

ALMADEN SENIOR ASSOCIATION MEETING

August 06, 2014

The regular monthly meeting of the Almaden Senior Association was called to order at 9:47 am by President, Marilyn Entin in Room 03. In attendance were Co-Vice President Marlene Duffin, Secretary Margery Marble, Recreation Supervisor Hal Spangenberg, Senior Specialist Brian Hames, Recreation Specialist Amy Jewett, Senior Citizens Commissioner Vince Tarpey, Councilmember Johnny Khamis, and Assistant to Councilmember Rayshelle Brant. Members and Visitors: Chickie Nemeth, Gordon Alliano, Doreen Morgan, Kermit Olsen, Pat Eagan, Arlene DeMoss, Bev Temkin, Stephen Mellors, Larry Saltman, Pat Alligood, Cathy Michelon, Erin Barclay, Sally A. Sargent, Jim Kuhl, Jeanne Sanders, Mel Grant, Helen Grant, Mike Thompson, Arden Weiner, Pat Perkins, Joan Jensen, Monica Bellizzi, Geeta Maniar, Nancy Koppel, Don House, Bill Peniston, Barbara Peniston, Laura Randall, Arthur Randall, Venus Phillips, and Neelam Shaw. Absent were Co-Vice President Ralph Butterworth and Treasurer Bill Hubka.

The minutes of the July 02, 2014, meeting were distributed and approved as read.

TREASURER – BILL HUBKA: (report by Marilyn Entin)

The July 2014 treasurer's report (copy attached) and an added list of notes (copy attached) were distributed and discussed. Income \$1,844.34; expenses \$3,822.38. Added notes include be sure to pick up your voucher reimbursement checks from the Will Call section of the plastic vertical file just inside the office door to the right; get a board member's signature on your voucher before turning it in to the Treasurer's box; envelopes to be deposited in the safe must have completed all information requested on the envelope; money will not be returned in cash; make out checks to "Almaden Senior Program".

SENIOR CITIZENS COMMISSIONER – VINCE TARPEY:

- Is there a written record of responsibilities for each Association event to assist the successor to that responsibility? Yes, both Bev and Brian have lists. Some BBQ tickets were held at the front desk and no one knew; the result was 30 seats not filled. Hal will re-instruct volunteers and staff at the front desk. Senior Commission will have a retreat on Aug. 14; he asks for topics we might want them to bring up to the City Council.
- Per **Stephen Mellors** re: nutrition. County runs 34 centers including the 13 in San Jose. Average donations: Roosevelt Center averages \$0.29 a meal; Milpitas - \$2.96; Almaden - \$2.00. Several years ago average was \$0.98.

GUEST REPORTS:

COUNCILMEMBER – JOHNNY KHAMIS

- **July 4 Event:** Thank you to the Association for the donation to the 4th of July Event. About 20,000 people attended. They expected 5,000. Feedback was good with requests to repeat it next year. A marginal decrease in illegal fireworks. Planning for next yr. with possible parking at Oakridge Mall with a shuttle to the Park. Cost was \$32,000, \$27,000 of which came from donations and only \$5,000 from public funds.
- **Collection of Senior Membership Dues:** He will be encouraging his colleagues not to accept the City Auditor's report. After speaking with the City Mgr., he has not heard any movement on changing the rules.
- **Taxes:** There will be no new taxes on the Nov. ballot. Both a general sales tax and a dedicated safety tax, which he supported, were defeated. This year there were some extra revenues to give employees a 3% increase except for police and fire. Police got 11% over 1½ years; Fire didn't get any because they didn't come to the negotiation table.
- **Academies:** 28 new community service officers being trained; should be finished by Oct. In Oct. should be grand-opening the police southern station to be used as a training facility for police, to house the community service officers, and to be a place to report crimes.
- **National Night Out:** Last night. Successful. He attended 5 events. Thank you to Rayshelle, who also played in a band. Also, 300 backpacks were donated.

- **Soccer Fields:** Off of Santa Teresa and Allen should be open the end of Aug. with a grand opening in Sept. Made possible by a \$4 million donation from Almaden resident Patty O'Malley. Suggests sign up for his District 10 Newsletter at district10@sanjoseca.gov
- **Property tax:** He is being asked to co-sponsor legislation on the next ballot to add \$24 to your property parcel tax for 15 years for the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority, which buys land for parks. Let him know if you support a tax. Will generate \$80 million a year. Question: will that be senior-exempt? He doesn't know but will find out.
- **Copenhagen trip:** Chosen by mayor to go to Copenhagen in 2 weeks to learn about bicycle trails. He wants to connect Los Alamitos bicycle trail with the Guadalupe bicycle trail – a 5 mile stretch, one of his major goals of being in office. Working with several people and the Bicycle Coalition. Already have \$500,000 for the environmental study.
- Member: suggestion to encourage biking to the 4th of July event. Answer: The Bicycle Coalition would do a bike valet if they had enough volunteers. They also had vans for a shuttle, but no volunteers to drive.
- Member: Almaden Expressway center divider watering: suggestion to get and use the 20,000 gal. tanker trucks with recycled water. Answer: The County is responsible, and they don't want to fix the sprinkler system. Maybe Mike Wasserman would be a contact. Rotary Club will be planting and maintaining from McAbee to Coleman. Discussion re:

ASSISTANT TO COUNCILMEMBER – RAYSELLE BRANT

- **Finance Committee:** Meets on the third Thurs. of every month at 1:30 p.m.

RECREATION SUPERVISOR – HAL SPANGENBERG:

- **Sound System:** Main project is updating the sound system in the Community Room.
- **Plants:** Will be putting plants on fence outside Community Room as suggested by a member at prior meeting. Let Hal know if you have any other suggestions.
- **New Recreation Specialist:** Amy Jewett, began work here on 8/4. Knowledgeable and experienced with senior programs and desire to work with seniors. Per Amy: She studied psychology and kinesiology. Health and wellness a top priority. Worked with different non-City senior centers before in San Jose. Looking forward to meeting everyone.
- Member request: get lights in Community Room cleaned. Answ. That is done when they replace the lights. Hal will check. Member: Also, reestablish connection in Community Room so can watch TV.
- Question: Is there a skirt for the back of the new stage? Answer: None was provided; and there was not one on the old stage. The handrails will be installed.
- Member question re: class in Community Room not allowing volunteers to enter until 11:15 on Fridays. Answer: Hal will check.

SENIOR SPECIALIST – BRIAN HAMES:

- **His Last Day at Almaden:** Thank you to everyone.
- **July Talent Show:** 80 attendees; 7 performers; wonderful appetizers; enjoyed by all.
- **Senior Membership:** For 2014, 1,676 members to date.

MEMBER REPORTS:

- **Marilyn Entin – Event Update:** Sept. 16 Mexican Independence Day Fiesta - Erin Barclay and RoseMary McDermid are co-chairs. Oct 7 Diwali Festival of Lights - Ramesh, Vita, Eula are interested. Nov. 19 Thanksgiving Feast - no co-chairs. Dec. 11 Holiday Brunch - no co-chairs. Erin will coordinate and help anyone interested. Bev will help Erin in Dec.
- **Marlene Duffin – Trip Planning:** Pat Alligood has put together a trip approval form to be filled out, and correct, before the Board accepts any more expenses. She worked with Kanen Tours. Committee wants to reach out to the Assoc. to get more people involved and anyone who wants to be in charge of a trip; it can move from leader to leader. It doesn't have to be restricted to just one, two, or three people. On Aug. 27 Alicia Kanen from Kanen Tours will come and present. (Flyer distributed.) Don House will be at the meeting. Feedback will help us see how we can keep trips going within the Comm. Ctr. if at all possible.

- **Sally Sargent – Trips:** Carmel on Tues. Sept. 16, a walk and guided tour by Gael Gallagher, Kanen Tours is planning it; lunch on your own, \$70. The July Casino trip: 53 people went. Feedback was positive. Carmel trip is same day as Fiesta event. Sally will change the date. **MOTION:** It was moved by Marlene Duffin and seconded that \$2,070 be provided for the Carmel trip bus fare on a Sept. date to be decided. Motion carried. Per Marilyn: the Dec. trip is postponed for now.
- **Bev Temkin – Thursday Lunch Group:** 2nd Thurs. every month an out-to-lunch group for the purpose of people getting acquainted with people from the Community Center and to try different restaurants in the area. Are people still interested? Participation has decreased. Requests suggestions. (1) create poster or flyer; put it on lobby TV screen, (2) put on the easel at the front door, (3) put your (Bev's) name and phone number, (4) have restaurant issue individual checks, (5) limit food choice, figure amt., chg. everyone same, e.g., \$20 cash, then one person pays bill (discussion re:), (6) put description of group in next Newsletter, (7) have Amy attend, (8) have Tess announce at Morning Stretch. In past group has gone to the Mission College culinary trainees. Bev goes to a restaurant in advance to check out. This group wants her to continue the Lunch Group.
- **Nancy Koppel – Friends of the Library:** Past 2 weeks thefts seen in Friends of the Library lobby book sale area. One day older, gray-haired woman stole 30 children's books. Another report of a middle-aged, black-haired lady who took 5 books. Please observe closely if you see and then describe to the front desk. Per Hal, has work order in for lobby camera; will try to point at Café and lobby. Nancy will ask a Library person to make another large sign. A suggestion: if anyone nearby has cell phone, snap a picture.
Pre-Holiday Book Sale: Erin made flyers. On Mon. Sept. 8 early morning in area by Library doors. Most books are \$0.50 or \$1.00. Cookbooks, decorating, adult and children Christmas books.
- **Jim Kuhl – District 10 Leadership Coalition Report:** There has been no meeting. The next one will be in Sept. They had a BBQ. Sam Liccardo was there; Jim discussed our membership dues problem, and Sam said he'd work with Johnny. Per Johnny, they invited councilmember Magdalena Carrasco to their next meeting. He wants more councilmembers to be aware of our issues. Dave Fadness, prior chairman for years, had a severe accident and is paralyzed. Pat McMahon is taking his place.
- **Don House - SeniorNet:** No classes June and early July; purchased and installed all new computers in the Lab. with Windows 7, 8, and 8.1. Registration July 5; of 18 classes offered, 6 are new. Demand for "Using Windows 8.1" so great, required two classes, both of which are full. After 7/5 registration, 157 seats filled; now 214 seats filled. Can register by phone. Great volunteers creating classes, e.g., "Excel - Not Just for Numbers". The classes in iPad and iPhone are well attended. Can check class schedule at snlcsj.org Click on Almaden and then Current Classes. Also, can request Mailer be sent to you.

OPEN DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Marilyn Entin announced the next meeting of the Senior Leadership Group with PRNS is Thurs. Aug. 21, 10 a.m. to 12. Loc. TBD. The next meeting will be in Sept. here at Almaden. After this Aug. meeting we will have feedback on PRNS' dealing with issues of each Center individually. Then our members might have input to give Marilyn for next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m. (1 hr. 25 min.) The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 3, 2014, in Room 4.