

AVCA Meeting Minutes
Location: Almaden Community Center, 6445 Camden Avenue
7:00 PM -- Monday, January 14, 2008

Reporter Present:

Re: SJ's new Neighborhood Commission

- 30 commissioners & 20 alternates from the 10 districts
- advisory role only; does not replace normal process
- serves as a conduit of information between city and neighborhoods, in both directions

Art:

In District 10, 12 neighborhood groups identified. Present at tonight's meeting:

- Montevideo
- VEP
- TJMartin
- Santa Teresa Park
- Graystone
- Pierce Ranch
- 'urban reserve'

Invited speaker, Beth Shafran-Nukai of Strong Neighborhoods Initiative Project Advisory Committee, tel: 292-9492

Commission's mission:

- provide an effective relationship between the city and neighborhoods
- make neighborhoods part of solutions
- improve responsiveness of city government

City Council accepted Neighborhood Commission proposal 9/20/07

- defined 'neighborhood' according to existing planning dept's definition
- it will support both present and future neighborhood groups
- instead of appointments, neighborhood *caucuses* will generate commissioners

Caucuses

- Each district will hold a caucus to produce 3 commissioners and 2 alternates
- Neighborhoods must be registered with the city in order to have one voting delegate and one alternate at the caucus
- Candidates must submit applications to city clerk; must be city resident
- Caucuses to be open, public forum where candidates make own statements

Time-line:

- end-April for 10 caucuses, allowing 45 days for candidates to submit applications
- not all caucuses on same night
- neutral facilitators to be present

8:10PM AVCA Board Meeting

Art:

Web site report:

- # hits increased in past month
- crime reports posted as 30-day download from SJPD website

Yearly at-large director election upcoming in April

- Nominating committee: Kitty, Pat, and Art

Trees

- Letter of support sent to mayor to plant 100K trees
- No position taken on jurisdiction over trees

Secretary's report

Lisa unable to serve. Ray Strong appointed to take over from Lisa. Meanwhile, Jane Frommer filled in.

Treasurer's report

Not available

Communications report, Lee

462 emails received (in month of Dec07?)
175 read

Minutes of past meeting, Secretary's report:

Pat to correct the record on # of units constructible @ Grimly Lane and Feed 'n Fuel

Membership, Lee

Requested \$200 for mailing of 250 letters requesting annual dues renewal.
Seconded.

Community Liaison

Art said description of community liaison sounds like the description of a delegate for AVCA's representation at the District 10 caucus. Proposed Lee Dimmitt as delegate.
Seconded. Lee accepted.

Steve Levin nominated and elected as alternate.

Stephanie Holm authorized use of ACC for caucus-planning purposes.

Proposed caucus planning session for neighborhood reps: Sunday, Jan 27 or Feb 3rd, 10AM or noon. Art to follow with email to neighborhood reps.

Ron Blake:

- New neighborhood commission subject to public disclosure of Brown Act
- First commissioners will formulate unprecedented role of commission
- Neighborhood commissioners subject to FPPC economic interest reporting requirements.

Planning/Zoning, Ron

San Vicente developer and lobbyist, Jerry Strangis, met with Ron and Art (set up by Dave Fadness)

Strangis will present his South Almaden Valley Urban Reserve ideas at the February 11 AVCA meeting.

He wants to change the General Plan to

- Build 260 homes on 1K acres
- Turn over 800 acres to SJ as open space

Current AVCA stance (voted 7 years ago): oppose changes to development triggers

Transportation, Steve Levin

List of events in recent past:

- U-turn @ Almaden Exp'y & McAbee
- VTA cutbacks to Almaden Valley do not include bus #63; though #65 cut back
- Coyote Valley development draft EIR deficient, sent back for rewrite
- Almaden Exp'y among (all) the expressways under appraisal
- Graystone Lane

Stephanie Holm to provide update on Coyote Valley @ Feb AVCA meeting

Parks & Recreation, Kitty

- Los Alamitos Creek Trail: almost all signs missing on Bear Ridge Trail through Quicksilver Park
- TJMartin: residents are drafting new response to Pyle

SJ Neighborhood Associations' Priority Setting Session: January 19, 2008, City Hall

No planned presentation or representation from AVCA

Stephanie Holm: at this event last year, priorities solicited from neighborhoods

Boydston: not present

District 10 liaison, Stephanie Holm

- Nancy appointed to VTA board, off water district, still on Coyote Valley
- 5 park projects to be completed soon
 - Almaden Lake Park phase 2
 - Fontana Dog Park
 - Almaden Winery Park, irrigation
 - Foothill Park – Santa Teresa area, landscaping
 - Leland sports fields

TJMartin Park: to be discussed after completion of 5 park projects above

Sports site-selection study/ field feasibility study:

Requested: hold off on TJ Martin decision until feasibility study on other sites completed

Response: Pyle supports moving, not adding, a playing field on TJMartin

- Senior event: walk at the Oakridge Mall on January 31st
- 2009 Southside Police Substation: \$2M to be supplied from District 10 funds

To be addressed next meeting

- Randol School plans, currently closed, concern about vandalism
- Via Valiente shopping center upgrade: meeting last week with owners
 - City wants commitment from owner, e.g., matching funds

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Frommer

January 14, 2008

Corrected and approved by the AVCA Board on April 8, 2008,

Ray Strong, Secretary