

CITY OF SAN DIMAS
SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION
Thursday, November 3, 2011
San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center
201 East Bonita Avenue, San Dimas

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Wolfe at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Bee Dallas
 Fred Garcia
 Lou Gross
 Paul Hernandez
 Alta Skinner
 Robbie Williams
 Ed Wolfe, Chairperson

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

Absent: Lorous “Connie” Brown, excused
 Chet Sasaki, excused

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION

Mr. Cesar Hernandez from Express Transportation requested support from the Senior Citizen Commission to provide transportation to San Dimas residents. He currently can transport clients from other cities to San Dimas, but he is not licensed to initiate transportation from the City of San Dimas. Director Bruns explained the function of the existing Joint Powers Agreement between the City of San Dimas and the Pomona Valley Transportation Authority. Councilmember Bertone recommended that he speak to Ken Duran, Assistant City Manager and Councilmember Badar, City Council representative to the Pomona Valley Transportation Authority. Mr. Hernandez stated that he was in communication with Ken Duran. Commissioner Skinner stated that the Senior Citizen Commission would not make a recommendation for support since the Senior Citizen Commission focuses on senior programs, and his request extends beyond the parameters of the Senior Citizen Commission. Commissioner Wolfe thanked Mr. Hernandez for attending the meeting and sharing his information.

Jay Pace stated that the seniors appreciate the upgrade to the restroom doors and reported that the Chuckwagon Lunch Program had 90 in attendance today.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 1, 2011 MEETING AS MAILED

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2011 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. Staff reported an attendance increase for the Chuckwagon Nutrition Programs and the return of the watercolor class in the month of October. Although the increases may seem substantial, they amount to approximately 4 to 6 new or returning participants per program and approximately 20 new regular participants for bingo.

B. Programs and Activities

Staff reviewed the following programs held in September and October:

September 02	Senior Event – Senior Prom Dinner
September 07	Excursion – Stars and Stripes Bus-1
September 09	Seasonal – Flu Shot Clinic
September 14	Excursion – Stars and Stripes Bus-2
September 22	Excursion – Lights, Cameras, Action
October 14	Senior Event – Psycho Circus
October 16	Excursion – Oktoberfest
October 27	Seasonal – Bunko

Upcoming events and activities include:

November 04	Senior Event – Thanksgiving Dinner
November 06	Excursion – OC Market Place
November 09	Seasonal – Flu Shot Clinic
November 15	Screening – Memory Screening
November 16	Excursion – Battle of the Dance
November 17	Screening – Diabetes 101
December 02	Excursion – Colorful Songs of Broadway
December 04	Excursion – Santa Fe Extended Excursion (5 Days)
December 09	Senior Event – Psycho Circus
December 11	Excursion – The White House in Anaheim
December 22	Seasonal – Holiday Open House
December 29	Seasonal – Bunko

C. Miscellaneous

Staff reported that on Wednesday, November 9 from 9:00 a.m. to noon, the Los Angeles County Health Department will host the annual free Flu Shot Clinic at the Plummer Community Building. The clinic will only offer influenza vaccines. The clinic will feature a small information fair with local service agencies

including, Atria Rancho Park, Community Senior Services, Emeritus at San Dimas, HomeWatch Caregivers, Inter Valley Health Plan, Seniors Helping Seniors and Sunnyside Apartments. Staff estimates that approximately 200 vaccinations will be issued. Ten senior volunteers are expected to assist during the event and once again Commissioner Hernandez volunteered to assist with the final tally.

Staff invited everyone to attend the Memory Screening sponsored by Seniors Helping Seniors on Tuesday, November 15 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. hosted at the San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center. A nursing professional will be on site to answer questions during a round table discussion and a motivational speaker from the Community Senior Services Adult Day Care Program will share her experience caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's.

PRESENTATION OF SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Commissioner Wolfe recognized Jay Pace for her weekly articles in the San Dimas Community News, highlighting the benefits of the San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center and the Senior Citizens Club. Councilmember Bertone stated that he appreciated her continued support.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Staff

1. City Website

Staff presented a list of steps for finding and sending email feedback to the Senior Citizen Commissioners. Director Bruns discussed that she and Leon Raya are looking to simplify the process. She will be recommending that the *Senior Programs* link include a direct link to the *Senior Citizen Commission* to offer another path. Councilmember Bertone suggested having a direct link to Senior Services in the drop box listing the City Departments. Director Bruns will be suggesting having the *City Council* link read, *City Council and Commissions* to clearly direct users to the various Commissions. Director Bruns stated that the drop boxes display the possible links automatically by placing the cursor on any link without clicking, which aids the process of locating links. Commissioner Wolfe inquired if the City website links to the Youth and Family Coalition website. Director Bruns replied that links are offered, but they must be preapproved and must be a community partner. Director Bruns stated that businesses are not linked due to implied endorsement. Commissioner Skinner agreed not to have businesses. Commissioner Wolfe asked to have the list of featured links reviewed and to identify additional links. He also suggested identifying if seniors have concerns when using the City website. Director Bruns asked Commissioners to suggest links that may be beneficial to feature on the website. Director Bruns stated that Parks and Recreation staff will contact other service providers to link to the City website. Commissioner Wolfe inquired of the possibility of surveying seniors' experience with the city website. Staff stated that a survey would be made available at the senior center with special focus to the computer lab and computer students. The survey would be promoted in the *SilverTimes Newsletter* and a "How to Navigate the City Website" topic would be offered during the monthly Tech Thursday program. Commissioner Skinner suggested distributing *SilverTimes Newsletters* at the RV Park at Bonelli Park.

2. Other

Director Bruns invited Commissioners to attend the second Walnut Creek Open Space Community meeting on Tuesday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Plummer Community Building. She stated that during the first meeting the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy reviewed the history of the land and provided participants with play money to identify what portions of the project were valuable to them. The land is intended for use

as a semi-active or passive park. During the second meeting, participants will share their ideas and discuss three conceptual designs and hear the results of the first meetings activity. The information will be gathered by the consultants and they will return in January or February to present suggested conceptual plans. Commissioner Skinner suggested having a community calendar to avoid schedule conflicts between organizations. Director Bruns stated that a community calendar is available on the city website and organizations are encouraged to submit meeting dates to John Lee.

Director Bruns invited Commissioners to attend the HEROES memorial wall unveiling on Friday, November 11 at 3:30 p.m. Commissioner Wolfe will be performing with his Brass Quartet at 3:15 p.m.

Director Bruns invited Commissioners to attend the Holiday Extravaganza on Saturday, December 3 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Festivities include a student art exhibit, a collection of modern and antique Santa figurines, and photos with Santa at the Walker House. First Street will feature Mt. San Dimas, a vendor Market Place, games and rides for children, and the traditional horse-drawn hayride. Downtown merchants will once again host the traditional Holiday Treasure Hunt and window decorating contest. The event will culminate at Rhoads Park with entertainment by Mr. Wolfe's Quartet and the tree lighting at 6:00 p.m.

B. City Council Liaison

Councilmember Bertone stated that the City closed the 2010-2011 budget year approximately one million dollars in revenue over spending. He extrapolated that this may be due to a combination of a decrease in budgeted expenditures and an increase in revenue over expenditures. He stated that the City's reserve is approximately \$13 million.

Councilmember Bertone invited everyone to the Holiday Extravaganza on December 3 and the Toast of the Town on February 16. The Chamber of Commerce Toast of the Town features delicious food from local businesses, wine tasting and possibly tequila tasting for 2012. The cost is \$25 per person, pre-sale and \$30 per person, at the door. Both events will feature Ed Wolfe's Quartet. Commissioner Skinner stated that no one should leave hungry or thirsty.

Councilmember Bertone announced that he recently met with a resident to discuss the possibility of creating a community garden in San Dimas.

Councilmember Bertone reported that the Grove Station Project on San Dimas Avenue is expected to include condominiums. The San Dimas Canyon Project is having trouble selling store parcels next to Fresh & Easy and have halted building apartments due to the current litigation with the State over Redevelopment.

Councilmember Bertone reported that the Gold Line construction began near the 210 Freeway. The cost is projected at \$580 million and they currently have approximately \$180 million.

Councilmember Bertone reported that Olive Garden and Panda Express are coming to the Costco site.

C. Members of the Commission

Commissioner Dallas inquired if the large oak tree will be removed in order to accommodate the Olive Garden and Panda Express restaurants at the corner of Lone Hill Avenue and Gladstone Avenue. Councilmember Bertone confirmed that the tree will be removed.

Commissioner Skinner stated that August Autumn Nights fundraiser held to benefit the Festival of Arts was a success and encouraged everyone to save the date for next year's fundraiser on August 25, 2012 at the "corner lodge." She reported that all local schools supported the HEROES memorial by purchasing pavers. She suggested having a horseshoe area near the veterans' memorial. She was pleased that the Bonita Unified School District will not be hosting a school board election; therefore, saving approximately \$75,000 from the general budget. She stated that Mt. San Antonio College will not be having an election either and they will save approximately \$1.5 million from the general fund. She wanted to illustrate the cost to cities and school districts for holding elections.

Commissioner Hernandez stated that the State budget is expected to be reduced by 10% to 15% in early January. He stated that although unemployment is high the Federal Government has increased staff. He shared that a recent article stated that although flu shots are good they only benefit 57% of people receiving them.

Commissioner Garcia reported that all residents in the Park San Dimas Apartments participated in the Shakeout Drill on October 28. He stated that all new residents receive a survival packet and a Welcome Packet which includes the *SilverTimes Newsletter*.

Commissioner Wolfe stated that the quartet is volunteering at various upcoming community events and he is interested in creating a community band. He inquired on the ability to create a list of interested seniors. Staff stated that a request for interested musicians can be added to the *SilverTimes Newsletter* as part of the ongoing interest list compiled by staff.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m. to January 5, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator