



Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association

Notes from the President

This month's meeting will be dedicated to having fun while playing BINGO and having a POTLUCK DINNER (see the pictures below from previous events).

Bring your favorite potluck dish and we'll set it all out. Let's see what our favorite dish is then enjoy cake in a air conditioned room.

Please take the time to join us for this meeting.

Michael



SONA General Meeting July 8, 2010

6:45 PM

Game Night And Potluck

This is an opportunity to catch up and have fun while enjoying different foods prepared by your neighbors. We will start off by playing bingo for assorted prizes followed by a potluck dinner

Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Association meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Sherman Oaks Community Center, 1800A Fruitdale Ave Room 1. SJ CA 95128

Our Board of Directors meets the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm in the same room

Notes and News

Membership Dues and Donations

Those of you on our email list have probably received a note that you can now pay your dues via PayPal online. You can also add a donation if you like. If you are not on our E-list, now is the time to join. Your information stays in house and is never released to anybody. We simply send you electronic versions of the newsletter and also update you on meetings and events that happen outside the time frame for inclusion in our newsletter. You will never receive a phone call or solicitation. And, our E-list is going to be part of our long term goals for connecting neighbor to neighbor.

New and Renewing Members

Congrats and thank you to new and renewing members. Bill & Lea Adams, Lisa Steingart, Susan Price & Victor Jang, Betty & Bob Slater, Patricia Wolf, Jussi & Lena Rajna, Shabbir & Jumana Latif, Lois Silva, Carolene & Anthony Giluso, Layne Kylwin & Steve Kline

San Jose City College

The most recent Draft Supplemental Environmental Report will have closed the public comment period by the time you receive this. The Board of Trustees will meet to discuss certifying the DSEIR in July. SONA compiled a response as did several local residents and the Burbank/Del Monte NAC.

The current DSEIR attempts to fold in all existing or underway projects to clean up past issues. The timeline for the DSEIR is short because the campus intends to initiate a new DSEIR for the future improvements as required by state law. Per law, the campus must have a long range plan in place.

There are several issues with the current DSEIR, including traffic impacts. You can find all info on SONA's response on our website.

Highway 280 Metering Project

Board President Michael LaRocca along with Board members Steve Kline and Randi Kinman recently attended a meeting with the State's Caltrans Department, San Jose's Department of Transportation and the Valley Transportation Authority to review the plans for metering Highway 280 between Bascom and 10th/11th Streets. You may have seen detour signs, construction equipment and mysterious pavement markings along the exits. The metering project will regulate the number of cars accessing the freeway at the same time. This keeps freeway traffic moving without start and stop issues. The concern for local residents was how this would affect our surface streets. Some local ramps will be widened to two lanes. Meters will be installed far enough down the ramps to ensure traffic does not back up onto surface streets. The metering project will complete construction in the Summer 2011 period. SONA board members asked for extensive traffic count analysis prior to turning on the metering lights. This will allow us to completely analyze the existing traffic patterns as well as following changes.

Meters can be adjusted to accommodate high volumes. When traffic is at peak, the meters allow higher numbers of cars to go through.

Summer Cooling Stations

While we have had a mild start to summer, we can count on things heating up. Most homes in SONA are not equipped with air conditioning. That doesn't mean you can't find relief. The City of San Jose operates "cooling stations" at community centers and libraries, giving you and your family a break from the heat. Spend a day, afternoon or evening in a facility you've already paid for. For more information, visit the city's website at <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/> or call.

535-3570.

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SONA's newsletter is published monthly and distributed to almost 1500 residences. It is partially funded by a City of San Jose CAP Grant. All ad copy is due by the 15th of each month. Our all-volunteer group welcomes your participation and comments.

SONA Newsletter Editor: Randi Kinman

Friends of Bascom on the Move

As we go to print, the City Council is deciding how to balance the budget and move forward for the next year. No matter what side of the budget issue you fall on, there is no doubt that promises made to our community and tens of thousands of residents were broken by the failure to ensure the Bascom Library opens on schedule.

This will not mean that residents give up on the library. It just means that tactics and strategy will change for the next few months.

The Bascom site was designed and constructed with the idea this could be a self sufficient site, generating power from solar panels and revenue from the on-site café.

A “Friends of Bascom Library” group has been formed to establish the long term connection between the community and library system. The Friends group has also connected with other groups around the city.

Friends groups coordinate volunteer efforts, work with staff to develop programs and raise funds to supplement services. Typical fund raising comes from events and sales, including the sale of used books donated by the community.

Our Friends group has already designed a logo and printed t-shirts that will kick start the fund raising drive while providing a great visual enhancement when residents appear before our city council.

Residents have been appearing at numerous meetings for the last few months to try and push our council into opening the new facility. If you are interested in joining the effort, please contact board member Steve Kline.

The Bascom Community Center was intended to be the District 6 full service community center hub. The Bascom Library was added to the site when placement of the District 1 library proved to be too difficult to implement. The site has been under construction for quite some time and is due to be completed in early Fall 2010. The current budget proposal could have ensured that the facility

opened on time, or delayed for a short period. Instead, there is no schedule for opening the facility in 2011 and possible through 2012.



SONA Summer Fun

SONA residents will miss the fireworks downtown again this year, but that won't stop us from having some fun.

Our summer potluck (see page 1) is always a big hit and a chance to meet neighbors when we aren't debating issues or solving problems. This casual night of family fun gives you a break from the summer heat while we enjoy a potluck and play games. This event has proven to be popular for kids and adults alike.

Our August meeting will be held at St. Elizabeth Park. We can walk to our neighborhood park, play games and just hang out having fun.

Hopefully you were able to attend the Rose, White and Blue Parade on the Alameda on the 4th of July along with the barbeque at Cahill Park, but if not, San Jose still offers a great variety.

Music in the Park runs at Plaza de Caesar Chavez for free every Thursday evening. Hop on Lightrail and spend an evening listening to music and playing in the water.

July 10th and 11th is a great weekend to take Lightrail downtown for the Livestrong San Jose Challenge event at the Center for Performing Arts on the Alameda. Lance Armstrong's team will be bringing a health expo, kids events and activities for the whole family to town while challenging our community to organize groups and raise funds to fight cancer. For more info go to www.livestrong.org

Our local libraries offer a variety of programs for kids and adults ranging from game time to educational programs. For those of you who have not visited our local libraries lately, you'll also find videos, music cds and DVDs on the shelves next to books and periodicals. Go to www.sjlibrary.org for a schedule of events.

Thanks to some last minute moves, the City's summer aquatics program is still running this summer at six locations around town. Take a day off and visit Almaden Lake or one of the pools you can find on the website at www.sanjoseca.org/prns

One of the best free places of entertainment is a farmer's market. While browsing the stands and sampling the wares you will find a group of people dedicated to bringing you the freshest products and educating you at the same time. They often have entertainment, so you can enjoy a variety of music or watch demonstrations.

Go for a picnic at the Guadalupe Park, visit a rose garden or a park...enjoy your summer.

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