

OSO GRANDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting
October 25, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
Bear Canyon Senior Center

Present: Board members: Alicia Q., Becky Tays, Francisco Osuna, Bruce Bisulco, Beth Baker, Ed Baker, Kathryn Jackson, Carolyn Kelly (recorder); and 15 other attendees

1. Commander Rowe & Lieutenant Gonzales of APD:

*Commander Rowe is the new Foothills Area commander and has been with APD for 16 years. His goals for our area emphasize quality of service and development of youth programs in the community.

*Lieutenant Gonzales is the swing-shift lieutenant for the area. He distributed packets of crime prevention tip sheets to all participants and reviewed the latest crime statistics for our neighborhood (primarily 10 burglaries since January, 2012). Additionally, he offered the following suggestions for residents:

- Do not leave garage doors open, and do not leave your garage door opener in your car
- Lock car doors, doors to garage and house, and windows
- Acknowledge, from a distance, that you are home when someone rings your doorbell
- Solicitors are only allowed from 8:00 a.m.-sunset
- Call 242-COPS for suspicious activity, loud parties, illegal parkers, drag racing, etc.
- Call 911 for emergencies (fight in progress, prowler on premises, shots fired, etc.)
- We can call APD for an app't. to check out our home security needs
- Lieutenant Gonzales' direct phone # & email: 553-2210, ndgonzales@cagq.gov
- Call Jill Garcia at Foothills Command to request more park patrols

*Alicia handed out a sheet of information from Jill Garcia with some of the same information as above, as well as listing 311 as a resource to report graffiti, broken playground equipment, and issues with weeds, animals, etc.

2. Treasurer's Report (Bruce Bisulco):

*We currently have \$499.51 in the treasury.

*Alicia discussed the income and expenses summary that was provided to attendees.

3. Volunteers' Report (Alicia Q.):

Alicia discussed the summary of volunteer hours and donations that was provided to attendees. A total of 483 volunteer hours was expended by Board members and other association members on meetings, park/natural space projects, and the picnic; \$739.00 was donated and included paper, mileage, refreshments, picnic supplies & food, etc.

4. District 8 Coalition Report (Frank Osuna, representative):

The District 8 Coalition consists of 33 neighborhoods and discusses topics or programs of importance to neighborhoods—particularly those about which the City would like to distribute

information. Recently, the City's recycling program (due to start city-wide by the first of the year) and crime prevention were discussed.

5. Parks & Rec. Advisory Board (Becky Tays):

Becky is District 8's representative on this City advisory board and was recently appointed for a second term. The Board meets to discuss a variety of issues related to the parks, medians, pools, etc. She can take our issues of concern to the Board, as well as have input about what happens in our district. Because of her position, she and Alicia have been able to highlight some of our concerns about the natural space, e.g., decrease and destruction of native plants, and come up with some ideas for addressing those issues.

6. Summer Picnic Report (Beth Baker):

*Approximately 150 people attended

*Received donations from Wells Fargo, Albertsons (on Juan Tabo & Candelaria), Dion's, and El Patron; also received \$51.00 in donations from attendees

7. Signage Report (Ed Baker):

New, and additional, signs were created for announcing our meetings. All agreed that they look great and are placed in areas where most residents can easily see them.

8. Traffic Signage at El Oso Grande Park (Carolyn Kelly):

*Board members worked with several City officials to get the southern curb on Osuna between Purcell and Edwards designated as "no parking." There had been longstanding problems with safety, security, and nuisance activities in that area. There has been a noticeable decrease in those activities since the designation.

*The City installed several signs along the curb on Osuna, advising park users that they can park in the parking lot on the south side of the park. That lot, often nearly empty during busy sports events, is now filling up a bit more—which helps in keeping some cars off of side streets or in illegal zones.

9. Juan Tabo Median (Alicia Q.):

Alicia and Becky provided input at a City planning meeting for landscaping the median on Juan Tabo, between Spain and Montgomery. Alicia will follow up with the City, if necessary, to ensure that the plants are properly watered.

10. Adopt-a-Park & Park Clean-up Day (Beth Baker):

*Beth is an OGNA volunteer at the park and is trying to establish more communication with Parks & Rec. about our park. She reports issues about broken branches, unsafe areas, etc. to them.

***SATURDAY, NOV. 10TH, 9AM-12 is a clean-up day for the park and natural space.** All interested residents should meet at the playground area and bring whatever tools they might need to pick up trash and dog poop, trim broken branches, etc. Refreshments will be provided by the Association.

11. Natural Space Revitalization (Alicia Q.):

*The natural space that is adjacent to the park is comprised of 10 acres: 3 are privately owned, 3 are leased by the Water Authority, and 4 belong to Parks and Rec. In recent years, there has been a marked decrease in healthy native plants, due largely to drought and vandalism.

*Alicia and Becky have suggested that we begin an Adopt-a-Native project, which would involve matching a donated native plant to a volunteer who would watch over it. Alicia has already worked with someone from the Native Plant Society to identify plants and optimum placement, and she has planted several plants in those areas.

*Alicia and Becky have also been developing a proposal to be given to Parks & Rec. with suggestions on closing off “renegade” trails through the area and developing more appropriately placed trails.

12. Oso Grande Real Estate Property Values & Sales (Becky Tays):

Becky, who is with Casa Linda Realty, provided information about property values and recent home sales in the area.

13. OGNA Board Nominations and Elections (Alicia Q.):

*Seven current Board members were nominated to continue serving on the Board, and there was one nomination from the floor for an additional member (Richard Cooley).

*Nominations were seconded.

*A vote was conducted with 22 of 23 voters positively affirming the nominations of these eight members.

*The 2012 Board will consist of: Alicia Q., Becky Tays, Carolyn Kelly, Ed Baker, Beth Baker, Francisco Osuna, Bruce Bisulco, and Richard Cooley.

*The Board will meet in November to vote on officers.

14. OGNA Membership Q&A/Comments (Alicia Q.):

1. Q: Is it legal to park cars in yards? A: The Board responded that it believed it was legal, but they will follow up with the City.
2. Suggestion from member to see if a Bear Canyon Senior Center computer instructor could help us start and maintain a website for the Association.