



MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING

Crescenta Valley Town Council

CRESCENTA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

2900 Community Avenue, La Crescenta, CA 91214

Council Mailing Address: Post Office Box 8676, La Crescenta, CA 91224-0676

www.crescentavalleystowncouncil.org

July 16, 2009

1. Call to Order & Welcome at 7:03 p.m. President Steve Pierce
2. Flag Salute Johnny Blood, Boy Scout Troop 390
3. Invocation Councilmember Beatty
4. Roll Call Council Recording Secretary Cheryl Davis
 - Present: Council members Andrus, Arnold, Beyt, Davis, Erickson, Goldsworthy, Beatty, Battles, Lauterback, and President Pierce. Councilmember Thomas arrived 7:12 pm and left 9:49 pm.
 - Absent: Councilmember van Bremen.
- Approval of June 18th Council Minutes – Moved by Councilmember Erickson and seconded by Councilmember Beyt. Approved, none opposed.
5. Neighbor of the Month Award July 2009 – Casalegno Family (Sylvana, Robert, Philip, Emily, Amanda)
 - Thank you to the Casalegno's, who sold enough glow sticks at this year's 4th of July Fireworks to fully fund eight of the Council's scholarships!
6. Allied Waste Services – Susanne Passantino
 - Reminder of Household Hazardous Waste ("HHW") collection, including batteries, fluorescent light/CFC bulbs, fertilizer, bug sprays, combustibles/flammables
 - Burbank HHW/E-Waste Collection August 8 at Burbank Fire Department August 8, Glendale September 18
 - Safe center (City of LA Center) Sat-Mon 9-3
 - Compliments on Allied Waste's senior discount program
 - Allied Waste has a seven year contract through 2014 with the County. See their Web site for other programs, including bulky item cleanup (June) + two scheduled pickups per year.
 - La Crescenta does an excellent job of recycling
 - Can residents see how the recycling center works? Call Susanne Passantino at (818) 504-3007 or call the Town Council to set up a tour. Allied Waste's Customer Service number is (888) 742-5234
- Public Comments - None
7. Report from CV Sheriff Lt. Larry Landruff
 - June 2009 statistics
 - 3 residential burglaries
 - 6/14 2200 block Waltonia – person found inside a home, which was unlocked

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- 6/29 2700 Altura laptop stolen
 - 6/22 2200 Pinecone attempted burglary – suspicious person reported and the LASD picked up six gang members
 - Commercial Burglary
 - Ralphs – stolen credit card. Suspects arrested
 - Pacific Design Center – Wallet stolen
 - CVHS – Cell phone stolen from a locker
 - Car fishing – People leaving iPods, phones, computers, etc. in their cars and items are stolen. (Especially north of Foothill Blvd.) People go through the neighborhoods at night (10:00 a.m. – 3:00 a.m.) and see if the doors are unlocked. 211C gang is active in this area.
 - Thefts are up, 15 for the month. Most are burglary of alcohol from Ralphs.
 - Reports of kids at Two Strike Park trying to sell dope
 - 2 car thefts
 - A teak bench from a porch, Razor scooters
 - 23 vandalisms – Many reported from the high school, car windows broken
 - 16 graffiti incidents at CVHS alone
 - Please remember to lock your cars at night!
 - LA County residents can sign up for a reverse 911 system. Register at Alert.lacounty.gov
 - 8/1 emergency evacuation drill in Briggs Terrace
 - Call the Sheriff's Department if you see a suspicious individual
 - Mail thefts are on the rise and when there is outgoing mail and the flag is up, they know to steal it so they can acid wash the check and rewrite the check amount and payee.
8. Report from CHP Officer Andre Primeaux
- Only 13 traffic collisions for June, which is ¼ of Altadena
 - No DUI incidents or arrests
 - Statewide 112,966 traffic citations for talking on cell phones and 712 for texting
 - Encouragement to pull off the road to use your cell phone
 - There are no quotas and any citation revenue goes to the jurisdiction where the citation was written
 - Passed a permanent ban on trucks on the Angeles Crest – currently have two motor officers assigned to that area. Certain trucks have permits to be on the Crest for things such as maintenance.
 - Can you track accidents on the 210 Fwy, from the 2 Fwy to Pennsylvania so we can see statistics due to Caltrans metering ramps?
 - Do reports list secondary collision factors such as striping or signals? Please let the Council know if he is aware of any such issues.
- Past Council members 2001-2002 –
 - Andrew Adelman, past Council President
 - Recommendation to establish 2-3 big goals to focus on at the beginning of the year
 - The Crescenta Valley is represented by Supervisor Antonovich, who represents 2 Million people, while the Crescenta Valley has only 20,000.
 - Recommendation to join forces with La Canada, who is incorporated. There is limited interest on their park.
 - Other option is to form our own city and use the County Sheriff and Fire Department.

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- Third option is to remain an unincorporated area. Recommendation is not to become a part of Glendale.
 - Thank you for all his help in getting the new Library. He was one of the driving forces! Hopes that the library will be the focus of this area.
- Recommendation of Vasken Yarmedian
9. Los Angeles County Parks – Al Evans
- Met with Councilmember Battles about alleviating the Monty Lane congestion at Monte Vista by using Two Strike Park as a drop off zone and having the parents and kids park at Two Strike and walk to Monte Vista. This also addresses our youth and childhood obesity, diabetes, and not getting enough exercise. The Parks Director approved, and from 7:30-8:30 am and 2-3 pm, they have a permit to close portions of the parking lot for this program.
 - Also looking at a fitness program, basketball, football, baseball
 - This Saturday, there will be a Dennis Morgan film and band at Two Strike from 6:30-10p. The County has a brand new outdoor movie system and this will be the first time it's used.
 - Looking at ways to be more cost efficient and ways to fundraise for programs. Funds raised at a local park must stay at that park.
 - Introduction of Dr. Susan Hoge, Principal of Monte Vista and Hank Paz from the GUSD
 - “Lean, Green, Safety Machine” – including Councilmember Goldsworthy and Councilmember Davis to identify traffic dangers. Green is the Clean & Green program involving the Student Council. Public Works is working on some of the traffic safety issues. Lean is the program involving walking to school and getting involved with the afterschool park programs for very little or no cost.
 - Hank Paz expressed that the school district is on board with and supports this very comprehensive program.
 - Dr. Hoge discussed the synergy of expressing concerns and brainstorming. Information will go out onto the Website, in the summer mailer, and the informational packet at the beginning of the school year.
 - Dog Park – Variance request to the Board of Supervisors because dogs cannot be off-leash at County parks and we need to create an off-leash policy, to be passed in September. Guidelines and Policies will be used to identify sites.
- Councilmember Battles read a proposed letter to LA Parks and Recreation regarding the drop off and pickup of students at TSP – Moved by Councilmember Beatty and seconded by Councilmember Erickson.
 - Request to make it a little more formal, make the points more to the point, and cc: Sussy Nemer
 - Motion approved 8-1, opposed by Councilmember Beatty.
10. Los Angeles County Fire Report – Stephanie English
- District includes 22 fire stations
 - We've already had several fires this summer, including Little Tujunga, Pyramid Lake, Pomona, and Santa Clarita. The bigger fires tend to be in September/October
 - Ready, Set, Go is a valuable resource – Have an escape plan, have important documents ready, a fire extinguisher, know the location of shutoff valves, have a meeting place, have an emergency supply kit, out of town/state contact, radio or scanner.
 - August 1 – LA County Fire Briggs Terrace evacuation drill. Meeting with the Sheriff and Fire after the drill and all CV residents can attend at a site TBA.

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- Saturday 8/8 at Memorial Park in La Canada – Ready, Set, Go expo which is very specific with products that represent things to help you prepare your home and family. No specific gel is endorsed by the Fire Department, but there are large differences in the gels.
- How are residents in Briggs Terrace being notified, the time frame and who handles what? An LA County Fire letter will go to all Briggs Terrace residents, with the focus above Rockdell. 9:00-11:00 a.m., the Sheriff Explorers and Fire Explorers will be going door to door to deliver materials. They will use the CV Fire Safe Council notification system for people that have signed up.
 - Reverse 911 is owned by the County and there are very strict rules about what the notification system can be used. The reverse 411 system is going to be used.
 - Using newspapers, cable to get the word out
 - People can contact Stephanie English with questions or concerns
 - Participation is highly encouraged, but not required
 - Not currently planning to utilize CERT
 - Suggestion to use “Emergency Training” signs that could possibly be borrowed from County Roads

11. CV Fire Safe Council Report – Roger Young

- Read summary of the situation in Briggs Terrace
- Housing density and fuels surrounding houses are taken into account when assessing the situation
- A Web site is currently in evolution and would love to link to the Crescenta Valley Town Council Web site
- Discussed a display sign board at the entry up into the Briggs Terrace area for notices

12. CV Water District Report – Vasken Yarmedian, President of the CVWD

- Water conservation – It’s working! Saving between ½ to 1 million gallons in one month.
 - 4 part-time interns are taking notes and pictures of landscape being watered
 - 6/25/09 – 7/7/09 125 violations were issued. Most are overspray, runoff, broken sprinklers, or watering on the wrong day
 - Budget – costs expected to increase 25% next year. Not anticipating an increase on waste water.
 - Elections – The filing period for the Water Board ends August 7. Three seats are open – Richard Atwater, Charles Beatty, Vasken Yarmedian
 - Recycled water cost is \$5,000 per acre foot 4-5 years ago. You need space to do it.
 - There will be a meeting at Verdugo Hills Hospital regarding proposed parcel tax. It will be a mail vote and if you don’t return your ballot, you’ve lost your vote. You need to mail your ballot in. Preliminary survey indicates people are in favor of the parcel tax.
 - The CVWD pays for the water cost used in fighting a fire
 - Caltrans is using sprinklers on the 210 and not abiding by community standards of when to water, even if it’s sprinkling or watering. CVWD has a special contract with Caltrans, but Caltrans is paying dearly for buying the water.
- Jean Maluccio, CV Chamber of Commerce President

13. Council Committee Reports

- Land Use Councilmember Andrus
 - Walls at the library and Walgreens are looking nice due to use of native rock
 - Signage at the bottom of Briggs on Foothill on south side – for sale sign

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- Valero station U-Haul business parking vehicles on the street. Property is C2 and truck rental should be C3, so an enforcement case has been opened and notice of violation issued
- Armenian Church on Foothill Blvd – County said a plot plan is required on C-3, but a CUP is required or public hearing required. Notice of violation was issued without regional planning approval. Parking 22.52.1095 parking ordinance – 1 parking space off street within 500’ required for each 5 persons. The Church has 30 days to respond.
- Art Commission Councilmember Thomas
 - Outdoor stage can be used at the new County Library
 - Outdoor theater at CV Park
- Community Flag
 - 36 orders so far
 - Would love to see our Community Flag flown on the third flag pole at the new County Library
 - Motion to write a letter formally requesting this by Councilmember Thomas and seconded by Councilmember Beatty. We know they want to put the County flag on the third pole. Maybe we can ask for 2 flags to be flown on the same pole
 - Councilmember Thomas to compose and send to Corresponding Secretary Arnold.
 - Approved, none opposed
- Banner Committee Councilmember Erickson
 - A banner for Nick Steinbacher will go up in the very near future in front of Pickens Canyon Park
 - We recently lost a local Glendale resident, a Marine named Barboza-Flores, in Afghanistan. Patriot Guard is escorting the body and we would like to have a parade this Saturday at St. Ann’s church to Forest Lawn (2:30-3:00 pm.) They would like to form a flag line from the entrance of the cemetery to the burial site
 - Memorial to the soldiers at Stengel Field on Saturday, July 18
 - Alex Theater – Friday, July 17, “Brothers at War” documentary showing for \$20/ticket
- Community Events
 - Tree for Charles Bausback to be planted Wed July 29, 10:00 am at the CVWD property at Encinal and Pennsylvania. The tree is a pistachio tree at the request of Charles Bausback.
- Election Councilmember Davis
 - The election will be Saturday 11/7 at Rosemont in conjunction with the Crescenta Valley Town Council emergency preparedness forum
 - Reminder that absentee ballots can be requested at any time and will available on our web site
 - Candidate Filing Forms will be available 9/8
- Parks Councilmember Davis
 - Music & movie this Saturday, 7/18 at Two Strike Park. 6:30 p.m. the Maestros band will play and 8:30 p.m. will be the Dennis Morgan film “Desert Song” presented in conjunction with the CV Historical Society. This film has not been publically seen since 1943
 - Shakespeare in the Park cancelled 7/31
 - Saturday 8/29 6:30 p.m. at Two Strike Park will be a Back to School BBQ, with music, and the movie, the Long, Long Trailer starring Desi Arnaz and Lucille Ball.

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- Fundraiser Councilmember Beyt
 - Saturday October 10 at CV High School
 - Ticket sales begin mid-August

- Outreach Committee Councilmember Beatty
 - National Night Out August 4 at the Verdugo Hills Hospital
 - Assemblymen Krekorian is moving on to take Wendy Gruel’s office in LA City Council

- Legislation Councilmember Andrus
 - Adams bill “Mia’s law”
 - Redrafting districts – Our current representative covers Hesperia. Councilmember Andrus moved we write a letter to the Governor, Commission, our Assembly, and state senators saying we request our community be represented by the same person that represents La Canada, Glendale, Montrose, Tujunga, and Sunland. Seconded by Councilmember Beyt. We would like to keep La Crescenta all together, but we consider all of the communities as the Crescenta Valley.
 - Suggestion that we do this with the idea that this makes a difference
 - Discussion about which communities we want to share a representative with – Sunland, La Canada?
 - Discussion that we should speak on behalf of our constituents in unincorporated LA County
 - Suggestion to wait 2 more years until the districts are being redrawn
 - Motion approved, none opposed.

- Streets, Roads President Pierce
 - La Crescenta & Prospect – new left turn lanes installed from northbound La Crescent onto westbound Prospect
 - 210 La Crescenta ramp metering still on. Issue is whether there will be traffic backup during the school. County will give some guidance as to adding signage about the right turns onto the La Crescenta onramp. Can only one or both lanes turn right?
 - Update from PWD on Monte Vista
 - Don’t believe there is a visibility issue on La Crescenta and Orange based on lack of 5-year collision history.
 - El Adobe and Orange – apply for a state safe routes to school grant
 - East side of Rosemont – (Laughlin to Orange) same. They want community input
 - They will be taking initial speed measurements and will do more when school resumes. This is in response to a request for speed bumps on Orange.
 - One “No U-turn” sign on Orange in front of Monte Vista – Suggestion to request 3 signs. Councilmember Goldsworthy will look up the distance covered, but thinks it is 200’ within a “No U-turn” sign.
 - Request to eliminate overgrowth of any brush on the County easement at La Cr and Orange to improve visibility.

- Public Relations Councilmember Arnold
 - Summer edition of newsletter is coming soon. Check the website

- Scholarship – Nothing to report

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- Youths and Seniors Councilmember Battles
 - County Counsel came back and will not support the Pedestrian Flags due to liability issues
- Clean & Green
 - The La Crescenta off-ramp cleanup will be on Saturday 7/25, 8:30 am
- Emergency Preparedness Councilmember Lauterback
 - There is currently a new CERT class of 43 people. Anyone who has had CERT training is invited to CV Park 9a-noon for a review and refresher
 - November 7 – There will be an Emergency Disaster Preparedness Forum for the community at Rosemont Middle School site in conjunction with the CVTC elections.

14. Council Correspondence – Council Corresponding Secretary Liz Arnold

- A thank you from a scholarship recipient
- We earned \$788 at the 4th of July Fireworks

15. Approval of CV Town Council Treasurer’s Report

- Approved

16. Items For and From Council

- a) Letter to address DEIR regarding Verdugo Hills Golf Course
 - Motion to approve letter by Councilmember Andrus and seconded by Councilmember Beatty.
 - Discussion about clarification of what the letter is asking for and who the letter is addressed to
 - Request to state the position clearly in the first paragraph. The letter should be to address the DEIR. Councilmember Arnold Liz to redraft the letter.
 - Approved, none opposed
- b) National Night Out reminder
- c) LA County Sheriff parking enforcement is patrolling and will issue a warning for cars not moved on County easement property. After that they will issue a citation and then the vehicle will be towed
- d) Reminder to please add events to the Council’s calendar
- e) Wednesday 7/22 12:00 pm at Deukmejian Park regarding Rim of the Valley trail
- f) CV Historical Society 7/20 meeting – Col. Pickens has gotten a bad rap. A genealogist will discuss photos from the 1800s. 7:00 pm
- g) Dennis Morgan movie “Desert Song” – There was one copyright infringement issue regarding a song, so it’s never been seen after the premier.
- h) Danny Andrus has acquired a program to get our council meetings to stream on the Web site.
- i) Email list – you can sign up on the website. We will send out emails regarding our council meeting.

17. Executive Meeting scheduled August 6th 7:00 pm at CVWD Boardroom

20. Adjournment at 9:54 p.m.