

Minutes of the Board of Directors

18 Dec 2003

The Board meeting was called to order by President Ronni Cooper at 7:34 PM.

Secretary's Report

- The minutes of the 20 November 2003 meeting were approved. Board members confirmed that e-mail distribution of minutes and agenda works fine. Members will notify Ruth of any future changes to their e-mail address. Ruth will fax to Freda Rentie and Alma Fowlkes.

Treasurer's Report

- Board reviewed actual expenditures for 2003 and the proposed budget for 2004. In 2003 we were approximately \$3K under budget for newsletter, we incurred costs for some extra mailings, and made additional donations, i.e. Ballona Wetlands. We will have small savings in 2004 as a result of no postage or copy fees for minutes and agenda. Board will vote on proposed budget in January and if anyone has additional suggestions contact Treasurer, Ron Woods before the January meeting. Treasurer's Report for November 2003 was approved.

Crime and Safety

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

Table with 13 columns: 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. Rows include Old Ladera, Upper Ladera, Lower Ladera, and Totals.

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 information related to recent homicide that occurred during gang member's funeral in Windsor Hills area. Subsequent funeral for homicide victim was held without incident. The Sheriff came to the Ladera substation earlier this week to discuss the budget. He's interested in a getting a half-cent increase in sales tax and those funds would be permanently dedicated for law enforcement exclusively. No layoffs as a result of the Governor's emergency allocation today. Sheriff's Department hosting their annual Christmas party (\$30 per person) at the Marina Hotel on the 20th in case anyone would like to attend.

New Business

- Election of Officers for 2004: Ronni Cooper nominated Ron Woods for Treasurer, Dorothy Harris nominated Ruth Lawrence for Secretary, Alma Fowlkes nominated Allan Boodnick for Vice President, Alma Fowlkes nominated Ronni Cooper for President, and motions were carried electing each of the aforementioned officers.

Old Business

- Shelter Bay. Tanya reported attempts to get specific code from CHP (during last month's annual meeting) for signage in parking lot but not successful. The CHP is the one enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over entire parking lot since one side is city and the other side is county. Sgt Thrash of LASD may have found something that will help with the code for Ladera Center parking signs and Tanya will work with him. Tanya also reported that Fat Burger is leaving Sep 2004. Some of the establishments under consideration are Jamba Juice, Aerobics, and Cold Stone Ice Cream. Tanya will work with Sgt Thrash on designating sheriff parking spaces as a result of the recent move to Stride Rite location.

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- **USPS in Ladera Heights.** Allan raised a concern that Ladera Heights is not getting a post office of it's own. Alvetia Smith, USPS reminded us as a result of previous request for a Ladera post office a permanent work-around was put in place. 90056 residents can pick-up packages at the Westchester station on LaTijera (90045) the day after the initial delivery attempt. Board members are very pleased with this process and feel no need to pursue a Ladera station. The only exception to the LaTijera process is the delivery of computers by Dell – they do hold those at the Crenshaw station (90008) for heightened security. The Board is satisfied with the ability to pick-up packages at LaTijera and Ruth will write a letter of appreciation to the USPS.

Committee Reports

- **Vice President's & BH Conservancy Report.** Allan thanked everyone for the plaque he received at the November Town Hall meeting. Allan provided names of potential newspaper publications (LA Watts Times, Sentinel, Wave, Argonaut) to advertise what LHCA. Does in the community. Since the majority of the members present stated they don't read the throw-away papers we will skip this idea for now. BH Conservancy: Allan has color poster of the plan for the park.. Community needs to provide input re our concerns, i.e., traffic, noise, etc. Some consideration being given to golf course adjacent to Holy Cross. Park was going to get \$17B – reduced to \$16B. Community Traffic meeting related to traffic on lower Corning and Springpark will be on Thursday, 1-22-04 at FDP at 6 p.m. Carmen and Dorothy will attend.
- **Security.** Gene Eldridge gave an overview of video security proposal at North Slauson between Corning and Shenandoah. By closing North Sherbourne to through traffic north of Slauson traffic in and out of upper Ladera would be pushed to Slauson/Shenandoah and Slauson/Corning. Cameras placed at Slauson/Shenandoah and Slauson/Corning would photograph via DVR all cars coming and going to/from upper Ladera. DVR holds 2 months of pictures.
- **Nov Election Results:** Carmen Dandridge-Spiva, Sy Fountaine, Sandra Goldsmith-Bennett, Dorothy E. Harris, Willa Hector, Alvetia E. Smith, and Florida M. Toussant were elected and will serve a two-year (2) term as Directors (12/03 - 11/05) Candidates Margie Evans, Vickie Evans, Ruth Lawrence, Shirley Miles, Freda Rentie, Robert Shaw, and Phyllis Stewart shall serve for a one-year (1) term only (12/03 - 11/04).
- **Senior Center.** Alma Fowlkes reported \$2M has been appropriated, design being worked on, will then get architect, and seek bids.
- **LHCA Webmaster.** Sy Fountaine gave an overview of 3 significant enhancements for the Board's consideration. (1) The addition of an Admin feature which provides an interface allowing other designated persons to upload information. i.e., Ruth could upload minutes/agenda or Cheryl could upload the newsletter (2) The addition of a Bulletin Board feature permitting others to populate information i.e., block club meeting notification. As new items are posted to the bulletin board an Admin would be notified enabling us to monitor for content. (3) The addition of an E-mail Distribution list. If you specify an interest in certain areas, i.e., meetings then when meetings are posted you would receive e-mail notification. The cost would be \$600 to get going and \$1080 annually to maintain. The costs could be subsidized by charging businesses an annual fee for an ad that links from our site to their own. Board is in agreement provided our site has disclaimer stating the LHCA does not sanction or recommend a particular business and it does. The Board also reserves the right to refuse an ad to anyone in the interest of monitoring appropriate content. Annual fees would be collected up front. Cheryl will work with Sy on an article for publication in next newsletter on this subject. Tanya also volunteered to make mention in a mailer she does to the businesses in the Ladera Center. Sy will be the initial Admin and handle start-up of advertising.
- **Slauson Beautification.** Per Dorothy Harris the trees for homes on South side of Slauson will be planted before removing the green cement. Will discuss further in January meeting.

New Business

- **Candidate's Night.** Karen Bass, Rickey Ivie, and Nate Holden are running for the 47th Assembly District seat. Ruth will invite these three candidates to our Candidate's night on Feb 19th @ Parent Elementary. Dorothy has reserved the Multi-Purpose room. Candidates will be limited to 5 minutes to answer community questions presented by the moderator. Each candidate will have an opportunity to answer the same questions.

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Meeting adjourned 9:31 p.m.

Board members present were Sandra Goldsmith Bennett, Allan Boodnick, Cheryl Cook, Ronni Cooper, Gene Eldridge, Alma Fowlkes, Sy Fontaine, Dorothy Harris, Willa Hector, Robert Shaw, Alvetia Smith, Carmen Spiva, Florida Toussant, and Ron Woods. Alternates Margie Evans, Ruth Lawrence, Alease Love, and Frieda Rentie were present. Guests included Tanya of Shelter Bay. With apologies for any spelling errors.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruth E. Lawrence