

MINUTES OF THE SOUTH BRENTWOOD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, March 22, 2012 7:00 P.M.

President Marilyn Krell opened the meeting. She thanked Debbie Simmons and Tenth Church of Christ, Scientist for hosting the meeting. She also thanked board members Elyse Arbour, Pam Taylor, Debbie Simmons, Roz Gamble and Ray Keller for their help in planning and organizing the meeting.

Marilyn noted that SBRA mailed 5000 postcards to notify the community of the meeting. Many attendees acknowledged that they attended because they received the postcard. Many in the audience were first time attendees.

Marilyn noted that since there was not adequate time in our formal program to hear from everyone who had important projects SBRA wanted the community to know about, an hour was set aside for residents to speak with them before the formal meeting began. She thanked the following:

- Mott Smith who conducted the San Vicente Parking Study;
- Robin Keefe for her work with BookEnds;
- Mark Sleeper whose Giving Spirit provides backpacks filled with necessities for the Homeless;
- Tauhid McNish who represented *Walk for Warriors*, taking place this Memorial Day, which will benefit our veterans;
- Brittney Thomas, Coordinator of Volunteer Services at the new California Veterans Home; Kay Brown, Activity Coordinator and CA Veterans Home resident Stephen Rosmarin;
- Nancy Freedman, who has been spearheading a fundraising drive to save the Coral Trees on San Vicente;
- Judie Hulett whose Brentwood Network is an email network created to exchange information on local crime and report suspicious activity/crime;
- Mike Friedman who created alertcommunity.com;
- Mike Sturja, CERT, Community Emergency Response Team Training;
- Jeff Edelstein who brought many products from SOS Survival;
- Ann Garrett and Heather Bleemers who presented information and answered questions about the Green Hollow Square project;
- Doug Metzler who presented information and answered questions about the Bergamot Transit Village Station project in Santa Monica;
- Jim Kennedy who presented information and answered questions about the Expo Line Light Rail project.

County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, who is serving his last year in this office, spoke about transportation, development and VA issues. He also took questions from the audience.

Marylin thanked the many businesses and individuals who donated money, clothes and services after the Gorham fire last fall. They included:

Joseph Lalezarian of Gorham Ventures, Fr. Ben Le of St. Martin of Tours Church, and Don Keegan and Dennis Hinman of the Knights of Columbus for their very generous cash contributions. And for the delicious early Thanksgiving dinner at St. Martin of Tours which was much appreciated.

Hotels which offered free or reduced cost hotel stays to the displaced residents: Mark Bacceria and Scott Gordon of the Hotel Angeleno; JC Champaneri of the Brentwood Inn; and Reg Rochanbeau of the Luxe Hotel which also offered mattresses at their discount;

Michael Cohenzad of The Wiseman Group gave 6 weeks of free housing to one of the tenants.

The following businesses offered discounts: Fazio cleaners (Steve Fazio and Nicole Drapkin); Bed Bath and Beyond (Lisa Terry and Alan LaGuardia); and Ashley's Furniture (Meghan Pendleton).

Marylin also thanked Vicente Foods and Brentwood Printers for their donations to our meeting.

We received generous cash donations from the following residents: Eva Boone Hussey, Marie Lewis, Vikram and Upma Budhraj, Bobbi Feinstein, Ric Lewis-Fitzgerald family, Kim & Keith Allen-Neisen, Flo Chapgier, Joe Smurda, & Nancy Freedman.

Nancy Freedman handled the donations through Brentwood 90049.

Andrea Martin, Wendy Sacks and Lorna Herf donated maternity clothes and baby items;

We also received gift cards for the children but the donor asked for anonymity so the children would not feel obligated to thank them...but the children sent thank you notes anyway and asked Marylin to forward them to the donor.

Elin Schwartz and Jeff Hall helped with contacts; and Jeff Hall published a wonderful article about the fire in the *Brentwood News*.

Marylin then thanked and introduced the firefighters from Station 19, who were on duty the night of the Gorham fire. Battalion Chief Jim Gaffney and Captain Mark Harrison spoke briefly.

Michelle Goldstein, whose family was displaced by the fire, emotionally thanked the firefighters and the community.

Marylin presented the firefighters with a certificate of appreciation, created by former SBRA president Marie Lewis, and a gift card.

Senior Lead Officer Phillip Enbody reported on crime in South Brentwood and took questions. Marylin noted that Officer Enbody will be retiring later in the year and presented him with a gift card from Recreational Equipment Inc. (REI) Santa Monica, which is a premier outdoor gear and sporting goods store, on behalf of SBRA.

Marylin thanked and recognized the SBRA Board for 2011.

She noted that the following officers were elected at the SBRA Board meeting in March:

President: Marylin Krell

Past President: Jackie Raymond

First Vice President: Pam Taylor

Second Vice President: Elyse Arbour

Secretary: Debbie Simmons

Treasurer: Roz Gamble

A new slate of board members was proposed:

Board of Directors:

Marylin Krell, Jackie Raymond, Pam Taylor, Elyse Arbour, Debbie Simmons, Roz Gamble, Len Blum, Lauren Cole, Nita Cosat, Sue Hirsch, Ray Keller and Jason Zivich

Advisory Board:

Laurel Davidson, Sara Melzer, Andy Raymond, Mark Sleeper, and Margery Zweizig Atkinson

Ric Levis-Fitzgerald - Data Base manager and Gordon Treharne - legal counsel

It was moved and seconded that the new Board be approved. The vote was unanimously in favor and the new Board was approved.

Roz Gamble reminded everyone to pay their SBRA dues which help cover expenses such as our website, meetings and printing costs.

Dues are \$35 per Individual or Single Family Home; \$20 for Seniors; Sponsor: \$50-\$99 and Benefactor: \$100 plus.

Dues for Condos or Apartments: 15 Units or Less: \$50; 16 Units or more: \$75

Kasey Shuda, acting manager of the I-405 Sepulveda Pass Improvements Project, spoke about upcoming work on the Wilshire on/off ramps to the 405. She also took questions from the audience.

David Holtzman, president of the Los Angeles chapter of the League of Women Voters, spoke about the upcoming elections, including changes to rules for party primaries.

Mike Feuer, who is completing his last year as our representative to the California State Assembly, spoke and took questions from the audience. He emphasized that he still has many goals to fulfill before his retirement. Mike will be running for LA City Attorney next year.

Nita Cosat won the raffle for the Two Person Emergency Kit supplied by SOS Products.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Simmons, Secretary