

JUNIPER HILLS TOWN COUNCIL

juniperhills-ca.org

General Meeting

October 4, 2006

MINUTES

The **General Meeting** of the Juniper Hills Town Council was called to order at the Juniper Hills Community Building 31401 106th St East, Juniper Hills, CA 93543 on **October 4, 2006, 7:07 P.M.** by the President, Mr. Pomeroy.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Pomeroy.

BOARD MEMBER'S ATTENDANCE

PRESENT

Vance Pomeroy
Suzanne Richter
Don Pierce

ABSENT

Dave Reichel (excused)

Douglas DiJulio
Michael Weatherbie

Valerie Zera (excused)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes for August 2, 2006, were approved as presented.

TREASURER

Mr. Reichel was not present, but he had previously reported by email that this month's report was the same as last month's report. The report was accepted without comment. No bills were presented.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Pomeroy mentioned the email about Cheseboro Road that had been sent to us by Norm Hickling, and the resulting email messages among the Town Council members. He pointed out that it resulted in general agreement as to what was transpiring. An additional email was received from Norm Hickling - about the need for volunteers for the upcoming emergency/disaster drill to be held at the Fairgrounds on October 10th.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Juniper Hills Community Association (<http://www.juniperhills-ca.org/jhca/index.htm>) -

October 7 Oktoberfest
October 28 Halloween Party
November 18 Pancake Breakfast/Holiday Botique
December 2 General Meeting

Devil's Punchbowl County Park (<http://www.devils-punchbowl.com>) -

October 7 Full Moon Hike
November 4 Full Moon Hike
October 11 Oionid Meteor Shower viewing
November 17 Leonid Meteor Shower viewing

GUESTS AND SPEAKERS

Dave Numer, ranger at the Punchbowl County Park, and his assistant/son Jonathon, gave an excellent presentation on some of the local wildlife that we occasionally see - owls, snakes, coyotes, foxes, ravens, other birds, rabbits, etc. They had brought with them two owls - a barn owl and a screech owl - plus three snakes - a Southern Pacific rattlesnake, and a Mojave rattlesnake and a king snake. They talked about the color and activities of various animals and how this served as a type of camouflage - including lack of movement. Dave also pointed out how to note the difference between venomous and non-venomous snakes. He passed the king snake among to crowd - to those who wanted to hold it.

GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE'S ANNOUNCEMENT

No one was present from the LA County Sheriff's Department. Norm Hickling, representative for the 5th District Supervisor's office, was present for part of the meeting, but had to suddenly leave, due to a phone call, prior to the time for his report.

FUTURE SPEAKERS

No speakers have been arranged for the next three meetings (December 6, February 7, April 4) Mr. Pomeroy asked for suggestions, and three were presented - Forest Service, Big Horn Sheep (to be checked into by Mr. DiJulio) and a veterinarian. The topic was left open. Ms. Richter reported that Mr. Negrón has agreed to be the speaker to the June meeting.

REPORTS

Election Committee

Three persons have volunteered for the committee to date - Lori Weatherbie, Wayne Argo, and Larry Levin.

Resource Development Committee

Lori Weatherbie gave an extensive report about preparations for the Wine Tasting event on November 4. She noted that there will be 11 alcoholic wines plus a selection of non-alcoholic wines. Mr. Pomeroy had a sample of the wine glass setting on the front table for everyone to view.

Community Standards Committee

Mr. Pomeroy reported that the county-chaired meeting (presentation of the document to the community) is unofficially scheduled to be in November, but no date has been set yet. He commented on the county's willingness to forego this meeting, which points out their confidence in the work we have done so far.

Multi-Use Trail Committee

no report, since Ms. Zera was not present.

JHCA Liaison Report

Mr. Pierce reported that the Community Association appreciated that the Town Council again arranged to have the large trash bins on the same day as the Association's Work Day; he pointed out that the trash needs to be put in the bins in a less-haphazard manner so that it does not extend beyond the upper limit of the large container. Mr. Pierce again reminded everyone about the Oktoberfest event, and that the Town Council needs to support the Association events, since the Association supports us. He pointed out that tickets were available at the Town Council meeting.

ARTC Report

Mr. Pomeroy reported that he spoke with persons who attended the meeting between the ARTC and the Greater Antelope Valley Association of Realtors, during which time the arsenic/hailed water issue was further discussed, with no conclusion. He said that, with the assistance of politicians, it is hoped that there will be progress with the hailed water issue. He said he felt the County and opposing parties may be getting somewhat closer to an agreement.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Street Sign Program

Mr. DiJulio gave each council member a handout of street sign suppliers, showing their styles of signs. The handout included a page showing the type of sign (informational sign) which has changeable letters, but he stated he is not willing to have such a sign on his property. Mr. DiJulio pointed out that Signs and Designs is a local company and is willing to help us and is willing to place advertising on our web site or newsletter, but he is awaiting promised information from them. Mr. Pierce pointed out that the changeable sign is perhaps the type of sign that Mr. Reichel has in mind, but where could we place it? It was pointed out that a community activity sign is at the Pearblossom post office. The discussion also included comments about the locations of postings about the Town Council. The project remains an open item.

Emergency Preparedness Committee

The need for the committee definitely exists, but a person to chair the committee has not yet been located. This item will remain under Unfinished Business.

Adopt-A-Highway

Mr. Pierce reported that the Town Council has received and returned (signed) all the necessary paperwork to begin involvement in the program, however the county seems to be quite slow in reacting/responding. Mr. Pierce said he would check further with the county as to progress on the project.

Striping of the Roads

Mr. Pierce gave an update report on what has transpired to date, in reference to striping of Mt. Emma, Ft. Tejon, 106th. - which is essentially nothing. He said he would continue to contact the Roads Department about the project.

NEW BUSINESS

Already covered under the Street Sign report by Mr. DiJulio.

Angeles National Forest

Mrs. Weatherbie talked about the possibility of the Angeles National Forest being changed to a Wilderness Area. The resulting problem will be similar to what happened at the devastating Day fire. That area, too, was a Wilderness Area, and as such no mechanized items were allowed to be used - no trucks, no bulldozers, no aircraft, no chainsaws, etc. As a result the fire was allowed to spread, get greater and then endanger other areas outside of the the Wilderness Area. Juniper Hills lies immediately adjacent to the area being considered as a Wilderness Area, and would face the same risks. Mrs. Weatherbie suggested that the Town Council think about it, take a strong position, and let this position be known to the various elected officials responsible for this area. Mr. DiJulio added supporting comments by relating to the limitations applying the Mojave Wilderness Area. Mr. Pomeroy suggested we continue the discussion via email, write to our legislators and to talk with Cyd Morgan, of the Forest Service.

Cell Towers

Not on the agenda, but discussion developed about placement of cell towers in the area. The comments related to the location and placement (concealment) methods for the towers.

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Don Pierce
Recording Secretary