

CITY OF SAN DIMAS  
SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION  
Thursday, September 3, 2009  
Park San Dimas Apartments, Club House  
265 W. Foothill Boulevard  
San Dimas, CA 91773

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Skinner at 7:00p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present :

Bee Dallas  
Paul Hernandez  
Jay Pace  
Prudie Short  
Alta Skinner, Vice Chairperson

Denis Bertone, City Councilmember  
Theresa Bruns, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Leon Raya, Recreation Services Manager  
Erica Rodriguez, Senior Citizen Services Coordinator

Excused:

Lorous "Connie" Brown, Chairperson  
Judy Kephart  
Don Stevenson  
Robbie Williams

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JULY 2, 2009 MEETING AS MAILED**

Minutes approved as mailed.

**PRESENTATION OF PARK SAN DIMAS DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM**

Fred Garcia, Chairman of the Park San Dimas Apartment Disaster Preparedness Program, presented the steps that his committee and the Park San Dimas residents have taken to be prepared to limit their loss after an earthquake. Residents participating in the program are planning to be self-reliant for 72-hours after an earthquake. Their program began in March by identifying the skills of the tenants and forming a committee. They host monthly meetings featuring a variety of topics. They have prepared a handbook; a tenant roster that includes vital information, contacts and even pet names; an "I'm OK" door hanger; have identified a meeting point; triage; and a large banner stating whether they are "All OK" or "Need Help". Mr. Garcia stated that they have recognized the need for walkie-talkies to improve communication. Commissioner Skinner suggested contacting the Assistant Superintendent for Business Services at Bonita Unified School District to see if the District will be replacing their radios.

## SENIOR CITIZEN/COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

### **A. Attendance/Participation**

Staff reviewed the quarterly Senior Citizen/Community Center usage and activity comparison report for the months of July and August. Staff noted that Mt. San Antonio College offered classes for 4 weeks in July and many classes only offered one week in August.

Staff announced that Tuesday, August 25 was the first Tuesday Night Chuckwagon Dinner with 45 participants in attendance followed by an *Osteoarthritis of the Knee* seminar with 38 in attendance.

### **B. Programs and Activities**

Staff reviewed the following programs held in July and August:

July 9	Chuckwagon Social – Bingo Social
July 9	Chuckwagon Social – Happy Hour
July 10	Intergenerational – Father/Daughter Magic Show
July 11	Excursion – Federal Reserve & Wells Fargo Bank
July 15	Excursion – Jet Propulsion Laboratory
July 17	Senior Event – Senior Prom
July 25	Excursion – Summer Surprise
July 27	Chuckwagon Social – July Birthdays
July 31	Outdoor Adventures – Family Campout
August 1	Outdoor Adventures – Family Campout
August 6	Seasonal Event – Bunko
August 13	Chuckwagon Social – Happy Hour Dinner Social
August 13	Chuckwagon Social – Bingo Social
August 14	Excursion – Wine & Dine at Santa Ynez
August 18	Seasonal Event - Intergenerational Talent Show
August 19	Excursion – Pageant of the Masters
August 23-22	Outdoor Adventures – Family Campout
August 28	Senior Event – Summer BBQ Picnic
August 30	Active Excursion – Kayaking Adventure
August 31	Chuckwagon Social – August Birthdays

Upcoming events and activities include:

September 9	Valley View Casino
September 10	Chuckwagon Social – Happy Hour
September 13	Cruising to Catalina
September 26	San Dimas 5K Run/Family Fun Run and Family Fitness Fair
September 27-29	Excursion – Golden Getaway in Las Vegas (3 days)
September 30	Seasonal Event – Flu Shots
October 1	Excursion - Colorful Songs of Broadway
October 8	Chuckwagon Social - Happy Hour
October 17	Excursion – Oktoberfest in Big Bear

October 23	Senior Event-Escape from Alcatraz Dinner
October 26	Seasonal Event-Birthday Social
October 29	Seasonal Event-Bunko Social

**C. Miscellaneous**

Staff reported that the San Dimas Senior Center is listed as a Cooling Site. Residents may obtain a full list of Cooling Sites by calling the 2-1-1 help line (formerly known as Info Line). The Cooling Center is available Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Staff reported that beginning on Tuesday, October 13, Costco will be offering monthly hearing testing and hearing aid screenings at the San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center on the second Tuesday of every month from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Staff reported that the InSTEP Balance and Fall Prevention Program sponsored by the University of Southern California is currently accepting applications for the third and final rotation of the program. Carrie Grier, InSTEP Site Coordinator, encouraged everyone in attendance to visit her at the San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Staff invited Commissioners and audience to attend the free Flu Shot Clinic sponsored by the Los Angeles County Department of Health on Wednesday, September 30, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Plummer Community Building.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Staff**

Staff reviewed the purpose of the Senior Citizen Commission Foundation and stated that the funds were moved to Vineyard Bank as requested by the Commission.

Director Bruns recognized the outstanding work by the Park San Dimas Disaster Preparedness Group. She extended an invitation to collaborate with the City of San Dimas to use Park San Dimas as a model program that may be presented to other housing centers in the community. Directors Bruns thanked everyone for attending. She expressed the value of their input and encouraged everyone to apply should an opening become available on the Senior Citizen Commission and to participate at the San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center.

**B. City Council Liaison**

Councilmember Bertone described the services available at the Center and encouraged everyone to participate.

Councilmember Bertone invited everyone to San Dimas Day at the Los Angeles County Fair on Thursday, September 10.

Councilmember Bertone stated that the original developer for the Fox Project on San Dimas Avenue has gone bankrupt. He stated that money provided by the City was in escrow and all the funds were returned when the developer went bankrupt.

Councilmember Bertone stated that the City passed a balanced budget without cuts to programs and services. He stated that the San Dimas Employees Association recommended that staff not get a cost of living increase due to the downturn in the economy and not cuts were made to Fire Departments or Public Safety.

Councilmember Bertone invited everyone to attend the City Council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm where they may express any concerns and ideas at the beginning of the meeting during Oral Communications.

**C. Members of the Commission**

Commissioner Pace stated that her initial focus on the Commission was the Chuckwagon Lunch Program because the quality of the meal was not great, but stated that the quality has improved. She described her participation in the Thursday Night Dinner Program and invited everyone to attend. She encouraged the audience to join the Senior Club on Tuesday from 9:30 to 10:30am and participate in Bingo, which provides scholarships and supports local programs.

Commissioner Short promoted the Gas Pumping Program and encouraged everyone to obtain a free card at the San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center. She thanked the City for the street work that has been completed.

Commissioner Hernandez shared the concerns he has due to Medi-Cal cuts. He stated that In-Home Support Services will also be reducing their service hours. He encouraged anyone whose In-Home Support Services were reduced to appeal immediately.

Commissioner Dallas stated that she was happy with the Walker House restoration. She added that the curb outside the Park San Dimas Apartments needs to be painted red and that it is difficult to make a U-Turn on Foothill Avenue.

Commissioner Skinner encouraged everyone to attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Gallery at the Walker House and other great programs at Saffron.

**AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION:**

Audience members expressed a need for a Life Alert or a Lifeline program at Park San Dimas. These programs provide seniors the ability to call for help by pressing a button on a bracelet or necklace. Sandra Bowman, a Park San Dimas resident, stated that in case of emergency frail seniors may not be able to reach a phone to call for assistance and inquired if staff would be able to research a group rate for the services. Commissioner Hernandez also suggested the 911 service phones available through the California Telephone Access Program.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m. to November 5, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

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Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator