



JUNIPER HILLS TOWN COUNCIL

juniperhills-ca.org

General Meeting

June 1, 2005

MINUTES

The **General Meeting** of the Juniper Hills Town Council was called to order at the Juniper Hills Community Building 31401 106th Street East, Juniper Hills, CA 93543, on **June 1, 2005, at 7:04 p.m.**, by President, Mr. Pomeroy

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Pierce.

PRESENT
Vance Pomeroy
Suzanne Richter
Michael Weatherbie
Dave Reichel
Elizabeth Bridwell
Don Pierce

ABSENT
Valerie Zera (excused)

Minutes of May 4, 2005, were approved as published with correction of spelling of Mr. Caddick's name in the third paragraph of Guests and Speakers, subheading Public Works.

Mr. Reichel reported a balance of 694.27. The reports for April and May were approved as presented.

There were no bills submitted for approval.

Mr. Weatherbie stated he had sent a letter of thanks to Mrs. Clover for her very generous donation.

Mr. Weatherbie presented a copy of the letter he had sent to Captain Whitt of the Sheriff's Department supporting Deputy Jennings's application for a grant to provide additional funds to enforce existing OHV laws. The letter had previously been approved via email because of it's urgency. Mr. Pomeroy noted, that without objection the letter would stand approved, after the fact..

Mr. Pierce noted all had received an invitation to the Ground Breaking for the new Hospital in Palmdale, and that he would be attending.

Mr. Pomeroy discussed upcoming Juniper Hills Community Association events:
June 4 General Membership Meeting – Mr. Pomeroy asked Ms. Richter to present his statements.
June 25 Burgers 'n' Brew
July 9 Ice Cream Social
July 23 Family Play Day

There were no speakers for the evening. Mr. Pomeroy suggested that for future meetings there be only one speaker.

REPORTS

Discussion of October 6 recommendations to be continued via email on the internet.

CALL TO ORDER

FLAG SALUTE

BOARD MEMBER'S ATTENDANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

TREASURER

COMMUNICATION

Letter supporting Sheriff's Grant

Invitation to Ground Breaking

ITEMS OF INTEREST

GUESTS, SPEAKERS, REQUESTS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL – NON AGENDA ITEMS

Resource Development Committee

Mr. Pomeroy indicated it was possible the committee would complete the Standards Draft at the next meeting, June 2 and would be ready to present the Standards to the Council at the July meeting.

Standards – Committee Report

Mr. Hickling stated that once the Council has approved the Standards, they will be reviewed by Regional Planning and be returned to the Council. The community would be notified by mail of public hearings, once Regional Planning has approved. Mr. Hickling felt the County could provide a digitized version of the mailing list from the Assessor's record so that it could be used by the council for future mailing.

Mr. Pierce reported the Fire Safe Committee would be holding a meeting for public input on Tuesday, June 7, at 7:00 p.m. Several members noted they had seen or heard advertising about the meeting. He indicated they hoped to gain more members and volunteers at that meeting, and be able to move forward with some of their projects. Mr. Pomeroy agreed to send out an "e-blast" announcing the meeting.

Fire Safe Committee

Mr. Weatherbie reported for Ms. Zera that the Multi-Use Trail Investigation Committee raised \$94.00 at the Community Yard Sale and also had an opportunity to hand out flyers and answer questions. They had expenses of \$30.00, leaving the committee with a balance of \$264.00, which they hope is sufficient for a mailing to the community, which may be a joint mailing with the Town Council. They are still looking for hikers and bikers.

Multi-Use Trail Investigation Ad Hoc Committee

Question was asked if people who live outside the community could participate on the committee. Ms. Richter made a motion, and Mr. Pierce second the motion, which was modified after discussion by Mrs. Bridwell, to provide that the Trails Investigation Committee could include participation by people who reside outside the community, but voting be limited to persons who are residents of Juniper Hills. Vote passed with Mr. Reichel abstaining.

Ms. Zera donated a Standard and a Cash Box for use by the council. Mr. Weatherbie to send a note of thanks.

Mr. Pierce reported locks on the Association entrance gate have been changed, with letters on each key being issued. He stated the Association has found a new Insurance Carrier who has provided coverage for \$2,900 as opposed to \$5,700.00 for the past year.

JHCA Liaison Report

None

ARTC Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Hickling stated he would forward an email regarding Water Hauling from Mr. Novak after he has taken time to edit it.

Potable Water and Hauling

Mr. Hickling reported drilling companies are terribly upset with Mr. Wagoner because of proposed testing procedures on new wells. It has been suggested that Water Hauling be separated from Water Drilling for future concerns by the county. The survey results, from Public Works, regarding wells affected by the new rules will be reported later this month. The survey did not include a map. Mr. Pomeroy stated if there is no map, there is no data.

Ms. Richter distributed a draft of a letter to PUC regarding the poor service offered by SBC. She stated she would add into the letter excerpts from the last council meeting minutes.

PUC

Mr. Cardile, from the audience, remarked that it is amazing that SBC has the money to buy other companies, but they don't have the money to buy equipment to service their current customers.

Ms. Richter said she would include a "little blurb" that says, "Although there has been some improvement for some of the residents, other residents still suffer the same problems." She will submit to Council members via email. Many residents are still having problems, including the JHCA phone. Motion was made by Mrs. Bridwell, second by Mr. Pierce that Ms. Richter adjust the letter as discussed and email it to members for approval, pending up or down vote at the next meeting, and sending to the PUC. Motion passed unanimously.

PUC (cont.)

Mr. Weatherbie noted there is still an upward trend on usage, with more activity on the Association side because of the history with pictures. Mrs. Bridwell said she has just gotten Broadband Wireless from Antelecom. She stated it has been very satisfactory and extremely fast.

Web Site

Locations:

Mr. Pomeroy stated the "fire mess" down 106th St. has been cleaned up, but the half unit of a modular still exists. *Mr. Hickling advised they have been cited and been told to get the unit out of there.*

Possible Code Violations

Alimony Truck Trail activity- *Owner has been cited big time, and the DA has been up to the site with building and safety. The owner is to return the area to the original state.*

APN 3059-014-015 Trailer, sewage disposal onto ground, grading. *The Health Department is going out.*

Billboarding - Realtor Communication – *This is a questionable item, that is hard to defend when the Community Association has signs up.*

3047-011-006 Encampment with Mercedes (in area of W6-W4 and Fort Tejon. Could be a different APN, but the "encampment" is quite obvious from Fort Tejon Rd. *The owner is being cited and issued notice to remove all trailers.*

3047-020-024 Structure started using metal staves in an arch effect similar to Quonset hut. *Cited for un-permitted construction..*

3060-30-62 Grading with cut and fill. *Cited for illegal grading*

Mrs. Bridwell added the 9274 W-12 (9275 Ave. X) with a slab poured and the start of a metal building.

Ms. Richter stated the only response she had received regarding the bylaws was from Mr. Pierce who asked, "What is an executive session?" It was explained that General Meetings can adjourn to an Executive Session for discussion of lawsuits and personnel issues. Mr. Hickling stated that if something is discussed and voted upon in Closed Session, the conclusion must be announced in open session. It was agreed to use the term "Closed Session" instead of Executive Session.

Consideration of Possible Changes in Bylaws

Ms. Richter read Ms. Zera's suggestion that the Parliamentarian be appointed from outside the Council. It was agreed that if no one on the council wishes to serve as parliamentarian, a person who is not on the council might be appointed.

Ms. Richter stated the fact that a person may not run for council if they have been convicted of a felony should be in the Charter, but for now inclusion in the bylaws will suffice.

Mr. Cardile questioned an email that was sent around regarding having too many council members on a committee. Mr. Pomeroy stated the only concern would be if the meeting was not in a "Public" location.

Waste Management, Building and Safety, and Regional Planning were suggestions. Mr. Hickling stated he would try to have Andy Malakates from Regional Planning at the July meeting.

Possible Guest Speakers for Council Meetings

Discussion of possible sale of advertising on Web Site, was held. The Council asked for a better idea of how it would be handled. Suggestion was made that it be placed on a separate page and be called something like "Neighborhood Businesses."

Advertising on Juniper Hills Web Site

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Richter asked if the Council could be sued, and if sued, would the County defend the Council, or should the Council consider Director's Insurance? Mr. Hickling suggested that discussion wait until the Agua Dulce issue is settled, which will provide more information. County has ruled that Town Councils do not get direction from the County; they are independent bodies in their Community; they do not get direction from the County; they do not get financial support from the County; and they do not get rules from the County..

Suits against the Council

Use of email for the purpose of discussion and/ or voting was discussed. The Brown Act says that meetings must be conducted before the public. In the past, email approval has only been used for the context of the message, then the letter is sent in a timely fashion. Mr. Hickling stated you can conduct votes via email, as long as you bring the item to the next meeting and announce the result of the vote. Voting on agenda items should not be done in this manner. Mr. Hickling suggested that the topic of email approval of items be placed in the bylaws.

Email Approval

Mr. Weatherbie suggested that email approval could be handled by sending out notification that something needs to be done and seek approval to proceed. Once majority approval is gained, then the next step would be approval of the manner in which it is handled.

Mr. Pomeroy stated that the approval of sending a letter could be a "managerial" decision to allow for the expedition of simple tasks. However, everything must be reported at the next meetings. It was agreed that a policy should be included in the bylaws, that addresses the significance and timeliness of the issue and that Ms. Richter draft something for future discussion.

Mr. Pierce questioned if it is necessary for a person to have a computer to serve on the Council. Mr. Pomeroy stated this should be assumed.

Approval by email for distribution of material was questioned. Mr. Hickling stated the Parliamentarian could be allowed to approve materials for distribution, without addressing the entire Council. A motion was made by Ms. Richter that states, "Questions regarding the appropriateness of action by a committee, shall be referred to the Parliamentarian for decision." Second by Mr. Reichel. Approved unanimously.

Agenda Distribution

The agenda must be posted at the meeting place one week prior to a meeting. Mr. Pierce will ask permission from the JHCA to post in a small corner of the bulletin board.

It was suggested the Bylaws be changed to 72 hours for posting of the Agenda. A courtesy Agenda could be emailed to the email list.

Mr. Weatherbie suggested that if the Agenda is emailed to the public, there might be greater attendance at meetings. Mr. Pomeroy agreed and will proceed.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Michael Weatherbie