

Minutes of the Board of Directors

15 May 2003

The meeting of the Board was called to order by President Ronni Cooper at 7:30 p.m.

Secretary's Report

- The minutes of the 17 Apr. 2003 meeting were approved:

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's Report for the month of April was approved.

Crime and Safety

- **Statistics.** Nancy Smith, analyst, LA Sheriff's Department, provides crime statistics for May:

Crime statistics			Robbery Weapon	Robbery: Strong Arm	Aggravated Assault	Burglary: Residence	Burglary: Other structure	Grand Theft	Grand Theft Auto	Arson	Vehicle Burglary	Petty Theft	Totals
May 2003	Homicide	Rape											
Upper Ladera			1	1		3	1	1	1		1		9
Lower Ladera			1		1	3	3	1	1			2	12
Totals			2	1	1	6	4	2	2		1	2	21

Statistics for Lower Ladera include Ladera Center. Statistics for Lower Ladera include most of Old Ladera. Statistics supplied by Los Angeles County Sheriff.

- **LASD.** Capt. Dacus (310-823-7762) has requested another Sheriff's deputy and patrol car for Ladera and View Park, in response to increase in home burglaries. The tight County budget may prohibit. LASD is re-allocating patrols temporarily and crime analyst is looking for patterns. LASD is trying to recruit more Volunteers on Patrol. Volunteers Lenny Dorfmann and Bob Nix were honored for 1,000 hours of service. Dorfman noted that many gardeners work behind homes and suggested that residents obtain names, phone numbers and license plate numbers of trucks – and garage doors should be closed, as it takes only 30 seconds to steal from a garage. Calls to Sheriff have doubled since Neighborhood Watch meetings in Upper Ladera. Sgt. Thrash reported LASD, LAPD and CHP are coordinating a low-rider task force begins 24 May, targeting Crenshaw Boulevard.

Committee Reports

- **Baldwin Hills Conservancy.** LHCA Vice President Allan Boodnick, a member of the Board of the BHC, reported that the BHC held a conference call to approve funds for

land acquisitions. An evening meeting is scheduled for June to permit more residents to attend.

- **Vice President's Report:**

- **Community Advisory Committee.** Boodnick recruited Director Gene Eldridge and Alternate Director Florida Toussant to increase Ladera representation on the CAC. Boodnick and Lenny Dorfman already serve. CAC membership includes 10-12 reps from Marina del Rey and three from Windsor Hills.
- **Community Speakers.** Boodnick reported that USC and Foundation for Junior Blind are selecting speakers with expertise in art, seniors and other areas to make presentations to area residents. Alease Love volunteered to work with selection committee.
- **Trash bandits and identity theft.** Boodnick and LASD Sgt. Thrash reported that identity theft is increasing and a way to prevent identity theft is to prevent theft of credit card, bank account and other financial data tossed out with trash. Stealing from trash is a misdemeanor, but Sheriff must catch scavengers in the act. Residents have to call to alert Sheriff..

- **Senior Center.** LHCA Director Charles Caballero reported the Senior Center is planning trips to a casino and Hollywood Bowl. Yoga classes are very successful. A chair exercise class is beginning. Line dancing continues. Alternate Director Alma Fowlkes reported committee members are working with Supervisor Burke to define a list of activities and facilities to include in new senior center to be built near Ladera Park.
- **Slauson Beautification.** LHCA Alternate Director Dorothy Harris is scheduling a meeting with Steve Sheridan of LA County Dept. of Public Works to discuss scope of project – a first step in defining proposals to be submitted to Supervisors.

Continuing Business

- **Ladera Center** Tanya Keshehian of Shelter Bay Realty reported the Center hired a security consultant who met with law enforcement and LHCA Alternate Director Alma Fowlkes. Consultant is preparing a report. Security budget for Center has been increased, additional security personnel hired, and weekend patrol hours extended. Center security will coordinate with low-rider task force. A resident suggested that Center designate selected parking spots for use by patrons of Ralph's.

New Business

- **City dump.** Julia Orozco, deputy to Sup. Burke, reported that Supervisor Burke will schedule a meeting with City of Los Angeles Sanitation Department to review plans for a proposed garbage transfer station that would process 23,000 tons of waste a day to be located in Baldwin Hills Park. Orozco will report outcome at future LHCA meeting.
- **Diseased trees.** Lance Grindle, assistant district engineer, Road Maintenance Division, Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Works (323-776-7552), introduced Mark Miltko (323-776-7552), professional tree trimmer. Both reported that ash and other trees surveyed in Ladera are dead, dying, infested with termites, white flies, fungus, dry rot and other problems. The Department has resolved to remove more than 400 diseased trees, block by block, beginning in early June, after selecting a contractor. Beginning in the fall, trees will be replaced with 15-gallon saplings selected from other species. Homeowners desiring a larger tree may contact Department to determine what additional costs may be required. The Board commended Grindle for his responsiveness to Ladera.

- **Security Service Systems.** Presentation by SSS was postponed due to illness. President Ronni Cooper, Vice President Allan Boodnick and Secretary Steve Leon will prepare a letter alerting Ladera residents to increase in home burglaries, noting that SSS is near the number of subscribers needed to support a second eight-hour patrol dedicated to Ladera. In late May, by email, Leon polled Board members, and the board voted 9-0 to approve funds needed to mail the letter to residents, with half the cost paid by SSS.
- **Phone Tree.** Director Willa Hector volunteered to assist Margie Evans in returning phone calls made to the LHCA answering machine.
- **Millenium Momentum Foundation**, millennium-momentum.org. The Board voted a \$100 donation to the official launch, with Boodnick to attend reception.

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The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Board members present were Allan Boodnick, Charles Caballero, Ronni Cooper, Gene Eldridge, Willa Hector, Steve Leon, Robert Shaw and Ron Woods. Alternates Alma Fowlkes, Alease Love, Dorothy Harris, Alvetia Smith and Florida Toussant were present. Guests included Los Angeles County Sheriff's Capt. Dacus, Tanya Keshehian of Shelter Bay Realty, Lance Grindle from LA County Dept. of Public Works. With apologies for any spelling errors.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven J. Leon

Secretary