

Minutes
VINEYARD ESTATES NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (VENA)
General Membership Meeting
February 25, 2010

Present: Lee Ann Riesen, Mike Gibson, Richard Bothwell and Michelle Garza.

Absent: Aaron Brundage, Elizabeth Meek (maternity leave), Tony Huffman, Pat Verelle, Regina Barela and Donna Daniello.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by VENA president, Lee Ann Riesen at 7:05 PM at Desert Ridge School Library.

Introduction: All board members present were introduced to the public.

Agenda: Lee Ann Riesen asked the board if there were any objections to approving the VENA Board agenda. No objections.

Guests: The following guests were introduced:

Jan Strand-Parliamentarian

Karen L. Montoya, Assessor

Antonio Sandoval-works for Martin Heinrich

The following guest was introduced and then spoke at the meeting:

Karen L Montoya - Assessor

- Head of household exemption saves money no property taxes.
- Veterans Exemption
- Disabled veterans – waiver of paying property taxes.
- Value freeze available for seniors 65 years and over and making \$32,000 or less.
- 48,000 people effected by tax lightning.
- Market values went up 50% in 2008 from 2002.
- The law was considered unconstitutional.
- Realtors must disclose to clients the possibility of tax increases.

Mike Gibson thanked Karen Montoya for staying on top of things.

The following guest was introduced and spoke at the meeting:

Antonio Sandoval – works for Martin Heinrich

- We facilitate disability claims.
- Veterans resource guide available.
- GI Bill – Reauthorized bill in August 2009.
- Job Fair to be held March 8, 2009 at St Anne’s Catholic Church.
- Passport and Visa issues call Miquel at 346-6781.

Mike Gibson thanks Martin on voting for the jobs bill. It created 3,000 construction jobs paying between \$15-\$50 in the transportation industry. Also the DOT signaling on San Mateo and Alameda.

Reports:

Neighborhood Report – None

Secretary Report – None

Treasurers Report – None.

Vice Presidents Report – RV's parked in front of homes longer than two days in many neighborhoods. Send some correspondents. Call 311 to send inspectors. Follow up.

Presidents Report-

Unfinished Business:

DR Horton wants an extension to improve Desert Visa north. DR Horton needs to complete improvements. No more delays.

Mike Gibson made a motion to support Desert Vista regarding improvements without delay. It was seconded. A letter will be drafted and sent to DR Horton before the March 10th hearing.

Clarise – got separate lane for turning east on Carmel. Kudos. Follow up on pedestrian crossing at Ventura and Corona.

Weeds-A motion was made for spraying weeds outside of subdivisions on Holbrook, Carmel, Holly and Barstow (green harbor and North) for \$2,000 or less. Motion passed. Michelle suggested emailing a map of exactly where weeds will be sprayed.

Richard Bothwell stated that the landscaping in median needs to be reimbursed to **???**. Approximate cost \$500.00.

New Business:

Mike Gibson attended district four meeting. All officers were re-elected. The sergeant said they were stepping up patrols in parks. Sheriff and police worked together to crack down on excessive speeds on Paseo Del Norte. Motor cycle racing is still going on.

Realtor contacted Lee Ann and will be putting some data in our next news letter. We don't feel strongly about the realtor giving out muffins on Paseo Del Norte and Ventura as an advertising tactic because it is a very busy and dangerous intersection. Mike Gibson recommends he become a corporate member of VENA.

-Lee Ann said the Walgreen sign on west side-passed.

-Lee Ann said street scape grant not for dog waste boxes but for landscaping only

-Lee Ann would like someone to take on the task of contacting Environmental Department regarding the huge dirt piles just west of Pete's Landscaping Company on Holly.

-Lee Ann stated that the bylaws need to be updated so board members could vote via phone, email, etc.

Mike Gibson drafted a letter to Richard Dourte and copied the mayor and our councilman. It was approved via motion with comprehensive instead of specifics in the letter. No traffic study has been done in years.

This letter along with the letter sent to Dr Horton will be posted on the website.

Adjournment: With no other business pending, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Lee Ann Riesen, VENA President

Date

Michelle Garza, Secretary

Date