

Crescenta Valley Town Council

MINUTES

September 22, 2011

La Crescenta Library Community Room

7:00 pm

1. Call to Order & Welcome President Davis
2. Presentation of Colors by the CV High School JROTC and Flag Salute led by James Duquette, David Duquette and Grant Ackerman – Boy Scout Troop 319
3. Invocation Senior Sister Murtimatananda, Ananda Ashrama. She explained the Ashrama has been here since 1923 bought as a farm house and founded in Boston in 1909. 1925 the great house was erected with the temple in 1928. In the flood of 1934 one of the brothers lost his wife. In 1940 the founder died. His niece took over until she also died in 1995. All are welcome to come up. anandaashrama.org.
4. Roll Call Recording Secretary Erickson 100% attendance!!!
5. Minutes from August 18, 2011 were approved.

6. Presentations

- Steve Pierce, Chamber of Commerce with Julia Rabago and Leonard Ghazarian assisting gave some annual awards to the organization of the year for the chamber, Allied Waste with their general manager and others present.

Volunteer of the year will honor Roger Young of the Fire Safe Council. Roger and Carol Young were present.

- **Dennis van Bremen honored** Roque “Rocky” Reynaga, CVHS Head Custodian for his help when we met in the library, with pancake breakfast and in planting the tree for arbor day and plaque.
- **Dennis van Bremen saluted the** Los Angeles County Department of Public Works – Pat DeChellis, Deputy Director and Bob Spencer, Chief of Public Affairs
- Gil Ramirez – Superintendent has 37 years with public works.
- Erasmo Garcia – Power Equipment Operator
- Abel Laguna – Heavy Truck Driver
- Paul Deardorff – Supervisor has left our area and has helped us with flood control. When a problem arose with bushes on Ramsdell Paul went to owner and today the bushes are gone for better vision and safety for the CVHS students.

Julia Rabago from the CV Chamber also presented certificates for the CV Fireworks Assn.

Pat DeChellis, Deputy Director of Public Works spoke of his 3600 employees and his past connections to our community. He thanked President Davis and the community for their continued support of public works.

7. First Responder's Reports

a. CHP Officer Kevin Denmon reports traffic collisions are up 50% , now 24. No explanation why. Sept 28 Altadena car seat inspection call for an appt.

b. Los Angeles Sheriff Deputy Jorge Valdivia went over the crime stats.

Oct 15 is their Rummage Sale to support their volunteer programs 7 am to 3 pm

Protect your home by setting alarms and locking windows and doors even if leaving for short periods of time.

We have Red Bull bandits at Ralphs. Purse was taken from a car at Shell station and iPads from unlocked vehicles. There were 36 arrests for August.

c. Los Angeles County Fire Stephanie English - fire season is in the fall when temperatures are up, humidity is less than 15% and winds are over 30 mph. She brought gifts for those who answered questions and emergency survival guide for everyone .

8. Public Comments and Community Announcements

- Matt Zakarian, CV Drug & Alcohol Prevention Coalition

Matt Zakarian of GPD asked all to participate in 5k run for after school programs sponsored by the drug coalition. The coalition will sponsor the film Race to Nowhere Oct 3 at 7 PM about pressures in the lives of middle and high school students.

Oct 17 is board meeting for coalition and community is welcome to get involved. Clean out your medicine cabinet so your students don't take old prescriptions.

- Treasurer Dennis van Bremen – CVTC Pancake Breakfast Oct 8 \$5 including eggs, sausage, OJ, 7am to 11am. You can win a iPad2. Drawing will be after all monies are collected. Many groups from both Rosemont and CVHS are selling tickets to earn 50% for their clubs. Dr Doll and asst principal Bertram will help flip pancakes.
- Mary O'Keefe, Prom Plus and Fire House 40 to 50 kids are attending the fire house youth center at 2963 Foothill . The kids are trying to get a skateboard park at CV park and will have a demo on Saturday at 2:15 at the park as part of the Rodder Car show with swing dancing at 11 am. The Fire House offers breakfast 7:15 to 8:30am on late start Thursdays for Rosemont to encourage students to not hang around the Ralphs shopping center. They need volunteers to help
- Paul Dutton, CV CERT has trained 286 with the next class Oct 22-29. Free. Competition this Saturday in Burbank. Call the Duttons at 818 249 8378 to get involved. CERT is the chamber's organization of the year.
- Marta Wiggins, La Crescenta Library Season of Art program had 17 children entries and 6 teens and 6 adults. Wednesday at 6:30 is Art History Class. Book Sale coming in October. Their calendar is on the website.
- Charly Shelton – Sediment Management Task Force is listening to the community. 3.6 million cubic yards of debris needs to come out of 16 debris basins which has collected over 20 years. Go to lasedimentmanagement.com for more info.
- President Cheryl Davis – 2011 CV Town Council Election needs applicants. \$40 to apply. Candidate forum will be next month.

L A county parks Larry Muepo said the dog park is coming but asphalt equipment is using the site at this time.

Early Rodders will be at Hindenburg part of the park this Sat at 9 AM.

CVHS will have a fundraiser for their school with a 5K run.

Pediatric walk in March

9. Preservation of Open Space for Community (10 minutes) The Arroyos & Foothills Conservancy - John Howell and Paul Rabinov gave a 10 minute presentation on their efforts to secure the land at the top of Rosemont for Open Space, trails. AFC has secured 41 acres in Rubio Canyon to restore trails, habitat and for school programs. Supervisor Antonovich supports the idea but wants a letter from the CVTC that this is a top priority for our community. The property is in Goss Canyon and is 7.75 acres now owned by private party who has chosen not to develop the land for a school. There is a stream through the property which is home to 31 species of birds. Now we only have Two Strike Park which is only 8 acres. This would double our open space at cost of \$450k. Justin Wayland owner of the property was present. He also runs Learning Castle in La Canada. The AFC must purchase by year's end or it will go on the market for possible developers. Funding can be obtained if CVTC says it's a high priority. He is asking for letter of support that this is a high priority for our community. Egress is through the flood control gate at top of Rosemont across CVWD property. The water district is on board. There is parking for 4 or 5 cars. AFC will hold title to the land and promises to never develop. Charles Beatty moved and Steve Goldsworthy seconded to table the discussion to our Land Use meeting in October 13th when we have time to listen to all the residents and learn more. Olive Ave residents had many questions.

10. Crescenta Valley High School Open Campus (60 minutes) Dr. John A. Garcia, Jr., Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent

Robbyn Battles was handing out cards to ask questions after the presentation by the district regarding the open lunch issue at CVHS. No decision has been made but Board member Mary Boger voiced her intent to vote to close the campus at lunch time.

Period 5 after lunch has unverified absences of 37 kids while periods 0 thru 4 have only 29 such unverified absences. There have been arrests at lunch time and 2 traffic accidents and we have just started the 36 week school year. Margie Brown the director of planning for the district was present. The drug problem at CVHS has 41 expulsions over the last 5 years with Glendale at 18 and Hoover at 12, CVHS has double the other high schools in our district. Glendale high campus closed in 1994 and Hoover in 1992. Glendale has 3,000 and Hoover 2,000 students. The schools can feed that many in the 35 minute lunch break. The decision whether to close the campus during lunch will be made by the board of education. There will be a cost to close the campus due to fencing needs.

Members of the audience had concern to take away privileges from all students due to those who abuse it. 2% is such a low percentage to punish all the students. One resident who lives near the school said traffic was worse morning and afternoon than at lunch time. Supervision at lunch time will be one SRO and 3 security guards.

Some suggested longer lunch period to avoid tardiness.

The district feels the lunch time offers an additional opportunity for drugs and risky behaviors.

Drug pushers go up and down Foothill approaching our students said one parent. Student said lunch is not the reason students do or don't do drugs.

When asked if the school can feed so many students in such a short period the answer was yes. GHS feeds 3400 with food carts around the campus. Local merchants may be invited to come on campus as well with food carts. It is doable. The chamber has expressed concerns for local businesses who feed the students. GUSD has to worry about the safety of the students. The district has no financial lost for tardiness.

Councilman Harry Leon asked why this drug trading has not been stopped. Mary Boger said it's a law enforcement issue.

CVHS expelled 5 students and suspended 35 for first time offense. Discussion will continue at the Board of Education meeting Oct 4th at 4 PM or 7 PM. There will be community forums before the decision is final, with CVHS' currently scheduled for early December.

11. Council Business

a. Correspondence Corresponding Secretary Battles has none.

b. No August 2011 Treasurer's Report Treasurer Dennis van Bremen

12. Committee Reports and Items from Council

a. Foothill CSD Correction Subcommittee Vice President Goldsworthy not done

b. Residential R1 Subcommittee Councilmember Thomas has emailed the letter from the county for us to review.

c. CV DAPC Alcohol Sales Sub-Committee Councilmember Suarez will meet with Drug Coalition as to Walgreens CUP application to sell alcohol. (Hearing downtown 10/18/11.)

d. CVTC Election – Sat. November 5 President Davis

e. Dennis thanked all who have duties for the pancake breakfast and promised no rain.

f. Odalis reported on the lot split at Briggs and Prospect by Hales-Anderson. (Hearing 11/1/11.)

g. Charlie Beatty reminded all of Oktoberfest with the CVTC having an ID booth from 11am to 11pm

h. Robert Thomas commented that her daughter after attending summer school at GHS was grateful she went to CVHS and hopes they don't make it look like a jail.

- i. Harry Leon spoke of Am Legion and VFW are fundraising to tear down existing monument at Two Strike Park to put up a new one. We need to help them. Cheryl & Harry to attend a meeting on Oct 4.
- j. Danette mentioned how the parents would come on campus at lunch time to patrol the campus for smokers or any problems.
- k. General plan for LA county will be attended by Cheryl.
- l. Sentiment meeting Charly S needs help covering it at Devils Gate Oct 4 and 5th.

13. Announcements

- CV Sheriff Support Rummage Sale – Sat September 24, 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at CV Sheriff Station (4554 Briggs)
- CV Chamber's Running the Foothills 5K – Sat September 24, 7:00 a.m. at Two Strike Park
- CV Weekly 2nd Anniversary and Early Rodder's 10th Anniversary Picnic – Sat September 24, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at CV Park
- CVCA Meeting – Wed September 28, 7:00 p.m. at Dunsmore Community Center
- Montrose-Verdugo City Chamber of Commerce Oktoberfest - Sat October 1, noon-11:00 p.m. in Montrose
- Devil's Gate Public Scoping Meeting – Wed October 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Rose Bowl
- CVTC Pancake Breakfast - Sat October 8, 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. in the CVHS Quad
- **CV Town Council Regularly Scheduled Land Use Meeting in the La Crescenta Library Community Room – Thursday, October 13, 6:30 p.m. topics include AFC land at top of Rosemont, Walgreen liquor license and R1 CSD**
- La Crescenta Fwy Off-ramp Cleanup – Sat October 15, 8:30-9:15 a.m.
- Devil's Gate Public Scoping Meeting - Sat October 15, 9:00-11:00 a.m. at La Canada High School Cafeteria
- Glendale K-9s in the Park – Sat October 15, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Verdugo Park (1621 Canada Blvd.)
- **CV Town Council Meeting in the La Crescenta Library Community Room - Thu October 20, 7:00 p.m. – CVTC**
- Candidate Forum**
- Fire House Art Exhibit – Fri October 21, 6:30 p.m. at the La Crescenta Library
- Foothill Blvd. Cleanup – Sat October 22 starting at the Dunsmore Community Center
- **CVTC Election - Sat November 5, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the La Crescenta Library**

14. Adjournment at 10:05 PM