Steinmetz Senior Center as well as Fire Service Appreciation Day at the County Fire Station in Industry.
- Programs: **Ellen Gervase:** Reported that the program in May will cover status of the reconstruction of the Saint John Vianney church presented by Denny O'Neil, who briefly described the program.
- Public Relations: **Mike Williams:** Announced National Takeback Initiative Collections Day and a public hearing to raise the sewer rate. He also announced that Hacienda Heights residents can attend the County Art Museum for free on May 25.
- Public Safety & Health: **Lucy Pedregon:** Reported on assistance she provided to a resident seeking to get street lights in her neighborhood. She also cautioned about phone scams where callers impersonate sheriffs.
- Streets & Highways: **Jeffrey Lin:** Reported on several upcoming street projects in Hacienda Heights.
- Water & Utility Services: **Joan Licari:** Reported that voluntary water use reduction is being encouraged this year and described a rebate program for purchase of a rain barrel.
- Website: **Joan Licari:** Reported that she has added links to local legislative offices.
- Zoning: **Hanny Zamora:** Reported on cases filed with Regional Planning. She also commented that a "For Rent" sign has appeared at the large home at Olympus Avenue and Halliburton. Joan Licari added that she has spotted a large number of pregnant women on Colima in the vicinity of the reported maternity house near the Puente Hills Mall.

PRESIDENTS REPORT: No report

PUBLIC INPUT:

- Bob McCluskey reported on Dickie Simmons' recovery.
- Rudy Obad expressed concern about the high volume of trash in the parking lot around Von's Market.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 9:50 P.M.

PREPARED BY:

Jeff Yann, Secretary