

CITY OF SAN DIMAS  
SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION  
Thursday, May 6, 2010  
San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center  
201 E. Bonita Avenue

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Brown called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Bee Dallas  
Lorous "Connie" Brown, Chairperson  
Paul Hernandez  
Jay Pace  
Prudie Short  
Robbie Williams  
  
John Ebner, Councilmember  
Leon Raya, Recreation Services Manager  
Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator

Absent: Judy Kephart, excused  
Alta Skinner, excused  
Don Stevenson, excused

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 4, 2010 MEETING AS MAILED**

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 4, 2010, APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY AS MAILED.

**SENIOR CITIZEN/COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE**

**A. Attendance/Participation**

Staff reviewed the quarterly Senior Citizen/Community Center usage and activity comparison report noting an increase in the Chuckwagon Lunch Program and a substantial increase in walk-ins and phone calls in March coinciding with the relocation of City Hall and Bingo. Staff stated that walk-ins also include individuals interested in directions to the Temporary City Hall, new visitors and any individual inquiring on services.

**B. Programs and Activities**

Staff reviewed the following programs held in March and April:

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

Upcoming events and activities include:

May 1	Chuckwagon Social – 90+ Birthday at San Dimas Retirement Center
May 12	Excursion – Palm Springs Follies
May 13	Chuckwagon Social – Happy Hour
May 13	Chuckwagon Social – Bingo Social
May 14	Senior Event – Senior Mingle
May 18	Chuckwagon Social – Open Mic Night
May 22	Outdoor Adventure – Wildlife Hike
May 25	Chuckwagon Social – Birthday Social
May 26-28	Excursion – Laughlin and Oatman Getaway (3 Days)
June 3	Seasonal Event – Bunko Social
June 5	Excursion – Long Beach Melodrama
June 10	Chuckwagon Social – Happy Hour
June 10	Chuckwagon Social – Bingo Social
June 10-15	Excursion – Oregon Trails and the Flower Festival (6 Days)
June 18	Senior Event – Luau Dinner
June 19	Outdoor Adventure – Extreme Hike
June 29	Chuckwagon Social – Birthday Social

**C. Miscellaneous**

Commissioner Brown noted the increase in cribbage attendance and inquired on the health status of Commissioner Stevenson. Staff reported that Commissioner Stevenson’s son stated that his father would not be able to continue to serve on the Commission. Commissioner Brown requested staff to send a card to Commissioner Stevenson on behalf of the Senior Citizen Commission.

**SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION FOUNDATION QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT**

Staff reported that the current Senior Citizen Commission Foundation Money Market account balance is \$4,637.45. The Certificate of Deposit account balance is \$5,027.54, which will mature on August 19, 2010. Staff will request direction during the July Senior Citizen Commission meeting. The total balance for the Money Market and Certificate of Deposit accounts is \$9,664.99.

Staff mentioned that once the City Hall renovation project is completed, staff will evaluate the Senior Center to identify needs and minor improvements to the facility. There are currently no recommendations for expenditures from the accounts. Commissioner Pace stated that some cities are evaluating the removal of the word “senior” from facilities. She would not like to see that occur in San Dimas. Staff stated that the City of San Dimas does not plan to change the name of the facility, but it is a trend in Parks and Recreation intended to encourage the younger seniors to participate.

## **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

### **A. Staff**

Staff stated that Jay Pace will be honored at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion on Monday, May 10 at the 2010 Older American Honoree Luncheon hosted by the Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging.

Staff announced that this is the final meeting for Commissioners Pace and Short as they are termed out as Senior Commissioners. Staff thanked Commissioners Pace and Short for their participation on the Senior Citizen Commission. Commissioner Pace stated that she will continue to volunteer as an Intervale Senior Services Site Council Representative representing the San Dimas Chuckwagon Nutrition Program. Commissioner Brown thanked Commissioner Short for emphasizing the need for a signal at the intersection of Iglesia Street and Bonita Avenue. She praised Commissioner Pace for her dedication to the quality of the nutrition program.

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

Councilmember Ebner reported that the City Hall renovation is expected to be completed by spring 2011 with a redesigned plaza and water feature.

Councilmember Ebner reported that the Festival of Arts Spring Show was hosted at the Walker House on April 24 and 25. He stated that the elevator was not operating and some visitors were only able to view the art displays located on the first floor.

Councilmember Ebner inquired on the Senior Commission’s feelings regarding the parking availability at the Senior Citizen/Community Center. Commissioner Pace inquired on the reason for removing the “head-in” parking spaces from First Street. She expressed a need for parking close to the facility for people with difficulty walking. Councilmember Ebner stated that the parking was removed because cars were hitting the curb and the City is researching parking options. Staff stated that the Parks and Recreation Department is identifying a long-term solution that takes sidewalks, open space, accessibility and aesthetics into consideration. Commissioner Pace stated that a walking path around the Civic Center Park would allow people to walk safely around the park.

Commissioner Brown commented that with the relocation of classes to the Swim and Racquet Club, the parking lot is full and many seniors are walking a long distance to get to their class. She stated that disabled parking is very limited. Staff stated that parking is being evaluated at the Swim and Racquet Club and is a priority.

Councilmember Ebner inquired on the use of the shuffleboard located at the Civic Center Park. Commissioner Brown requested that the Commissioners ask their friends and see if it is an activity of interest for the community.

On behalf of the City Council, Councilmember Ebner thanked Commissioners Pace and Short for their years of service to the Senior Citizen Commission.

**C. Members of the Commission**

Commissioner Short stated that many residents have asked her for a traffic light at the intersection of Bonita Avenue and Monte Vista Avenue, but she is afraid too many traffic lights will deter shopping.

Commissioner Dallas stated that she submitted an inquiry and the traffic light was not approved, but she was pleased by the way her concern was handled by Director Patel. Commissioner Short reported that the house across the street from her, on 4<sup>th</sup> Street, has overgrown weeds. Staff will forward the information to Code Enforcement. Councilmember Ebner stated that if anyone has concerns, they should contact Code Enforcement with the address so they can investigate.

Commissioner Dallas stated that too many sprinkler heads were placed in the San Dimas Avenue median between Gladstone Avenue and Allen Avenue. She stated that she is going to be checking to make sure they were all necessary. She invited everyone to attend the Relay For Life on Saturday, May 15 at Horsethief Canyon Park beginning at 9:00am.

Commissioner Williams announced that she is retiring from her employment. She reported that on Allen Avenue between San Dimas Avenue and Walnut Avenue, she has observed 12 sheep grazing on the front yard of a property. Councilmember Ebner stated that he is not familiar with the exact zoning in the area, but it may be permissible as some parcels are still zoned for agricultural use. Staff stated that they would follow up on her concern.

Commissioner Hernandez inquired on the progress of the San Dimas Canyon Project. Councilmember Ebner stated that the residential portion is on hold and that Fresh and Easy is still included in the design. Commissioner Hernandez inquired on the City's ability to respond to a disaster. Staff stated that the City has an Emergency Operation Center located at the Sheriff's Station and each department has a clear area of responsibility during a disaster. The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for Logistics, which includes Care and Shelter. Staff stated that lead staff, secondary and tertiary staff is identified and cross-trained to ensure delivery of services. Staff reported that the City does not keep a stock of supplies, but rather works with the American Red Cross, local vendors and faith-based communities to be self-sufficient. Staff stated that this is an on-going endeavor and encouraged Commissioners to prepare an emergency kit, take a first aide course and urge their neighbors and family to be prepared.

Commissioner Brown inquired on the status of the construction at Valley Center Drive and Gainsborough Road. She stated that the green fencing is gone and the project looks inactive. Councilmember Ebner stated that he is not familiar with the status of the project but knows that construction was halted when the owner lost funding.

Commissioner Pace stated that she is looking forward to continuing as a Site Representative for Intervale Senior Services.

Commissioner Short thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve on the Senior Citizen Commission.

**AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION**

Maria Ybarra inquired on the possibility of placing benches outside of the Swim and Racquet Club for seniors waiting for classes to begin. Staff stated that the only concern may be teens loitering and they will research her inquiry. She stated that residents continue overfilling trash bins and Waste Management is leaving trash around the cans. She noted that residents leave the bins out long after trash pick up days. Councilmember Ebner recommended that she contact the Code Enforcement officer.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m. to July 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

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Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator