

Minutes of the Board of Directors

April 19, 2007

LHCA Board meeting called to order by Vice President Allan Boodnick at 7:10 PM. Following self-introductions of Board members and guests, Vice President Boodnick gave an extensive overview of the many projects managed by the Ladera Heights Civic Association. His presentation explained to everyone how their \$20 annual dues are used for community improvements.

Secretary & Treasurer Report

- One correction to the March 2007 minutes re proposed turnout bus lanes on Slauson. "*The County is seeking MTA approval . . .*". The March 2007 minutes of the Board were approved with the aforementioned correction.
- Treasurer's Report for March 2007 approved.

Crime and Safety

- **LASD:** Sgt. Ron Thrash introduced Operations Lt. Rod Kush of the MDR LASD. Lt. Kush reminded everyone the new telephone number from the Marina Sheriff station is 310 482-6000. Rod's number is 310 482-6091 but emergencies should go to the main station number for immediate attention. Sgt. Thrash reported the recent crime stats. Officer Olander reported there are three robbery suspects are in custody. Still getting reports of nighttime prowling in yards. Homeowners can improve their safety by looking for hedges that might provide hiding place for burglars – trim them lower. Use motion detector lights that are out of easy reach. In general, stay alert and report all suspicious activity. Cell phone thefts are up. Kids need to be reminded instead of wearing their personal electronic devices as accessories, they should store them out of plain view when not in use.
- **LAPD:** Not present.
- **CHP:** Not present. For traffic concerns you may contact CHP Blaise Austin directly via email baustin@chp.ca.gov or on 310 642-3939.

Old Business

- **McCormick-WestMed Ambulance Response:** McCormick CEO, Joe Chidley, responded to our letter of complaint regarding excessive siren noise in old Ladera. Mr. Chidley spoke to V.P. Allan Boodnick. He said they do not park at Windsor Hills Florist to better serve the cities of Inglewood and Culver City. They park there because they are servicing Ladera Heights and Marina del Rey. They are contracted to the LAFD and work closely with the station on Fairfax and Slauson with sometimes up to 45 rigs out at one time.. Mr. Chidley said the drivers don't really need to blast the sirens when called out late at night or in the early a.m. hours especially since there is virtually no traffic at 3 a.m.. He agreed to talk to the drivers about the issue in an effort to improve the noise factor for residents who are being awakened at all hours.
- **IUSD Election – WISE Candidates:** Cheryl Cook reported that of the 3 WISE candidates only Trina Williams won. The voter turnout from Ladera was very poor.
- **Security Cameras:** Allan Boodnick explained the concept for the proposed trial run and the fact that the cost is very high. Gene Eldridge further explained the cameras would record in/out traffic and would assist the Sheriffs after-the-fact if a crime were committed. Information would be available only to law enforcement. One possibility would be a one-time assessment of \$100 per household. Since each household does not pay the small \$20 a year LHCA membership it is not likely we'd be successful with the \$100 one-time assessment. We are continuing to pursue additional possibilities because the cameras would be a great help in deterring crime.

New Business

- **New Associate Member:** Vice President Allan Boodnick welcomed Mrs. Charlee Williams as our new Associate Member. Charlee announced she will be chairing a Membership and Dues Committee and welcomed volunteers to help. She also brought in new membership dues for 2 Ladera Center businesses and 1 resident for a total of \$60. Charlee was also responsible for the new LHCA signs that lead to larger meeting participation.
- **Day Laborers at Home Depot:** A visiting resident complained of the excessive liberties being taken by the day laborers who hang out at Home Depot on Slauson. They can be observed bringing beer from the nearby liquor store. They drink beer and leave trash along the curb and sidewalk on Fairfax. They even leave tables and chairs for continued use. Vice President Allan Boodnick agreed the LHCA would write to Home Depot management regarding this issue. Ruth will take care of the letter.

Committee Reports

- **BHC, Sunset Clause, PXP Review:** Board member Carmen Spiva reported that PXP has requested permission from the Department of Conservation to drill 24 more new wells. Currently there is a lot of opposition and so far permission has not been granted. PXP is using 4 outside consultant firms. Carmen is drafting a letter on behalf of the LHCA to address our concerns with landscaping, noise, vibrations, aesthetics, grading, dust control, etc. Allan Boodnick explained the BHC sunset clause and that Karen Bass is forwarding legislation to eliminate the sunset clause.
- **Beautification:** Not present.
- **Block Clubs:** Cheryl Cook offered her assistance to anyone who needs help getting a block club started. Her club meets only twice a year plus one large bock party.
- **CAC:** No Update
- **Ladera Center:** Not present.
- **Ladera Park:** No Update
- **Senior Center:** Darrick Davis has heard the Senior Center is slated to be a "Community" Center instead of a Senior Center. Alma Fowlkes was not present but Allan will check with Deputy Doris LaCour of Supervisor Burke's office for clarification.
- **Supervisor Burke's Ofc:** Not present.
- **Website:** Cliff Neuman reported he is slowly transitioning the LHCA website layout.
- **Miscellaneous:** One resident inquired why the treasury balance is so high since the entire community does not pay the \$20 annual membership dues. Treasurer Ron Woods and Secretary Ruth Lawrence explained the film revenue received as donations thanks to the diligent efforts of Vice President Allan Boodnick.

Directors present: Allan Boodnick, Cheryl Cook, Sy Fountaine, Ruth Lawrence, Cliff Neuman, Carmen Spiva, Ron Woods, and Alternates Darrick Davis, Gene Eldridge, Shirley Miles, and Florida Toussant. Apologies for any misspelled or omitted names.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruth E. Lawrence, LHCA Secretary