

Pierpont Bay Community Council

General Meeting Minutes

Date: March 16, 2021
Location: VIA ZOOM
Time: 7:00 PM
Participants: M. Almeida, T. Foley, R. Hovey, R. Birney, L. Almeida, H. Stern, D. Roundtree + 22 other participants

7:05 PM - Meeting was Called to Order by Council Chair Michael Almeida.

Michael welcomed all the participants.

7:04 PM – H. Stern presented the Secretary’s Report which provided summary of our March Board Meeting.

7:07 PM – T. Foley presented the Treasurer’s Report. He reported that the account balance was approximately \$3,000 and that an additional \$11,000 was received and earmarked for the Light Up South Seaward project.

7:08 PM – Tyson Butzke of State Parks was not in attendance to provide his report however, he subsequently emailed H. Stern to provide an update on a few items: we are in the snowy plover nesting season; lifeguard towers are back in place but will not be staffed until late April. He is also still waiting to hear about what other activities such as special events and filming would be allowed in light of the County being in the RED category for COVID-19.

7:08PM – Police Report was presented by Assistant Chief David Dickey. The monthly crime patterns for Pierpont were relatively low. There were very few reported crimes on the Lanes, with only a handful of thefts and few assaults being reported.

Overall, the crime rate in Ventura was up 3/10ths of one percent for 2020 compared to 2019. Violent crime was down 28.38% and property crime was up 4.77%.

See UCR Stats for 2020:

<https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/Archive.aspx?ADID=2619>

The VPD’s authorized staffing level is 137 officers (currently staffed at 128) with 61 officers assigned to patrol. In 2019, VPD handled 95,000 calls for service. In 2020, that number dipped to 85,000. The drop was largely due to the impact of the pandemic on police services. Self-initiated activity (traffic stops and subject stops) was down significantly, and during March and April 2020, calls for service were down significantly. Calls rebounded into the summer months returning to normal and higher than average.

7:17 PM – Our guest speaker was Heather Sumagaysay, the City of Ventura Communications Manager. Her role is to broadly inform the Community of the many city initiatives and public meeting calendar events. Specific updates she presented included:

- Ventura Water Presentation to the City Council scheduled on May 22, 2021. She also posted Water and Wastewater Rates timelines and scheduled hearings and meetings through its anticipated implementation date of July 2021.
- Ventura will be the recipient of \$19.2 million of Federal Stimulus Funds that will be received over the 2-year period.
- COVID -19 Update: Red Tier as of March 17, 2021 and the changes in capacity percentages for restaurants, retail, shopping malls, theaters, gym/fitness centers, museum, breweries, etc.
- Business Assistance Grant Program with eligibility requirements and application process and deadlines.
- Parks & Recreation Spring Digital Guide
- Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Ban – Effective July 1, 2021, the City of Ventura will prohibit the use of EPS containers (styrofoam) used for food and beverage providers.
- General Plan Update – Public meetings are held every third Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM.
- Main Street Moves Extended to 2022 – City Council approved the extension of the Downtown Ventura free outdoor expansion permit to January 2022.

7:30 PM - Committee Reports

STVR's – T. Foley addressed the 3/8/2021 City Council meeting and forwarded the 60+ letters received from PBCC residents conveying their sentiments towards STVR's and the need for the City to draft a new Ordinance. He believes that Councilmember Johnson and City Manager McIntyre recognize the need for a new STVR ordinance fashioned after Carpinteria Ordinance #708 and will hopefully move this up as a top priority when developing a new General Plan/Local Coastal Plan.

Seaward Beautification – Although D. Roundtree was not present, H. Stern presented an update based on the last discussion at the 3/2/2021 Board Meeting. Mr. Stern reported that unfortunately Dan was still in a “30-day window” in obtaining input by City Planning and Traffic Departments for the design change to the proposed monument sign. Dan showed us four new sign options that will be entertained. As for the South of Seward lighting project, Dan continues to seek the appropriate City officials to provide feedback on the type of cabling and other details required to move this project forward.

Beach - R. Birney reported that there are now 3 members of the Committee and she had no update to present.

Events – L. Almeida had no update to report.

7:40 PM – New Business/Open Forum – Mr. Stern asked for any Volunteers to help assist the PBCC Board with their website needs. He will develop a brief scope of work/job description and work with Staci Kaye-Carr to get it distributed to the Community.

M. Almeida reminded the participants that the PBCC Election of Officers will be held at the May 2021 meeting.

Councilmember Joe Schroeder reconfirmed that the City will be receiving the \$19.2 million in Federal Stimulus Funds over a two-year period as reported by Ms. Sumagaysay and that these funds cannot be used for pensions or reserves. The City is working on how to get these funds allocated. Their goal is to set aside a portion as grant money for communities/ areas for reinvigorating projects.

Our next General Meeting will be held on April 20, 2021 via Zoom.

7:47 PM – Meeting was adjourned by Michael Almeida.