

**LEONA VALLEY TOWN COUNCIL  
MINUTES FOR GENERAL MEETING, Nov. 9, 2009**

MEETING OPENED by President Richard Thomas at 7:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Thomas, Alice Benoit, Suzy Love, Mike Waters, Larry Tyler, Karen Bryan

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Minutes for the previous meeting were presented and tabled for approval at the Dec. 14 meeting. Motion to table moved by Larry Tyler, seconded Suzy Love, approved by voice vote

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was read. Net in all accounts \$115,230, Mary Ann Floyd Memorial funds \$2,185. Motion to approve moved by Larry Tyler, seconded by Suzy Love, approved by voice vote.

**AGENDA:**

**Presidents Comments:** Richard Thomas announced the Nov. 3 election results. Suzy Love and Bill Elliott were elected to the new board. As the write-in candidate Chuck Fluharty was also named to the board. A slate of potential officers will be presented for approval at the next meeting. Richard read a list of council accomplishments during his five years on the board. These totaled well over fifty items, several of which are continuing tasks for the new board to oversee. He went over a list of projects that the new council should keep an eye on. He also thanked the current board members and other folks for their help over the years. He announced that if the new council is agreeable Christine Stoddard has offered to take minutes at the meetings and Juanita Kirkpatrick will handle general bookkeeping. The council gave unanimous consent.

**Public Comments:** Mike Waters thanked Richard for his Town Council leadership saying, "He will be a hard act to follow." Juanita Kirkpatrick told the council that LA County is not forwarding copies of development projects paperwork to the council for review and is not watching what is happening with regard to grading and stripping the land. Supervisor Mike Antonovich's Deputy Norm Hickling will find out why not.

LVIA thanked the council members and community for the new members added and donations received since a presentation at the last meeting outlining LVIA's crucial financial straits.

Juanita announced that Sertoma is having its Senior Christmas Dinner on Dec. 6, 1-4 p.m. All seniors are invited.

Dahlia Grossman announced the Lakes Chili Cook-Off for Sat. 11/14/09, 12-4 p.m., at the Lakes Community Center.

Members of the Volunteers on Patrol reported that they have 21 trained members to date and another 25 undergoing training.

They told the audience that they visit shut-ins in the area and asked that names of any in Leona Valley be passed on so they can be checked on. They reminded folks that they do vacation checks on property to see that doors and windows are intact and closed, etc. Juanita reported a possible problem on 75th Street where an unusual number of cars are seen visiting a dilapidated property. It was suggested that she call 211 to pass on the information to the county.

**Committee and Meeting Reports:** Karen Bryan said that she had not been able to attend the latest Association of Town Council (ARTC) meeting. Norm Hickling gave those in attendance a synopsis. The group is still working on water issues. The problems of SCE permits is still under consideration, as are the proposed rate increases designed to cover power line costs. The Supervisor is taking a hard look at sources interested in supplying power to the grids and how that is to be handled. His concern is the "spider-webbing" of lines throughout the area. Norm suggested that letters should be sent from all the local town councils and individuals to the Supervisor supporting his stance and suggesting undergrounding of lines as a way to mitigate potential visual and esthetic problems.

**Oak Woodlands:** LA County Supervisors Mike Yaroslavsky and Mike Antonovich are leading a team working on oak woodlands management. The team is on the agenda for the next Leona Valley council meeting when they will present what they are undertaking.

**Power Lines:** The Reitanos informed the audience that the county is working with them on the reseeding the areas on their property stripped during power line installation work. Toxic weeds, such as fiddleneck ferns and lupine have been taken out of the proposed seed list.

**Water Issues:** A group from the council and Leona Valley attended a water rate hike meeting earlier that day. There were only seven folks from Leona Valley and one from Lake Hughes. More people need to get involved or the increases will go through unopposed. The council has requested intervener status but will not get involved unless the community shows more interest. Alice noted that Leona Valley being included in the Antelope Valley watershed rather than the Santa Clara one needs to be looked into. A judicial ruling in 2002 put Leona Valley with Santa Clara, precluding Palmdale taking over handling of water in our area which could present innumerable problems. Suzy Love will have her husband try to find a copy of the ruling.

**Installation of New Council:** Norm Hickling swore in the 2010 council members, they are: Mike Waters, Larry Tyler, Suzy Love, Bill Elliott and Chuck Fluharty.

**Old/New Business:** County Council has still not made any decision on whether the Brown Act restrictions apply to town councils.

Larry Tyler reported that he had contacted Bob Barjam, manager for SunCal, who is handling the Ritter Ranch Project. Mr. Barjam confirmed that Camarillo Engineering is not longer working the site and that Suncal has retained C.A. Rasmussen Company to finish the curb, curb and gutter and paving to the west of the Lazy T Ranch. Work in this section should be complete by the end of January, 2010.

It was suggested that a letter be sent to CPUC protesting proposed SCE rate increases to cover costs incurred by rebuilding in the recent Station Fire area as the power company was underinsured. Alice will undertake this.

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING moved by Larry Tyler, seconded by Suzy Love at 9:15 p.m.

Submitted by: Christine Stoddard

Revisions to minutes: -- Bill Elliott was absent and not installed. Alice Benoit was asked to write a letter supporting the Supervisor requesting undergrounding of power lines. \_\_\_\_\_

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Motion to approve by: -- Larry Tyler \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by: -- Suzy Love \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: -- Voice Vote \_\_\_\_\_ Date: -- 12/14/09 \_\_\_\_\_