

CITY OF SAN DIMAS
SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION
Thursday, September 6, 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 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Beth Costanza
 Fred Garcia
 Paul Hernandez
 Chet Sasaki, Vice Chairperson
 Alta Skinner
 Ed Wolfe, Chairperson

 Theresa Bruns, Parks and Recreation Director
 Leon Raya, Recreation Services Manager
 Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator

Absent: Bee Dallas, excused
 Lou Gross
 Robbie Williams

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION

Al Vizzetti attended the meeting to observe.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JULY 5, 2012 MEETING AS MAILED

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JULY 5, 2012 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 during the summer months many programs have a slight increase in attendance. Staff received many visits from adult children who are interested in programs for their parents. Adelina Padilla, a new volunteer, conducted five welcome tours during her first shift.

Staff announced that Connie Arellano is out on maternity leave and stated that volunteers are helping throughout the week at the front desk, making copies, and assisting the public. Staff reported that during month of November, the AARP Driver Safety Program will be offered at no-cost to military service members and their spouses. Commissioner Skinner suggested to promote the information to the HEROES program and will provide staff a contact.

Staff reported that the Senior Resources Fair was hosted by the Managers Exchange at the Senior Citizen / Community Center following today's Chuckwagon Lunch Program. Attendees included Commissioner Sasaki representing Seniors Helping Seniors, Commissioner Garcia representing the Park San Dimas Emergency Preparedness Team and other representatives from HomeWatch Caregivers, Atria Rancho Park, and Sunnyside Apartments.

B. Programs and Activities

Staff reviewed the following programs held in July and August:

July 12	Excursion – Pageant of the Masters
July 19	Excursion – Del Mar Race Track
July 20	Special Event – Sizzling Summer Night Dinner
July 23-26	Seasonal Event – Cherie-Olympic Games
June 25	Excursion – Harrah's Casino (2 Busses)
August 11	Excursion – Golden Glendale
August 24	Senior Event – BBQ Dinner
August 29	Excursion – Warner Bros. Studios
August 30	Seasonal – Bunko

Upcoming events and activities include:

September 6	Seasonal – Resource Rally
September 8	Excursion – Catalina Getaway (2 buses)
September 12-14	Excursion – Las Vegas Getaway
September 21	Special Event – Tuscan Sun Dinner
September 27	Excursion – Footsteps to Capistrano
October 20	Excursion – Oktoberfest in Big Bear
October 18	Senior Event – Halloween Fairytale Dinner
October 24	Excursion – Fantasy Springs Casino (2 buses)
October 25	Seasonal – Bunko

C. Miscellaneous

Staff encouraged Commissioners to enjoy the many upcoming excursions and programs. Commissioner Skinner shared her appreciation for staff and her delight in seeing Paolo Kespradit grow through Parks and Recreation as participant and now as an employee. Manager Raya stated that he was also a Community Hero and on the San Dimas Day at the Fair as a junior member.

SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION FOUNDATION QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

As directed by the Senior Citizen Commission, staff contacted California Bank & Trust on August 2. They were unable to match the rate offered at Bank of America; staff transferred funds to Bank of America. Staff reported that the current Senior Citizen Commission Foundation Money Market account balance is \$5,008.33 at a rate of .07% APR. The Certificate of Deposit account balance is \$5,067.98 at a rate of .30% APR and will mature on August 24, 2013. The total combined balance for the Money Market and Certificate of Deposit accounts is \$10,076.31. There are currently no recommendations for

expenditures from the accounts. Commissioner Sasaki inquired on the last purchase made by the Senior Citizen Commission Foundation, Manager Raya stated it was an ice making machine for the kitchen.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Staff

Director Bruns reported that the City initiated six layoffs and early retirements to balance the budget. She stated that the Parks and Recreation Department had two vacancies that will not be filled. As a result, tasks were reorganized. Minor changes to benefits were also made to balance the budget and to be solvent in the future. Staff will increase their contribution to 4% to the Public Employees Retirement System and the City will no longer provide matching funds to employees for the Deferred Compensation Program. Director Bruns stated that other minimal reductions in maintenance and supplies were made to budgets, but participants will not be drastically impacted.

Director Bruns distributed a Senior Citizen Commission roster as requested by commissioners during the previous meeting.

Commissioner Sasaki inquired on the status of the suit to recover the Redevelopment funds owed to the City. Director Bruns stated that the suit was a joint effort by the League of California Cities. She stated that at this time she did not have a status update. She stated that City Manager Michaelis was currently at a Conference with the League of California Cities. Commissioner Sasaki stated that online reports suggest that cities are still able to utilize Redevelopments funds. Director Bruns stated that the funds available are for contracts or projects that were pre-existing.

Commissioner Skinner stated her pleasure to see Coordinators Orr and Ward assist customers at the front counter at City Hall. She commented that it is like a real family that supports each other. Director Bruns stated that supporting each other is the mode of operation for the Parks and Recreation Department.

Director Bruns reported that the front section of the Grove Station Project is complete. The rear section was sold; and, the sale and construction of residential units is underway. She stated that the Canyon Project lost funding and the current developer is selling the property. Panda Express and the Olive Garden are now open and appear to be successful. The Lone Hill Avenue housing development is currently under construction.

Director Bruns stated that a restaurant presented a proposal for the Walker House. Further review will be conducted by the City Council during a closed session.

Director Bruns stated that improvements are in progress at Gladstone Avenue. She encouraged commissioners to be aware, as the street may be closed occasionally during construction.

Manager Raya stated that the vending machine provider from Las Vegas does not have a local distributor, but he will be working with the current distributor to provide healthier options. Commissioner Skinner suggested having recycle bins at the SportsPlex and at the local schools. Manager Raya stated that they are currently located throughout the SportsPlex and other local parks. Director Bruns directed Commissioner Skinner to Latoya Cyrus with the Public Works Department for other recycling programs available throughout the City.

Staff stated that the annual flu shot clinic, sponsored by the Los Angeles County Health Department, will be hosted on Monday, November 5 at the Community Building from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. Staff stated that a Mini Information Fair will feature local senior related service providers. Commissioner Hernandez stated that many local pharmacies are offering flu shots for a fee.

B. City Council Liaison

No report.

C. Members of the Commission

Commissioner Skinner invited commissioners to the 2nd Story Gallery and the Historical Society on September 14, 15, 21 and 22 at the Walker House.

Commissioner Hernandez congratulated Director Bruns for a great presentation during the Chamber of Commerce breakfast that morning. He suggested having the Senior Citizen/Community Center open for seniors to view the presidential debates. Commissioner Wolfe inquired on the possibility of viewing it on C-SPAN to avoid commentators. Staff stated that the facility is not equipped with cable and it would need to be viewed through a public network.

Commissioner Sasaki stated that there is a Home Care bill to regulate home health providers. He is concerned that overhead costs will increase the cost to offer assistance to seniors in need. In-Home Support Services received federal funding to help with state reductions. He also inquired why the flashing speed limit signs by schools continue to flash on weekends and after hours. Director Bruns will contact public works regarding his inquiry.

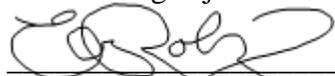
Commissioner Garcia shared that he had to increase his physical activity due to a heart condition. He stated that the Swim and Racquet Club is clean, staff is courteous and the fees are reasonable. He inquired on the construction occurring near the Swim and Racquet Club; Commissioner Wolfe stated that construction for the Bonita Unified School District Performing Arts Center has begun. Commissioner Garcia also inquired on the closure of many Albertsons Markets, Commissioners Costanza and Wolfe stated that the local store was not on the closure list posted online.

Commissioner Costanza joined the watercolor class and was impressed by instructor Tom Fong. She also joined the library and was pleased to see high participation on weekends. She had an opportunity to visit the train museum and is making her way to various sites throughout the community. Commissioner Skinner extended an invitation to the 2nd Story Gallery and the Historical Society.

Commissioner Wolfe stated that he also enjoyed the Silver Sneakers program. He commended Commissioner Skinner on the success of the Autumn Night Festival of Arts Fundraiser and Commissioner Skinner commended Commissioner Wolfe on his wonderful performance during the event.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m. to November 1, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.



Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator