



General Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2009

The general meeting of the Stevens Creek Neighborhood Association – SCNA was called to order at 6:34 pm on February 23, 2009 at Round Table Pizza @ 4400 Stevens Creek Blvd by the Association President, Amy Terrill.

Present:

Rhovyllynn Cansino (Assistant to District 1 Councilman), Carole Camarlinghi, Amy Terrill, Thea French, Robert Benscoter, Kostas Stathopoulos, Kim Navu, (and assorted children)

1. Action items from last meeting:

The December meeting was cancelled due to holidays/low interest.

New meeting location. Robert contacted Harry's Hofbrau. They are unable to accommodate us on 4th Monday due to conflict. 4th Tuesday is doable. Robert secured Round Table Pizza as an alternative.

Robert met with Karen Shapiro and invited Loma Linda HOA to participate.

Amy posted previous meeting Minutes on website. (currently locked out, but getting access soon!)

2. Updates from D1 Calendar and Budget Setting session at City Hall

New district captain: Junior Gamez

Hardship to waive permit for tree removal

Events: next Sat UNSCC Feb 27 mixer at Camden Community Ctr

- Feb 28th D1 illegal sign removal
- Mar 25 flag day 4-6 pm. food, dance
- Apr <td> senior walk at Valley Fair Mall @ 6am. Rx drop-off
- Apr 25 Great American Cleanup – we must choose dirty spots of our neighborhood for anti-litter map.
- Sep 12 Sat John Mise Festival in the Park - SJPD Helicopter land, tours, ride raffle Mike Wills D1 parks guy.

City Budget Setting summary ~ Rhovy said the City will be conducting a random survey of residents to identify issues and items that go into Next year's budget. Mayor Reed wants residents to have significant input into what is important to them and what is budgeted and handled.

3. New Business

Discussed forming committees: membership, traffic, neighborhood watch.

Two volunteers for the Traffic committee – Robert and Kostas. Traffic committee is responsible for issues related to Traffic and Parking. This includes re-striping and curb painting. The Dept. of Transportation (DOT) contact is Laura Wells.

The topic was raised about street cleaning and debris/trash between sidewalk and the walls behind the car dealers. There are no reminders/notices beforehand. Albany is a real problem. Two main reasons were identified: cars from business' employees are always parked there during cleaning hours, and all the abandoned/stored cars from Courtesy Tow.

- o Regarding street cleaning - Thea suggested getting "No Parking" signs posted with times. Rhovy said Courtesy Tow has been contacted and they have shown strong interest in working with the group on community projects. Rhovy will contact them regarding participation for a "Dumpster Day."
- o Regarding the debris - DOT has jurisdiction on public property; Code Enforcement (CE) handles private property. Roger Falco may be the CE contact for this area (or Mary Danzinger). The space between the sidewalk and the wall on Albany is private property, and thus the responsibility of the Dealers and falls under Code Enforcement, as does the alleys between Auburn, Greendale and Richfield. Carol Camarlinghi suggested doing a walk-through of the neighborhood with CE to identify problem areas needing attention. Everyone concurred that was a good idea.

The topic was raised about gang graffiti. One resident has personally cleaned up some, but safety concerns were raised of gang retaliation. Rhovy provided information on the Anti-Graffiti Task Force that we can call (408-277-3208). They will come out, photograph the tags (to identify hot spots) and then remove it, usually the next day. Or, they will provide free cleanup supplies if residents want to help do it themselves, but call the task force first so they can document the tags.

Robert/Karen also mentioned two recent break-in attempts in the Loma Linda area. A resident also mentioned one suspect was recently caught in the Capistrano area in an unrelated series of break-ins. Rhovi said there has been an increase in crime in West San Jose.

Neighbors can bring their issues about parking, traffic, air quality, wood fires, BBQ restrictions, and so on to meetings. SJPD, PG&E, DOT can have a representative to educate the protocol needed to work with the community at large, address issues and create an open conversation with SJ representatives. Our NA can get advice about topics and events from other D1 NAs.

4. Discussion of 2009 calendar events.

Suggest setting a calendar of events and speakers on topics such as jobs, networking; parking & compliance with SJPD; street smarts or traffic calming with DOT; with emphasis on summer fire safety and emergency preparedness.

- Amy to ask Heather Sutton speak to our group about best practices for conducting our neighborhood association business (in February or March).
- Schedule a walk-through with CE Representative in the Spring (March/April).
- Great American Clean up is set for April 25th and will be headquartered at Starbird Park.

Patty and Ed Brooks (from the SPNA) put forth several ideas for events/fundraisers:

- San Jose Prepared will teach a 2-hr preparedness course for free, or there is a 20-hour course for \$40.

- o Ed Brooks suggested a Communications Drill, with a possible date of April 25th (may conflict with clean up).
 - o Lee Kopp mentioned the Cupertino Emergency Response Team (CERT) needs volunteers (Like SJ Prepared, but closer for our neighborhood). It's a more comprehensive and better organized program than the San Jose has at this time. Cupertino has set up "arks" with emergency supplies, the closest is at Hyde Jr. High, a 10-minute walk from us. He doesn't think we would be turned away in an emergency.
- A Picnic in the Park (best during warm weather months).
 - Christmas Caroling.
 - Hold Blood drives. Since they have a Database of people in our area, they will contact them and this could be a good way to introduce ourselves and gain new members.
 - Food/Toy drives.
 - Having an eWaste Day. This could be a good fundraiser where we get a percentage of the money, (paid by the pound).

Lee Kopp will talk to Safeway about the possibility of free advertising on the back of their receipts.

5. Agenda for Next Meeting

The February agenda and 2009 calendar will be made available on the SCNA website.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm by Amy Terrill. The next general meeting will be at 6:30 pm on February 23, 2009 in Round Table Pizza @ 4400 Stevens Creek Blvd.

Thank you to Starbucks Coffee for donating coffee to the meeting, and Round Table for providing the space.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Robert Benscoter, Amy Terrill, and Thea French