

SAN TOMAS WEST

Neighborhood Association



STWNA General Meeting Minutes 11/12/08

A Block Captain meeting was held before the general meeting, including an ice cream social. This meeting was conducted to thank and check in with Block Captains to see how they are doing, share best practices and ideas.

Community Sign-in: Sign in sheets were located at the entrance.

Proceedings: Meeting called to order at 6:30. President, Heather Sutton introduced board members Lisa Riggs, Jeannie Grigsby, Elaine Osborne, Cindy Cooper, and Anne Herosy. Community members introduced themselves by name and street.

Guest Speakers:

Sgt. Charlie Adams Campbell PD

Gave statistics since Sept. meeting: 309 incidents (1/2 of them were traffic stops), 2 public intoxication – 4 domestic violence, 27 disturbance calls – 1 report, 44 property crimes – 23 commercial – Many thefts from cars, bikes, 2 cars stolen. Advised that residents should take all valuables out of car, including shopping bags (Holiday gifts). 3 residential burglaries, 2 recent bank robberies in area of Hamilton & Winchester, WAMU and Guarantee Bank – possible connection to bank robbery in Pleasanton. Sgt. Adams shared a photo of possible bank robber with group and asked for information from anyone who may have some. Sgt Adams commented that the crime statistics were not bad considering the economy

1 resident asked if there has been “tagging” or gang activity. Response: Some but not serious.

San Jose PD was not in attendance

District 1 report from Maryann Groen for Councilmember Pete Constant’s office:

Upcoming activities: Dec 2, Blood drive, Holiday donation drive - Church of Scientology parking lot - Sponsored by Blackford NAC, E Waste. Any groups in District 1 can advertise events on the website. Crossing Guard opportunities – may be volunteer positions coming up as San Jose explores volunteer crossing guard program. Nov 5 Winchester Master Plan mtg.- Winchester Blvd Business District. If you want to be notified of next meeting, please email. Wellness Center – participants get sponsors for weight loss competition; money goes to World Hunger Relief, Second Harvest Food Bank - Pete Constant participating. Saturday Feb 28, 2009 – illegal signage cleanup day. Removing unapproved signs on public right-of-way - Code enforcement will contact those businesses and fine them if they continue. – contact to volunteer.

Riverside Plaza Project – Mark Robson & Jennifer Skillings

They have been working with the City of Campbell Planning Dept and City Council, 11,000 Sq. Ft. of Retail space, 108 Living units. Changes made to plan – Plaza widened- Pedestrian oriented, meant to be a community meeting place. Town homes at back of property moved so they don’t face into Buddhist Temple next door. New look - Irving Gill inspired architecture. Lowered height of building by 1 story. Tried to preserve large amount of trees as in most of Campbell.

Question from audience: Is there enough parking? They have added underground parking for condos. Townhomes have 2 spaces per and 2 areas of guest parking. City did a traffic study that showed the project would cause a very slight increase.

Question from audience: Has anyone recommended to Del Taco that they upgrade? Unknown

Question: Will any businesses be open late? Retail tenants are not yet known, but probably not.

Question: When will old buildings be torn down? Approx. 8 months after the city gives approval

Question: Can Robson go to city of San Jose to request study of the signal light at intersection of Hamilton and Darryl? Robson says there is a plan to improve the intersection

Code Enforcement: City of Campbell – Susan Morgado-Grey

Susan formerly worked for the same department in San Jose. Code Enforcement calls are prioritized – health & safety is #1, 208 calls so far in 2008. Property maintenance “blight” 30% of calls, Illegal occupancy – very little in Campbell, most properties in STWNA boundaries are pretty good. Susan advised residents to call ahead if they want to meet with her in person. Also community members can file complaints in office or by email. It is possible to search online code info in both San Jose and Campbell city websites. Campbell has a new ordinance against parking vehicles in yards. Code enforcement violations are now an administrative citation instead of criminal court.

Questions from residents:

Is there a limit to size of vehicles legal to park on residential street? Some

Is there a limit to number of cars per house? No

Is there a limit to the number of people living in a house? Discretion of enforcement officer

Approval of Agenda – Agenda was unanimously approved as written.

Approval of Minutes – Minutes from September meeting were approved.

Board Reports:

Heather Sutton, President

Heather thanked Mary Anne for covering all of the District 1 – updates. Reminded the community about the Second Harvest Food bank drive and Nakamatsu concert in Moreland Schools, and shared her pride that several ideas that the STWNA has shared with the D1 leadership group are now being implemented as best practices ~ and how proud we are about some of the great things the association has done.

Lisa Riggs, 1st Vice President

Volunteer of the month Peter Rushbrook spends a lot of time visiting with neighbors while he distributes newsletters and is a long time STWNA participant in a variety of ways.

Jeannie Grigsby, 2nd Vice President

Send email to STWNA if you need a sign. Many neighborhood using similar signs.

Cindy Cooper, Treasurer

Reports are posted for review. Only recent expenses were \$292 for facility rental for meeting & event and newsletter printing.

Kim Lafond, Secretary – not present due to a work conflict

Elaine Osborne, Dir. Of Events

Beautification project will be headed by Maria Franco, any others interested please contact Elaine or Maria.

Dec. 6 – “Sharing & Caring” Holiday Event – donations of new or gently used items for all ages Charities include Operation Warm Coat, Soles for Souls, Humane Society (blankets, towels, toys, food), Inn Vision homeless shelter (food, travel size toiletries). There will be a “Cookie Exchange” – please bring a dozen to share. E-Waste – Jan 31st – flyers will be in next newsletter. Block Party – we will start looking for volunteers in January

Anne Herosy, Director of Safety

Neighborhood Watch – set up by street. Email STWNA if you’re interested – Ann will pass on to block captains.

Committee Reports:

CBAC- Erin McLaughlin

Music in Moreland fundraiser is Sat. Dec 6. Concert with John Nakamatsu, being held at Mitty HS. District enrollment is up 150 from last year. There is a walking path at the back of Payne school for residents to use. EDS is doing well and is at capacity. Charter school has a “Memorandum of understanding” with district until 2010. District is expecting mid-year budget cuts. Hopefully will have less impact due to previous cutbacks. Moreland is doing phone survey of residents to put parcel tax on the next ballot. District students are collecting food donations for Second Harvest food bank.

Beautification – seeking volunteers, and thank you to Maria for leading this subject.

Unfinished Business:

Senator Simitian’s “There Oughta be a law” contest submission by Mike Noyes.

Mike explained his suggestion for a law and shared handouts with members.

His suggestion is to revise the state penal code to allow “submission of digital photographic evidence to authorized authorities as sufficient for charging a misdemeanor or infraction.” Mike is looking for the STWNA to endorse his idea. A motion was made and seconded to endorse the submission.

Members present voted 15 in favor, 15 against and 9 abstained. The motion did not pass. Heather thanked Mr. Noyes for thinking of an out of the box solution and praised his efforts.

New Business:

Election in January 2009- open board positions include President, Vice President, Treasurer and Director of Safety.

Interested members should please contact Heather or other board members for info on positions.

2009 Priorities, Calendar, and Budget – will be presented at the Jan meeting. Information will be coming to members via email or newsletter. ~ Suggestion from member that 2009 membership form to ask permission to share contact info with other members for committee work, etc.

Open Discussion & Future Agenda Items

Question from members- What is the status of the signal light at the Hamilton/Phoenix intersection?

Community Announcements:

Reminder that the Holiday event is Saturday Dec 6 at Payne school.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30PM

Next STWNA Meeting: January 14, 2009