



General Meeting Minutes – November 16, 2009

The general meeting of the Stevens Creek Neighborhood Association – SCNA was called to order at 7:17 pm on November 16, 2009 at Togo's @ 4400 Stevens Creek Blvd by the Association Chairman, Robert Benscoter.

Present:

Robert Benscoter, Carole Camarlinghi, Rhovylynn Cansino (Assistant to District 1 Councilman), Elizabeth Sanford (Assistant to District 1 Councilman), Karen Shapiro, Annie Ketterer, Don Price, Kamela Mivchandaur, Tom Sullivan, Tom Stiver, Carol & Melvin Henry, Sam Koosha (from DOT-Traffic Calming)

1. Introductions

2. Minutes Approval

Correction made to the October minutes to indicate that Toyota parks their cars on Casa View, not Loma Linda. Karen motioned to approve the amended minutes from October. Carole seconded. All approved. Minutes approved.

3. Action Items From Last Meeting

Rhovy to inquire about permanent street sweeping signs in the neighborhood (Is this something that is in the works or possible?) Last month, Robert reported that one of the Parking Compliance officers during the Oct. 3 Enhance Sweep mentioned it was in the works. ***(Rhovy has been talking with DOT and they are trying to confirm permanent signs in the eastern half of the neighborhood.)***

4. Enhanced Street Sweep Update.

The Western half of the neighborhood (Richfield to Lawrence) was completed on November 3rd. Robert reported seeing piles of debris and old stuff in the gutters along Loma Linda, Casita Ct., La Honda and neighboring streets. It appeared that the sweep was not as effective as that done in the Eastern half of the neighborhood.

5. News from Pete Constant's office.

Rhovy introduced Elizabeth Stanford as the new liaison to the Association. Rhovy will still be available if necessary.

Pete's office hours were announced with an invitation to stop by anytime.

6. DOT – Traffic Calming Presentation

Sam Koosha, from DOT-Traffic Calming gave an overview of the type of assistance the City can offer with the existing budget crisis (\$96 million deficit this year, possibly higher next year). There are no resources to 'build' but they can add signs, to help curb speeding.

ACTION ITEM: The SCNA was asked to make a priority list of target areas and as things can happen, they will be taken care of.

Sam gave an overview of the actions taken in the neighborhood to date that have improved safety and speeding. lowered the number of crashes, and the number of cars through the neighborhood has significantly decreased.

Reported Issue: La Honda reposts that there is still significant speeding, and lots of cars still making U-turns on Loma Linda and going down Capistrano. Residents have requested blocking access off, i.e. no right turns out of Safeway Parking lot. Blocking off end of street. DOT cannot make them into a "gated community" or close off access because of emergency vehicle access. Sam Acknowledged that yes, the closing of access to Miramar, Capistrano and Rio Vista reduced volume at a cost to La Honda, but that was discussed several years ago before the last calming measures were installed and deemed acceptable by all residents (inc. those on La Honda.)

A resident said the primary problem is the speeding and stop sign running. It was asked if we could bring the radar trailers or increase the speed bumps on La Honda. No, the speed bumps can not be increased because of Fire truck access, but yes the radar trailers can be brought out as a reminder to drivers.

It was asked if solar-powered digital signage could be installed, like Santa Clara has. San Jose does not have those types of signs or money for them.

Another option discussed was putting a sign prohibiting a right turn to Loma Linda from EB Stevens Creek during commute hours. Sam says he thinks businesses would object and it wouldn't pass.

One of the other problems have been the cars backing up on Loma Linda, trying to get onto Stevens Creek. The Light is mistimed with long reds. The City of Santa Clara has jurisdiction over that light, and the SCNA will be contacting them to request longer greens during commute hours (at least)

DOT has been through the neighborhood and are already taking the following steps to improve conditions:

Replace the missing street sign at Casa View and La Honda.

Install "Always Stop" signs on all stop signs in the neighborhood.

Will paint center dividing strip for 100 feet in each direction at the intersections of Albany/Richfield, Albany/Greendale, Albany/Auburn, Norwalk/Auburn, Norwalk/Greendale, Norwalk/Richfield.

ACTION ITEM: Rhovy will provide a complete list, provided by Sam.

Robert suggested 3-way stops at Norwalk and Richfield, Greendale and Albany to address speeders on Norwalk. Sam said a study can be done to see if it is warranted.

A resident brought up the Stevens Creek Toyota frequently parking cars at the corners on Casa View, making it difficult to make the turns. Sam suggested residents calling Toyota and tell them, and for

the SCNA to call them too. Rhovy reminds us to call business as a courtesy. Robert suggested writing a form letter, introducing ourselves and asking them to join the SCNA, then once relationship is established, we can talk to them about such issues as a working "partner".

ACTION ITEM: Robert to draw up a draft or a generic letter and asked Rhovy to give input/feedback.

7. December Meeting

REMINDER: The December Meeting will be on December 14th and will be a Holiday Meet-n-Greet/Party. Robert asked for ideas on format and ideas for organizing it. He also asked for volunteers to help with setup, distribution of invitations, planning. Karen said she would help. Tom will check with his wife about helping as well.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. The next general meeting will be at 7:00 pm on Monday, December 14, 2009 at Round Table Pizza at 4400 Stevens Creek Blvd and will be a Holiday/Winter party/social. **Bring a few cookies or your favorite holiday treat to share and join your neighbors in kicking off the Holiday season.**

Minutes prepared by Robert Bencoter from notes taken by Karen Shapiro.