

Minutes of the Board of Directors

20 Jan 2005

LHCA Board meeting called to order by President Ronni Cooper at 7:03 PM.

Secretary & Treasurer Report

- The following correction was made to the Dec 16, 2004 minutes: Allan Boodnick will Chair the BH Conservancy for the next year month or two. The December meeting minutes were approved. Treasurer's Report for Dec 2004 was approved. The Board reviewed the proposed 2005 budget and compared projections to 2004 actuals. Motion made and carried approving the 2005 budget

Crime and Safety

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

Table with 14 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 Upper Ladera, Lower Ladera, Old Ladera, and Totals.

Statistics for Lower Ladera include Ladera Center. * Old Ladera omitted - Jan data incorrect

- LASD. Sgt. Thrash confirmed the Nov and Dec crime stats previously published were incorrect for Old Ladera. The Old Ladera numbers were high because Windsor Hills had been included. There was a deputy involved shooting last month near Slauson & LaCienega. Incident began as a car jacking in the Ladera Center parking lot. (owner was not harmed) The suspect shot at the deputy, deputy returned fire and apprehended the suspect. LAPD: Officer Wickes reported gypsy gangs working our area again. Elderly have been targets of their scams. They claim to be working next door, pretend to be thirsty, need drink of water since owner where they are working is not home - then rob the elderly who open the door to give them water. There gangs who do not live in this area but are making friends with Ladera kids. They start coming home with local children and hanging out. This is how they get a foothold in the community and recruit. Officer Wickes will send Cheryl Cook more details on the scams against the elderly and the gypsy gangs. Cheryl will use the info in the newsletter and share it with Sy Fountaine to put on the LHCA website.

Old Business

- School Petition: Cheryl Cook gave an update on the petition. She learned the process should be to petition the County first and then put the signatures on their signature form. She will check further to determine whether the signatures are ok on our existing form or not. The goal is to obtain 2,000 signatures and we have 704 to-date. Ronni Cooper has provided a rationale statement that positions why we are making this request. Sheriff's Station: Cheryl Cook reported still working with Sheriff's to maximize use of space. New container is being used for excess storage. Ongoing work in progress. LaCienega and 64th Street: Clinton Tatum of Supervisor Burke's office reported the chain length fence has been repaired. The County Public Works Director got the City to contract the County to do the entire repair job. He also reported the analysis for a sound wall should be available in early May.

New Business

- **Ladera Center:** Tanya Keshishian reported that Jamba Juice, H & R Block, and Wells Fargo have opened. Tanya has been promoted within Shelter Bay but is committed to staying on top of center operations. Her replacement as property manager is Kathy Roshay.
- **Wells Fargo Bank:** Lynnette Shaver Johnson, Branch Manager of Wells Fargo, was welcomed to the community. The bank is planning a grand opening in the center parking lot on February 5th. She will work with Tanya Keshishian to work out the details of the event.
- **Clinton Tatum:** Clinton Tatum of Supervisor. Burke's office addressed issues and questions from attendees.
 - Phyllis Stewart inquired about work being done in Ladera Park to include tearing down picnic tables. Mr. Tatum was not familiar with this work and agreed to get back to Phyllis.
 - A resident raised the issue of 24 Hour Fitness Center members parking on Slauson between LaCienega and LaTijera. Cars are not illegally parked but take up residential parking for 5 – 6 hours at a time. The center provides 2 hours free parking in their lot and the lot is not full. Mr. Tatum suggested alternative would be to have limited hours of parking but that would impact the residents as well. The Slauson resident will contact Magic Johnson Development since the Center's manager not able to help.
 - A resident inquired who to contact regarding water 5' under her duplex on Fairfax. The home has become uninhabitable due to mold. She will contact Mr. Tatum at his office.
 - Carmen Spiva inquired about drilling activity near upper Shenandoah at all hours of day and night. Mr. Tatum will check further on this.

Committee Reports

- **Vice President's & BH Conservancy Report:** Allan Boodnick reported the Conservancy plan is to move ahead with purchasing land. There will be a newsletter out next month to get the word out to the community. Allan also recommended we make better utilization of our website and reminded everyone to provide Sy Fountaine, webmaster for LHCA, with information he can post. Allan asked for more committee participation and a volunteer for the election committee. Carmen Spiva volunteered and Cheryl Cook will send Carmen the ballot information.
- **Newsletter:** Cheryl Cook is concerned that not enough people read the newsletter. There was much discussion on a variety of incentives including \$500 to one lucky reader. Discussion held on opposing view - there are other ways to motivate (merchant donations) instead of using our treasury. A motion was made and carried that the Board will accept the incentive concept with details to be determined at a later date. Dorothy, Sandy, Alvetia, and Gene will work on the details and report back next month.
- **CAC:** Gene Eldridge reported the first meeting is next week and he will report out in next month's Board Meeting.
- **Website:** Sy Fountaine reported the website needs additional content. Ruth Lawrence provides monthly minutes and agenda. Ronni Cooper suggested that Sy make an initial contact with each Committee Chair for information to be used on the LHCA website. Afterwards, each Committee Chair should stay in touch with Sy to provide ongoing information. .
- **Beautification:** Dorothy Harris has a call in to Steve Sheridan and the design team to follow up on Supervisor Burke's announcement at the November Town Hall regarding replacement of the green concrete with landscape.

Dorothy is also asking for a "Ladera Heights" monument sign on the west end of Slauson near Wooster as you enter the community.

- **LAX:** The Airport is involved in a national symposium to be held in Palm Springs the end of February. Dorothy Harris would like to attend the conference at her own expense with the exception of the \$428 conference fee. Motion made and carried to cover the conference fee and Dorothy will contact Treasurer, Ron Woods.

Miscellaneous

- A home in upper Ladera looks bad with hanging shingles falling. Resident was advised to provide Secretary, Ruth Lawrence with the name of the homeowner and address and a "dear neighbor" letter can be sent.
- Dorothy Harris will contact Principal, Judy Washington at Parent Elementary regarding the air conditioning units on top of the school with no screening around them.
- Sandy Bennett reported there are progressive grass roots meetings held that are relative to our area. She Has signed up for their annual newsletter (\$15 annual fee) enabling her to keep in touch with issues that may impact us in the future.
- Phyllis Stewart advised members that long-time resident of old Ladera, Helen Wooford passed away. Phyllis will call Ruth Lawrence with address information and a card will be sent on behalf of the LHCA.

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Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Directors present were Sandra Goldsmith Bennett, Allan Boodnick, Cheryl Cook, Ronni Cooper, Gene Eldridge, Sy Fontaine, Dorothy Harris, Ruth Lawrence, Alvetia Smith, and Carmen Spiva. Alternates present were Frieda Rentie and Phyllis Stewart. Guests included Tanya Keshisian, Clinton Tatum, Lynnette Shaver Johnson, Maggie Southern, Doris Owens, Sidney Logan, Lovelle Hunt.. Apologies for any misspelled or omitted visitor names.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruth E. Lawrence, LHCA Secretary