

CITY OF SAN DIMAS
SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION
Thursday, January 6, 2011
San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center
201 East Bonita Avenue, San Dimas

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Hernandez called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. New Commissioner Chet Sasaki introduced himself to the Senior Citizen Commission.

ROLL CALL

Present: Bee Dallas
 Fred Garcia
 Lou Gross
 Paul Hernandez
 Chet Sasaki
 Ed Wolfe

 Denis Bertone, Councilmember
 Theresa Bruns, Director of Parks and Recreation
 Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator

Absent: Lorous "Connie" Brown, excused
 Alta Skinner, excused
 Robbie Williams, excused

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 4, 2010 MEETING AS MAILED

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

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION

No audience communication at this meeting.

SENIOR CITIZEN/COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

A. Attendance/Participation

Staff reviewed the quarterly Senior Citizen/Community Center usage and activity comparison report. Staff stated that the slight decrease this past quarter may be attributed to the rain and an early winter break by Mt. San Antonio College. Staff stated that Mt. San Antonio College will commence the fall schedule on Monday, January 10.

B. Programs and Activities

Staff reviewed the following programs held in November and December:

November 4	Seasonal – Flu Shot Clinic
November 7	Excursion – Carlsbad Fair
November 12	Senior Event – Thanksgiving Dinner
November 16	Chuckwagon Social – Open Mic Night
November 18	Excursion – Soboba Casino in San Jacinto
November 30	Chuckwagon Social – Birthday Social
December 4	Citywide Event – Holiday Extravaganza
December 9	Chuckwagon Social – Happy Hour with Open Mic
December 9	Chuckwagon Social – Bingo Social
December 10	Senior Event – Holiday Dinner
December 14	Seasonal – Focus Group
December 19	Excursion – Newport Christmas Boat Parade
December 28	Chuckwagon Social – Birthday Social

Upcoming events and activities include:

January 6	Chuckwagon Social – New Year Social
January 13	Chuckwagon Social – Bingo Social
January 13	Chuckwagon Social – Happy Hour
January 13	Excursion – Valley View Casino
January 18	Chuckwagon Social – Open Mic Night
January 21	Senior Event – Roaring 20s Dinner
January 27	Seminar – AmeriVets Benefits
January 29	Excursion – Blast to the Past Trip
February 3	Excursion – Stars and Stripes Forever
February 10	Chuckwagon Social – Bingo Social
February 10	Chuckwagon Social – Happy Hour
February 10	Seminar – Balance and Mobility
February 11	Senior Event – Tea Party
February 17	Seminar – Focus on the Heart
February 24	Seasonal – Bunko
February 26	Excursion – Victorian Redlands

C. Miscellaneous

Staff stated that the Senior Club cancelled Bingo on December 21, December 28 and January 4 to avoid losing money due to the holiday season.

COMMISSION INPUT REGARDING PROGRAM IDEAS AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Staff reported that as requested by the Commission, computer labs at local senior/recreation centers were visited to compare lighting, layout, chairs and usage. Staff visited the cities of La Verne, Diamond Bar and Claremont. Staff reported that:

- All sites use standard overhead lighting and do not have lamps for additional lighting.
- The room layout usually has the computers along the perimeter; some have dividers but most do not.
- The computer classes have priority and the public is able to use the labs while classes are not in session.

Staff stated that the 2011-2012 budget will include the purchase of new chairs for the computer lab; however, if new chairs can be secured sooner they will be changed. Staff was directed to contact Mt. San Antonio College and suggest that a Certificate of Completion be awarded upon computer course completion.

Staff and Commissioner Wolfe presented the proposed *TechPals Program* outline. Commissioner Wolfe shared that Nan Shapiro, Senior Director of Elementary Education, and Dr. Rapkin, Superintendent, from the Bonita Unified School District are very supportive of the program.

REVIEW OF PROCESS FOR SELECTION OF 2011 LOS ANGELES COUNTY OLDER AMERICAN HONOREE

Staff reported that the Older American Honoree represents the City of San Dimas at the Older American Recognition Day celebration, sponsored by Los Angeles County; during Western Days, sponsored by the San Dimas Chamber of Commerce; and during San Dimas Day at the Los Angeles County Fair in Pomona. Staff stated that the Los Angeles County event is tentatively scheduled but confirmation is pending. Staff stated that the nomination process will continue to identify a San Dimas Older American Honoree. Staff will promote the Older American Honoree nomination process during the San Dimas Senior Citizens Club meetings, during the Chuckwagon Nutrition Programs, in the *SilverTimes* monthly newsletter and all other regular media releases. Forms will be available at the San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center and at City Hall and must be returned by Wednesday, February 24, 2010. The Commission reviewed the nomination application and list of past honorees.

COMMISSIONER WOLFE MOVED TO APPROVE THE SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE 2011 OLDER AMERICAN HONOREE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GROSS AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Staff

Staff encouraged Commissioners to attend the Employee Recognition on Saturday, January 29 at the San Dimas Canyon Golf Course.

B. City Council Liaison

Councilmember Bertone reported that the City Hall project continues to move on schedule and staff is expected to move in on April 1. City Hall is scheduled to open to the public on April 4.

Councilmember Bertone stated that the election will be held on March 8, with Mayor Curt Morris, Councilmember John Ebiner and Councilmember Emmet Badar up for re-election.

Councilmember Bertone reported that the Fresh & Easy construction is scheduled to conclude in February; however, an opening is not set. He said 180 apartments are expected to be built behind Fresh & Easy.

Councilmember Bertone expects that changes will occur in the coming years. He anticipates that San Dimas will receive less money from the State and Federal governments.

Councilmember Bertone stated that negotiations are underway with Olive Garden and Panda Express to be added to the Costco lot.

C. Members of the Commission

Commissioner Dallas restated her concerns and interest in having a stop sign near Monte Vista Avenue. Councilmember Bertone stated that as he recalls it has previously gone before traffic and safety committee and staff. She stated that she had already received a letter from staff.

Commissioner Garcia reported that he created an emergency awareness program called, *Neighbors Helping Neighbors* and a *Code of Cooperation* at Park San Dimas Apartments. His intent is to inform residents on the roles they play during an emergency. A whistle program will be created to address recent falls. If a whistle is heard, a neighbor will call staff. In an emergency, residents may also post an "I'm OK" door hanger to notify volunteers that they do not need assistance. If a door hanger is not posted, volunteers will investigate to make sure the residents are safe. He will be hosting a disaster preparedness program to help neighbors during emergencies. He reported that the clubhouse was broken into and a TV was stolen.

Commissioner Gross shared that Emeritus has an excellent Emergency Preparedness program that may be a valuable resource for other senior living facilities.

Commissioner Wolfe suggested having volunteers assist with organizing the Quiet Lounge at the Senior Center.

Commissioner Hernandez stated that with a \$37 to \$39 billion deficit in the State budget, he expects cuts to social services will impact the vulnerable senior community.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. to March 3, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator