

**Minutes of the Board of Directors**

**18 Mar 2004**

The LHCA Board meeting was called to order by President Ronni Cooper at 7:30 PM.

**Secretary & Treasurer Report**

- Minutes of the 19 February 2004 meeting were approved.
- Treasurer's Report for February 2004 was approved.

**Crime and Safety**

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

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
Upper Ladera													
Lower Ladera													
Old Ladera													
Totals													

Statistics for Lower Ladera include Ladera Center.

- **CHP.** Officer Austin distributed fact sheets regarding scooters since this was a concern at last months meeting. He asked for feedback on the traffic issues that were discussed in the Feb 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Cheryl Cook observed increased ticketing at 64<sup>th</sup> and Springpark. Officer Austin has deployed more motor officers and over 100 citations issued previous month. The radar trailer is still broken and not going to be fixed due to budget. There will be increased ticketing on seat belts due to the increase in collisions where occupants are suffering severe and/or fatal injuries as a result of non use.
- **LAPD.** Officer Wickes reported proactive approach being taken re big trucks parked along Centinela. Also taking on the Von's parking lot next. In discussion with city about the condition of the ivy along their parking lot. Ruth Lawrence presented Officer Wickes with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of her Neighborhood Watch.
- **LASD.** Sgt. Thrash reported significant decrease in crime for the month of February supported by the downward trend in the stats in Feb minutes. The LAPD is also joining in the half-cent sales tax proposal for the November ballot. If the tax passes in November the county won't be forced to layoff. Sheriff recently responded to complaint regarding noise and fumes from bus parked at 64<sup>th</sup> and Garth. Sheriffs had lengthy discussion with owner but unable to issue citation because not out of compliance. Ronni is continuing work with Jeff Thierry to have existing parking ordinance modified. Jeff has taken to County Supervisors and process is moving forward.

**Old Business**

- **Ladera Center:** Tanya Keshishian reported there are no confirmed prostitution activities at Fridays. Also working to get signs up for no motorcycle parking in the Friday's cul de sac. Gearing security up for longer daylight hours with summer coming. Easter Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, the shopping center will host another Hats off to Ladera event with a center-wide sidewalk sale, free pix with the Easter Bunny, coupon books, booths, fun, and games for families.
- **Traffic:** Alma Fowlkes attended the traffic meeting related to Corning, 64<sup>th</sup>, and Springpark. There will be a trial of the cushioned speed-bumps. The cushioned humps allow the fire trucks to still fit thru them while at the same time prevent cars from speeding across them. Alma will keep us posted as more information becomes available.

- **Fatburger:** Due to overwhelming community response at recent public hearings, the owner of Fatburger withdrew his request to open an establishment on the NE corner of La Cienega and Centinela Ave in Inglewood.
- **47<sup>th</sup> District Assembly Seat:** Ruth will send congratulatory letter to Karen Bass and thank her for attending our event.

## New Business

- **Guest:** Tony Gamble, resident of Heights at Ladera, presented pictures and a request for a "dear neighbor" letter from the LHCA to stimulate owner of apartments located adjacent to Bank of America (5232 W. Fairview Blvd) to upgrade the appearance of the property. Secretary, Ruth Lawrence, will write letter and coordinate the date to be mailed with Mr. Gamble so that it coincides with similar letters from the Heights at Ladera Homeowners Association Executive Board, and the Heights at Ladera Neighborhood Watch.

## Committee Reports

- **LHCA Website:** Previously scheduled attorney not able to attend. Sy Fountaine held offline discussion with ad-hoc committee regarding website advertising. The group's opinions ranged from "if willing to pay – great, take the money" to "under no circumstances take the money". Sy believes there is room for compromise and suggested trying advertising for perhaps 1 year and then re-assess. In consulting with an attorney he was advised it is ok to use the money for civic association purposes or donate to others (i.e., Sheriffs, schools, others). It was agreed that before making a decision the ad-hoc committee will meet in person so each member can be heard and then present, as a committee, a recommendation to the board in a future meeting.
- **Security Cameras:** Gene Eldridge provided an updated overview of the proposal to trial the placement of cameras on the north side of Centinela capturing traffic that enters upper Ladera from Shenandoah, Sherbourne, and Corning. Work is progressing on easements, right of way, and associated paperwork.. Costs not yet determined because dependent upon easement and right of way information. Should have one-time costs estimated for April meeting.
- **Neighborhood Watch:** Cheryl Cook is helping groups throughout the community form block clubs. She is also working on a roster of all block clubs for future publication.
- **Senior Center:** Alma Fowlkes attended meeting on 3-9-04 with Jim Smith and he has approval to hire the architect.
- **Board Member Contact List:** Ruth Lawrence distributed old version of contact list for members to provide updates. She will call those not present to verify their information and will update the draft and provide to all members in a future e-mail.
- **Beautification:** Cheryl Cook read thank you letter from resident. She also reported county working with us to be sure we were pleased with the trees and that we're getting what we want. Per Robert Shaw, the county has implemented a watering process along Slauson to water and keep the roots stimulated to grow.
- **Junk Mail:** Alvetia Smith reported that people are obviously reading our newsletter because the Junk Mail article worked to stimulate a lot of phone calls to the USPS. Robert Shaw reported that his neighborhood in upper Ladera does not get a mail delivery until almost 6 p.m. Phyliss Stewart made similar report that old Ladera gets mail after 6 p.m. Alvetia will have the station manager attend our April meeting to address this issue since mail carriers are not even supposed to be out past 5 p.m.
- **Vice President's & BH Conservancy Report.**
  - **Committee Roster:** Allan Boodnick reviewed the draft of 2004 committee assignments. Frieda Rentie and Ron Wood agreed to take on the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting and Election will be combined to be a single committee since they occur together. The acoustics at the school are extremely bad and a different location will be found this year. The board agreed to remove the Law Enforcement and Parking committees since we have ongoing representation from LAPD, LASD, and CHP. Added to the roster is a

new Block Club Committee chaired by Cheryl Cook. Ruth will update the committee list with these and other edits.

- April 1, 2004 Allan Boodnick will be chairing the conservancy meeting. Senator Murray is on top of Culver City's concerns related to SB1259. The conservancy is moving ahead doing what they can with land acquisition and starting to get kids into the park for events.
- LHCA Board all in agreement that a 7 p.m. start for future meetings will work. Ruth will send e-mail to all board members, visitors, and officials who frequently attend meetings. Effective with April meeting we will start at 7 p.m.

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Meeting adjourned 9:35 p.m.

Board members present were Allan Boodnick, Cheryl Cook, Ronni Cooper, Gene Eldridge, Alma Fowlkes, Sy Fountaine, Carmen Spiva, Florida Toussant, and Ron Woods. Alternates Ruth Lawrence, Frieda Rentie, and Phyllis Stewart were present. Guests: Tony Gamble, Tanya Keshishian, Eric Muhammed, Harold Gee, Hank Harris, LASD Sgt. Thrash, CHP Officer Blasé, and LAPD Officer Wickes.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ruth E. Lawrence