

Sunset Beach Community Association Minutes of the Meeting, 10/5/23

Meeting was held at the Sunset Beach Nobles Family Community Center (16861 12<sup>th</sup> St. Sunset Beach)

Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Kevin Paulson, President

In attendance: Kevin Paulson present

Tony Nobles present
Brandi Bigler absent
Paul Mueller present
Chris Harrison present
Dawn McCormack
Natalie Hope present
absent

Flag Salute led by Kevin Paulson

Roll Call & Introductions

Kevin introduced Barbara DeAngelo, who puts on the annual Sunset Beach Rock Concert. Barbara reported that the event was very successful and she presented a check for \$5,437 to the SBCA! Many thanks to Barbara for her fantastic community spirit and donations!

Dawn McCormack, co-president of the Sunset Beach Womans Club reported on the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Sunset Beach Chili Cookoff. 100% of the SBWC proceeds are used to fund scholarships for local students going to college for undergraduate or graduate studies and to those who want to pursue professional or career enhancement training. Based on last year's success, 17 scholarships were awarded. The Chili Cookoff this year was the BEST ever! As a result, on behalf of The Sunset Beach Womans Club, Dawn presented a check for \$6,300.00 to the SBCA.

Kevin Paulson discussed the recently awarded exemption from property taxes discussed during last month's meeting. The SBCA has just received an additional check for \$7,410 refunding 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 property taxes previously paid. This amount is in addition to the \$4,030 amount that Chris Montana reported last month.

Chris Harrison reported that she has spoken with the city of HB about the Handicapped Parking spot on our property. The city confirms that it is on private property and not available to anyone who is handicapped. Instead, it is available to handicapped attendees of events at the Community Center and/or visitors to the Sunset Beach Community Center.

Rob Driscoll spoke. He and his wife June are long time residents of Sunset Beach living at the south end of the community. Rob spoke about the Sunset Beach Safety, Security and Preservation Group. This is a newly formed, and as yet unofficial, group of residents of Sunset Beach.

The group had a meeting one month ago which was hosted by a resident who lives across from the playground at the south end of town. The purpose of the meeting was to gather ideas and address issues of the community. Based on the meeting, the group has generated a list of concerns and potential solutions which Rob presented at the meeting. He had also previously presented the

document to the city council and to HBPD. Rob emphasized that the group does not want to just "move the problem to another space" but their goal is to resolve the issues we are currently facing. He also mentioned that some have voiced concern about retaliation from the resident homeless group at the park, many of whom appear to be regulars. JPEGS of the document Rob handed out are attached to these minutes.

Lt Roman Altenbach, HBPD was present and responded to resident questions and concerns highlighted in the document Rob passed out. First Lt Altenbach stated that he has been with the HBPD for 18 years. Prior to his current assignment, he supervised the homelss task force for two years. So he is very familiar with the concerns and with the homeless encampment on the green belt (technically known as "linear park").

The most important take away from Lt Altenbach's discussion is to call the police any time you feel that there is a crime happening (drugs, weapons, harassment, trespass, any time at all). The non emergency number should be used unless danger is imminent.

The non emergency phone number for HBPD is 714-960-8825.

Call 911 if there is a danger to life or major property.

TO Contact Lt Altenbach directly, email: RALTENBACH@HBPD.ORG

Do not hesitate to call. Residents were encouraged to save the number on their phones and to use it as often as needed. Residents reponded by saying that when they call they are put off by the dispatcher. Lt Altenbach repeated that residents need to call and make a report. He stated that the police have the authority to detain someone with reasonable suspicion and to arrest if there is probably cause. Non anonymous residents calls can be considered reasonable suspicion.

Many passionate residents were present, asking for solutions and asking many questions. Some of the questions included Does HB have a drug task force? Can they do a stakeout on the greenbelt? Why are restrooms not being locked after 10pm anymore? Why are there no lights at the south end of the greenbelt? (apparently there is no power in the park at that end)

Lt Altenbach stated that HB books for many minor issues, unlike neighboring communities because we have our own jail. Because HB has a shelter and resources, they are able to work with the homeless and able to book them if they are non compliant. But he said that arrests are a temporary solution. They do create an incentive for the arrestee to consider using the shelter or some of the other resources available.

Lt Altenback said "Do NOT support the homeless!" Giving them food, blankets and clothing may seem kind, but it makes it easier for them to stay. Instead the ultimate kindness is to allow the task force to deal with them and help them take advantage of the many resources available to them. He also reviewed the 3 year Sunset Beach record from October 1, 2020 thru September 31 2023. In that time there have been 151 arrests on the greenbelt and a total of 278 arrests in Sunset Beach. Juan from King Neptunes spoke and suggested that the best response to homeless is to video tape them and get in their face. Juan mentioned that he has filed a civil harassment suit against one of the homeless people who stays in the park and assaulted him and his customer.

Tony Nobles spoke about the upcoming Halloween Party to be held at the Sunset Beach Community Center. The Theme is Super Heroes. The Sunset Beach Community Halloween Event is jointly sponsored by the Nobles Family, The SBCA and Las Damas. It will be held from 5pm till 9pm on Saturday October 28.

- Free Admission
- Games, Bounce House & Fun Photo Ops
- Free Pumpkin Patch

## Tons of FUN! Volunteers are needed!

Kevin spoke about voting and the difficulty getting the voter registration rolls from the county electors office. Christine Lane, a local resident, has volunteered to sponsor sending the newsletter/election out to every resident of Sunset Beach. A motion was made to ask Christine to do this. Dawn made the motion, Kevin Seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made to rebrand the Firehouse Ball as Super Prom and to use \$3,500 to rent the HHYacht Club and for initial expenses. Dawn made the motion, Tony Seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

California Electorate has asked if the Community Center can be used as a polling place in March and November. Dawn made a motion to approve and Tony seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.

- Asked Michael Gates, City Attorney, for help but has not received a response from his office.
- Kevin, Natalie, Chris and Paul are up for reelection. Chris will not run again.

Paul has been working electricity and maintenance issues for the community center. He was instructed to keep receipts and he will be reimbursed for all expenses.

Chris recommended that we remain with NFP insurance. She has done a lot of research and they are our best option. Dawn made a motion, Tony Seconded, passed unanimously.

Waymakers collections will be held at the SBCA meetings and Dawn has also volunteered to collect at Timeless Treasures Boutiques during their pop ups. This will be the second year for TTB to partner with the SBCA and many tons were collected at TTB last year.

Dog Mayor election is coming up. This will be the 4th year.

Our next SBCA meeting will be held on Thursday, November 2, 2023

Respectfully submitted, Dawn McCormack, Secretary