



## General Meeting Minutes – June 22, 2009

The general meeting of the Stevens Creek Neighborhood Association – SCNA was called to order at 7:02 pm on June 22, 2009 at Round Table Pizza @ 4400 Stevens Creek Blvd by the Association Chairman, Robert Benscoter.

### **Present:**

Robert Benscoter, Carole Camarlinghi, Rhovylynn Cansino (Assistant to District 1 Councilman), Janet Keller, Don Price, Tom Sullivan, Tom Stiver, Anni Ketterer, Don and Jeff Weaver, Karen Forman, Cheryl Downing, Mercedes Choenick, Gloria Nelson, Wendy Downing, and Lt. Keith Miller (guest from San Jose PD)

### **1. Introductions**

Everyone was asked to introduce themselves and share the street they live on and how long they've lived in the neighborhood.

### **2. Minutes approval.**

Approval of the May minutes was deferred because no one had read them yet.

### **3. Action Items From May 28<sup>th</sup>**

- Jonathan Fredericks of the Salvation Army to email List of Items not accepted at the Donation Event to Robert, who will forward them on to Lee Kopp. **(List not yet received.)**
- Robert to contact SC Biz Park for permission to use their Parking lot at 4430 Stevens Creek and the closed Black Angus lot as a potential backup site. **(Contacted. Waiting on response from main office.)**
- Lee Kopp said he would coordinate the media connections and contacting radio stations. **(No update available.)**
- Robert to contact Stanford Blood Center about possibly being at the Donation event. **(Message left, Waiting for response.)**
- Rhovy will ask an officer from our area to attend the next meeting in June to discuss traffic and safety. **(guest speaker in attendance.)**
- Rhovy said she would check into the situation about street sweeping. She will have an update at the next meeting. **(Response provided below.)**

### **4. Board Member Recruitment**

Interim Chairman called for neighbors to become active Board Members

Interim Secretary, Thea French, will be resigning from her position due to a change in her residence out of the area and city.

No attendees volunteered, so recruitment will continue.

### **5. Presentation by Lt. Keith Miller from the Western Division, San Jose Police Dept.**

- Lt. Miller gave overview of the Western Division – Boundaries, SNCA is in Police District “Nora”
- Lt. Miller recognized petty crime in SCNA area; however, the crime rate here is extraordinarily low compared to city-wide.
- Burglaries and auto theft are common in area, but not bad. In the past 90 days, there were 3 commercial burglaries, 3 sexual assaults (all types, inc. statutory) and 11 assaults (inc. minor stuff like punching.)
- PD targets service based on reports filed by Residents who call to report problems or concerns.
- He emphasized using 311 vs. 911. PD will send officers based on priority.
  - o #1 priority is safety of Persons; #2 priority is safety of property.
- District Nora calls are often to report disturbances; more than most districts.

Lt. Miller opened the floor to questions from residents.

- Resident asked about suspicious white Cadillac prowling in the neighborhood. Lt. Miller advised resident to report the license plate number to the PD.
- Lt. Miller advised residents of a new gang forming, said that the gang is not a threat to adults. The new gang is primarily Hispanic, seems to be non-violent and targeting younger children and does not represent colors. (Though Robert reported he has witnessed red as frequently worn by the local “kids” and another officer had informed him that red is the most likely color used in this area.)
- There was a discussion on the recent 7-11 robberies. The thieves were young adults, most likely from East Palo Alto. Most robberies usually come from different cities/areas.
- Traffic concerns were raised. Most related to speeders, especially on La Honda. Some concerns are the responsibility of D.O.T. (for solutions) and not the P.D.’s jurisdiction (which is enforcement of laws). Speeding violations are more difficult to enforce due to the spontaneous timing.
- A resident reported speeding and stop sign running on La Honda/Casa View, mostly during rush hours. Lt. Miller advised residents to report these traffic problems on the SJPD Website ([www.sjpd.org](http://www.sjpd.org)), which is handled by the traffic unit.
- There was a question from a resident on photo radar enforcement. Answer: Photo radar is no longer used. It’s been deemed problematic because identification is not always certain and difficult to enforce. The citations issued by mail are based on the honor system.
- A resident raised concerns of those making left turns from Loma Linda where they are not permitted. Lt. Miller suggested emailing the locations and times of witnessed violations to [robert.miller@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:robert.miller@sanjoseca.gov). He promised to help resolve some traffic issues, but can’t promise to solve all due to funding/staffing constraints.

## **6. Presentation by Rhovy**

- Rhovy gave an update on the street sweeping brought up at the last meeting. She informed us that normal sweeping times are the first Tuesdays of the month. There is no enforcement of parked cars, and it won’t be possible to post permanent signage due to budget constraints.
  - o She suggested it may be possible to arrange for an “Enhanced Sweeping day” in the problem areas. This would be arranged through the D.O.T., who will post signs 3 days before and will cite parking violators and/or tow them the day of.

- Rhovy suggested contacting John Meltzer at the D.O.T, 535-3500, to answer questions. Also suggested having a representative from the D.O.T./Traffic Calming Division speak at a future meeting. **ACTION ITEM:** Rhovy will call to see if a speaker can be arranged.
- Neighborhood Cleanups (a.k.a. "Dumpster Day") is typically planned every three years, and the next one in our area is planned for February 27, 2010.
- Rhovy spoke about upcoming events, and the fliers she brought for the group to take.

## **7. Donation/eWaste Recycling Event Update.**

- Robert called for volunteers to help plan Donation Day (Donation Day Planning Committee). Needs help with flier distribution (particularly in Meridian Woods, Park Keily, Brookdale and San Jose Gardens) and other tasks. The Boy Scouts were suggested as a possible source for help distributing/hanging door tags
- Cheryl Downing, former President with Carole for the Loma Linda HOA, wants more outreach to their members and is willing to act as a point of contact.
- Need to finalize the location before anything else can be done. Robert has contacted the property management of Stevens Creek Business Park. The on-site manager is very willing and wants to help, but is waiting to hear back from the home office in S.F. for the final okay (sometime this week)
- Robert has contacted the Stanford Blood Center about coming to do a blood drive concurrently, and hasn't heard back from them yet.

## **8. Open Forum**

- There is a large pothole on Casa View near Stevens Creek. Everyone hits it coming and going because the car dealers park their cars along there. This should be reported to the D.O.T.
- There are still 2 illegal signs, posted high on telephone poles, on Norwalk at the Greendale/Richfield alley and San Jose Gardens entrance. (They were first reported in February.)
- There is still graffiti on the sound wall to 280 in the same vicinity. (Also reported in February)

## **Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm. The next general meeting will be at 7:00 pm on July 27, 2009 at Round Table Pizza at 4400 Stevens Creek Blvd.

Thank you to Round Table for providing the space.

Minutes prepared by Robert Benscoter from notes taken by Rhovy Casino and Robert Benscoter.