

## **Los Paseos Neighborhood Association**

### **General Meeting**

**Thursday September 21, 2023**

**Via ZOOM**

Board members in attendance: Greg Peck, president; Karen Lattin, vice-president; Lynne Steele, secretary; Herb Bowen, Alan Chan and Peter Chen, members at large. (Lynne Steele, secretary, was unable to attend.)

Guest speakers included Arjun Batra, councilmember for D10; Captain Steve Donohue and Sgt. Jeffery Yates from SJPd; Kent-Harris Repass, representing US Representative Panetta's office; Alice Kaufman, from Green Foothills; Sylvia Arenas, County Supervisor for District 1; and Wyman Pang (CERT).

14 additional guests participated through ZOOM.

Greg Peck called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

#### **Introductions**

- The board members and speakers were introduced.
- The minutes of quarterly member General Meetings in March and June were approved.

#### **Arjun Batra, Councilmember, District 10**

- Coming events sponsored by District 10:
  - Shredding Day, Sat. Sept. 30 from 9-12, 590 Shawnee Lane (Victory Outreach lot);
  - Comedy Sports Night, Fri. Oct. 13 at 8 pm, use code "District10" for \$5 discount (5440 Thornwood Dr.);
  - Dumpster Day for Los Paseos, Sat. Oct. 21, 8 am to noon, at LP Elementary (volunteers get first pass at dumpsters – contact Karen Lattin at [VP@lospaseosneighbors.com](mailto:VP@lospaseosneighbors.com)).
- RV Safe Parking site at Santa Teresa VTA has 20 vehicles in place. An effort to remove barriers (registration, insurance, operability) will go to the Council if it passes a legal review. Councilmember Batra commended the Community Advisory Council for their work, and Karen Lattin noted Issa Ajlouny has done a good job leading the CAC.
- A cost/benefit analysis is being done on Emergency Interim Housing site at Via Del Oro. A community meeting will be held in October, with notice to be sent to members with details.
- Leasing of space at Cerone VTA yard off Zanker Rd. for quick-build EIH units was approved by the VTA Board, but question remains on whether all 200 units will be at the same site.

#### **U.S. Representative Panetta's office – Kent-Harris Repass**

- The San Jose office at 841 Blossom Hill Rd. is generally open 9 am to 5 pm, 5 days a week (phone number 408-960-0333). This office should act as a bridge with the Federal Government, helping on any issues with U.S. Federal Agencies.
- The House of Representatives failed to agree on spending for the new fiscal year. Rep. Panetta supports a bipartisan approach to passing the budget.
- Rep. Panetta will be in San Jose on Monday at a round-table meeting with companies on issues related to clean energy and microgrids.

### **SJPD Southern Division - Captain Steve Donohue, Sgt. Jeffrey Yates**

- Captain Donohue gave statistics for the last 90 days: only 10 burglaries (including 3 commercial), 0 robberies, 10 aggravated assaults (3 domestic), and 52 “events”, mostly patrol checks following up on graffiti and other park issues.
- A number of the burglaries were vehicle break ins. Don’t leave anything in a car and don’t leave electronics in the trunk as thieves can “sniff” for Bluetooth connections.
- The neighborhood had a prolific tagger, an identified juvenile who was cited twice. Juvenile Probation determines the penalty, likely restitution of cleanup cost and/or community service.
- Rick Ito, Martin Murphy Principal, spoke on school issues. A different start time vs. LP Elementary reduced traffic congestion. There was some tagging on Back to School Night by non-students. Changed lunch schedule, separating 8<sup>th</sup> graders, improved faculty relations with students. Asked about the gates to track and playing fields, he said he is not aware of any changes planned.
- Captain Donohue gave kudos to Sgt. Yates and his team for the good work they are doing, and noted that he has a full complement of 6 lieutenants in Southern Division.
- Mary Patterson, on the Board of MHU School District, asked for more school resource officer help. Southern Division has only 1 officer.

### **Green Foothills – Alice Kaufman (Policy and Advocacy Director)**

- When San Jose changed Coyote Valley zoning to open space and agriculture, they voted to explore commercial development along Monterey Corridor. This would have to be compatible with protection of Coyote Creek and Coyote Trail.
- Private parcels on east side of Monterey Rd. could be rezoned.
- Issues which may limit development include: area is in a floodplain with proximity to the creek, lack of water and sewer connections, limited traffic circulation on Monterey, and disturbance of wildlife.
- In fall and winter 2023 there will be baseline studies followed by land use proposals. Then it would go to the Planning Commission and City Council.
- A question was raised on a potential solar/battery storage facility on former Spina Farms location in Coyote Valley. Landowner is expected to use state law allowing development for green energy. They would have to apply to the State for the facility and must consult with the local land use authority, which is the City of San Jose.

### **County Supervisor District 1 – Sylvia Arenas**

- County District 1 includes south San Jose and Evergreen, as well as Morgan Hill, San Martin, and Gilroy, with a variety of concerns, including open space and improving roads in unincorporated areas.
- Contact the Office of Supervisor Sylvia Arenas at [district1@bos.sccgov.org](mailto:district1@bos.sccgov.org), or at (408) 299-5010, also Victoria Lamb, Policy Aide at [Victoria.lam01@bos.sccgov.org](mailto:Victoria.lam01@bos.sccgov.org), (408) 299-5014.
- Mental Health and Behavioral Health Dept.: post-pandemic youth are in need of help and the County has resources including crisis contacts. For Crisis & Suicide Prevention Lifeline and Behavioral Health Services, go to <https://bhsc.sccgov.org/get-help>. Recently, the County has received \$10 million to expand Wellness Centers in schools.
- Measure A efforts in the pipeline include 35 permanent supportive housing units for unhoused individuals and families with special needs, including unhoused pregnant women. Also, there are 15 rapid rehousing units for individuals and families with special needs and another 50 units for families at risk of homelessness. It is important to prevent homelessness, but it is taking longer to stabilize families and there is a need for more resources.

### **LPNA Business – Barbara Canup**

- Treasurer's Report: For fiscal year ended 6/30/2023 income was \$4,800 and expenses were \$4,900. Cash on hand at year end was \$980.
- Park volunteers recorded 70 hours for January-June, watering and maintaining planted trees & native garden, monitoring for vandalism, removing graffiti, and meeting with park staff. LPNA will need volunteers to help with park fall cleanup in late October or early November.
- LPNA has new project with grant funding to offer a limited number of free street trees to Los Paseos residents. Watch for the flyer, or contact Barbara at [gardener@lospaseosneighbors.com](mailto:gardener@lospaseosneighbors.com).
- LPNA Board nominations for 2024 are now open, and election will be at December 7 meeting. Send email nominations to any LPNA officer (President@ or VP@ [lospaseosneighbors.com](mailto:lospaseosneighbors.com)). Officer descriptions in Bylaws are at [lospaseosneighbors.com/about/governing-documents](https://lospaseosneighbors.com/about/governing-documents), and biographies are under About/Board-of-Directors.

### **Los Paseos Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) – Wyman Pang**

- LPNA has an Emergency Radio Project to provide communication capability in an emergency.
- In a disaster, cell phone connections and internet may not be available
- Handheld MURS radios are currently distributed to 14 Los Paseos homes, which will communicate with a command post within the neighborhood.
- LPNA also has 5 GMRS and 4 amateur radio licensed operators able to communicate outside the neighborhood.
- Join the radio team by contacting [lospaseosneighbors.com/about/contact-us](https://lospaseosneighbors.com/about/contact-us).
- 9 neighbors have received 20 hours of CERT emergency training, including in-person skills training.
- Sign up for CERT training at [SJNCERT.org](https://SJNCERT.org).

### **LPNA Email Communication Upgrade – Greg Peck**

- LPNA is upgrading the email list for a more modern system, Constant Contact, with better functionality and security. This is used by many organizations like LPNA. Greg will send out emails to the list with more information. We hope to complete the migration by the end of October.

### **Future Meetings**

Next General meeting is Thursday, December at 7:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM