



## General Meeting Minutes – August 24, 2009

The general meeting of the Stevens Creek Neighborhood Association – SCNA was called to order at 7:09 pm on August 24, 2009 at Round Table Pizza @ 4400 Stevens Creek Blvd by the Association Chairman, Robert Benscoter.

### **Present:**

Robert Benscoter, Carole Camarlinghi, Jim Landowski, Rhovylynn Cansino (Assistant to District 1 Councilman), Don Price, Annie Ketterer, Karen Shapiro, Kamela Mivchandaur, Matt Montgomery, Cath Harrigan, Daniel Michalek, Jeffrey Diehl, Silvestre Romero, Alissia Forristan, Jim Bell

### **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.**

Robert motioned to approve the minutes from June July and August. Karen seconded. All approved. Jim abstained because he hadn't read them. Minutes approved.

### **3. ACTION ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING** (most were event related)

- Need the street info with assignments before 8/15. ***(Completed and sent to Salvation Army)***
- Robert to follow-up on food for event. ***(Completed)***
- Robert to contact 76 Station and S.C. Toyota about using their bathroom ***(Completed)***
- Karen Shapiro to contact Safeway about distributing fliers. ***(Not Completed)***
- Karen is on the PTA and has the school directory. She will email a street listing of residents in the school district to Robert. ***(Completed)***
- Robert to inquire about putting banners/signs up on Corner at Buick dealership ***(Completed)***
- Rhovy will call to see if a speaker form DOT/Traffic Calming can be arranged. ***(Rhovy reported that she is working on this. DOT is reviewing past 5 years since traffic calming was implemented in the Loma Linda area.)***

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

Te Stanford Blood Center and Salvation Army said they considered this a highly successful event (especially for the first one)

Reported Results:

- Blood Drive: 22 donors showed up and 17 pints were collected.

- Donation/eWaste Collection: 160 donors. 1¾ trucks were filled. 77 TVs/monitors and 34 CPUs were collected. The SCNA will be receiving \$327.56 for the eWaste collection!
- The event was mentioned on radio, in the San Jose Mercury News, the Willow Glen Times, and the Campbell Express. Other papers may have also picked up the story.

Robert acknowledged all the people and businesses who contributed to the success of the event.

Jim recommends making this an annual, possibly biennial event.

## **5. Financial Report, Membership and Board Member Recruitment.**

Treasurer reported we had \$37.06 in the Treasury. A brief discussion followed about the need for funds, and annual dues. Currently dues are \$15 annually for individuals, \$50 for Businesses, for each calendar year.

Robert asked attendees to consider joining the association and even to become active Board Members. We'd like to have 5-9 Board members ASAP and we still need to fill the Secretary position.

Annie Ketterer and Daniel Michalek joined the Association and paid dues for 2009. Daniel also volunteered to join the Board and will consider becoming Secretary.

One of the first considerations the Board will take on is reviewing the by-laws, which are a copy of the Strawberry Park NA by-laws, and may not entirely work for the SCNA.

## **6. Traffic/Public Safety**

Discussed the passed calming measures put in the Loma Linda area several years ago. They worked, but now the problems persist on La Honda and they want changes made.

Some of the problems throughout the neighborhood are the auto dealers and tow trucks from Courtesy Tow. Neighbors have reported that the Auto Dealers and mechanics are always doing test drives through the neighborhood, exceeding speed limits, as do the tow trucks, who are always running stop signs and parking in read zones. It's also been reported that Courtesy has become a difficult company, backing up and beeping and idle truck around the 7-11, creating a lot of noise, frequently at all hours of the night.

**ACTION ITEM:** Cath will keep a record of the occurrences over the next 30 days for next meeting.

Jeff also reported hearing the 7-11 delivery trucks at 12:00 am or later every night, idling and making noise.

**ACTION ITEM:** Rhovy will check issues with Courtesy Tow and on red zone areas where the tow trucks park and report the results.

**ACTION ITEM:** Rhovy will check why the corner on Albany at Richfield was ripped out and then repainted again.

Neighbors have reported concerns about the groups of kids loitering around the neighborhood, most noticeably on Albany at Richfield. Though they did comment here seems to be a decline in occurrences.

It was reported, again, that the 7-11 has been robbed at gunpoint twice this year. Rhovy reported that the perpetrators came in from Cupertino.

There is also a large concern about many cars being broken into in the back parking areas behind the multiplexes on Richfield, and along Norwalk and Albany near Park Keily. The Police Lieutenant who visited an earlier meeting did report an increase in such crimes due to the economy.

Also, it seems that abandoned cars along Albany have increased in recent months. Especially down near Park Keily. possibly from residents that have more cars than assigned spaces; possibly abandoned by the tow

company that won't profit from them. The number for vehicle Abatement was given (408-277-5303) and residents were instructed to call and leave the info, inc. name, address, phone, vehicle location, color/description and license number. They try to respond within 48 hours. The general information line for the city where you can get the number for any department is 408-535-3500.

Again, there were complaints of street debris and lack of cleaning throughout the neighborhood. (a pile of furniture in front of one of the 4-plexes on Richfield, abandoned items and debris in the Alleys between Richfield, Greendale and Auburn, debris and abandoned items along Albany The topic of an "enhance street cleaning" was brought up. It was suggested to revisit the idea from a meeting early in the year, to have a representative from code enforcement come out to do a walk-through in the neighborhood.

A "Dumpster Day/Neighborhood Cleanup" usually occurs every 3 years. The next one is scheduled for February, 27, 2010.

Karen and others suggested doing an enhanced Street Sweeping sooner than that, perhaps in early November, and have a DOT and Code Enforcement Reps do a walk through in the neighborhood before then.

It was generally agreed that we can get faster action on the blight/cleaning issue than the traffic calming. Robert proposed altering the schedule (that was set at the July meeting) to the following:

- Use the September meeting to discuss and identify the most problematic areas of the neighborhood for traffic and blight problems and set a date in November for a street cleaning.
- Have Representatives from DOT-Blight and Code Enforcement come to the October meeting in preparation for a walk trough that next week, in preparation for an "Enhanced Street Sweeping" in Early November.
- Have a representative for DOT-Traffic Calming come to the November meeting, instead of October to present problem areas and discuss solutions.

The altered timeline was agreed by all.

**ACTION ITEM:** Rhovy to arrange for reps from DOT-Blight and Code Enforcement for October, and DOT-Traffic Calming in November

## **8. Open Forum**

A resident complained about cockroaches on Miramar. A short discussion followed.

A resident inquired about seeking compensation for a neighbor who doesn't speak English, for a dog bite she suffered because the person caring for the dog lost control of it.. There are no City services to help with something like this, and it was suggested she seek compensation from the dog's caretaker and/or owner, through small claims court if necessary.

Jeff thanked Robert and Daniel for the great information they provided tonight. He didn't know the process that needs to be followed to get action, and thanks to tonight and the information provided he now has a clearer understanding, and apologized if he spoke out of turn from ignorance.

## **Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm. The next general meeting will be at 7:00 pm on Monday, September 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 Karen Shapiro and Robert Benscoter.

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**Following the General meeting, a brief meeting of the Board was called to order at 8:25 pm.**

Daniel Michalek shared his prior experience working with non-profits and on his previous HOA Board. Robert nominated Daniel to the Board. Carol seconded the nomination. All approved. Daniel was confirmed as a Board Member.

Board Meeting adjourned 8:31 pm