

**LAKE LOS ANGELES RURAL TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
September 27, 2011

1. **Call to Order** – President Jason Gonella called the September meeting of the LLARTC to order at 7:05 pm, on September 27, 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** – The Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Lawrence Brydie 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. He also announced that Community Comment forms were available at the back table and anyone who wished to speak, please fill out a form.
5. **Roll Call & Statement of Quorum** – Roll call was taken by Recording Secretary Kathy Terrones. At the time of Roll Call, Earl Chapin was the only member absent. President Gonella made the statement that we had 7 members present and the requirement for a Quorum had been met.

**Meeting Setup and Reports**

6. **Motion to accept agenda** –
  - **Amendments to agenda** – Pres. Jason Gonella had some corrections that needed to be made to the agenda.
    1. Under Roll Call delete member Bruce Tillman and leave in member Earl Chapin.
    2. Under Pledge of Allegiance, spelling correction to the name of our Sergeant at Arms to Lawrence Brydie.
    3. Under Old Business, Pres. Gonella needs to comment on Charity Status.
    4. Under New Business, we need to discuss the ARTC.
  - Kathy Terrones added to the agenda a request for reimbursement under New Business for council supplies.

Robin Nute made the motion to accept the agenda with changes, Kathy Terrones 2<sup>nd</sup>. No additional discussion all approved and motion passed.

7. **Acceptance of July minutes** – Corrections – Item #13 should say that “Earl Chapin stated he would not be having a meeting in August.” Motion to accept July minutes with correction was made by Robin Nute and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Janet Blich. Motion approved with 1 abstention by Kathy Terrones.

**Acceptance of August minutes** – Corrections – Item #1 should say that “President Jason Gonella called the August meeting to order...”

Motion to accept August minutes with minor correction was made by Robin Nute and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Glenn Allen. Motion approved with 1 abstention by Kathy Terrones.

8. **Absence Report** – Jason Gonella reported that this month we had 1 absence at the Planning meeting, Bruce Tillman bringing his absences to 5, which is an automatic dismissal from the Council making a vacancy on the Council. Also, we have 1 absence at this Regular meeting, bringing William “Earl” Chapin’s total absence count to 3.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Absence Total</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Bruce Tillman	5	6/1, 7/6, 8/3, 8/23 & 9/7
William Chapin	3	6/1, 7/6 & 9/27
Christiana Payne	2 (resigned on 6/28)	6/1 & 6/28
Janet Blichia	1	7/6
Robert Blichia	1	7/6
Glenn Allen	1	8/23

Kathy Terrones motioned to accept the Absence Report (Copy attached). Bob Horsewood 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, no nays, motion passed.

9. **Treasurer Report** – Bob Horsewood reported that the balance on hand on the date of the last report, which was August 23, 2011, was \$541.98. We have zero receipts and zero disbursements; therefore the current balance is \$541.98 on the date, September 27, 2011, of this report. Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report was made by Robin Nute. Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kathy Terrones. All in favor with 1 abstention by Bob Horsewood. Motion passes.

10. **Committee Reports** –

- **Public Information Committee** – Glenn Allen reported that the black board on 170<sup>th</sup> needs to be and will be updated at least once a month. He also contacted the High Desert Broadcasting Company regarding broadcasting public information on local public information TV. Someone from the cable company Adelphia is supposed to be returning Glenn’s call in response to their public information service. The committee also discussed various emails for a number of public information newspaper publications. The September meeting was held on Tuesday, September 13, 2011. Next month’s meeting will be on Tuesday, October 11, 2011.
- **Ways & Means Committee** – The Chair position is vacant, however Pres. Jason Gonella reported that he did hold an informal meeting to discuss the already approved fund raiser, which is at Lake LA Day the Council will be selling coffee smoothies. He turned in to the Chamber of Commerce the Council’s application for a booth at Lake LA Day. He reported that it would cost the council approximately \$80 for the supplies to sell 100 smoothies @ \$2.00 ea. = \$200.00 minus \$80 for supplies leaving the council \$120.00 profit. Plus we would be selling water also which cost \$.30 and we sell them for \$1.00. Kristi Kennedy accepted the Council’s application for Lake LA Day Booth. Robin Nute motioned that the Council approve up to \$100.00 for supplies for the Lake LA Day booth. Glenn Allen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all approved, motion passed.
- **Planning Committee** – Council member/Chairman Earl Chapin is absent. No report.

- CSD Committee – Chairman Robert Blichka reported the CSD’s are moving along very well. As always the CSD Committee meetings are on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday’s of the month. The dates for October will be 10/3/11 & 10/17/11. Pres. Jason Gonella then asked about how many proposals were gone over at the meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup> and how many proposals at the meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Robert said “To be perfectly honest, it does get out of hand at times when we are working on the CSD’s meetings but in all honesty, I would say, we only went over one proposal on 9/12 and 2 maybe 3 proposals were worked on at the meeting on 9/19.” He also said “It is a slow and delicate process but we are trudging our way forward.”
- By-laws Rewrite Committee – Chairperson Kristi Kennedy reported and submitted a written report. (Copy of report attached) The committee submitted the following changes to be reviewed and voted on next month; Article IV, Section C; Article IV, Section D; Article V, Section C; and Article VI, Section B. Robin Nute motioned to table these changes and then discuss them @ the October Planning meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup> and vote on them @ the October Regular meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup>. A 2<sup>nd</sup> to this motion was made by Kathy Terrones, all approved, motion passes.
- Truck & Traffic Safety Committee – Chairperson Kristi Kennedy reported and submitted a written report. (Copy of report attached) The Los Angeles County, Traffic Investigation Department, also submitted their Traffic Engineering Report, File Number T-20110501 and the Department of Public Works letter with their study findings. (Copy of Traffic Engineering Report and study findings letter also attached.) The County did see the need for a center turn lane and also checked with the plans of Town & Country; however they would **not** be addressing this idea within the next two years. The committee will continue to report as they move forward.
  - The community commented that Kristi Kennedy could be heard very well; however, the rest of the Council needed help to be heard and needed microphones.
- Election Committee – Committee Chair Diane King reported and submitted a written report. (Copy of report attached) The committee had a make-up meeting on Monday, 9/26 @ M&G Burgers, the meeting was posted on the chalkboard. She did get several more volunteers for the committee. She also had confirmation from Chief Cross that the Lake Los Angeles Rural Town Council elections could be held at the Fire Station on 170<sup>th</sup> Street East on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Polling hours will be 7:00am to 8:00pm. Kristi Kennedy asked how many candidate applications she had received. Diane reported she only had one at this time. Kristi also asked if the candidates would have time allotted for them to speak at the October 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. Diane said “Yes, of course” there should be time made for that. The next Election Committee meeting would be on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 @ M&G’s at 7:00pm. She has also contacted the Antelope Valley Press and the Lake LA News with the election information. Diane did try to submit to the Recording Secretary, then to the Treasurer the one Affidavit/Application and check she had. The Treasurer, Bob Horsewood, received the check for the application Diane King had received. Diane was then

informed that the Election Committee Chair retains all applications and all checks are submitted to the Treasurer for a receipt. Her report at the October meeting will state how many applications she received.

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

President Jason Gonella called for the Community Comments slips bucket be brought forward to the Council's table.

- Baron Harris – he first wanted to let the Council know that it is hard to hear them and they need some kind of sound system. Also, as Vice-President of the Seniors Group, he wanted to know what was being planned for the Seniors Group at the Park Community Bldg. Pres. Jason Gonella answered that we could check into it and ask the Park Assoc.
- Judy Poillot – Subject: stealing from empty properties – We need a neighborhood watch at night. Pres. Jason answered we could attempt to get some more community members interested in organizing a Neighborhood Watch program and contact Deputy Rust to see if he will get in touch with us to possibly come and speak. Jason asked Dep. White to please make any comments he might have during his time to speak.
- Clif King – Subject: Harmony in the working of the Rural Town Council. Clif King then proceeded to question Pres. Jason Gonella concerning the LLARTC Website. Pres. Gonella responded to all of his questions until Clif King handed in to the Council a Complaint letter from William “Earl” Chapin lodged against Jason Gonella. Pres. Gonella then replied the Council acknowledges the receipt of a Complaint letter from Earl Chapin and it would be put on file.
- Diane King – Subject: Website. There are 3 or 4 websites with the same name llartc.org, which one is legitimate? Pres. Gonella, “Wish to speak?” Diane King could not be clearly heard on the tape. She did say something about check the website tonight and found 3 or 4 websites, and felt this was very confusing to the public. Could we please clarify which was the correct website? Pres. Gonella explained that there is only 1 with the actual URL; there is a back up website, which was created during the time when the actual site was not being edited, which is not at that URL. It is at sites.google.com. It is the back-up website. Pres. Gonella asked, “Would you like me to mark it clearly as ‘back-up website’?” Diane King answered, “Yes, would you?” Kathy Terrones mentioned that Kristi Kennedy also has a website that is hers only; it is controlled solely by Kristi. That web address is lakelaonline.com. This website is completely separate from the Council's website and that web address is llartc.org.
- Terry O'Callaghan – Subject: Extremely noisy neighbors. Since we have called the sheriff's department they have not only gotten louder, but also rude. Pres. Gonella invited Deputy White to give some input. Most of the rest of the conversation was inaudible on the tape. Robin Nute explained that unfortunately the Council could not take any type of action, but it might be a good idea to contact the landlord(s). Deputy White commented that the neighbors should continue to call. The more complaints they have for a particular address, the more checking they would do there.

- Anthony Anderson – Had the same complaint as above. He was also another neighbor to the same offending address.
- Theresa Horvath – Subject: Use of new park facility by the Lake LA Seniors. Theresa Horvath commented that her first question was pretty much the same as the first speaker, Baron Harris. She also wanted to suggest that the Council get some kind of sound system, even a small karaoke type speaker would help. It is very difficult for the audience to hear the Council, especially the seniors.
- Jean Poillot – Subject: Illegal Dirt Bike & ATV Traffic. When is the Sheriff's department going to crack down on illegal ATV traffic? Jean Poillot wanted to know what the Sheriff's department was going to do about the "Idiot's" that were riding around on our streets at 60 mph and putting our kids in danger. Deputy White of the Sheriff's department responded with an explanation of the Dirt Bike and ATV Task Force. The deputy's explanation was very hard to hear on the tape. Deputy White did respond with whom the Task Force consisted of and how and where they worked. He also described where these vehicles could be ridden.
- Kristi Kennedy – Lake LA update. Kristi Kennedy announced that Lake LA Day is on Saturday, October 08, 2011. The Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the event. The Parade starts at 11:00am. Appearing in the parade will be Smokey Bear, Ronald McDonald, and McGruff the Crime Dog, all of our local Queens and several of our local businesses will be in the parade. Then immediately following the parade is our Festival. There will be the Car Show and this year we have about twice as many booths as we did last year. There will be a D.J. and several groups that will be providing live entertainment. Please come out and enjoy yourself at the parade. There will be plenty of food and lots of fun at the Festival.
- Yvonne Malikowski – (No Comment Form turned in) Yvonne jumped in to remind the community of some upcoming dates. One of which is LA County & Waste Mgmt sponsored Free Dump Day on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 between the hours of 8:00am and 12:00pm. She also announced that on October 22<sup>nd</sup> there will be a Free Tire Round-Up.
- President Jason Gonella – Yielded the floor to Vice-President Robin Nute. She then recognized Jason Gonella as a Council member who had submitted a Community Comment Form. Jason Gonella commented that a Council Member is not doing his job. He said he would appreciate it if Council Members would actually do the job that they have been given. The Council then acknowledged that Council Member Jason Gonella submitted a complaint letter lodged against Council Member William "Earl" Chapin (Copy attached), which will be filed also.
- Vice-President Robin Nute – turned the floor back over to the President, Jason Gonella.

## 12. Priority Business

- Town Council Vacancy – Pres. Gonella announced that Bruce Tillman has had 5 absences; therefore, he can no longer serve on the LLARTC, as per our By-laws. Bruce has also submitted a resignation letter (Copy of email letter attached);

however that formality is not necessary, due to the amount of absences. This has created a vacancy on the Town Council for the Jr. Alternate position. We are now accepting applications to fill this position. Two applications (Copies attached) were received to fill the vacancy position. Leslie Shafer and Alex Blichia. Each candidate was given 3 minutes to speak if they wished. Votes were cast, collected, and counted by our Sgt. at Arms, Lawrence Brydie. The results were as follows; Leslie Shafer – 4 votes and Alex Blichia – 3 votes. Leslie Shafer is the LLARTC's new Jr. Alternate. The final item of business is to ~~confer~~ assign the new Committee Chairpersons their new assignments, which would be Robert Blichia as our new Ways & Means Committee Chairman and Leslie Shafer as our new CSD Committee Chairperson. Robin Nute motions to have the new Committee Chairperson Assignments take effect. Janet asked why Robert couldn't just stay CSD Committee Chairman. Pres. Jason explained that according to the By-laws the CSD Committee Chairperson is to be held by either the Sr. or Jr. Alternate position. Pres. Gonella then stated he had a motion on the floor and asked for a 2<sup>nd</sup>. Glenn Allen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion made by Robin Nute. There were 5 ayes (in favor), and 2 nays (against). Motion passes.

### 13. Old Business

- P.A. System letter of request – The letter is to request Scott Lezak to either pay or replace the P.A. System that was stolen from his garage. Bob Horsewood added that the letter was supposed to include that he (Scott Lezak) would not be eligible to participate in LLARTC business, until restitution be made, either physical or financial replacement. Robin Nute motioned to include Bob Horsewood's suggestion in the letter, which is Scott Lezak can't participate in the Town Council or chair any committees restitution is made. Janet Blichia 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved, motion passes. Bob Horsewood asked if the letter wasn't already supposed to be drafted. We will put it in the minutes officially and the letter must be written by the next meeting. If at all possible, could you have the letter ready by the Planning meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup>, so we don't have to spend a lot of time discussing the content of the letter at the next meeting? Janet Blichia replied that she already had a letter written, but it would have to be rewritten now.
- Apology to the Shafer's – Pres. Jason Gonella said that this was his business. He said that several meetings ago, he was feeling pressed for time, and I gave you a very short answer, instead of a more detailed one that you deserve. Pres. Gonella then asked "Would you like a written or verbal apology?" Leslie Shafer replied, "Verbal, is fine." Pres. Gonella responded, "Verbal? In that case, I am very sorry I did not give your question the attention it deserved at the time."
- Bob Horsewood – added to the above P.A. System letter of request item, which we still needed to vote on making sure that the letter gets done. Pres. Gonella called the question for all in favor of making sure the letter gets done. All voted in favor, motion passed.
- Waste Management Donation – Robin Nute asked the Council if everyone could think of what type of donation we would like to have or what we would like to ask for. We could ask for clean up in the desert or something like that. She suggested that we decide at the planning meeting on 10/05/2011, and then she would draft a letter from there.

- Roadway Resurfacing Project – A notice (Copy attached) was sent to us by the County of LA, Dept. of Public Works, regarding the resurfacing project planned for our neighborhood. Pres. Jason Gonella will contact them to get more information about what type of resurfacing there will be and when it is planned to take place.
- Charity Status – Pres. Gonella reported that he sent on 9/19/11 the last two forms (Copies of 2006 & 2007 is attached) to the State Attorney General's Office. They have received it, I have received back the reply card, and however they have not yet updated their website or responded to me in any other way. (Copy of Results Detail and Copy of Confirmations for Receipt of Documents/Receipt of Payment are also attached) We should have an answer on our Charity Status soon, at which point our paperwork will be all up to date. That will leave just trying to figure out any status discrepancies we might have with the IRS. They have called Jason and told him there is a letter in the mail. That is our status on our Charity and legal status.

#### 14. New Business

- Bylaw proposals from last month – Council needs to vote on the four Articles (Article II; Article IV, Sec. A; Article IV, Sec. B; and Article XII, Sec. B [Copies attached]) proposed last month. A community member asked if we were changing our Bylaws or making amendments to our Bylaws. Pres. Gonella answered that the Council was making amendments to the Bylaws. We will be voting on them separately.

Article II – Robin Nute motioned to accept the Article II amendment. 2<sup>nd</sup> made by Bob Horsewood. All approved, motion passes

Article IV, Sec. A – Robin Nute motioned to postpone the vote on this amendment. Kathy Terrones 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All agreed to postpone the vote on this amendment. Vote postponed.

Article IV, Sec. B – Robin Nut motioned to accept this amendment. Bob Horsewood 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All approved, motion passes.

Article XII, Sec. B – Kathy Terrones asked if this section says that if a letter of complaint or allegations are submitted, an investigation must take place for that member and cannot be removed with just a motion. Kristi Kennedy answered that this section does state that an investigation must take place. Robin Nute motioned to accept this amendment. Glenn Allen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All approved, motion passes.

#### Conclusion:

There were 3 amendments (Art. II, Art. IV, Sec. B, and Art. XII, Sec. B) passed and 1 amendment (Art. IV, Sec. A) that is tabled.

15. Motion to Table balance of agenda – Time 8:15pm. The ARTC item cannot be tabled since the ARTC meeting is Thursday, 9/29/2011 and we need a representative to attend. With a little discussion, Jason agreed to go to the ARTC meeting this month. Now we need a motion to table the balance of New Business on the agenda. Robin Nute made the motion to table. Kathy Terrones 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All approved the motion, motion passes.
16. Norm Hickling – Deputy Field Supervisor – Update – Norm Hickling not in attendance to give update report.

17. **Sheriff's Department Update** – Deputy White

Overall crime is still down. Burglaries are still down 4.62%. Other thefts, including grand theft, petty theft are down 37.97%. This is for the central township of Lake Los Angeles.

A community member asked who would be the person to contact about the Neighborhood Watch Program. Deputy White replied they should contact Deputy Rust at the Lancaster station. The number is 948-8466. A question was asked about whom to contact for the Volunteer's on Patrol Program. Dep. White commented that one contact person would be Lee Willard (sp?).

18. **Community Announcements (Upcoming Events)** –

- LAKE LA DAY – October 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2011
- FREE DUMP DAY – October 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2011
- Tire Round Up – October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011
- Kathy Terrones announce the return of the SIGN-IN book at the back table. All community members, as well as Council members, please sign-in before you leave.

19. **Next Meetings**

- Planning Meeting – 7:00pm on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 @ Sorensen Park Office
- Regular Meeting – 7:00pm on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 @ Vista San Gabriel Elem. School

20. **Motion to Adjourn Meeting** –

Robin Nute made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the LLARTC. Robert Blich 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All approved, motion passed.

Regular Meeting of the LLARTC adjourned at 8:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Terrones  
Recording Secretary  
Lake Los Angeles Rural Town Council  
10/25/2011