



MINUTES – GENERAL MEETING

Crescenta Valley Town Council

ROSEMONT MIDDLE SCHOOL

4725 Rosemont Ave., La Crescenta, CA 91214

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

www.crescentavalleytowncouncil.org

September 17, 2009, 6:30 p.m

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1. Call to Order & Welcome at 6:32p President Steve Pierce
2. Flag Salute Johnny Blood
- Honoring of 2 firefighters – Captain Ted Hall and Specialist Arnie Quinones
3. Invocation
4. Roll Call Council Recording Secretary Cheryl Davis
 - Present: Council members Andrus, Beyt, Davis, Erickson, Goldsworthy, Thomas, van Bremen, Beatty, Battles, and President Pierce
 - Absent: Council members Arnold and Lauterback
5. Approval of August 20th Council Minutes – Moved by Councilmember Beyt and seconded by Councilmember Andrus. Approved, none opposed.
6. Comments from President Pierce regarding Station Fire
 - We are not in a position right now to discuss what’s next. Los Angeles County is working on it, the BAER team is assessing, and CARE will coordinating placement of k-rails and sandbags. All agencies ask that we hold off until they have answers for us and next week we will announce a town hall meeting. Tentatively set for the week of October 8.
7. Report from Roger Young – CV Fire Safe Council
 - Acknowledgement of the CV Fire Safe Council - Steve Pierce, Steve Goldsworthy, Don and Clair Ross, and Jean Maluccio.
 - Discussion about the mandatory evacuations and need for consideration of evacuees
 - FSC played a valuable role in relaying emergency notifications
 - FSC will continue to work on fire watch and mudflow and debris issues as it relates to local areas
 - Councilmember Erickson presented “Thanks a Million” chocolates to the Fire Safe Council
8. Council presentation of Organization of the Month, CV Fire Safe Council, to Roger Young
9. Public Comments
 - Rudolph Zuzow (2307 Encinitas) regarding possible debris flow in the near future

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- David Blood personally thanked Roger Young for sending emails and voicemails containing reassuring and accurate information
10. Presentation from Johnny Blood – Eagle Scout (Troop 390) beautification project at CVWD Rosemont Reservoir
- Done in conjunction with the CV Town Council and the CVWD
 - Gavin Traber and Michael Johnson were co-presenters
 - PowerPoint presentation
 - The goal is to educate people about drought tolerant plants
 - Special thanks to the Theodore Payne Foundation and Richard Toyon
 - Over 60 volunteers were involved in this project
 - An education packet was created to teach students about plants and their importance to people, how to conserve water, and has fun crossword puzzles and games
 - Distributed CDs with educational handout for principals and educators
- Councilmember Beyt & Councilmember van Bremen regarding 2nd annual pancake breakfast, Saturday October 10, 2009.
 - Sales from tickets go toward scholarships for high school seniors.
 - There will be music
 - Pancakes, eggs and sausage
 - 6:30am - 11:30am
 - Drop Off zone for Monte Vista at Two Strike Park Councilmember Battles
 - No line, no waiting
 - The kids walk down one block to the crosswalk to get to Monte Vista
 - Election, Saturday November 7, 2009 at Rosemont Middle School Councilmember Davis
 - Candidate Applications are available and are due October 15 to participate in the Town Council's candidate forum. Final deadline is midnight, Sunday October 18.
 - Requests for absentee ballots are also available now and must be received by October 31.
 - Michelle Doll, Principal of Rosemont Middle School
 - Introduction of Greg Krikorian, Joylene Wagner, Dick Sheehan, Dr. John Garcia
 - Rosemont's API grew 9 points and the academic focus is writing
 - Almost 1,400 students with a ratio of 34:1 per class
 - Special thanks to Mr. Ron Sowers for taking care of everything and helping us set up for tonight's meeting!
 - Introduction of Ann Ransford, GCC College Board
 - Introduction of CHP Officer Primeaux
11. Glendale Unified School District forum
- Introduction of GUSD officials and principals and special guests

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- Mary Boger, President of GUSD Board of Education regarding the CVHS Evacuation Center
 - Praise to Linda Evans and her staff at CV High School, Red Cross volunteers, GUSD staff and employees for maintenance, LA County Fire for updates, LA County Sheriff and Deputies, businesses and community organizations that donated food
 - Kudos to the CVHS Cafeteria staff
 - Molly O’Keefe & other kids who showed up and worked
 - Special thanks to Mary O’Keefe for taking in a family with dog about to have a litter of puppies any day
- Mary Boger, Joylene Wagner, Greg Krikorian, Ann Ransford, Kim Bishop (La Crescenta), Susan Hoge (MV), Karen Stegman (Dunsmore), Bill Card (Lincoln), Carla Walker, (Valley View), Michelle Doll (Rosemont)
- Opening remarks from GUSD Superintendant Michael Escalante
 - Dr. Escalante
 - The GUSD Administration met every day and made the decision to delay the opening of school for 3 days - Dr. Richard Sheehan, Eva Leuck, Dr. John Garcia, Elena Hemrol (PIO), Hank Paz
 - Issues included fires, evacuations, some of the schools were in the evacuation area, air quality, the planning of the Michael Jackson funeral, President Obama’s speech on responsibility, H1N1/Swine Flu and hand sanitizing. Special thanks to Johnny Harrison of Glendale Lexus, who is willing to pay for all of that hand sanitizer.
 - Academic Performance Index – 800 is a high performing school. Rosemont is 917!
 - October 1, 7:00 a.m. at Edison Pacific is the full State of our Schools Address
 - We as a district are struggling. Last school year, the budget was cut \$6M which forces use of reserve funds. For the 2009-2010 school year, we will be cut \$30M. Prediction is that California will be ranked 50th in spending per student. Since 2002, GUSD has cut 115 positions (\$10M of overhead). For the first time, they had to make cuts from school sites. We are now asked to operate our schools on the same funding as the 2005-2006 school year with \$28M more in expenses. The reserve and ARA (stimulus money) will last two years.
 - Population 2005-2006 vs. today – We had more students in 2005-2006.
 - Jack Scott’s office said in 2000, there was money that was supposed to have been given to us. Eva Leuck spent 2 years fighting for that \$3.9M in facility money, to be used to possibly buy three properties next to the school district office.
 - Total budget is \$275M and the monthly payroll is \$17M
 - Can updates of certain textbooks be postponed? This is currently under discussion.
 - Textbook publishers are required to put the textbook material online
 - Thank you for the updated phone calls regarding the air quality. Spending \$70,000 - 80,000 per year for the phone system was a brave and wise step by the School Board.
 - Kim Bishop regarding traffic on La Crescenta – Safer signaling, crosswalks, lights, greater CHP presence, new coning system for drop-off
 - Recognition of Steve Toley from CV Sheriff

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- Metering of 210 Freeway – People do not understand that two cars can enter per green and the green light is too short. Recommendation to turn it off sooner than 9:30/10:00 a.m. Recommendation to contact CALTRANS
 - Drop off zone for Monte Vista – Monte Lane on Orange has a long wait and between the parents and the Principal, we created a new drop off area at Two Strike Park. Thank you to the CHP for the support.
 - Kelly Schroeder from Mountain Avenue – Two drop zones including a park on Ocean View.
 - Steve Toley regarding drugs at Rosemont – Last week there was an arrest for sale of ecstasy. There was an arrest at CVHS today for LSD use.
 - Carla Walker (Valley View) regarding an almost accident last week at Pennsylvania and Santa Carlotta and the Crossing Guard pulled the child back to avoid an accident. Had not been notified of this incident and requested additional information from Councilmember Erickson.
 - Concern about drugs and the District’s reaction – Sally Buckley had put in a system at Rosemont similar to “We Tip” and now all schools will be implementing it. Parents need to share information about what is happening at home with the school. Lynn Miyamoto met with Mary Boger about a cluster group of presentations in our Elementary Schools and then working up toward the middle and high schools.
 - Introduction of Christine Walters, GUSD Board member
 - Mary O’Keefe discussed the focus group shepherded by GPD Officer Matt Zakarian and asked parents to provide email addresses if interested in joining
 - Due to budget cuts, have any programs that benefit the students been eliminated? Discussion of expulsion and new special one-on-one tutoring to help stay on track during the suspension/expulsion process. The Board does not pay for the scholastic bowl, math field day, or the current events competition which the community now helps pay for. Discussion about a future parcel tax to maintain the quality of schools to help maintain property values.
 - Christine Walters – The biggest surprise being a Board Member is the volume of reading and the number of events attended
 - The three days of school missed due to the fires will not need to be made up. In the remaining 177 days of school, the teachers have assured the Board that the instructional material will be covered.
10. Presentation by Richard Toyon, President of VOICE request for support
- VOICE put together a compendium of exhibits for the response (1.75 inches thick) to the DEIR at a cost of \$13,500
 - VOICE is a non-profit, 501(c)3
 - In 6-9 months, probably closer to 12 months, the EIR will be circulated
 - Mr. Toyon requested a donation in support of VOICE
 - Approx 360 people responded to the DEIR
 - CVWD paid for a study that applied to the watershed. VOICE was the only community group that paid for their own study. There was a concern that the community has already paid for the study done by the CVWD and the possibility of future requests for donations. Fundraising will continue well into next year.

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- Have the LA City candidates taken a position on saving the golf course? 9 are pro preservation, 3 moderate, and 2 against preservation
- Discussion of need to conserve the open space for our community
- Motion by Councilmember Beatty to support voice and their endeavor in amount of \$200. Seconded by Councilmember Erickson
- Discussion that the Council just collected \$400 for bids on the last silent auction
- Discussion about inability to pay for a mailer to let the community know that there is an upcoming election. Suggestion for VOICE to help sell tickets to the Town Council's pancake breakfast.
- Glendale and the City of LA support the Golf Course, but only Supervisor Antonovich has put up money. The Council has sent a letter of support and we should step up with some amount of money.
- The Council fundraisers are now year round, almost monthly, and scholarships have been paid out this year. The year we sent an election mailer for \$2,500 we only got 200-300 more voters.
- Motion passed 8-1 with Councilmember Andrus against.

14 Recognition of 1997–1998 Town Council

- Charles Beatty
- Danette Erickson

13 Council Committee Reports

- Streets & Roads Councilmember Goldsworthy
 - La Crescenta and 210 – County and CALTRANS doing a joint study about signage and allowing one or two lanes to turn right onto the freeway onramp
 - Left turn southbound light Ramsdell & Foothill
 - Crosswalk at La Crescenta and Altura
 - El Adobe and Orange sidewalk to nowhere across the street from Monte Vista
- Land Use Councilmember Andrus
 - Armenian Church on Foothill regarding parking requirements. The deadline is around 9/21. Question about addition recently done to the building.
 - Dyer and La Crescenta putting in a septic tank
 - Library is coming along nicely. Scheduled for an event in December and a January 2010 opening
 - Question about a catering truck set up in front of Office Depot and kids hanging out there. Discussion about the need to make sure they are licensed.
 - Question about an ice cream truck driving pretty fast, making a U-turn, with the driver on the cell phone
- Community Flag Councilmember Thomas
 - Nothing to report on Arts Committee
 - Halfway there in getting enough orders to making flags. 3x5 or 2x2 flag
 - PTAs are getting involved

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- Community Events Banners Councilmember Erickson
 - Three new banners up – Nick Steinbacher, Spencer Valentine and Luis Figueroa
 - CV Historical – Movies of the Pinecrest flood of 1978 at the October meeting. September meeting will be regarding oak trees
 - CV Chamber – Foothill community cleanup 10/24
 - Kiwanis rubber Duck Race – Sat October 24
- Pancake Breakfast on October 10 Councilmember Beyt
- Outreach Councilmember Beatty
 - Tri-Chamber legislative committee Meeting
 - Saturday October 3 – Oktoberfest in Montrose 12:00 noon – 11:00 pm
- Youths & Seniors Councilmember Battles
 - Drop Zone at Two Strike Park
 - Verdugo Hills Hospital 10:00 am meeting tomorrow to select two board members to represent a senior group for this community. Seniors will have one place to go for referrals, information, anything.
- Silent Auction Councilmember van Bremen
 - 2 Allied Waste certificates for 1 year service
- Parks
 - Cartoonfest Sat. 9/26 at Two Strike Park followed by “Long Long Trailer”
- Emergency Preparedness Forum President Pierce
 - November 7 at Rosemont Middle School
- CV Clean & Green
 - October 3rd freeway off-ramp cleanup
 - Plants are dead. CALTRANS says the sprinklers are working ok. President Pierce spoke with CALTRANS about replacing the plants

15 ~~Council Correspondence~~

16 Approval of CV Town Council Treasurer’s Report – Approved

17 Items For and From Council

- Call from Montrose Chamber – Would like help with the ID booth 11:30 am – 10:00 pm and the pretzel booth 11:00 am – 10:00
- Videotaping of meetings and making them available on the Council’s Website – the issue will be fixed starting with this meeting
 - President Pierce Motion made a motion to approve \$20 extra per month for work to get the video on the website. Seconded by Councilmember Beatty. Passed 8-0 (Councilmember Andrus abstained.)

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- Discussion that catering trucks have a right to sell food if they are licensed. Is it appropriate for them to park in front of Office Depot and cater to our high school students? The school has an open campus policy so it's the students' right to. The question is whether they are licensed.

18 Council executive meeting – October 1, 2009 at 7:00 pm CVWD Boardroom

19 Meeting adjourned in memory of L.A. County Firefighters Capt. Ted Hall and Spc. Arnie Quinones at 9:19 p.m.