

CITY OF SAN DIMAS
SENIOR CITIZEN COMMISSION
Thursday, March 13, 2014
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: Lou Gross
Maurice Kane
Corazon Soriano
Chet Sasaki, Vice Chairperson
Wayne Tennille
Ed Wolfe, Chairperson

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

Absent: Kathy Nolan, unexcused
Jim Rowe, excused

AUDIENCE COMMUNICATION

Tawana Tollis was in the audience. She is a gerontology student at California State University, Long Beach. She attended the Senior Commission meeting as a part of her coursework.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 2, 2014 MEETING AS MAILED

COMMISSIONER KANE MOVED FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON JANUARY 2, 2014, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SORIANO AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY AS MAILED.

REPORT FROM THE SAN DIMAS SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

Linda Groth, San Dimas Senior Citizens Club Treasurer, reported that the Senior Citizens Club was able to donate \$16,775 in 2013. Donation recipients included:

- City of San Dimas for Bingo Utilities & Special Events (\$6000)
- City of San Dimas, Mt. San Dimas snow slides (\$2,500)
- McKinley Children's Center (\$500)

- Music in the Park (\$250)
- Wounded Warriors Fund (\$500)
- Scholarships (\$5,650)
- San Dimas Nature Center (\$100)
- H.E.R.O.E.S. Memorial Fund (\$100)
- Meals on Wheels (\$250)
- San Dimas Rodeo (\$200)
- Los Angeles Mission (\$200)
- San Dimas Hunger Program (\$200)
- Salvation Army (\$250)
- Chaparral High School (\$75)

Linda Groth stated that the bingo committee has reenergized the bingo program with new games and a welcoming environment. She expects that as the bingo program continues to grow, the Senior Citizens Club will be able to contribute more. She stated that in addition to these contributions, almost \$11, 000 in bingo equipment upgrades were purchased and additional upgrades will be made in the coming months.

Councilmember Ebner stated that the City Council is incredibly grateful for the contributions that the Senior Club makes to the community; and he has seen the cheerful faces of the many children that enjoy the snow during the Holiday Extravaganza. Director Bruns invited Treasurer Groth to present the Senior Citizens Club contribution report before the City Council in April. Treasurer Groth stated that they are appreciative of all the support they receive from the City of San Dimas.

SENIOR CITIZEN/COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE

A. Attendance/Participation

Staff reviewed the purpose of the quarterly reports. Staff reviewed the new format for the quarterly Senior Citizen/Community Center usage and activity comparison report. The new format groups like programs and services to better identify changing trends.

B. Programs and Activities

Staff reviewed the following programs held in January and February:

January 11	Excursion – Oh What a Night
January 24	Senior Event – Awards Night Dinner
January 29	Excursion – Harrah’s Casino (2 buses)
February 12	Excursion – Whale Watching
February 21	Senior Event – Mardi Gras Masquerade
February 23	Excursion – Dreamgirls
February 27	Seasonal – Bunko

Upcoming events and activities include:

March 13	Excursion – Fantasy Springs Casino (2 buses)
March 20	Seminar – 25 Documents Everyone Should Have
March 22	Excursion – In the Mood
March 28	Senior Event – Luck of the Irish Dinner

April 5	Excursion – Pageant of the Lord
April 16	Excursion – Los Alamitos Ranch
April 17	Seasonal – Bunko
April 24	Senior Event – Swing into Spring

C. Miscellaneous

Staff announced that the International Cultural Club received the Award of Excellence in Life-Long Learning from the California Parks and Recreation Society, Aging Section during the 2014 CPRS Conference in Ontario. The program was created and requested by two senior patrons interested in a social group that unites people of various backgrounds to discuss current events and learn from each other's differences. The program is member-led and meets on the first and third Monday of every month from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room. Staff encouraged all commissioners to attend.

SELECTION OF 2014 LOS ANGELES COUNTY OLDER AMERICAN HONOREE

Staff reviewed the criteria for the San Dimas Older American Honoree Award and presented a summary of the nominations received. Staff stated that nine nominations were received. The Commission reviewed and discussed the nominations. Director Bruns stated that the nomination process is a confidential selection process and the discussion is to be kept within the Commission and the nomination summary is to be returned to staff and not distributed.

COMMISSIONER WOLFE MOVED TO RECOMMEND DELIA LEE TO CITY COUNCIL AS THE 2014 OLDER AMERICAN HONOREE, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER KANE AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. COMMISSIONER SASAKI NOT PRESENT DURING VOTE.

Staff reported that the Los Angeles County Older American Honoree Program is usually hosted in May. Staff stated that the location and time are unknown. Once an event is confirmed the Senior Citizen Commissioners will be informed.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A. Staff

Director Bruns distributed an updated Senior Commission Handbook to each commissioner, prepared by the Deputy City Clerk.

Director Bruns announced that Commissioner Costanza has resigned from the Commission. Recruitment is underway to fill the newly vacant position and commissioners were encouraged to promote the position.

B. City Council Liaison

Commissioners introduced themselves to visiting Councilmember Ebner. He stated that he is the City Council liaison to the Parks and Recreation Commission, but is always honored to attend the Senior Citizen Commission.

Councilmember Ebner reported that the State has made a determination that the Walker House is officially owned by the City of San Dimas. The City Council is currently negotiating with a prospective restaurateur. Luca Bella at the Walker House may be opening for dinner with a full liquor license. Commissioner Soriano inquired about the selection process. Councilmember Ebner explained that approximately 10 proposals were initially received and the attempt is to select the most suitable candidate for the Walker House.

Councilmember Ebner inquired if the senior center offered assistance to register in the Cover California insurance program. Staff stated that anyone inquiring or requesting assistance is scheduled for an appointment with the case manager.

Councilmember Ebner stated that the dog park reopened last week.

Councilmember Ebner stated that residential gas meters are being changed to wireless meters throughout the City.

Councilmember Ebner stated that the fiscal year 2014-2015 budget is underway and recommendations for senior programs and projects should be directed to staff.

C. Members of the Commission

Commissioner Wolfe inquired on the Train Shop sale status. Councilmember Ebner stated that he has not received any information. Director Bruns stated that the building is for sale.

Commissioner Gross stated that Mt. San Antonio instructor Aaron Tom would benefit from an overhead projector in the computer room. Commissioner Gross expressed concern that the Chaparral Lanes bowling alley is underutilized. Commissioners shared their observations of usage during evening hours and weekends. He inquired on the usage of the computer program, he was directed to the statistics report and staff offered to review the report with him individually. Commissioner Tennille stated that he enjoyed participating in the computer program offered at the Senior Citizen/Community Center.

Commissioner Kane shared his observation of Michigan's transportation services. He stated that although the snow is aesthetically beautiful, the roads were dangerous to navigate. He appreciated the expansive transportation service available to seniors in San Dimas and believes San Dimas is "ahead of the curve."

Commissioner Tennille expressed his interest in volunteer opportunities and other activities that will encourage him to step away from his computer. He stated that he is going to review the SilverTimes newsletter and look for programs and activities to join. Staff encouraged him to begin a group that highlights his genealogy hobby and knowledge of computers. Staff stated that any commissioners interested in additional volunteer service may participate in the Round-Up Gang, an outreach group that promotes services at senior residential facilities.

ADJOURNMENT

COMMISSIONER WOLFE MOVED TO ADJOURN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER TENNILLE.
The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m. to May 1, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.



Erica Rodriguez, Recreation Coordinator