

## **PIERPONT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2017**

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

Total membership in attendance: 21

PCC Officers: Mike Biedebach, Vice President  
Howard Stern, Treasurer  
Jim McCaslin, Board Member

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Minutes were taken by Bunnie Thomas (thank you, Bunnie!)

#### **POLICE REPORT:** Report presented by Commander David Dickey, Ventura Police Department

- The VPD is offering a "Community Academy" to people who live or work in the City of Ventura. The academy meets once/week for 9 weeks and is designed to give citizens an in-depth, behind the scenes look at VPD operations. The objective is to "*educate residents on the capacity and operations of the department so that we can work together to make Ventura a better and safer place!*" Topics include SWAT training, canine training, dispatch training, simulated firearms training, ride-along with an officer, etc. For more information on the course or the application process (including a criminal background check and interview), please see the VPD Facebook page, VPD website, or contact Ashley Bautista 805-339-4317 or [abautista@venturapd.org](mailto:abautista@venturapd.org). The next course will be 4/19-6/14; applications are due by 3/24.
- PIERPONT CRIME REPORT: Snapshot of the last 28 days: squatters in a vacant House, 2 garage burglaries, 3 forced entries, uptick in stolen cars (4 in one week, 3 in Pierpont, usually 1 car a month gets stolen in Pierpont). Of the cars stolen, 2 cars had keys left in or near the vehicle.

#### **TREASURY REPORT:** Reported by Howard Stern, PCC Treasurer

The PCC currently has no "official" revenue or expenses. We have no mandate for fees and therefore there is no budget. The Surf Rodeo has been generously paying for our monthly meeting room at the Marriott (about \$700 per year), but we can't count on that forever. The only other ongoing expense is the website upkeep.

#### **SUMMARY OF STVR COMMUNITY MEETING, 1/31/2017 at Poinsettia Pavilion:**

Howard Stern reported on the second STVR Community meeting hosted by the City of Ventura intended to solicit input from the community on issues, concerns, positives and solutions for STVRs. The meeting had a large attendance (est. 70-80 people) with widely diverse opinions about STVRs. The facilitator grouped input into categories, then asked each participant to identify their 2 most important issues/concerns. Complete results can be found on the City of Ventura website, <http://www.cityofventura.net/ft/STVR>. The City's next step is to form a 10-15 person stakeholder group, representing a cross section of opinions, to meet regularly over the next several months to come up with recommendations for the current STVR ordinance. Anyone interested in being a stakeholder should send an email to the city (instructions and the email address are posted on the website). Six people at the PCC meeting have applied to be a stakeholder.

#### **PRESENTATION BY TYSON BUTZKE, California State Parks:**

- The PCC will invite new State Parks District Superintendent Danita Rodriguez (replacing Victor Bjelajac) to our next meeting.
- The state-wide California Dept. of Parks and Recreation is undergoing a review and reorganization, headed up by a Transformation Team in Sacramento.

- Tyson was asked about the funding for state parks in Ventura. In 2016, state parks in the Channel Coast District collected \$8.1 million (on a budget of \$7 million) from sales, special events and junior lifeguards. However, this money flows to Sacramento and is then redistributed throughout the state, with only a fraction of that amount returning to Ventura. The closing of McGrath campground decreased revenue by about \$1 million/year.
- Park Vendors – the Jolly Oyster is up for bids/partnership. Parking meters and new pay machine will be installed, and staff will be hired to maintain the meters. Typical concession contracts pay 10% to the State Fund
- Beach Cobble: The California Coastal Commission (“CCC”) will not allow the beach cobble (rocks) to be removed or moved from the beach. The beach cobble is considered to be natural, along with the wrack material (kelp, etc) that is deposited on the beaches. State Parks asked to move the cobble to allow the Junior Lifeguard program to occur and they were denied a permit.
- Refugio State Beach in Goleta is down to bedrock

**LOWER SEAWARD MERCHANTS:** Melinda Hambrick of Kay’s Coffee Shop

- Lower Seaward Merchants continues to work with City of Ventura on improvements on lower Seaward. They currently have 2-3 close partnerships with city hall and support from Cheryl Heitman
- The next meeting will be on Tuesday 2/28 at 4:30 at the Social Tap. The meeting is open to the public.

**SURFRIDER FOUNDATION:** presented by Mike Biedebach

Surfrider Foundation is offering cigarette trash cans sponsorships at \$75.00/\$90.00 under their Hold On To Your Butts (HOTYB) campaign. Any organization or individual can sponsor one. HOTYB trash cans placed on areas/lanes with heaviest beach traffic would be most beneficial. Some cans are believed to be placed in downtown <https://ventura.surfrider.org/new-ash-cans-in-downtown-ventura/>

**Verizon Wireless 45’ tower behind Vons:** A public meeting on the proposed tower was happening at the same time as the PCC meeting. Members stated the tower would have flown right through City approval if not for the attendance of many residents opposed to the tower. PCC members are concerned about the potential effects on health and property values. Mike B will follow up with the city and post updates on the PCC website.

**Jim McCaslin,** PCC Neighborhood Improvement Committee Chair, reported on the status of several construction projects:

- Lots of new projects going on at once due to a 10 year backlog of projects.
- Harbor Project (Sondermann Ring Partners) delayed due to rain.
- New hotel construction (Marriott- Residence Inn) at Seaward NB exit is waiting for permits
- Charthouse finally torn down
- No news on property at Seaward/Harbor. Up for sale for approximately \$18,000,000
- Member asked about project list from the city that’s usually posted on the City’s website. Mike B tried to get the list from the city, but it was dated from 9/2016. Cheryl Heitman stated that the city website is being revamped and behind. Cheryl was asked to post a slide show of Ventura Projects on the PCC website.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM

Laura Kinney, Secretary  
Pierpont Community Council