

HOMESTEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING IN LANDERS JUNE 21, 2010

Opened with Flag Salute at 3:00 pm

Present were Maryan Barkley, Adrienne Bishop, Phyllis Burns, Jim Hanley, Jim Harvey, Earlene McCloskey, Betty Munson, Tory Preston, Nancy Sammons, Rick Sayers, Randy West, Joyce Wheeler, Linda Willgues, Alan Rasmussen

Guests: Lary Callander; Cliff Carlson; Cassie Connors, Homestead Valley Park; Olivia de Hauleville; Mike and Cathy Hawkins, Friends of Giant Rock; Grey Hill, Keep Our Desert Clean; Gerry Kay, Martha Oswalt, Elva Rasmussen

**Delegate List** approved unanimously. Randy West to add e-mail and phone number.

**Agenda** approved unanimously. Minutes of April meeting, posted to the Website in draft form, approved unanimously with one addition.

**Treasurer's report:** Earlene McCloskey. Beginning balance 6,631.33; Income 150.03; Expenses 213.96; Balance 6,567.40 Includes additional income from Poker Run \$150. Poker Run to date has cleared \$1,036.00 counting check from Landers today. Earlene has deposited \$280 for Marine Unit sponsorship.

**1. Guest Comments:** Lary Callander corrected his comment at YMIA meeting on HDWD water rates. Basic service raising from \$2.50 to \$5.00; budget of \$236,000.00 for infrastructure/capital replacements.

**2. MCAGCC Family Readiness Officer Rachel Sandlin** thanked HVCC for sponsoring Marine VMU-1, "The Watchdogs."

She is liaison among the military members, the command, the families and the resources and support available to help families succeed while they are stationed here in Twentynine Palms. VMU-1 is an Unmanned Aerial Reconnaissance squadron, flying unarmed drones with video live feed to boots on the ground in Afghanistan. About 140 are now deployed. Fifty families currently live locally.

The care package program proposed by HVCC was discussed in detail. We may not use USMC or Watchdogs logos, and we must use a disclaimer in any publicity that there is no endorsement by the Marine Corps. Rachel said that reaching out to the Marines out there makes a huge difference. They are hot, they are lonely, and it means a lot to their parents and families to know they have support coming from their neighbors.

Discussed list of items to send; HVCC to raise funds for purchase and mailing. Best way to ship items is in postal Flat Rate boxes to the SgtMaj Toves. He will send to where they are needed most. A customs form must be filled out. Hope to mail before August 1.

Earlene passed around samples of items assembled by a friend who has sent boxes of donated items with a message every week for many years.

Member associations to send Rachel a list of events to which they invite Marine families. HVCC to issue VIP passes to the events.

Announcement of this sponsorship program to be posted on HVCC website.

**3. 2010/11 Officer elections and Committee assignments:** nominees unopposed, elected unanimously. Sworn in by Alan Rasmussen: Jim Harvey, president; Rick Sayers, vice president; Earlene McCloskey, treasurer; Betty Munson, secretary.

Committee checklists distributed for Council members to choose which committees they want to be on.

**4. Committee Reports-Fund Raising / Events:** Earlene discussed Joshua Tree National Park 75th Anniversary, possible Scavenger Hunt in local businesses. Participating businesses provide one gift to each participant. Barbecue at the Park afterwards. JTNP committee looking for events in which they can participate and promote the Park. Possibly a short presentation at our Wine and Cheese party. All four Chambers of Commerce are participating in 75th Anniversary program.

Yucca Mesa Country Faire, September 18, HVCC to have Desert Plant Sale for fundraiser.

**-Advisory Committee:** no report

**-Public Outreach Committee:** brochures to go to July 3rd Celebration at Homestead Park and Country Faire. Marine Unit story, new officers to go into Newsletter.

**-Community Services/ Improvements/Cooperation:** no report

**-Auditing Committee:** Jim Hanley and Tory Preston. Mid-July to do year-end report.

**5. Keep Our Desert Clean household hazardous waste disposal update-**Jim Harvey talked with Scott Wexton KODC. Working on how to take household waste and chemicals during Community Cleanup days. Grey Hill reported discussion with Mike Romage on the regulations, filling in the gaps. Scott has told Betty that Individual venues will need to supply a letter saying HHWs may be collected on the property. JVIA board OK'd signing the letter. Olivia de Hauleville asked about highway cleanup in Yucca Mesa. YMIA does it every other month, 2 miles both sides on Old Woman Springs Rd., Caltrans picks up bags. Maryan Barkley reported Burrtec had been seen cleaning up the road on the way to the dump. Alan Rasmussen said Mike Romage told the Joshua Tree Community Association that tires could be taken to the Copper Mountain Mesa Association on the first and third Saturdays from 8:00-1:00. Betty said Friends of Giant Rock pick up tires to take to Copper Mountain on the first and second Saturdays; Alan will check out the days. No tires with rims. However, FOGR come to Johnson Valley and they do take tires with rims, break them off and sell the metal; money goes to their legal fund. Post trash to website; also Burrtec receiving TVs etc. Individuals can't carry more than 9 tires at a time.

**6. Review HVCC meeting procedures:** posting agenda packets on website, encouraging participation, starting with guest comments. No changes suggested.

**7. Building permit moratorium for hauled water properties:** Action from the County at a standstill, though many letters have been written, meetings have been held. Lucerne Valley in First District has not gotten any actual wording of regulation, either, and it's difficult to fight anything that is not written down. They are moving toward litigation. HVCC reaffirmed opposition to moratorium on permits. To be discussed: Will HVCC join Lucerne Valley in legal procedure? Will this jeopardize our good relations with the County? Lucerne Valley argues this is a Constitutional issue, and involves taking of property rights. Carl Ripaldi says it is a big violation of the California Environmental Quality Act, doing things than change environment, economics without any studies. Problem applies all over the state. Nobody has voted on these rules.

**8. Alan Rasmussen:** County has issued Request for Proposals for gasified garbage disposal, superheated system so hot there are no emissions, much like Mitsubishi. Supervisor Neil Derry has favored this since he was elected. Pit Bull mandatory spay and neuter program has been instituted.

**9. President's Report:** Get-well card to be sent by Nancy to Carl Schmitt, recovering from eye surgery.

**10. Homestead Valley Park July 3rd Event-** HVCC approved donation of \$100 toward the event. The four member associations have also made donations. HVCC has also donated a web page about the event. Cassie Connors, secretary of Park board discussed July 3rd activities, described improvements to the Park, past problems. She also said Park is available for other events. HVCC discussed having a space at July 3rd for brochures and cards, collection for Marine Unit sponsorship. HVCC will continue communications with Park and keep the Park web page going on [www.hvccsite.org](http://www.hvccsite.org).

**11. Items for next agenda-**July 19 in Yucca Mesa, time for this meeting **6:00 pm**, to see if we get any better participation than we already do.

-Linda Wilgues asked to have Landers Association Quilt Raffle tickets brought to Thrift Store ASAP.

-YMIA having Ice Cream Social on 1:00-3:00 on Saturday, July 24.

Discussed VIP Cards for Marine families for just such events as this.

-Newsletter publishing tutorial, second session to be announced.

Meeting adjourned 4:38 pm

Betty Munson, Secretary 760-364-2646