

President Jeff Hammond called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Andre van der Valk.

Roll call was taken by the Secretary Tracey Pomerance-Poirier. Board members present: Jeff Hammond, Andre van der Valk, Vicki Briskman, Tracey Pomerance-Poirier, Dorothy Allison, Kamesh Aysola, Cher Bentley, Shekhar Chikhalikar, Steve Columbus, Mark Cox, Sheldon Itzkowitz (late, arrived at 6:16pm), Jeff Mackie, Marina Mackie, Linda van der Valk, Jim Van Gundy, Lucie Volotzky, Summer Walters
Members not present: Daniel Huffman (excused), Nicolas Montaña (excused), Rudy Schultz (excused), Matt Weintraub (excused)

Minutes from the June 5th meeting were approved.

Presidents Report:

- A. Jeff Hammond introduced LAPD Captain Burns from Devonshire Division, who would be speaking in response to the letter sent by the CNC last month to the mayor and city attorney about crime in Chatsworth, including stakeholders' concerns about whether city policies hamper how police deal with these issues.

Summary: Captain Burns began this discussion with her background; she is the area captain, and has spent most of her life in the valley. Burns has worked here about 20 years and has worked almost every division. She is aware of the challenges faced by Chatsworth residents, including RV parking, transients, vandalism and trespassing. She stated that there have been crime reductions in the last few months: July 19% decrease, June 14% decrease. There was a question regarding people living outside of the library. Captain Burns said there would be extra patrol--they would be putting more officers out there to help solve the problem. Often she asks HOPE to do extra clean ups in the area. She explained that there is nothing illegal about loitering unless there are signs present, and there are usually no signs present in bushes or places of that sort. Furthermore, they must arrest and give citations only based upon the law. Captain Burns clarified different types of crimes, stated that they can always take a crime report, and that these reports are how they can get their information and statistics to help solve the problems. Andre van der Valk thanked police for their attention to these matters, but expressed unhappiness at the CNC hasn't received a response to our letter from the City Attorney. He reiterated that the library, munch box, train station, are all hot spots for the homeless. Another audience member stated that the library situation is unacceptable; there are needles in the bathroom, drug deals happening in parking lot and that there needs to be something done. Captain Burns explained that they have used decoy cars and will continue to do that, they do bathroom checks and make sure people aren't there too long as well. Cher Bentley stated that when citizens go to the police to file a report, often reports aren't taken. She says she'll ask them to get the watch commander and then they'll take the report, but that it has been a major issue. Captain Burns explained that officers will be dealt with if they do not do their job, but that people need to ask for the supervisor. Don, resident of Northridge, heard there was a reduction of personnel, perhaps the resources are being reduced, understands that the homeless are not the biggest problem and police should be dealing with heavier crime. Captain Burns said that the desk closes now from 11pm-7am which is being done citywide, but there has been no loss of personnel--only frequent changes of transfers or sick officers. Don asked why money from the L.A. County Measure H and L.A. City Prop. HHH is not being used here. Capt. Burns explained that how that tax money is used is up to the Mayor, so she couldn't speak to that issue. She reiterated that HOPE helps with clean-up crews or homeless problems when possible. Next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be in September. Captain Burns suggested that people become volunteers for the Devonshire division.

- B. Jeff reminded everyone that the CD 12 candidate forum featuring John Lee and Lorraine Lundquist, moderated by Bob Rawitch, former executive editor of the Valley and Ventura editions of the Los Angeles Times, will take place after regular business is completed.

4. Treasurers Report:

- A. **Motion:** To approve of the May 2019 MER. Passed unanimously.
B. **Motion:** To approve the June 2019 MER. Passed unanimously
C. **Motion:** To approve the August 2019 Amended Board Budget. Passed unanimously

5. Standing Committees:

- A. **Enrichment**: Committee report.
1 Motion to approve an NPG in the amount of \$1000.00 for the Chatsworth High Freshmen Orientation in August. Program is for juniors and seniors to mentor freshman, money is used for pizza and water for the orientation. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. **Land Use**: Committee report.
10247 Variel is going to start demolition, new project moving forward.
- C. **Public Safety & Transportation**: Committee report.
No report given
- D. **Homeless Awareness Committee**: Committee report.
No report given
- E. **Equestrian**: Committee report.
1 Motion: To approve the 2020 Day of the Horse budget of \$5,525.00. Motion passed unanimously.
- F. **Beautification**: Committee report.
1 Motion to allocate up to \$2,000 to trim historic olive trees on Lassen St, west of Topanga Canyon. Motion passed unanimously.
2 Write a letter to Chatsworth stakeholders addressing problem of dog/horse fecal matter. Issue tabled.
- G. **Outreach**: Committee report.
Did not meet.
- H. **Selection Committee**: Committee report.
Did not meet.

Candidate Forum took place.

Minutes taken by Roxanne Baker; edited by Tracey Pomerance-Poirier