

CITY OF SAN DIMAS
SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION
Thursday, January 5, 2012
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
 Chet Sasaki
 Alta Skinner, Vice Chairperson
 Ed Wolfe, Chairperson

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

Absent: Lorous “Connie” Brown, excused
 Robbie Williams

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION

No Audience Communication.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 3, 2011 MEETING AS MAILED

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 3, 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 stated that the numbers are higher due to the decrease in participation that occurred during the 2010 relocation period.

Staff reported that the attendance during the Chuckwagon Lunch and Dinner programs is considerably higher. An on-going survey is available during the Chuckwagon Nutrition Programs to ensure that great quality is maintained.

Staff stated that Tech Thursday was not held in December, but a website usage survey will be conducted in February when the computer classes resume.

Staff stated that Mt. San Antonio College classes were off for two weeks in the month of December 2011 and classes will be off for two weeks in the month of January 2012.

B. Programs and Activities

Staff reviewed the following programs held in November and December:

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

Upcoming events and activities include:

January 27	Senior Event – Rock Around the Clock Dinner
January 06	Excursion – Pala
January 16	Excursion – Bowers Museum
February 16	Excursion – Grammy Museum
February 17	Senior Event – Crazy Carnival Dinner
February 24	Seasonal – Bunko
February 25	Excursion – Queen Mary

C. Miscellaneous

Staff clarified that the numbers listed for Meals on Wheels are provided by Meals on Wheels and represent the total meals distributed and the number of clients registered in the City of San Dimas.

SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION FOUNDATION QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Staff reported that the current Senior Citizen Commission Foundation Money Market account balance is \$5,026.86. The Certificate of Deposit account balance is \$5,062.90, which will mature on August 19, 2012. Staff will request direction from the Senior Citizen Commission during the July meeting. The total combined balance for the Money Market and Certificate of Deposit accounts is \$10,089.76. There are currently no recommendations for expenditures from the accounts.

COMMISSION INPUT REGARDING PROGRAM IDEAS AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Director Bruns requested input and ideas from Commissioners regarding program, operations and the facility. Their comments will be considered with staff recommendations during the budget process.

Commissioner Skinner inquired on the lack of a marquee that lists activities or highlights the programs occurring at the Civic Center. Councilmember Bertone stated that in the past a marquee was recommended by the Senior Citizen Commission, but was not approved by the City Council. Commissioner Dallas stated that she did not believe a marquee was necessary. Director Bruns stated that requests for capital improvements are submitted for review during the Council budget retreat, where the items are discussed and recommendations are made to City Council by Department Directors. Commissioner Wolfe inquired on the data required when making recommendations, such as a marquee. Councilmember Bertone stated that the request does not need to be fully developed, but must be clarified for Director Bruns to present effectively. Commissioner Wolfe inquired in the possibility of forming a committee to develop the concept. Director Bruns stated in rare cases a committee may be formed but usually staff conducts research and reports. Councilmember Bertone requested that a marquee for the Civic Center be presented to City Council if the Commission has consensus agreement. Commissioner Hernandez stated that it may assist in promoting the activities in the Civic Center.

Commissioner Garcia stated that an Emergency Preparedness Group is being developed to prepare San Dimas residents for an emergency. The program will highlight the achievements of Park San Dimas Apartments and attempt to encourage local senior living facilities to duplicate the program. The program will be developed by Commissioner Fred Garcia and Vern Dixon, an American Red Cross volunteer and resident of San Dimas. The program will be offered at the San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center and a representative will be recruited from each senior living facility in San Dimas through the Managers Exchange. Commissioner Skinner inquired if Park San Dimas Apartments participated in the 2011 Shake Out. Commissioner Garcia replied that Park San Dimas Apartments conducted simulations and hosted a preparedness week.

Commissioner Wolfe encouraged that the City website be developed to add information links to local service agencies. He inquired if a committee would be created to identify the links and suggested including the web master, members of the Youth and Family Coalition, and staff to explore the possibilities. Director Bruns stated that she will verify the parameters outlined in the Informational Technology contracts. She stated that changes will more than likely be managed internally to maintain consistency on the website, but community input will be invited. Commissioner Wolfe requested that the Senior Commission be kept abreast of the developments.

Commissioner Gross requested that a projection screen and window shades be considered for the computer lab.

REVIEW OF PROCESS FOR SELECTION OF 2012 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 for 2012 has not been confirmed. 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 newsletters, during the Managers Exchange, and the form will be available on-line, and through 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 Tuesday, February 21, 2012. Staff stated that applications will be reviewed during the March Senior Citizen Commission meeting and the nominee is usually recognized at the first City Council meeting in April.

The Commission reviewed the nomination application. Commissioner Skinner suggested a statement be modified to include all involvement that benefits the lives of seniors. Commissioner Sasaki suggested including a list of past honorees and including a sample statement to assist in the nomination process. The Commission directed staff to make modifications to the application while maintaining the current criteria. Commissioner Gross suggested promoting on the local cable station.

DISCUSSION REGARDING CHANGING THE TIME OF THE COMMISSION MEETINGS

Director Bruns stated that many Commissions have adjusted meeting time to better fit the schedule of the members serving and the public. She offered the same opportunity to the Senior Citizen Commission for discussion. Commissioner Gross suggested meeting at a restaurant for a breakfast meeting at 7:00 a.m. Commissioner Skinner stated that members who are still working may not be able to attend. Commissioner Hernandez suggested changing the time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Wolfe was concerned that if meetings are held at 5:30 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. it may interfere with the dinner hour.

COMMISSIONER SKINNER MOVED TO CHANGE THE SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION MEETING TIME TO 6:00 P.M. EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2012, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HERNANDEZ AND PASSED 6-1, WITH COMMISSIONER WOLFE OPPOSED.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Staff

Director Bruns encouraged Commissioners to attend the Employee and Commissioner Recognition Dinner on Saturday, January 28 at San Dimas Canyon Golf Course. She stated that an invitation will be mailed this week and that some employees will be recognized for many years of service.

Director Bruns stated that two community meetings have been held to discuss the Walnut Creek Open Space Community Concept with consultants hired by the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. She stated that the first meeting had an estimated attendance of 85 and approximately 110 attended the second meeting. A third meeting will be scheduled at a later date.

Commissioner Sasaki requested information regarding the SHARES Program. He stated that clients he has referred have stated that they are not receiving assistance or their calls were not returned. Director Bruns stated that we will request to have a representative from the SHARES Program report during the March Senior Commission meeting.

B. City Council Liaison

Councilmember Bertone stated that all cities are currently focused on the elimination of Redevelopment . He stated that the intent of the Redevelopment Agency was to improve blighted areas by developing the land. The Costco Project is an example. He stated that some cities abused the program and the State has abolished the program to balance the State's budget. He stated that the City budget will be impacted considerably, but as always, staff will analyze the best way to proceed. Director Bruns stated that City Manager Michaelis is very fiscally conservative and will work with staff to identify the best course of action.

Councilmember Bertone stated that the San Dimas Canyon Gateway Project at Bonita and San Dimas Canyon is currently on hold.

Councilmember Bertone reported that the Gold Line extension construction began on the 210 Freeway in Rosemead. He stated all cities involved have approved the project and the Gold Line has the \$180 million to cover the construction of this phase from Rosemead to Azusa. There is currently no funding for phases beyond that.

Commissioner Gross inquired on the possibility of increased water rates. Councilmember Bertone stated that the Cities of San Dimas and Claremont hire a consultant to verify the usage to ensure that any rate increase is proper. He stated that they have been successful in reducing the increase amount suggested by Golden State Water Company.

Commissioner Dallas stated that she recently spoke to Public Works Director Patel regarding the need for a stop sign at the corner of Monte Vista Avenue and Bonita Avenue. She stated that while listening to *Ask the Mayor* on cable, a caller also reported the need for a light. Councilmember Bertone stated the Traffic Committee determines traffic issues guided by State requirements.

C. Members of the Commission

Commissioner Skinner reported that she received an email regarding legislation that intends to charge fees on bank deposits. After discussion, Councilmember Bertone stated that he would look into the validity of the email. She invited everyone to visit the Second Story Gallery on the second and third weekend of the month at the Walker House.

Commissioner Gross stated that he recently shared the SilverTimes Newsletter at a donut shop near the Vons Market on Via Verde Avenue. He said that the gentlemen he spoke to stated that the road work in San Dimas is great. Commissioner Gross inquired on the construction near the Costco lot. Councilmember Bertone stated that the Olive Garden restaurant is under construction.

Commissioner Garcia shared a New Year's sentiment: "May your best days in 2011, be your worst days in 2012."

Commissioner Sasaki stated that the Commission previously discussed the possibility of the City sponsoring a hazardous waste event in San Dimas, but it has not occurred. Director Bruns stated that it is a Los Angeles County sponsored program which rotates throughout the County of Los Angeles. He stated that the City of Upland offers a weekly collection site where paint, oil and other hazardous materials may be picked up. Director Bruns stated that Waste Management will collect hazardous wastes from residents such as oil and paint if a pick up is requested. Commissioner Skinner stated that envelopes are available at City Hall for light bulbs and batteries. Director Bruns stated that unused medication and sharps may be dropped off at collection bins outside of the Sheriff's Station. Commissioner Sasaki suggested more advertisement.

Commissioner Hernandez stated that he will be an AARP Income Tax volunteer and will be attending training at the San Dimas Senior Citizen/Community Center.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m. to March 1, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator