



Santa Fe Springs Sister City Committee
Town Center Hall – Meeting Room 1
Monday, June 4, 2018

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Peggy Radoumis called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – FRANCIS CARBAJAL
3. ROLL CALL – MICHELLE SMITH, COMMUNITY SERVICES SUPERVISOR

Members Present: Debra Cabrera, Francis Carbajal, A.J. Hayes, Susan Johnston, Jacqueline Martinez, Marcella Obregon, Beverly Radoumis, Peggy Radoumis, Mary Reed, Laurie Rios, Martha Villanueva, Jeannette Wolfe, Doris Yarwood, Charlotte Zevallos, Manny Zevallos

Members Absent: Andrea Lopez

Staff: Michelle Smith, Community Services Supervisor/Executive Secretary

Council Liaison: Jay Sarno, Mayor

Guests: None

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – ANDREA LOPEZ
 - Nothing to report.

5. APPROVAL OF APRIL 2, 2018 MINUTES*

A motion was made by Manny Zevallos, and seconded by Marcella Obregon, to approve the Minutes of April 2, 2018 as amended. The motion was carried unanimously.

Section 8: OLD BUSINESS, Item c, amend to read:

“Vice Chairperson Andrea Lopez opened the floor to discuss ideas for fundraisers.”

Section 12: Future Agenda Items, Item a, amend to read:

“Candy Bar Fundraising”

Section 13: Announcements, amend to read:

“Resident Mary Jo Haller passed away this morning.”

6. COUNCIL LIASON REPORT

Mayor Jay Sarno reported on the following:

- Mayor Sarno thanked Peggy Radoumis for attending the Council Meeting and expressing her thoughts on the Fireworks Booth rules. The City has removed the tier system for awarding booth locations which seemed to draw a positive reaction. Mayor Sarno encouraged the community to attend Council Meetings in order to voice their opinions, stating this is the best way to be heard and get things changed.
- Mayor Sarno along with several councilmembers attended a conference in Las Vegas last month to look for developers interested in Santa Fe Springs. The corner of Norwalk and Telegraph and the Sculpture Garden are two areas with a lot of interest. Most of the new developments are mixed use, which is retail on the lower level and housing on the upper level. This helps to support the businesses who have lost customers due to on-line sales. The redevelopment of the Promenade is still in progress.
- The Council is looking at options to better provide water for Santa Fe Springs. The City is currently purchasing water from Metropolitan Water District which is likely to double its rate over the next year. A temporary solution is to purchase water from Whittier and Downey at half the current rate we are paying now. The City's goal is to find a viable area in which to establish and test the water and create water wells within the City. This will cost roughly fifteen million dollars. Concerns were voiced about the companies that contaminated the water and if they were financially helping the City decontaminate the water table. Mayor Sarno assured the committee that the company, Fiber-Tech, is taking accountability for and is working on rectifying the problem but it will take time. The City will include a letter informing the citizens about the water issues, increase in pricing and that Santa Fe Springs is absorbing the cost of the increase.
- July 1 will be the beginning of the new fiscal year. The City was able to balance the budget by using one time monies. In order to not cut programs and activities the City will need the 1% sales tax to pass. Mayor Sarno was asked if the company FM3 had signed a contract to survey and educate the residents on the sales tax increase. The projected numbers for the 1% tax increase would bring in between 12-16 million dollars.
 - Manny Zevallos opened a discussion regarding the amount of money being spent on the landscaping within the city and the island medians which have grass, if they were cost efficient and should be removed. Mayor Sarno assured him that the contract was renegotiated and lowered years ago. If the city were to change the design of the medians it would cost millions of dollars to install drought resistant plants or change the theme. Recycled water is used to do most of the water.
 - Mr. Zevallos had questions about the janitorial company that cleans at the fire stations. He suggested that the firemen clean their own facilities.
 - Francis Carbajal was curious as to if the city is in a budget crisis, why are we not experiencing a hiring freeze. Mayor Sarno explained that the city was understaff from the last budget cut in 2009-2010. The

staff has already taken on more responsibilities to make up for the lower staff numbers. Mayor Sarno also explained that 23 employees retired and the city is able to hire into those positions or down grade the positions at a lower wage.

- Peggy Radoumis asked if there would be anything done about the nepotism in the city. Her concern is that family members are working in the same departments, supervising each other, and when positions become available they are being given to family members and not new applicants that are qualified. Mayor Sarno explained that we do hire from the outside but some positions are in-house only because we do have qualified staff that deserve the promotions.

7. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT – PEGGY RADOUMIS

- a. **Independence Day Celebration – Tuesday, July 3, 2018** – The Independence Day Celebration will be held at Los Nietos Park on Tuesday, July 3. Events begin with ‘Soto’ at 4 pm, ceremony at 6:15 pm and the band ‘Chico’ at 7 pm. The fireworks show will begin at 9 pm. More information is provided in the summer quarterly.
- b. **Department of Community Services Reorganization** – With the retirement of JoAnn Madrid and Child Care being run by a private company there is cause to reorganize the Department of Community Services. JoAnn Madrid’s Supervisor position will be downgraded to a Coordinator position. The Child Care will be run by Options for Learning. Heritage Park and Clarke Estate will now be under the supervision of Family and Human Services.
- c. **Heritage Park Café Concessionaire Update** – The Fresh Grill declined the contract to run a café out of Heritage Park.
- d. **Summer concert/movie series at Heritage Park** – The summer concerts and movies will be taking place on Fridays at Heritage Park. Movie titles and bands are listed in the summer quarterly.

8. OLD BUSINESS – PEGGY RADOUMIS

- a. **Pancake Fundraiser/Recap – Peggy Radoumis** – Information handed out to committee. Will be discussed in Section 10: Financial Report.
- b. **Fireworks Booth – Peggy Radoumis** – This year the Sister City Committee was excluded from running a fireworks booth in the city due to not having 20 members. Peggy Radoumis attended a City Council meeting and asked if Sister City could be excluded from the minimum 20 member rule. She was told to remind the council three months before July. Peggy requested that they discuss it at the next council meeting.
- c. **Independence Day – Fundraising, Beverages – Peggy Radoumis** – The youth will sell soda and water. Michelle Smith will check with Health Department to see if we can sell candy bars at Independence Day Celebration.
- d. **Fundraiser Ideas – Peggy Radoumis** – Chairperson Peggy Radoumis opened the floor to discuss ideas for fundraisers. Discussion ensued.
 - a. Casino bus trip - Debra Cabrera reported that the Barona Casino in San Diego will provide a bus free of charge for 5 hours if there is a minimum of

40 guests. If 40 guests are not in attendance or the trip is canceled there is a \$500.00 fee. Peggy Radoumis will check with the Women's Club to make sure their fundraisers do not overlap. Peggy Radoumis will look into Viejas Casino.

9. NEW BUSINESS – PEGGY RADOUMIS

a. **Candy Bar Fundraiser**

Due to some confusion 11 cases of candy bars were purchased instead of boxes. Peggy Radoumis encouraged members to continue selling.

10. FINANCIAL REPORT* - JEANNETTE WOLFE

a. **Bills/Invoices** – Treasurer Jeannette Wolfe distributed the Finance Report for period ending in May 2018 and gave a brief overview of the youth account and the committee account.

Received and filed per Peggy Radoumis.

It was reported that the Pancake Breakfast sold a total of \$1,076 resulting in a profit of \$208 plus \$365 raised in presale tickets sold by the youth.

Jeannette Wolfe began the process of enrolling at the Credit Union.

Jeannette Wolfe will order stamps and checks.

Taxes were filed and received.

Storage has gone up to \$89 per month, \$11 for insurance, \$20 annual fee for a total of \$1,131. A motion was made by Charlotte Zevallos, and seconded by Susan Johnston to pay Extra Space Storage for the annual storage fees.

Jeannette Wolfe would like to purchase a file folder for about \$10 to file the committee paperwork. A motion was made by Peggy Radoumis, and seconded by Susie Johnston to purchase a file folder for no more than \$15.

11. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT – PEGGY RADOUMIS

a. **Young Ambassadors Subcommittee Report** – Peggy Radoumis

There are two students interested in entering.

b. **Navojoa Subcommittee Report** – Peggy Radoumis

Gerardo reported to Francis Carbajal that they are in need of a breathing apparatus, a school bus, and a trash truck. They have three council members running for senate

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – PEGGY RADOUMIS

- a. Incorporation Papers, Mission Statement
- b. Candy Bars
- c. Polo Shirts
- d. Mission Statement
- e. Clothing Drive on July 7
- f. City Yard Sale on June 23

- g. Fundraiser – Casino Trip information. Doris Yarwood reported on Pachanga Casino. \$14 per person.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS – PEGGY RADOUMIS

- Independence Day Celebration assignments for water and soda were read.
- A.J. Hayes suggested that the committee create a mission statement packet to handout to new members and interested parties.
- Women’s Club fashion show is August 12. Tickets are \$25. All money goes to scholarships for kids within Santa Fe Springs.

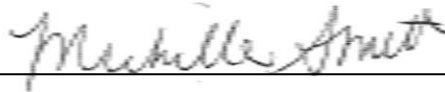
14. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairperson Peggy Radoumis adjourned the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 2, 2018 at the Town Center Hall at 6:30 p.m.



Prepared by:
Amanda Lascano, CSPL III



Michelle Smith, Executive Secretary