

CITY OF SAN DIMAS  
SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION  
Thursday, March 4, 2010  
San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center  
201 E. Bonita Avenue

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Bee Dallas  
Lorous "Connie" Brown, Chairperson  
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, Recreation Coordinator

Absent: Judy Kephart, excused  
Don Stevenson, unexcused  
Robbie Williams, unexcused

**AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION**

Commissioner Brown welcomed members of the audience and staff described the purpose of the Senior Citizen Commission. Commissioners and staff introduced themselves.

Maria Ybarra stated that residents are overfilling trash bins and Waste Management is leaving trash around the cans. She also noted that residents leave the bins out long after trash pick up days. Councilmember Bertone recommended that she contact the Code Enforcement officer. He explained that the Code Enforcement officer will send a notice and make a citation if it is not corrected.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 7, 2010 MEETING AS MAILED**

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2010, WERE APPROVED AS MAILED.

## SENIOR CITIZEN/COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

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

Staff reviewed the quarterly Senior Citizen/Community Center usage and activity comparison report noting the decrease in attendance for Mt. San Antonio College (MSAC) sponsored courses due to a two-week break in February. Commissioner Skinner noted that the physical fitness programs continue to grow. Councilmember Bertone inquired on the possibility of losing MSAC sponsored courses due to State budget cuts. Staff responded that at this time Mary Lange, MSAC Older Adult Program Supervisor, is not anticipating cutting classes currently provided. Staff stated that Mt San Antonio College recently updated their computers located in the San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center computer lab and also added a Brain Fitness and a Creative Writing course. Commissioner Skinner stated that the San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center is used to its fullest, noting that piano courses are offered in the lobby.

Staff reported that a survey was conducted during the month of February to determine if the meal quality is affecting participation the Chuckwagon Lunch program. Based on these findings, staff concluded that the decrease in the program is not due to the meal quality, which was rated as excellent by 34% and as good by 57% of the responders. The survey responders stated that the Chuckwagon Lunch and Dinner programs offer participants an opportunity to socialize with friends.

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

Staff reviewed the following programs held in January and February:

January 6	Excursion – Pala Casino (2 buses)
January 7	Chuckwagon Social –New Year Bingo Social
January 12	Seminar-Emergency Prep 101
January 14	Excursion – IMAX Theatre and Lawry’s Prime Rib
January 14	Chuckwagon Social – Happy Hour
January 19	Chuckwagon Social – Open Mic Night
January 22	Senior Social – Viva Las Vegas
January 26	Chuckwagon Social – Birthday Social
February 11	Chuckwagon Social – Happy Hour
February 11	Seminar-Smarter Senior Forum presented by Supervisor Antonovich
February 11	Chuckwagon Social – Bingo Social
February 13	Excursion – Whale Watching in Dana Point
February 18	Seasonal Event – Bunko Social
February 19	Senior Dinner Social – Roaring 20s Dinner

Upcoming events and activities include:

March 11	Chuckwagon Social – Bingo Social
March 11	Chuckwagon Social – Happy Hour
March 16	Chuckwagon Social – Open Mic Night
March 19	Senior Event – Lucky Leprechaun
March 20	Excursion – Carlsbad Excursion
March 30	Chuckwagon Social – Birthday Social
March 31	Excursion – Spring Surprise

April 7	Excursion – Pechanga Casino
April 8	Chuckwagon Social – Happy Hour
April 8	Chuckwagon Social – Bingo Social
April 9	Senior Event – Greek Toga Party
April 7	Excursion – Federal Reserve
April 24	Seasonal Event – Senior Talent Showcase
April 29	Seasonal Event – Bunko Social

**C. Miscellaneous**

Staff reported that the H1N1 Flu Shot Clinic was hosted on Wednesday, February 10 and 95 vaccines were administered. Six vaccines were given to children and 89 to seniors. Staff thanked the volunteers for making the event a success.

**REPORT FROM SAN DIMAS SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB**

Linda Groth, San Dimas Senior Citizens Club Treasurer, reported that the Senior Citizens Club donated \$11,400 in 2009 to local organizations. Donation recipients included:

- City of San Dimas for Bingo Utilities (\$3000)
- San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center for Special Events (\$2400)
- Scholarships (\$3000)
- Hunger Kitchen (\$200)
- Nature Center (\$100)
- Holiday Fest Mt. San Dimas (\$1500)
- Salvation Army (\$500)
- McKinley Children’s Center (\$500)
- Los Angeles Mission (\$200)

Delia Lee and Gerry Gibson stated that they have created fifteen care packages for soldiers stationed overseas. They contacted the San Dimas Heroes Organization to gather names of local military personnel. Linda Groth stated that they have not received any information from their San Dimas Heroes Organization contact.

Commissioner Skinner suggested having the newspaper highlight the programs and activities organized by the San Dimas Senior Citizens Club. Director Bruns suggested that Linda Groth attend the March 23 City Council meeting to give a donation report. Staff will contact local media outlets to set-up photo opportunities during the next care package assembly.

**SELECTION OF 2010 LOS ANGELES COUNTY OLDER AMERICAN HONOREE**

Staff reviewed the criteria for the San Dimas Older American Honoree Award and presented the nominations received. The Commission reviewed and discussed the nominations.

COMMISSIONER SKINNER MOVED TO RECOMMEND JAY PACE TO CITY COUNCIL AS THE 2010 OLDER AMERICAN HONOREE, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BROWN AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Staff reported that the Los Angeles County Older American Honoree Program is usually hosted in May. Staff stated that the location and time are unknown.

## **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

### **A. Staff**

Director Bruns reported that Senior Citizen Commission terms expire for Commissioners Brown, Kephart and Stevenson with the option to be re-appointed. Commissioner Brown will continue for another term and staff will contact Commissioners Kephart and Stevenson. Commissioners Pace and Short's terms will expire in June leaving two seats available.

Director Bruns stated that the Parks and Recreation Department will be honored at the California Parks and Recreation Conference (CPRS) on Friday, March 12 for the Walker House Restoration. The award is in recognition of preserving the historic facility. She will accept along with other City officials on behalf of the San Dimas community.

Director Bruns stated that the next 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event will be the City Birthday Barbecue on Saturday, August 7 and the concluding event will be a New Year's Eve event on Friday, December 31, 2010. She stated that pole banners are still available for purchase. The \$225 banner cost is for the production of the banners and the bracketing.

### **B. City Council Liaison**

Councilmember Bertone reported that the City Hall expansion project will add 10,000 square feet. The interior will drastically change while the exterior will retain the existing style. The project is expected to be completed in one year. He recognized the efforts of staff who relocated programs and services. Director Bruns stated that the first major event, while construction is underway, will be the Family Festival on Saturday, March 27. She stated that City Hall will close on Friday, March 5 in preparation for the move to the old Levitz building, which will be called Temporary City Hall (TCH). TCH is expected to open to the public on Monday, March 8 at 1:00pm for regular business. Director Bruns stated that a City Hall groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, March 23 at 4:00 pm.

Councilmember Bertone stated that no additional projects are planned in the City besides the City Hall renovation. The San Dimas Avenue "Grove Station" project is still in process, but has had multiple delays due to finances. The San Dimas Canyon Project is also "moving along" and Fresh & Easy is expected to be included in the project.

Councilmember Bertone invited everyone to visit the 2<sup>nd</sup> Story Gallery at the Walker House. He also reported that Saffron has changed management and are now working closely with staff. Commissioner Skinner commented that she has seen a true partnership and interest in contributing to the community by the new management.

### **C. Members of the Commission**

Commissioner Pace thanked staff for repairing the pothole on Allen Avenue and Shaftsbury Road. She also thanked the Commission for recommending her as the 2010 Older American Honoree. Commissioner Pace inquired if the overnight parking patrol vehicles are marked because she spotted an unmarked vehicle issuing a ticket. Staff stated that the Code Enforcement vehicles are all marked. Commissioner Pace thanked the City for placing the flashing lights on Lone Hill Avenue near Lone Hill Middle School. She stated that it was very helpful during the rainy days.

Commissioner Short thanked the Commission for recognizing Commissioner Pace as the Older American Honoree. She stated that she will miss participating in the Senior Citizen Commission but will visit occasionally.

Commissioner Hernandez stated that Los Angeles County halted budget cuts to the In-Home Support Program, but is now considering decreasing staff.

Commissioner Dallas thanked Director Bruns for forwarding her traffic concern to staff. She received a letter regarding the inability to install a light at Monte Vista Avenue. She stated that there appears to be too many irrigation heads in the San Dimas Avenue median.

Commissioner Skinner invited everyone to participate in The Branch Hands. The volunteer group is planting trees on several school sites in the next couple of months.

Commissioner Brown stated that San Dimas High School requires students to complete 10 hours of community service during their senior year. She suggested that staff contact the School District to become an intergenerational volunteer site. Staff stated that they regularly work with youth volunteers completing community service hours.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. to May 6, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

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Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator