

**Almaden Valley Community Association**  
**Meeting at Almaden Community Center, 6445 Camden Avenue**  
**7:00 PM – Monday, May 10, 2010**

**7:00 PM** The meeting called to order by Vice President Jerry Mungai

**A quorum was present:** Kitty Monahan, Bob Boydston, Steven Levin, Pat McMahon  
(Ray Strong Absent, Ron Blake Absent)

**Speaker: Kim Walesh, Chief Strategist, City of San Jose: “Changing Forces, Changing City”**

**\*Some reports were submitted in advance and are attached to the minutes**

**Secretary’s Report: Minutes of April Meeting were submitted by Lee Dimmitt and approved as written**

**Treasurer’s Report:** Bob Boydston \*See Attachment

**Vice President’s Report: Jerry Mungai** reported about the city budget meeting, and commented that the City has a very challenging problem.

**Committee Reports:- Members**

Membership and Communications- Lee Dimmitt, 118 members and 34% of e-loop mails opened.

Transportation – Steve Levin **Report Unavailable**

Education – Jerry Mungai \*See Attachment

Parks and Recreation – Kitty Monahan reported that the PG & E trees in Fontana Park will be trimmed to a safe height avoiding a dangerous hazard with the high wires; and also, they will remove 14 trees from the site. Kitty is actively trying to maintain the existing park ranger at the Almaden Lakes Park by convincing the water district to fund the counties expense for the ranger’s presents. She has asked the support of Almaden residents.

Webmaster – Linda Spencer & Bob Boydston: \*See Attachment

Neighborhood Commission Report – Bob Boydston: \*See Attachment

**District 10 Liaison:** Kathy Sutherland, Nancy Pyle’s chief of staff reported on the need for funds to maintain the existing lifeguard at the Almaden Lakes Park. This position will be eliminated if funds are not received. Council member Pyle will match donations from her discretionary city taxpayer’s funded district allotment funds. Kitty Monahan, Lee Dimmitt, and Bob Boydston voluntarily donated \$100.00 apiece equally \$300.00

A motion was made by Kitty Monahan and seconded by Bob Boydston:

**Motion # 201005.1:** That AVCA donate \$100 toward a summer swim program at Almaden Lake Park.

In Favor: 2 Kitty Monahan, Bob Boydston

Opposed 3..Steve Levin, Susan Bailey, Pat McMahon

Absent 1 Ron Blake, Ray Strong

**Old Business:**

**President Ron Blake resigned as president due to conflicting schedules and duties.**

**Motion # 201005.2:** That Jerry Mungai be accepted as president for the remaining term to expire in February 2011, and that Pat McMahon be accepted as vice president for the remaining term to expire in February 2001

In Favor Kitty Monahan, Bob Boydston, Susan Bailey, Pat McMahon, Steve Levin

**Clarify AVCA’s position on the City budget.** It was determined that the past practice of placing the pro and con of the position on the web will be followed.

**New Business:**

**October meeting date change** (due to holiday) will be determined by Jerry Mungai by the next meeting.

**Is a change in meeting time needed to allow more time for board discussion (e.g. Repts. 6:45-7:00**

**PM)?**Discussion revolved around starting the business meeting at 6:30 and recessing for one hour for the speaker

**General election candidate forum for Sep. or Oct.** Need a volunteer to chair forum.

**Proposed items for June meeting:**

**Review charitable contribution guidelines: Bob Boydston** See attached advanced report  
**Appoint new Planning & Zoning committee chairman**  
**Discuss purchase of screen and LCD projector for meetings.**  
**October meeting date change**

**Next Meeting:** Monday June 14, 2010 at 7:00PM

Speaker: Harry Marvrosgenes; Executive Director, San Jose Redevelopment Agency  
**How the RDA works & copes with challenging fiscal times.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:55.**

## **Attachments**

### **Treasurer's report**

The big out flow was for the Forum:

\$139.50 for a cop to stick around and chat. What a waste!

\$557 to the City for the hall. There will be a refund of \$500 because the facilities were not trashed. There is a six weeks delay in getting the refund check. How much time does it take to write a check? But that is the way the City works.

Linda will submit an additional charge of about \$17 when she gets back.

After the refund, the Forum will cost about \$214.

AVCA also paid \$130 for the coming room rent.

Another matter: Last Monday was my 85th birthday. Mortality has to be considered. I feel great and am as frisky as a colt, but the numbers are working against me. There may not be the normal hand off to the next Treasurer.

**WANTED:** liaison person to be instructed in the current location of the check books and financial records. This person is not necessarily going to be assuming the next job as Treasurer, but just to do the hand off. No experience required. Recent photo a plus.

Bob Boydston

Treasurer's Report

ALMADEN VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

ID 77-0134926

04/30/10

ACTIVITY STATEMENT

	START 01/01/10 \$9,026			CURRENT BALANCE
<b><u>AVCA</u></b>				
<b>INCOME</b>				
Membership dues	\$705			
Interest	\$0	\$705		
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Membership Costs	\$136			
Constant Contact	\$0			
Community Room	\$222			
Forum	\$697	\$1,054	-\$349	\$8,677
<b>RESERVE FOR PREPAID DUES</b>				
2011				\$300
2012				\$150
<b><u>ARK FUND</u></b>				
	\$6,354		\$0	\$6,354
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$15,481</u></b>

POSITION STATEMENT

USBank checking account	\$479			
Franklin Money Fund	\$15,002			
Pending Deposit	\$0			<u>\$15,481</u>

R. Boydston, Treasurer

## Education Report

SJ Unified School District Board of Trustees Meeting, 4/22/10

1. Trace Elementary School was recognized for developing a caring school climate under Project Cornerstone. Project Cornerstone is a Santa Clara County United Way Program whose mission is to "...train and mobilize adults throughout Santa Clara County to intentionally work to develop healthy, caring, and responsible children and youth."
2. Presentation made to describe how budget cuts will affect school bus operations. Numerous bus drivers in the audience that numbered approx. 100 people. 2466 students are eligible to ride school buses (beyond mandated walking distances from the student's designated school of 1.5 mi. grades K-5 and 3.5 mi. grades 6-12.) Fees are assessed on 1,569 on a sliding scale with 1,321 not charged. The remaining 897 kids presumably have free access to buses because of their circumstances (homeless kids living in shelters, Social Economic Status (SES) kids, kids in No Child Left Behind category, and Special Ed kids). SES kids are those who live in a school district that is designated as low social-economic status. They are allowed to transfer on a "space availability basis to a school within a "high social-economic status area. This option is part of the Voluntary Integration Program (VIP) that is part of a desegregation lawsuit started back in the 70s. Periodically, the District has to report to the court on it's efforts to provide equal education opportunities for all. The new busing program is expected to save the district over \$550K and result in employee cuts of 4 full-time equivalent employees (FTE). It will also change bus schedules with changes of up to an hour in Williams School. It means some parents may have to seek childcare for an additional hour Bus will arrive at 8:55 AM instead of 8:00 AM.
3. Twenty students were given waivers from taking High school exit exams. They will still participate in graduation ceremonies.
4. Board approved a Memo. Of Understanding with San Jose Jazz to provide anti-smoking messages to the schools with the importance of healthy lungs when playing an instrument at no cost to the District.
5. Voted to eliminate positions equal to 10.5 full time employee positions. This in addition to the 4 FTEs above.
6. Revising job description for the position of Director, Educational Equity. The Director provides leadership insuring that equity and inclusion are essential principles of the District & are integrated in all District policies, programs, & operations.
7. Board is to review for further consideration revised philosophy, goals, objectives and comprehensive plans of the District to help close the achievement gap between "...our identified student groups; Hispanic, English Learners, African American, Caucasian, Asian, low socioeconomic status, and students with disabilities." I have included the whole proposal so you can see the challenges the District has accepted in educating our kids who come from diverse economic-societal backgrounds. (See after Item #8)
8. The board approved a federal grant application for a 4-yr. \$1 million program to support development of Mariachi music programs at targeted schools with targeted student population demographics. The objectives include "...alignment of music education and student academic performance in English and mathematics, improvement in motivation, reduced absenteeism, and demonstrated knowledge of music." I understand similar programs exist for Indian, Chinese and Persian music. The programs, many of which are after-school programs, are a huge help in combating gangs, according to Leslie Reynolds.

Philosophy, Goals, Objectives and Comprehensive Plans BP 0210 (a)

### Equity

The Board of Education values the contributions made by all members of our diverse community of students, staff, parents, and community groups to our mission and goals. We believe that equity of opportunity, and equity of access to programs, services, and resources are critical to closing the achievement gap between our identified student groups; Hispanic, English Learners, African American, Caucasian, Asian, low socioeconomic status, and students with disabilities.

The Board recognizes that certain groups in our society have not demonstrated academic success equitably. Systemic inequities and lack of instructional rigor are essential causes of low academic achievement. Socioeconomic, culture, race and gender are key categories for which measurable outcomes will be analyzed. (*Continue next page*)

The Board further recognizes that such inequities leads to educational, social, and career outcomes that do not accurately reflect the abilities, experiences, and contributions of students, employees, parents and community partners. Such inequitable treatment limits future success and prevents individuals from making a full contribution to society.

The Board is therefore committed to ensuring that equity and inclusion are essential principles of our school system and are integrated into all policies, programs, operations, and practices. Furthermore, the Board believes in equal out comes for ALL students and equal opportunities for ALL employees.

The Board will therefore ensure that:

a) The District maintains a Voluntary Integration Plan (VIP) whose purpose will be to:

- Prohibit and correct intentional discrimination in any District program or activity on the basis of race, gender, color, ethnicity, or national origin;
- Prevent racial or ethnic isolation in District schools; • Outline the reasonably feasible steps the District will take to correct racial or ethnic isolation identified in District schools;
- Foster student integration and diversity; and
- Ensure equal educational opportunity and access for all students.

b) The curriculum in our schools accurately reflects our demographics and opportunities are provided for student voice to be shared.

c) Opportunities to develop the confidence to challenge practices that deny equitable access to services and instruction in the District are provided without fear of retribution.

d) All students are provided with equitable opportunities to be successful in SJUSD; institutional barriers to such success are identified and removed; and all learners are provided with support and rewards to develop abilities and achieve aspirations.

e) An aggressive plan is in place to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers and administrators who reflect the diverse community of SJUSD. Hiring and promotion practices are non- discriminatory, and promote equitable representation of diversity at all organizational levels; all employees have equal opportunities for advancement; employee skills and knowledge are valued; and have equitable access to available support for professional development needs.

f) The professional development of all staff will encompass research-based methodologies to improve the quality of leadership, support and instruction for ALL students.

g) The contributions of our diverse community of parents and stakeholders to our schools are valued and encouraged; and they are provided with equitable opportunities for working with staff and with each other for the benefit of all students.

h) Students, employees, parents, and community partners are provided with fair and effective processes and procedures for resolving concerns and complaints that may arise from experiences of unfair or inequitable treatment within the school system.

i) Financial and human resources are provided to support the work of staff, students, parents, and community groups, in promoting equity and inclusion in the school system.

j) Procedures are aligned to the District Strategic Plan for implementing, reviewing, assessing and developing policies, programs, operations, and practices that promote equity in the district and for making changes where necessary.

Legal Reference:

Education Code 51002 Legal development of programs based on stated philosophy and goals 51020 Definition of goal 51021 Definition of objective

Professional Publications

[www.Gamutonline.net/displaypolicy](http://www.Gamutonline.net/displaypolicy) San Bernardino 6012.1-6012.4

Toronto District School Board, Equity Foundation Statement & Commitments to Equity Policy Implmentation. 2000.

Antiracism and Ethno cultural Equity in School Boards. 1993. Ministry of Education and Training, Ontario.

EDEquity, Inc.

SJUSD Strategic Plan

## **Webmaster's Report**

I have been asked about how can two programmers both work on the same program at the same time as Linda and I do. The answer is only one person is in charge at any given time. Linda is now on vacation, so I am doing all the coding at the present time.

Linda and I have similar backgrounds. We both worked at IBM and at some time were system engineers, which meant we wrote computer code. We both have years of web site programming experience.

Our policies are the same: to keep the AVCA web site current. The day after a Board Meeting, the web site is updated to remove the old meeting announcement and move up the next.

This joint webmaster situation works out well for AVCA, since one can drop out and the work continues without interruption.

Earlier I had sent you a list of the changes for April.

I do want to call attention the to the Crime Map under About Almaden, Safety. You should find this an interesting update of the type and location of crime in the Almaden Valley. Check it out.

So far this year, March was the busiest month with about 9,500 pages being looked at.

Bob Boydston

## **Neighborhood Commissioner Report**

NC Meeting April 22, 2010

The meeting started with a somber note: the city staff that supports the NC has been given lay off notices. This will eventually include the manager, who determines the NC agenda.

Police Chief Davis addressed the NC about how budget cuts were affecting his resources. After nine years of deficits, the Chief after trimming special programs such as traffic control, detective work, etc. is now down to cutting patrolmen.

He addressed the concerns of some NCs about community policing. The six month rotation period is set by contract, although Lts. And Captains stay in place and about 30% of officers remain, by choice, in the same neighborhood. The Chief is recommending 12 months, but this will have to be negotiated. The activity of police participating in community affairs, which we seem not to be concerned with in the Almaden Valley, will also be under stress due to budget costs. Police staffing will be down to 1988 levels with 88 lay offs.

The Chief is very proud of the Crime Map that the department puts out. This Crime Map shows, for example, the location and type of crimes committed in the Almaden Valley over a selected number of days. Child Molester information is also available. This Crime Map is available on the AVCA web site under About Almaden, Safety, Crime Report.

The NC, after 9 months of existence, has put out a document detailing its accomplishments. As I see it, the objectives are fine. For example, that the NC will integrate the voice of the people, ( the NCs) into the decision process of the City, but I see no evidence that we do this. The accomplishments are largely internal: the setting up of various committees. I have kept away from these committees, which mainly seem to make work by meeting and issuing reports.

As some of these committee people say, "we need to have the infrastructure before we can proceed". I disagree. We have issues like the thousands of illegal secondary housing that people are living in under potentially hazardous conditions. This has been going on for years without City action. I have voiced this concern in the NC meetings, but we don't seem to be set up for action. The NC needs to get facts, make a compelling story and go before City officials. We could have done this long ago, but the pace is set by the City itself. One must learn to be patient.

Bob Boydston

## **Grant Committee Report**

At the last meeting, Jerry and I were assigned as a committee to come up with guidelines to be applied if AVCA decided to issue a grant to some organization. The final say of any criteria, of course, rests with the Board.

Here are our recommendations:

A minimum of 30 days elapse between a request for a grant, internal or external, and an agreement to grant the request.

The grant should be for an activity in the Almaden Valley and should stay in the Almaden Valley.

Ideally, the grant is for a one time project.

The grant should be expressed as up to a stated number of dollars.

The AVCA Treasurer will directly pay the expenses for the proposed project up to the total amount agreed upon as a grant. The AVCA Board will be advised as to the progress of payments.

Jerry Mungai  
Bob Boydston