

West Ranch Town Council
Minutes for the Meeting Dated: May 3, 2006

- A. Call to Order / Roll Call:
 - a. Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm.
 - b. Present: Randal Winter, Betty Griffin, Paul Ash, Brian Toqe, Ron Mechsner
 - c. Absent: Dave Bossert, James Zimmerman
- B. Approval of April 5, 2006 Minutes
 - a. Approved by a vote of 5 – 0.
- C. Treasurers Report
 - a. James Zimmerman – Treasurer not present therefore no report provided. Paul believes that there were no significant changes from the April report.
- D. County Business
 - a. Parks and Recreation Department
 - i. Successful Adult / Senior Health Fair took place April 29th. There were about 200 attendees.
 - ii. Summer Day Camp will start June 26th and run until August 11th.
 - iii. Dog Obedience classes are going to be offered at the park. They will run 8 weeks in duration (July 15th to September 2nd).
 - iv. Smart Gardening Workshop to be offered – Water wise / Backyard Composting – Date is July 29th.
 - v. 4th of July Fireworks – Tuesday, July 4th
 - vi. Summer Basketball signups – 6/20-27th
 - vii. Youth Co-ed Soccer will start August 21st – Season to kick off on September 9th.
 - viii. Summer Concert in the Park – July 22nd.
 - ix. Patriot’s Day – Remembrance Service – September 10th
 - x. Paul Ash, on behalf of the Council, expressed our thanks to the Parks & Rec Department for increasing the number of events at the Park – providing more options and choice for our residents.
 - xi. No change in status on the Skateboard area.
 - xii. Also discussed next steps regarding the choice of facility improvement for Jake Kuredijian Park – choice of either a public restroom or a tot lot. The restroom will cost more than lot, but per Bob, Supervisor Antonovich will cover any shortfall.
 - 1. Discussion that Newhall School District / Pico Canyon School needs to be part of the decision process. Bob has a meeting scheduled with Dr. Winger – will discuss.
 - 2. Any restroom would be closed at sunset – and remain closed until dawn when Park reopens.
 - 3. General consensus is that a public restroom would be the preferred improvement for the Park.
 - 4. Bob advised that the County has no plans or intent to cede / turn over control of this Park or others to any organization.
 - b. Supervisor Antonovich’s Office – Bob Hauter

- i. Regarding the increased Graffiti – the County executed a contract for a company to repaint / repair reported graffiti. Having a contract in place will result in faster turnaround and cleanup times. If need to report – call 287-3656. This service is NOT available for private property – clean-up is the responsibility of the property owner. This is only for public property.
- ii. Briefly discussed Sheriff / CHP response times – as this information has been frequently misrepresented by City of Santa Clarita in discussions with communities regarding annexation.
- iii. Based on last Supervisors’ Meeting – funds for 60 additional LA County Sheriff’s provided. It is believed that most of these 60 will go to increase coverage in unincorporated parts of LA County.

E. Committee Reports

a. Community Liaisons:

- i. Randall Winters - Southern Oaks: Nothing to report.
- ii. Brian Toque – Westridge: Attending the meeting, were 2 representatives from the Westridge HOA – including Gary Morgan, President of the Westridge HOA
 - 1. Brian and Paul attended the Westridge HOA meeting on April 5 – the meeting conflicts with the West Ranch Town Council scheduled meeting time. It is the goal of the West Ranch Town Council to encourage open communications across the West Ranch communities – and that the last meeting, and the attendance at the Council Meeting is a big step to achieving better communication.
 - 2. Westridge HOA is responsible for 1048 homes.
 - 3. Gary introduced to the Town Council an issue of major concern to the Westridge HOA – the plan for the Privatization of TPC Golf Course. The predefined requirements were met – and the intent is for the Course to become a private course. Westridge HOA intends to oppose the privatization of the Course – and is looking to obtain support in this opposition from the Council.
 - a. About \$1M per year of HOA funds are spent for joint maintained property.
 - b. Paul Ash has copies of the letters – and will work with all to get meetings scheduled to review the numbers, the requirements, and try to achieve an acceptable compromise for all. This is something that would be fast-tracked.
 - c. According to information provided – the course could go private as soon as 9 to 12 months from now.
- iii. Chuck O’Connell – Sunset Pointe / Enclave: Comments related to the quick response of County personnel to address the graffiti.

- iv. Stevenson Ranch HOA: Numerous complaints of reckless / dangerous skateboarding on streets in Stevenson Ranch. There are no specific laws on this that the CHP can enforce.
 - 1. A team to be assembled – Ron Mechsner, Betty Griffin, and SR HOA Security Committee to get together with Supervisor Antonovich’s Justice Deputy to determine options / action steps to address this before there is a serious injury.
- b. Bylaws Committee:
 - i. Election Standards and Information
 - 1. Election Day defined as July 4th – at Richard Rioux Park. We are still evaluating the possibility of weekend polls. If this does take place – they will occur in either Southern Oaks or Westridge or both. The details are to be determined and updated when complete.
 - 2. 3 Seats will be up for election. The other 4 seats will run for re-election next year. 2 Year terms.
 - a. The 3 seats are – the seats held by the 2 appointed replacements (Ron Mechsner, Brian Toqe), and Paul Ash.
 - 3. The timeline will be pushed out a little bit – but there is a plan application cut off of 6/1/06 (\$300 fee required with the application). This cut off is needed to ensure time to get the announcements into The Signal.
 - 4. Randal Winter made a motion to accept the Election information as defined. Brian Toqe seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 5 – 0 vote.
 - c. Public Safety & Security:
 - i. LA County Sheriff – Sgt. Wallace
 - 1. Major effort underway to ID / stop the tagging / graffiti that is underway.
 - 2. Earlier in the day, 70 deputies raided 60 locations throughout the Santa Clarita Valley in a probationary sweep – including 6 in Stevenson Ranch that resulted in 12 arrests (3 in Stevenson Ranch) on a variety of charges including weapons possession. Most of those arrested were juveniles.
 - 3. Crime stats for the West Ranch communities are up from the previous month – School Spring Break a contributory factor. Vehicle thefts up – most between midnight and 6am – cars on the street / in driveways with valuables in plain view the main targets.
 - d. Government Relations
 - i. Officers from the Westridge HOA were asked to join the West Ranch Town Council Government Relations Committee.

- ii. Paul Ash reported on the status of the Homeless Shelter Task Force. 2 Meetings held on the issue to date. Paul discussed the specifics of the Shelter's size and dates of operation. The goal is a permanent location for those dates – non-residential area. One subcommittee of the Task Force tasked with investigating locations.
 - 1. 178 People used the Shelter in the 2005-6 seasons. 3339 total bed / nights – including those who were put into hotel rooms. Majority of attendees from the Santa Clarita Valley – only 13 from outside the Valley.
 - 2. Most are not 'hard core' homeless. There were only 15 Police calls all season related to actions / issues with residents of the Homeless Shelter at the Homeless Shelter.
- iii. Paul Ash reported, and provided copies of a letter to the West Ranch Town Council from a property owner who states that the Lyons Canyon developed by DR Horton will land lock their property. County will investigate – but believed that no property is being landlocked.

F. Old Business

- a. No old business to address.

G. Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 pm.