

## AVCA Meeting Minutes

**Location: Almaden Library/Community Center. 6445 Camden Ave  
7:00 PM -- Monday, December 11, 2006**

**07:00 Welcome:** In attendance:

Stephanie Holm, Community Relations/Policy Aide for Nancy Pyle

Eli Segall, Staff Writer for the Almaden Resident

Lorraine Gabbert, Staff Writer for the Almaden Times

About 30 citizens were also present

**Speaker:** Don Gage, County District 1 Supervisor and new chairperson. His aide, Rachel Gibson, took notes. We expect that she will send us answers to those items not completed. They will be added to the minutes.

1. **Mt Umunhum Cleanup:** is Air Force responsibility. This lovely area will open once completed. Don will let us know who is responsible and when cleanup is expected to be completed.
2. **Coyote Valley Traffic:** EIR release date has now been delayed from this fall to March, 2007. Impact on county roads and parks will not be addressed in this EIR. We can expect deterioration since there are no funds available to handle the increased population and cars. This development will add 80,000 people in Coyote Valley. The Task Force claim is that 80% of traffic will remain within the valley. Gage believes it is more like 50%. These estimates can only be addressed after the EIR is released. The county is prepared to sue if necessary to properly address the issues. Gage recommends that people in the community go to the meetings.
3. **McAbee Road Entrance** to the Almaden Quicksilver County Park: The County Parks Department is negotiating with the Pierce family to purchase a 3-acre property for parking. Inclusion of this is in the Parks Department's 10-year plan. We can expect to hear something about this soon.
4. **Trash in southern Almaden Valley:** A citizen reported that she was told that by law, trash dropped onto private property can not be picked up by county personnel. When she said that the sheriff does not respond to calls to complain about this, Rachel Gibson suggested that the issue is not the sheriff's responsibility, but rather one of the roads department. Gage said to call his office when something like this happens.
5. **Personnel:** Colleen will take over Rachel Gibson's duties while Rachel is on medical leave. Edwin's position will remain vacant, and his duties will be divided among other staff members. There are openings on the Parks and Recreation Commission. Gage expressed dismay that fewer people are volunteering for the 36 county commissions. As a result, term limits have been extended to 3 four-year terms to keep qualified persons on the boards.
6. **Traffic Issues in Almaden Valley:** For concerns about Almaden Expressway, call Gage's office about: scheduling volunteers for trash pickup; lack of a U-turn at eastbound McAbee; problems when turning left from eastbound Blossom Hill Road to northbound Almaden Expressway because of cars turning immediately right into the gas station; access to Best Buy and Expo Design Center; Trinidad east to Almaden Expressway South. All will be referred to the county roads department except the access to Expo Design Center. This is a city responsibility.
7. **Expressways:** Capitol Expressway is now under city control. Expect Almaden Expressway to also revert to the city.
8. **Parking Lot:** at Almaden Expressway and Camden Avenue is probably under VTA control.
9. **Unfunded Retirement Plans:** The County has no unfunded issues, since the retirement plans are under PERS control, and funding is negotiated with unions.
10. **\$200 Million deficit:** The County will be laying off 1,400 people next year. There are plans in place to pay off the deficit by 2010.
11. **Where to get help:** Don Gage reminded us to call his office with many of these types of complaints. They can only be addressed if known. We may not like all the answers, but we will receive answers.

**Officer/Director Meeting** – A quorum was present:

Officers

Lee Dimmitt, Present

Ray Strong, Present

Gari Soulé, Present

Lisa Wiseman, Absent

Directors

Kitty Monahan, Present

Pat McMahon, Present

Ron Blake, Present

Art Boudreault, Present

**Acting Secretary's Report** – Art Boudreault: The sentence on page 2, “*Pat McMahon requested that we have a speaker to discuss these previously discussed locations.*” was incorrect and was deleted from the minutes. The correction was accepted, and the report was approved as amended.

**Treasurer's Report** – Gari Soulé reported that the current AVCA balance, excluding the ARK funds and prepaid dues, is \$6,900.33. Pat McMahon asked for an explanation of the ARK funds and if these funds needed to be kept rather than spent. The explanation is that AVCA originally set up three ARKs in the community. The responsibility for using and maintaining the ARKs was later transferred to the Red Cross. AVCA is holding these funds, contributed by Almaden residents, in trust to supplement or replace items in the ARKs when the Red Cross requests them. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

**Communications:**

**Web Site report:** Linda Spencer reported that the average visits and hits were down slightly from last month, but substantially higher than November last year. November 2006 daily average of visits was 135, and daily average of pages was 177. Included in the most-visited pages were: Main Page, About Almaden Valley, Associations in Almaden Valley, Casa Grande, Megan's Law and how residents can keep our neighborhood safer, Almaden Valley Schools, AVCA Board of Directors, and AVCA Position Methods.

**Almaden E Loop report:** 420 sent; 231 opened (55%)

**Old & Miscellaneous Business:**

**Secondary Unit Update:** Bob Boydston reported a total of 40 secondary units have received permits, none in Almaden Valley. Stephanie reported that the trial period has been extended to June 2007, but remains capped at 100 units. The City Council asked for a review of the plan to make illegal units legal, including lowering standards that do not affect safety. Ray Strong suggested that they make a survey of the actual uses of the illegal units. There has been a discussion of requiring permitted parking in areas where the number of units is high. Nancy Pyle is opposed to such a plan.

**District 10 Liaison:** Stephanie Holm, Community Relations Coordinator for Nancy Pyle.

**Via Valiente Shopping Center:** San Jose has proposed a pilot program to help owners of shopping centers outside of redevelopment areas to refurbish the centers. In the pilot, they will select two or three shopping centers in Council District 10 using several criteria. The assistance, using matching grants for new outside painting and better signage, is expected to improve the road visibility and appearance of the shopping centers. The proposal will come before the City Council for approval in January.

## **New Business:**

**Meeting location:** Lee requested a motion to continue to hold the AVCA meetings at the Almaden Library/Community Center. Art Boudreault made this a motion, and Ron Blake seconded it. Kitty Monahan offered the use of the New Almaden Community Center at no cost. An amendment to the motion to use the New Almaden Community Center failed by a tie vote of 3 to 3. Lee Dimmitt noted that the Almaden Library/Community Center may not be open on Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, due to a possible President's holiday. The board decided to meet at the New Almaden Community Center once during the year or in February if our meeting coincided with President's Day.

**Motion No: 200612.1:** To rent the Almaden Library/Community Center from January to June 2007. Motion carried 6 - 1, with Kitty opposed.

**Almaden Display:** Kitty Monahan and Art Boudreault described the activities of the Committee for Almaden History Awareness (CAHA) at the Almaden Library/Community Center. This committee is planning a series of displays to be set both in the Library and the Community Center. These include three large photographs in the Library, a series of smaller photographs along the wall in the corridor near the Community Center entrance, a special display of local history books, and a display of artifacts. CAHA is soliciting pledges to fund these displays. Kitty motioned and Pat McMahon seconded the motion to donate \$300 to CAHA; the motion passed unanimously.

**Motion No: 200612.2:** AVCA pledges to donate \$300.00 to CAHA to be paid when the CAHA proposal has been approved.

**Leland Stadium Lighting:** A report, appended to these minutes, describes the public input requested concerning the proposed installation of athletic field lighting at Leland High School. Linda Spencer volunteered to attend the next meeting on Tuesday, December 12, and report back at our next meeting.

**Camden Avenue Beautification:** Pat McMahon suggested that AVCA schedule a speaker to discuss alternatives to beautify the north side of Camden Avenue from Graystone Lane to Harry Road. Lee will try to book Rene Cordero of the city Department of Transportation.

## **Announcements:**

Next meeting Monday, January 8, 07:00 PM Almaden Library/Community Center  
Speaker: TBA

**Adjourned: 9:00 PM**

**San Jose Unified School District  
Invites You To Attend Three Community Meetings  
RE: The Proposed Installation of Athletic Field Lighting**

School: Leland High School

Meeting 1            Tuesday, 12/12/2006  
Time:                7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria/Theater

Meeting 2            Tuesday, 1/16/2007  
Time:                7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria/Theater

Meeting 3            Tuesday, 2/6/2007  
Time:                7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria/Theater

The agenda for these meetings focuses on a discussion of the potential installation of athletic field lighting for evening sporting events at your **neighborhood** high school. Community Input is critical to this process in order to insure negative impact to the community would be minimized should the project move forward.

The initial meeting kicks off the information gathering phase of the process, necessary to perform a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis. Such an analysis should yield a determination of what, if any, impact the provisions of lighting may have on the environment and any mitigation measures that may be necessary.

A second meeting will be held as scheduled above to discuss status of the District's efforts in the development of the draft CEQA **and** to obtain additional input for consideration in that report, from the community regarding concerns of potential impacts on the neighborhood.

A third meeting will be held as scheduled above to discuss the draft CEQA report, the analysis and findings regarding impacts, and any proposed mitigation measures. Community input regarding the report, will be sought out, considered, incorporated into the report data, and mitigated to the extent appropriate.

draft CEQA report and to gather additional community input prior to finalization. School: Gunderson

High School

Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2006

Time:                6:00 p.m.

Room: Media Center

***Please come and voice your support or concerns as your input is valuable to this process.***