

Ladera Heights Civic Association

laderaheights.org

5383 Centinela Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90045
310-641-2294

Minutes of the Board of Directors

18 Sep 2003

The Board meeting was called to order by President Ronni Cooper at 7:40 p.m.

Secretary's Report

- The minutes of the 19 June 2003 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's Report for June thru August was approved.

Crime and Safety

- **Statistics.** Donna Samuels, LA Sheriff's Department, provided crime statistics for Sep:

Crime statistics Sep 2003	Homicide	Rape	Robbery Weapon	Robbery: Strong Arm	Aggravated Assault	Burglary: Residence	Burglary: Other structure	Grand Theft	Grand Theft Auto	Arson	Vehicle Burglary	Petty Theft	Totals
Old Ladera			2		2	1	1		2		2		10
Upper Ladera						2			1			2	5
Lower Ladera			1	2	1	1		3	1		4	1	14
Totals			3	2	3	4	1	3	4		6	3	29

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

- **CHP.** Unable to attend.
- **LAPD.** Unable to attend.
- **LASD.** Sgt. Thrash shared wanted poster with sketch dropped off by Inglewood Police Dept Community Relations officer – rapist entering open bedroom windows at night in Inglewood/Westchester area and as close as Knowlton (near McDonalds on La Tijera). He also shared another flyer alerting us to women being followed home from parking lots and then having purses snatched if alone. He provided information related to home burglary in upper Ladera. Be alert to suspicious looking brown van, '70's, ladder on back, with large spot of primer.

Committee Reports

- **Vice President's Report:** Allan Boodnick reported we still need more homeowners to switch to Security Service System patrol service to warrant an additional car. Currently we have 1 patrol car for 8 hours. Discussed the potential of community paying a \$15 per hear HOA fee so Ladera could have three 8-hour Security Services patrol cars providing 24-hour coverage. Beverlywood got a CC&R to cover their entire community to pay for their patrol service. The assessment would become mandatory to pay. Allan checking for more details and needs someone else to take the info and organize the community. Shirley Miles volunteered to take this on as a project for the upcoming year and Sandra Goldsmith Bennett volunteered to help.
- Next month (October) we are scheduled to meet in the Stride Rite location. Still no lease yet.
- Baldwin hills Conservancy meets regularly and have 4 new members so now have a quorum including Bobbie Parks, wife of former Police Chief Parks. CAC members met to honor deputies of the year.
- Allan presented Nancy Smith, LA County Sheriff with a plaque commemorating the LHCA's appreciation of the outstanding job she did when working in our community. Nancy has been reassigned to Union Square downtown and will be missed.
- **Willa Hector** attended Diane Watson's CAC meeting. Ms. Watson has specific topics assigned to groups and no real substance observed since discussion limited to those select topics.
- **Senior Center.** Alma Fowlkes has spoken to Jim Smith regarding the Senior center and working on plans for future. Charles Caballero distributed applications for Board of Directors and they need to be returned by October 20, 2003.

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Ronni encouraged people to run for the Board and become active so the same members don't get worn out doing everything. Motion also made that Alma replace Steve since she was 2nd in prior run-off and motion was approved.

- **Slauson Beautification.** LHCA Alternate Director Dorothy Harris has upcoming meeting at her home to discuss the types of plantings we would like to see there.
- **Treasurer's Report.** Ron Woods reported \$7127 in expenses and report approved.

New Business

- **Traffic Project.** Jeff Thierry, Traffic Advisor County of Los Angeles and Joel Falter, Traffic Engineer & Traffic Engineer and Transportation Planners, provided overview of planned traffic project for lower Corning. Project includes adopting policies based on what's best for our community, training for LA County Staff. The community registers traffic complaints and the LA County Staff speaks to community and schedules a community workshop to identify the issues. Lower Corning, the 64th St. blocks connecting from Corning to Springpark, and Springpark were identified for use in this pilot. Corning has been selected because it received the most complaints on the county's log. Corning is popular for cut-through traffic. A community meeting should be 2 ½ - 3 hours. Notification would go to impacted households with a limit set to project attendance. The Nov annual meeting was suggested for Jeff and Joel to return (since approximately 200 people usually attend) but the community meeting needs to occur sooner.
- **Ash Tree Removal in Upper Ladera.** Lance Grindle returned to provide an update. Some of the residents in upper Ladera have received letters designating the type of tree to be received. Similar to a contract – sign it agreeing to take care of the tree or return it indicating you don't want it. 15 gallon trees will be planted unless resident wants to pay the difference for a 36-inch box tree planted. Lance will get the specific price for those interested in upgrades and residents can pay the county for the difference. He'll provide the cost quote for upgrades to Dorothy Harris to be included in the October newsletter. A resident from upper Holt reported mix-matched trees already being planted. Per Lance, if a block club agrees upon all Crepe Myrtles vs. Liquid Ambers they can submit request in writing.
- **Jeff Appel, United Oil.** Jeff Appel, owner of the United Gas Station (SW corner of La Brea and Slauson) gave presentation of planned changes to renovate the property. Also owns the residential property next door to the station. Renovation geared towards a "Jetson" look and will include a convenience store, self car wash, gasoline, and continued low prices. Board members approved clean up of the La Brea and Slauson corner and Ruth will write the letter and send copy to Jeff.
- **PXP – Plains Exploration & Production Company.** Steve Rush, Director of Environmental, Safety & Regulatory Compliance along with Geologist, Dalton Lockman provided feedback from the recent geological study in our neighborhood when cables were running down the streets. They are explorers and producers of natural gas. Study covered 22 square miles and took images of subsurface. Will be examining results further over the next few months and hope to learn whether more oil to be depleted. In 2004 will be drilling 12 new wells along the La Cienega corridor and will probably bring back the sound barriers they used last time. Ronni emphasized importance of maintaining positive community relations and Board Member Frieda Rentie will work with Steve and Dalton in the future.
- **Steve Leon's replacements.** New Webmaster for LHCA. Sy Fountaine of Bradley Place was introduced as our new webmaster replacing Steve Leon. Sy gave an overview of upcoming plans to overhaul our existing site and create a spectacular state of the art site. He agreed to also take a look at the Sheriff's site. Carmen Spiva was introduced as the new CAC to the BHC and Ruth Lawrence is the new secretary.
- **Candidate's Night:** Considering a candidates night maybe in February for those representing this area in next year's primary. Dorothy will check with FTP to see if we can use their multi-purpose room.
- **November Annual Meeting:** Dorothy will also check with FTP for use of room for the upcoming annual meeting.
- **Property Complaint.** Patricia and Victoire of upper Ladera complained of deteriorating lawn and trees at corner of 57th and Corning. They will report to the Health Dept and Fire Dept as hazardous. If they can provide property owner's name Ruth will write our standard "dear neighbor" letter.
- **Zna Houston Resigned.** Need someone to replace Zna's role co-ordinating packets for new residents welcoming them to the community and encouraging participation in the LHCA. No volunteers at this time. Will abeyance until after the upcoming election. Great role for real estate person.

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Old Business

Ronni gave certificates from last summer's National Night Out event to Board members who could not attend. Cheryl Cook will get the LHCA certificate framed to hang in the Sheriff's office.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Board members present were Sandra Goldsmith Bennett, Allan Boodnick, Charles Caballero, Cheryl Cook, Ronni Cooper, Gene Eldridge, Willa Hector, Frieda Rentie, Robert Shaw, Phyllis Stewart, and Ron Woods. Alternates Alma Fowlkes, Alease Love, Dorothy Harris, Florida Toussant, Carmen Spiva and Ruth Lawrence were present. Guests included Lance Grindle of LA County DPW, Steve Rusch and Dalton Lockman both of Plains Exploration & Production Co, Jeff Thierry of LA County DPW, Joel Falter, of Katz, Okitsu, & Assoc., Jeff Appel, of United Oil, Nancy Smith, LA County Sheriff. Residents signing in included Sy Fountaine, Patricia Gergger, Vicoire Prothro, Melanie Small, Cassandra Jones, Shirley Miles. With apologies for any spelling errors.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruth E. Lawrence