

HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF MEETING  
IN JOHNSON VALLEY, DECEMBER 20, 2010

Opened with Flag Salute at 3.08 pm

Present: Adrienne Bishop, Jim Hanley, Jim Harvey, Ken Jones, Earlene McCloskey, Betty Munson, Tory Preston, Nancy Sammons, Carl Schmitt, Joyce Wheeler, Linda Willgues, Alan Rasmussen  
Absent: Maryan Barkley, Phyllis Burns, Rick Sayers, Carl Schmitt

Delegate list approved

Guests: Mike Romage, Code Enforcement; Dave Benfield, Fire Dept.; JaNean Averill, Charlene Claybaugh, Elva Rasmussen, Rebecca Unger

Agenda approved unanimously

Minutes of October meeting, posted to [www.hvccsite.org](http://www.hvccsite.org) in draft form, approved unanimously

Treasurer's report: Tabled for October and November reports from Earlene to be posted on website. Earlene thanked Landers for veg tray, Flamingo Heights for cheesecake, Nancy for other food at the Christmas Party and toy drive. Estimated about 130 gifts donated by guests. HVCC to reimburse YMIA for half of mailing costs of flyer containing Christmas Party. Approx \$26.

1. Guest Comments: --none

2. SB County Code Enforcement - Mike Romage -

Comment on OHV meeting in Joshua Tree, Nov 22, called by Community Off-Road watch: Mike thought the meeting went really well, well attended, friendly. As he had been reporting to HVCC every month the changes in the OHV ordinance are working, both he and the sheriff reported statistics of showing OHV complaints way down.

Comment on Johnson Valley Community Cleanup:

Report from Burrtec, 7.69 tons of trash hauled out in 4 dumpster trucks.

Report from San Bernardino County Fire Department Household Hazardous Waste Program, a grand total of 7,435 lbs collected, including 1,011 lbs of e-waste and 1,632 lbs of CRTs (cathode ray TV tubes), plus oil and filters, medications, paint, toxics, acids, batteries, fluorescent tubes etc etc.

3. SB County Fire Dept - Dave Benfield -

Said Mike Snow had been off, to contact him to see if spaces left in CERT academy in Feb. 12, 19, 26. Fire Code Changes-county adopted the 2010 version of the fire code effective January 1, 2011.

- New construction single and two-family residences will be required to have fire sprinklers, winterized.

- Unpermitted open burning still prohibited, enhanced safety precautions.

- Nuisance and repeat offenders can be fined. Cost recovery program covers really stupid actions, drunk drivers, etc for time.

- One time authorization permit fees for commercial alarm and sprinkler systems.

- Substantial fines for transporting fireworks in addition to any criminal fines.

4. Committee Reports

- Fund raising / Events: Poker Run? Scavenger Hunt? for spring. Wine and Cheese in September?

- Advisory Committee: Jim to have Homestead Valley maps shortly for locals to proofread for accuracy.
- Community Outreach-Meeting and Toy Drive appeared in newspaper and on radio, also forwarded on emails. Need to set up CERT email, fire code email. Communities need to know about success of JV Community Cleanup. Letter from HHW sent to Scott Wexton of Keep Our Desert Clean. HVCC newsletter done, will be emailed to communities.
- Community Services /Improvements /Cooperation
- Hwy 247/OWS scenic/historic project-planned tour of old OWS Rd with Barbara Harris of Morongo Basin Historical Society had to be canceled because of flash flood watch. Road still being used, fairly easy drive. Will reschedule. Jim Harvey met Jeff Dyckman documenting petroglyphs in the canyons above JV. He can help with history project.

Betty did talk with Lucerne Valley Economic Development Association about this project. They are hesitant to jump on board wanted to be sure that any historic designation would not inhibit development in their commercial zone. Seems to be in line with county plan to preserve the rural character of the area.

Will help with research and other historical societies in area may help.

Highway signs that ID communities as HV communities: Jim Hanley will need locations of signs, maps, community plan for presentations to County and CalTrans.

5. November 22 OHV issues meeting in Joshua Tree-Betty commented that Mike Romage was right, the meeting was civil and stuck to the 2-hour schedule. Anti-OHV people sat with OHV people in the audience and had to see they were regular folks who enjoy this kind of recreation with their families. Betty also commented that the OHV groups do a lot to keep the desert clean. Jim Harvey and Jim Hanley also attended. We thought the meeting was called to discuss the results of the recent removal of the staging requirement from the OHV ordinance, but that was hardly mentioned. It seemed to be skewed toward problems with intimidation and retaliation, but the sheriff said there were no complaints of intimidation and retaliation. Jim Harvey said there may be a realization that these two different groups actually have some common goals.

6. Backyard Solar leasing solicitation-Betty reported a salesman came to the Johnson Valley Community Center and talked to her and Joann /wright. Touting having your own backyard solar factory; if you have 5-acre parcel they would lease 2 acres for 20 years, install and maintain solar panels. What tie customer gets: electric bill would be paid. What the solar company gets: SCE would pay for all the excess energy produced. Joanna questioned how it would be maintained, when would you come on the property, who would give permission to come on the property. The salesman could not answer the questions. The proposition might sound attractive to some, but Jim Harvey estimates it would take only 10 of these installations in the area to overload existing transmission capacity.

Discussed planned SCE power outage on Dec. 27, and meter replacement program. Meters may not work with home solar installation.

Suggestion we invite SCE representative to the February meeting in Landers to discuss their future transmission plans.

Rebecca Unger said a Town meeting SCE said smart meters would replace meter readers and your bill will go up.

7. SB County Update-Alan Rasmussen - Will inquire for further clarification about permits for fire alarm and sprinklers for new construction.

Alan reported Mike Romage said the new shooting maps were out, some new requirements for traditional shooting areas. Alan will get the information to us to get maps, that they are clear, but possibly controversial. Sheriff said at the Joshua Tree MAC meeting they will only come if somebody

complains. Cannot be shooting within 150 yards of any structure. Registered private shooting ranges are not affected by this map.

Hauled water: in a meeting a couple of months ago County Administrative Officer did not want his people making these types of decisions, the Board of Supervisors should state policy. Alan will check for other updates. Supervisor Mitzelfelt asked for estimates of how many were affected by the restrictions on permits for those relying on hauled water. How many parcels? How many water haulers? Some self haulers actually share the meter at the well or use Rock Corral. Meeting held in response to Charlene Claybaugh's request for clarification of the policy.

Alan thanked the Council for everything they had done the past year, from the "Support the Troops" program, to the Toy Drive for Tender Loving Christmas, and all the other things the HVCC have done. We thanked him and Supervisor Derry for their help.

We may invite the CO of VMU-3 to a meeting before they ship out.

7. President's Report- Everything covered in other discussions. Jim said he is very proud of the Council and all the good work.

8. Action Items and Community Reports List - recap meeting, list items to take back to communities and to get feedback. Emailing of treasurer report has to be done. Each community has copy of check request for to simplify audit in future. Will be emailed. HV maps on the way, to line up volunteers to check.

9. Adjourn 5:00 - Next meeting in Flamingo Heights Tuesday, January 18, at 3:00 p.m.

Action Items and information to report to communities

Treasurer Oct & Nov reports to be posted on website

Burrtec at Tuesday meeting Jan 18 in Flamingo Heights

HV ADVERTISING MAPS TO PROOFREAD will need local volunteers

Ideas: Poker Run or Scavenger Hunt or ? for HVCC spring fundraiser

Contact Jeff Dyckman about 247 history project.

HVCC Brochure, map from County plan, sign locations for Highway sign presentation to County and CalTrans

SCE upgrade plans. Get representative to Feb meeting in Landers

Get new Fish & Game shooting maps

Deadline for CERT training approaching, bring to communities, application form on [www.hvccsite.com](http://www.hvccsite.com)

Betty Munson, Secretary 760-364-2646