



Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council (Tax ID # 42-1749056)

General Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday February 12, 2018

LOCATION: Berryessa Community Center
3050 Berryessa Road, San Jose, CA 95132

1. **7:03 PM** Call to Order by President Linda Locke. The President acknowledged 6 people attending the BCAC General Meeting for the first time. Attendance 48
2. Minutes by Ty Greaves of the January General Meeting approved with these changes
 - a. Line 14: change "sale" to "lease"
 - b. Line 1: change call to order time from 7:30 to 7:03
3. Treasurer Marlou Bitcon reported
 - a. Beginning Balance \$3,949.55
 - b. Income
 - i. Dues \$110.00
 - c. Cash Available \$4,059.55
 - d. Expenses (Park Benches) (\$131.77)
 - e. Ending Balance \$3927.78
4. Police Report by Captain Schriefer
 - a. Force Size – Though one District William officer left the SJPD, there is help on the way with 57 cadets in the Police Academy, 53 Academy grads going through supervised field trials, and 50 invitations to the next Academy.
 - b. Crime – The Berryessa area has been quiet. The police have been able to make an impact on burglaries with the arrest of 2 minors who are thought to be members of one of the three "crews" operating in the East Bay. Due to their "minor" status these suspects are released into the custody of their parents pending a court date. This "catch and release" processes allows them to return to criminality which is a frustration for the public and the police.
 - c. Homelessness – There is a plan to install barriers/fencing to frustrate homeless encampments between Berryessa and Jacklin. Expect future updates on schedules and techniques.
 - d. Membership Questions
 - i. Steve, Manager of the Shopping Center at Berryessa and Capitol, said that towing "abandoned cars" is usually responsive, but asked the best way to address misuse of his parking lot by RV's. Capt. Schriefer told the audience that RV's are slow response problem because the 15 contracted tow companies frequently decline to act. RV's take up too much space in their lots and are rarely redeemed. The city is being more conscience about getting action.
5. Neighborhood Commission Report by John Semanik. Gave an overview of the Commissions advisory relationship the San Jose City Council, its structure, and informed the membership that the even districts will be up for caucus election in 2020. Areas the Commission is working on are homelessness, illegal dumping, and neighborhood watch.
 - a. Fireworks – The Commission is advocating for increasing the fine to \$1,000 for the first offense. Unfortunately, most of last year's citations were not able to establish the guilty party, so all of them were abandoned. Urged members to attend a Wednesday meeting at City Hall Room 118/119 for the Fire Chief's presentation
 - b. City Budget – Urged the membership to use the San Jose Website to participate in a Budget Balancing "game" that will help the Council to understand community priorities and spending preferences.
 - c. Vision Zero – Effort to improve the safety of our streets
6. Reports by Elected Officials
 - a. Report by Mayor Liccardo's office – no one attending (Second month)
 - b. Report by Senator Wieckowski's office – Tim Orozco told us that the Procurement Seminar had been a success with ~60 attendees learning how to do business with government. He informed us that Dr. Emmett Carson, CEO and President of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, being honored as part of Black History Month observances.
 - i. Budget Overview – The good news is a \$3.6B surplus that Gov. Brown is proposing to use to augment the rainy-day fund, expand investment in education (including an on-line AA program), and improve infrastructure.
 - ii. Gax Tax – Though unpopular, with a repeal initiative collecting signatures, it is expected to deliver \$5B in taxes to improve roads.

- iii. Legalization of Marijuana – is expected to deliver \$1B in new taxes.
 - c. Report by Assembly Member Kansen Chu's office – Anarag Pal reported:
 - i. Public Safety – Bills sponsored by Member Chu that are in consideration
 - 1. AB 1757 requires a check box/question that indicate whether an incident was bias-related
 - 2. AB 1395 requires highest priority to litter removal along state highway segments that carry the highest traffic volumes and the segments found to have the highest incidences of litter
 - ii. Senior Protection – Annual Scam Stopper Seminar for Tuesday, March 27th and the Milpitas Library
 - iii. Education
 - 1. AB2068 to provide 35% discount on electricity for K-12 students in schools with large populations of ESL families with savings directed to the schools.
 - 2. AB2022 to require a mental health professional at each school, provided funds are available.
 - 3. AB1763 require pupils to successfully complete a course in college and career preparedness education
 - 4. AB1798 requires all school buses have safety belts by 2028
 - iv. Resources for Local Police – Member Chu is advocating for state funds for local police to address the surge in car thefts/break-ins
 - v. Workforce Education – Member Chu is advocating for an extension of funds for the WE&TP Program and inclusion of behavioral health services in the ACA
 - vi. Office Hours – Milpitas Library, 160 N. Main Street, March 1st 6-8PM
 - d. Report by Congressman Khanna's office – no one present to report (Second month)
 - e. Report by the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board President Richard Santos requested membership support by writing to the US Congress to request that Federal taxes augment State/Local taxes in refurbishing water reservoir dams. Dam repair is estimated to cost \$400M. He said that there are three bills in the State Legislature that will 1). expand the area requiring flood protection, 2). provide tax relieve/exemptions for Boards that have a diverse composition, and 3). expedite flood safety projects.
 - f. Report by the Berryessa Union Scholl District Superintendent Roxane Fuentes invited the membership to the BUSD outreach to the community on February 15th 6:00-7:30 as they formulate the budget and priorities. Dr. Fuentes has been visiting each school to canvas the students on their priorities.
 - g. Report by Supervisor Cortese's office – no one present to report (Second month)
 - h. San José/Evergreen Community College District Trustee Rudy Nasol gave his time to Chancellor Budd who oriented the membership to the scope of the District. She recognized the new Milpitas Extension and a new program that will deliver a Computer Science Masters to a graduate with an AA in just 3 years.
 - i. San José City Council Member Lan Diep reported
 - i. Bridge Housing - City Staff had identified properties in Dist 2, 3, and 7 for the Pilot site, and noted that the D7 site borders on D4.
 - ii. Litter Pickup/Dumpster Day – coming with date to be announced
 - iii. BART – Service to the Berryessa Station is slipping due to the 6 months of testing by BART. October is the latest estimate for service in D4.
 - iv. Housing Shortage – City Council is considering changes that would allow “mother-in-law” quarters to expand the inventory of rentable space.
 - v. Public Safety – The replacement Alviso pump has been permitted and should be operational in a year.
 - vi. Evergreen Senior Housing – The Council is unanimous in opposition to the plan, but there is a ballot initiative collecting signatures. Council is considering its options.
 - vii. Office Hours – Feb 22 @ 4:30PM. Contact Member Diep's office for location.
 - j. Open Space Authority President Mike Flaughter said that the OSA will release a Grant Effectiveness Report covering the 15 projects funded with \$1.5M. The OSA is considering issuing multiple, \$5K grants to schools with environmental/conservation projects. The OSA is working with City and County government to establish guidelines on constructing trails along waterways. With the latest trail dedication you can walk from Mt. Umunhum to the Lick Observatory.
7. Featured Presenter – Ron and Nancy Appleby Presented an Overview of San Jose History (see website for the presentation)
 8. Initiative to Allow Seniors (55+) statewide to transfer their Prop 13 property tax rate to another house. Bob Stewart, Manager of the Coldwell-Banker offices on Berryessa, reported that currently many seniors live in homes that no longer suit their needs. If they sell and move to a home that fits their needs, they face the challenge of seeing their property tax burden increase SIGNIFICANTLY. Nine counties already allow this (including Santa Clara). He was prepared to collect signatures in the entrance area.
 9. Motion to Adjourn at 8:45PM