

**LAKE LOS ANGELES RURAL TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
August 23, 2011**

1. **Call to Order** – President Jason Gonella called the ~~July~~ **August** meeting of the LLARTC to order at 7:05 pm, on August 23, 2011 at the Vista San Gabriel Elementary School. President Gonella requested at this time that all cell phones either be turned off or set to vibrate.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Since the Sergeant at Arms was not present, President Jason Gonella led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.
3. **Moment of Silence** – President Gonella requested that a Moment of Silence be observed.
4. **Welcome & Purpose** – A brief Welcome to the community and a Statement of Purpose for the LLARTC was made by President Jason Gonella.
5. **Roll Call & Statement of Quorum** – Roll call was taken by Recording Secretary Kathy Terrones. At the time of Roll Call, Janet Blich, Bruce Tillman and Glenn Allen were absent. President Gonella made the statement that the requirement for a Quorum had been met.
6. **Absence Report** – Jason Gonella gave and submitted a report for the tally of Absences (Copy of Report attached.)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Absence Total</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Bruce Tillman	4	6/1, 7/6, 8/3 & 8/23
William Chapin	2	6/1 & 7/6
Christiana Payne	2 (resigned on 6/28)	6/1 & 6/28
Janet Blich	1	7/6
Robert Blich	1	7/6
Glenn Allen	1	8/23

Kathy Terrones motioned that the Absence Report be accepted. Motion was approved.

**Meeting Setup and Reports**

7. **Amend the Agenda** –
  - William Chapin motioned that the Bruce Tillman issue be moved to the beginning of Council Business. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robert Blich. Kristi Kennedy asked if the Council was going to approve changes to the agenda separately. Jason Gonella answered yes and then the Agenda would be approved with amendments. Discussion: William Chapin stated he had a letter he has submitted to the Council with four charges against Bruce Tillman, any one of which should be reason enough for removal from the Council and said he felt this issue was important enough that it be the first order of business for the Council. Bob Horsewood responded that he would be OK with moving this issue to the fist item under New Business, but that he would like to see the issues under Old Business be handled first. Vote taken and motion failed.

- Kathy Terrones then made a motioned that the Bruce Tillman issue be moved to the first item under New Business and motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Horsewood. Motion passed with 4 yeas and 2 nays.
  - Kristi Kennedy pointed out the “Motion to accept June and July minutes” should be changed to state “Motion to **read** and accept June and July minutes” since they were not posted online 72 hrs prior to the meeting for the public to read.
    - Second item – Molita Duncan item needed the spelling of her name and the name of the organization, Animal Control, to be corrected to read “Melitta Duncan of the A.V.H.A.S. (Antelope Valley **Humane** Animal Services)”.
    - Third item – The planning meeting date for September should be 9/7/11, still on the first Wednesday of the month. Jason Gonella called the Park and reported that according to the Park Reservations, the first Thursday of the month is already occupied so the Planning Meeting could not be changed.
  - Jason Gonella called for a motion to make the last three changes to the agenda. Kathy Terrones made the motion and Robin Nute 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously
8. **Acceptance of Agenda** – Kathy Terrones motioned to accept the agenda with changes, Robin Nute 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed.
9. **Late arrival** – Janet Blichha arrived, no longer considered absent.
10. **Read & accept June and July Minutes** – Since the June Minutes were not available to the public for 72 hours in advance, President Gonella read the June Minutes, many additions and corrections were discussed. A motion was made to accept the June Minutes with changes. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> and passed with one abstention by Kathy Terrones. In the interest of time and the fact that we have an 8:10 time certain restriction for our Guest Speaker, Robin Nute made a motion to table the reading and accepting of the July Minutes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kathy Terrones, Motion passed with one abstention by Kathy Terrones.
11. **Count Absences** – This report was given immediately following the Roll Call & Statement of Quorum. (Copy of report attached)
12. **Treasurer Report** – Bob Horsewood reported that on today, August 23, 2011, the balance on hand as of the date of the last report on July 26, 2011 was \$541.98. There were zero receipts and zero disbursements. Our current balance remains \$541.98. Kathy Terrones asked if Jason had received a receipt for his donation. Jason Gonella answered, not yet as he was just tonight submitting the receipt for the donation. Kathy Terrones asked Bob to supply the Recording Secretary a copy of the written Treasurers report for June, July & August to be filed with the minutes. Bob said he would bring them to the September Planning meeting. Kathy Terrones motioned that the Treasurer Report be accepted. Robert Blichha 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion passed with one abstention by Bob Horsewood. (Copy of Treasurer Report attached)

### **Committee Reports**

13. Public Information Committee – No report. Chairman Glenn Allen was not present to give one.
14. Ways & Means Committee – Chairman Bruce Tillman not present to give a report.
15. Planning Committee – Chairman William (“Earl”) Chapin had nothing to report except to say that no one has shown up for any meetings.
16. CSD Committee – Chairman Robert Blich reported that things were moving ahead slowly. Due to the Labor Day holiday, the September meetings would be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
17. By-laws Rewrite Committee – Chair Kristi Kennedy reported that the committee met twice this past month, on August 2<sup>nd</sup> and August 16<sup>th</sup>. The September meetings will take place on September 6<sup>th</sup> and September 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm @ Burger Basket. Along with the verbal report given by Kristi Kennedy and the By-law changes for the Council to vote on, she included a much appreciated written report (Copy attached.) Kathy Terrones took this opportunity to encourage all Committee Chairperson’s to include, with their reports, a written report that may be included with the minutes. Jason Gonella added that it was now the Council’s business to review the By-law changes submitted at the Planning Meeting and then vote on them at the September General meeting.
18. Truck Route Committee – Kristi Kennedy Committee Chair included a written report (Copy attached.) with her verbal report in which she stated they were still waiting for a report from Kent Tsuji, Traffic Investigations, at which time the committee will meet again to discuss options.
19. Election Committee – Committee Chair Diane King’s report was inaudible on the tape. However, she did submit a corrected copy of the Candidate Affidavit and Application on which only the Council’s P.O. Box number was missing (Copy attached). Once that is added the Candidate Application and Affidavit would be ready for distribution. . Diane King has promised to email Jason tonight with the final copy including the P.O. Box so that he will be able to post ~~it~~ it on the website. The next Election Committee Meeting would be 7:00pm @ Burger Basket on Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. She also reported that she had confirmed with the LA County Fire Dept. that the LLARTC would be able to hold our 2011 Elections at the Fire Station on 170<sup>th</sup> St. East and Lake Los Angeles Ave. on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
20. Kristi Kennedy – questioned the Council about allowing Guest Speakers to speak prior to the Community Comments. Jason Gonella replied that it was discussed at the Planning Meeting, but no decision had been made.

**Community Comments – (Copy of Community Comment Forms attached)**

21. Maurice Kunkel – announced that he had been the community’s representative on the Wilsona School Board for almost 28 years now. There is an election on November 8<sup>th</sup> to elect 2 new representatives to the Wilsona School Board. He said he could talk along time about things that have gone on during his years of service. He did want to point out a couple of things to you though. There was a time when the administration and staff wanted to stop the Athletic Association from playing softball on the ball diamond. They

had times when the administration and staff did not want to let the kids play soccer on the soccer field. They had times when they did not want to let the kids use the baseball fields. During these times, he was on the Board; he made sure these issues never came out in the community. We want to make sure we elect someone, and hopefully all five members would agree this is the way the School Board should work. Something else he was proud of, he was also on the Board when they built Challenger Middle School, when we built Vista San Gabriel School and Saddleback School out on 150<sup>th</sup> St. East. I can tell you this; there was no special assessment to build any of those three schools in the Wilsona School District. There was no election where you had to go vote yes or no for a bond issue. There are ways to avoid doing that. You want somebody on the School Board looking out for your pocketbook. You are paying \$90 a year that built Lake LA School. He tried to fight that even though he was on the Wilsona School Board. He was unsuccessful because he was on the wrong side of the butte and not on the Keppel School Board. You really need to elect people that are interested in protecting you, the community members, your pocketbook and the kids; and not the teachers and teachers unions. He wanted to really stress the point that we get to know the candidates and how they feel about things. He really wanted to encourage the community to have opportunities to meet the candidates and asked them questions. It might be a good idea to have a "Meet the Candidates Night" at a LLARTC Regular meeting or maybe even at Lake LA Day, on October 8<sup>th</sup>. He will be glad to answer any questions. His phone number is 264-4000.

22. Kristi Kennedy – to speak about Chamber and Misc.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Robin Nute brought in a stack of "Trash Talk" newsletters from Illegal Dumping Task Force. They are available at the back table. Please take one.
- Lake LA Day is October 8<sup>th</sup> for a Parade, Festival and Car Show. We have **Smokey the Bear** in our Parade again this year as well as possibly McGruff, and also Ronald McDonald will be in our Parade this year too. Of course our Queens who always help out **considerable considerably** on Lake LA Day. Also, the Dog Show will be held at the park this year instead of during the Parade.
- There is a Free Dump Day, hosted by the LA County and Waste Management, on October 15<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 am to 12:00pm.

**Old Business**

23. Community Musical Event – Jason Gonella stated that it was his belief that it was pretty obvious we are not going forward with this event and a motion needs to be made to stop this event from going forward. Robin Nute made the motion and William ("Earl") Chapin seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously. Robin Nute also motioned that the payment be cancelled for the event that had previously been approved. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> also by Earl Chapin. No discussion. All approved, motion passed.

24. Public Information Committee – Jason Gonella stated that the Council has had some shifting of duties. Such as Janet Blich is now acting Correspondence Secretary, Kathy Terrones is acting Recording Secretary and Glenn Allen is acting Public Information Committee Chairman. So tonight he would like a motion to make these position appointments formal. William ("Earl") Chapin motioned to make each of the mentioned position appointments formal. Robin Nute 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. No discussion. All approved, motion passes.

25. Planning Committee – Jason Gonella started the conversation by asking William (“Earl”) Chapin, Chairman of the Planning Committee, if there was anything we as a Council could do to help him have meetings. A question from the audience was that even though, due to lack of participation, the Committee is not having meetings; shouldn’t they still be working on or planning something? The answer to this question is “yes” the Committee Chairperson should be working on something. Kathy Terrones commented that her understanding of the Planning Committee was that along with other things, the Planning Committee was to put together a 5 and 10 year plan for the Community. While this is true the responsibility of the Planning Committee was to work together with the Ways & Means Committee on some short-term plans and goals for the Community. Community member Ann-Carol asked the Council what could be done to get more community members involved enough to actually come to a committee meeting, because it is difficult to get anything done without more participation. Bob Horsewood said that Ann-Carol made a good point. Again, Jason asked Earl if he had any ideas, as Planning Committee Chairman to get more people involved. (Earl’s response to this question was inaudible on the tape.) Jason then asked if he (Earl) would be interested in calling the County to make some inquiries, since this would not require a meeting, just a commitment at this time. Earl responded that he would be willing to make some calls to get some questions answered. Someone from the audience suggested that at Lake LA Day the Council should take the opportunity to rally the community to get more involved, since the community would already be there. Earl then pointed out that he has made his contact information public and he did not feel the need to have any meetings unless he was contacted. Mr. Ken Schaeffer, from the community, pointed out the need to make sure the public was more aware of location, date and time of any committee meetings. This point has proved to be a challenge to the Council in the past. Jason then asked that there be a motion and vote regarding whether or not the Planning Committee should have meetings. Since there was no motion to change our current procedure, Earl Chapin must come up with a date, time and location for the next Planning Committee meeting. Earl then announced that the 4<sup>th</sup> monday of every month starting on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:00pm @ Burger Basket would be the next Planning Committee meeting. Community member, Yvonne Malikowski asked if all the committee meetings were at the Burger Basket. Jason said “yes, for right now all the committee meetings are being held at the Burger Basket.”
26. Investigation of Nute Investigation – Jason Gonella said that the LLARTC has had approximately one month to read, watch and listen to the report that had been turned in. The recommendation of the Investigation Committee was that the LLARTC improve the investigation process and to keep better records. Jason’s opinion was that there was no additional information that would warrant any new investigation against Nute, based upon the findings of the Committee’s investigation of the investigation and asked for a motion and vote that would finally close this issue. Bob Horsewood began the discussion by saying his personal opinion of the findings was that the original investigation was incomplete and incompetent. Kathy Terrones made the motion to consider the Robin Nute Investigation a completely closed issue. Bob Horsewood said that the recommendations of the Investigation Committee should be passed on to the By-laws Rewrite Committee to improve the Investigation process and keep better records, this requirement should be added to the motion and then he would 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Jason Gonella then called the question by a show of hands. The vote tally was 4 ayes and 3 abstentions, the ayes have it and the motion passes. (Copy attached)

27. State Charity Status Update – Jason Gonella reported that we were making progress. He sent in paperwork to cover years 2003-2010. But because he did not have exact numbers for the years 2006 and 2007; the State would not except the forms with an approximate ending balance and sent them back. He is now attempting to make the necessary corrections before resubmitting them. Bob Horsewood provided Jason Gonella with the documentation he needed to accurately complete the forms for 2006 and 2007. We are very close now to being fully compliant with the State Attorney General's office. (Copy of yearly paperwork is attached. Years 2003 – 2005 and 2008 – 2010. Still waiting however for the 2006 & 2007 paperwork.) 2006 & 2007 paperwork in now also attached.
28. Motion to table – Jason Gonella said at this time he would entertain a motion to table the rest of the agenda to allow for our Guest Speaker who is time certain for 8:10pm. Robin Nute motioned to table the agenda items between here and the Guest Speaker item. Kathy Terrones 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Earl Chapin wanted to submit his letter questioning the actions of Bruce Tillman (Copy of the letter attached), the Council acknowledged the receipt of his complaint letter. Bob Horsewood wanted to amend the motion to include the statement, that if time allows, we go back and pick up with the items on the agenda that are tabled. Robin agreed to the friendly amendment. Kathy Terrones reaffirmed the 2<sup>nd</sup> on the motion. No additional discussion. Motion passes with 4 ayes and 2 nays.

### **Guest Speakers**

29. Karen Parker, Littlerock High School – Karen Parker is the Principle at Littlerock High School. Also with her tonight is the Work Experience Coordinator, Robin Whetzel. She spoke briefly about Back to School Night on September 8<sup>th</sup> and everyone is welcome. Karen stated that the Council shared a common problem with the schools, which is to get more community involvement, even from parents with their children. So on that night the School will be opening a Community Center and she encouraged everyone to come and get acquainted with what the Center has to offer. It will be available to all community non-profit organizations and groups for meetings or events. You would need to contact Denyce Evert @ 944-5209 ext. 388 for scheduling at the Community Center.
30. Melitta Duncan of the Antelope Valley Humane Animal Services - Melitta Duncan asked if she could get a copy of the letter (attached) that was sent to the LLARTC from the County of Los Angeles, Department of Animal Care and Control. It is regarding the request from Los Angeles County Mayor Michael D. Antonovich to investigate the problem in our area with dog attacks. She went on to say that she had brought 3 flyers pertaining to tonight's topics. They are on the back table if anybody wants one. (Copies attached) The topics were:
- Protecting Yourself While Walking Your Dog
  - Chaining Your Dog
  - The High Cost of Not Fixing Your Pet
- Melitta Duncan encouraged all community members to call her or the AVHAS and they would assist you in dealing with specific situations.

### **Sheriff's Department Update**

31. Deputy White – reported that once again crime is on the decrease compared to the same time last year. (Specific STATS were muffled and hard to hear on the tape.) On Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, there was a large multi-agency parole evasion sweep done in the Lake Los Angeles area. There were 60 locations hit. There were 20 felony arrests, misdemeanor

arrests, 4 fire arms ceased and 10 other weapons ceased, as well drugs and drug paraphernalia ceased. There were additional STATS that were unable to be heard on the tape. Some juvenile crimes were pursued and resulted in some arrests. The last 30 seconds or so of the report was unable to be understood.

### **Next meetings**

32. Planning Meeting – September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 7:00pm @ Stephen Sorenson Park Office

33. Regular Meeting - September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011, 7:00pm @ Vista San Gabriel Elementary School

### **Motion to Adjourn**

34. Jason asked for a motion to adjourn the August Regular Meeting of the LLARTC. A motion to adjourn the August Regular Meeting was made by Kathy Terrones. Bob Horsewood 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All approved, motion passed. **Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.** (As you know, the tape recording that I tried to make of the meeting snapped towards the beginning of the meeting, so this is how I came up with adjournment time. I took the time the meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm and then added the length of the video Kristi posted which was 1 hr 25 min & 29 sec's)

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Terrones  
Recording Secretary  
Lake Los Angeles Rural Town Council  
09/27/2011