

HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING IN JOHNSON VALLEY APRIL 19, 2010

Opened with Flag Salute at 3:05 pm

Present were Maryan Barkley, Adrienne Bishop, Jim Hanley, Jim Harvey, Judy Kemp, Earlene McCloskey, Betty Munson, Tory Preston, Nancy Sammons, Rick Sayers, Carl Schmitt, Joyce Wheeler, Linda Willgues, Alan Rasmussen
Guests: Chuck Bell, LVEDA; Larry and Mary Coloumbe; Cathy and Michael Hawkins, FOGR; Grey Hill, KODC; Doug Lewis; Mike Ramage, Code Enforcement; Willy Shefts; Roger Taylor
Delegate List approved unanimously.

Agenda was approved unanimously.

Minutes of March meeting, posted to the Website in draft form, approved unanimously

Treasurer's report: Earlene McCloskey.

Beginning balance 5,694.32; Income 165.00; Expenses 112.00; Balance 5,747.32

1. Guest Comments: Mike Ramage gave us new Code Enforcement complaint numbers: 760-243-0703 and 0704, talk to Joanna. Manned from 7:30-5:00 Monday through Friday. Better than 800 number, mailbox fills quickly. He said Apr. 10 dump day in Johnson Valley was a big success. Recommended four dumpsters next fall. He thanked Keep Our Desert Clean for their help, and so did Jim Harvey. Said it worked out well that the county crew was there, they took things that would not be able to go in dumpsters. The two dumpsters weighed 5.67 tons, not the usual 1.5 tons. Community Center \$1000 dump allowance probably not transferable to Code Enforcement.

Alan Rasmussen brought up information from Jim Ricker that a number of Marine units don't have sponsors. Send letters of support, send cookies, bbq for spouses. Ad hoc committee to bring back ideas from associations. Carl, Earlene, Adrienne and Jim Hanley.

2. SB County Code Enforcement update: Mike Ramage said administrative citation system is working out for all OHV and trash, etc. Huge trash problems formerly working their way through Superior Court did not accomplish cleanup. Fines now build up, violators can't do anything except get into compliance. One man finally getting rid of 5000 tires on his property.

Mike Hawkins asked about extension of administrative citation to OHV violations. Appeals process available, there is a County Code Enforcement Appeals board. \$100 per violation; can pay Appeals fee and go before the board, or pay the ticket. Sheriffs still issue criminal citations. Code Enforcement also cites for illegal businesses, substandard properties, health and safety violations. No outbreak of sudden staging activities or OHV abuses since staging permit requirement removed. No teeth have been taken out of ordinance, needed adjustment and got it. Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Pessa worked very hard for revision, HVCC supported it also.

Mike Ramage will come back anytime.

3. Committee Reports

-Fund Raising / Events:

Poker Run April 24. Each organization ready for event. Supervisor Neil Derry and Alan Rasmussen will be there, to speak to constituents. Jim Harvey will handle card drawing. Extra hands will be offered for \$10 donation. Discussed raffle prizes. Jim Harvey reminded about Plant Sale in September. plant cuttings now.

-Advisory Committee:

Met with Alan regarding Standing Rules. Deleted language in brackets, new language underscored:

DELEGATE MEMBERSHIP

1. Each organization shall select up to four [of its paid-up,] active, interested [members in good standing] residents to be their Delegates to the Council, subject to the approval by a quorum of existing Delegates. President or secretary to be informed as soon as possible of the selection of a new Delegate, in order to be added to the Delegate List before the next meeting. Letter of introduction requested.

YMIA and Flamingo Heights boards have approved already, Wilma Ochoa approved at Advisory Committee meeting. JVIA will not meet until May 15. Add letter of introduction from Board.

-Public Outreach Committee:

Poker Run promotions, newspaper articles.
Add Code Enforcement numbers to website.

-Community Services/ Improvements/Cooperation:

Rick discussed painting out graffiti on rock formations on highway. Bill Wilson used to keep up with it. Giant Rock used to be sandblasted, now graffiti are painted over. Petroglyphs: archeologist from BLM said almost anything you do to clean up damages the rock art. Mike Romage said he would look into using camera surveillance, although that is BLM land.

Also look into publicizing names of illegal dumpers, hired to take trash to dump.

4. Letters of Misinformation about HVCC to Hi-Desert Star:

Jim Hanley commented on HVCC taking the high ground and not responding to misstatements.

This item was put on the agenda before Friday's MAC meeting at YMIA. Alan applauded for keeping his patience at the meeting.

Possibly make a statement in future after things cool down; put website address in article.

Charlie McHenry thanks the associations for their support at the MAC meeting.

5. Nominating Committee for 2010 officers: to present slate in May, for election in June; Maryan, Tory, Carl, Judy

6. Alan Rasmussen: report on AB811 low interest energy improvement loans. Request going in for a grant to get this started, to include the city of Redlands, the city of San Bernardino and the unincorporated areas of the county; other incorporated areas may be added later.

Seed money to interest investors in bonds, etc. Creates new job opportunities in area. 35 new businesses in Coachella Valley attributed to AB811.

7. President's Report: Community liaison from USMC Janea Jackson is now stationed in Japan. Alan to get her replacement to come to HVCC.

Jim Harvey spent a day with two reporters from the California News Service. Showed them the two solar sites in Johnson valley which encompasses about 30,000 acres, the Chevron solar site at Lucerne Valley (where a half hour interview was conducted), then to Daggett solar sites, then to Ivanpah scheduled to scrape about 4,000 acres for solar fields. May be on NBC news. Also talked about AB811.

Chuck Bell commented, Ivanpah is 400 mw on 4,000 acres. Natural gas plants take about 17 acres. Mitigation means finding 2 to 1 habitat in trade, taking it out of BLM multiple use.

Time of meetings: Earlene said she had comments that HVCC early meetings mean that public can't come.

Association meetings are at night.

Possibly have later meeting at Yucca Mesa in July. Difficult to find a time to suit everybody. Consistency seems to work best.

Night skies: 2+2 meeting discussed AB811 as well as night skies, but Lori Herbel did not seem interested at Town Council meeting. HVCC may take this up later on. Mike Romage said development code has good Night Sky ordinance in effect now; can measure light trespass. Mike will bring copies of ordinance. Put on HVCC website. Watts vs lumens under discussion, new technology.

8. Items for next Agenda: May 17 meeting in Flamingo Heights.

July meeting at night in YMIA?

Meeting adjourned 4:50 pm

Betty Munson, Secretary
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