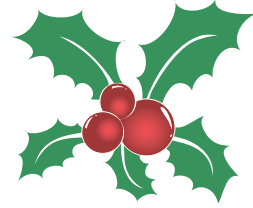


Pona December Meeting
12/17/09

Meeting began by Rick Doyle at 7PM



1) Christmas Surprise:



Rick gave a history of our area 5 association. Last year we didn't have a place to meet until Rev. Olsen said for us to come to the Lutheran Church. Rev. Olsen is a community member who has been partly responsible for setting up the Sunrise Community Food Closet in our area which is managed by many churches in our area. The food bank is located at the Lutheran Church and many of the neighboring churches participate in donations as well as people helpers. 200 turkeys were given out before Thanksgiving.

As a result of our partnership with the Lutheran Church the following happened: In Oct. we mentioned we needed a VP and we had a volunteer, Richard Karp. He has been able to get permission from the REACH group to use our Neighborhood Improvement Project funds (NIP) as suggested by Bruce Hackbart to use \$500 from NIP funds for gift cards to families who need a "hand up". Richard Karp got the approval of the REACH Board. NIP funds are not usually used for this purpose and Rich got it approved!



Rick met with Nick Garcia, the marketing person at SAM's club, and Rick asked him if we could get a discount on gift card for our families. Mr. Garcia gave Rick some paperwork to fill out for SAM's money. Rick and Richard had to have the papers signed by the REACH board. Larry Turner came to our meeting tonight to represent SAM's club. He stated that SAM's Club is here to help the community and they were delighted to be told what the community needs.

SAM's club presented Area 5 with a \$1000 check. Pastor Olsen now has 60 gift cards to award to needy people for Christmas.

- SAM's Club said they would have more money available next year!
- More good news: we are now the number 1 active in the neighborhood associations.
- Rev. Olsen introduced the President of the Lutheran congregation.

2) Keynote speaker - Mayor James Shelby
He complimented Rick and Pastor Olsen.

Doug Ose asked James to run for mayor. He has been on the council since it started. They decided on a Community Center and good police protection. Citrus Heights worked to have their own police department. "If you control the service, you control the cost" and they is what they did. There were high quality people hired. People get tickets, but they respond with a positive attitude. The Council has had issues based on what is good for Citrus Heights, not a personal level. If you want something for the city then you need to bring it to the council and have several people at the meeting backing you.

The Mayor explained that he is not the mayor now and that city council members trade this job. He also explained that he could not be at the tree lighting ceremony this year because his wife got them tickets to go to Hawaii.

Mr. Shelby proceeded to tell us a lot of improvements which have been made to CH since it became a city. Here are some highlights:

- Auburn is being worked on. This street will have all utilities placed underground.
- We had to make curves and improvements to sidewalks etc.
- We have a 14.1 square mile city and we have 10 neighborhood associations. We position the city to make people want to live here.
- Greenback has been made into 3 lanes since we have been a city.
- Stock Ranch has had the development of Costco and Walmart.
- Stock Ranch still needs to be finished - a restaurant, etc.
- We have our own police department and new police station. (They have a 5 min response time). The new police station has been completely paid for.
- We have reduced crime with police community outreach.
- We have strong leadership and management.
- 30.8 million dollar budget in spite of the fact that our property tax money goes to the County of Sacramento for many years.
- CH lives within it means! We have a reserve, instead of debt.
 - The community center cost 16 million and we paid cash for it. (It is a completely "green building").
 - Employees manage multiple functions.
 - In 2009, Henry Tingle, our City Manager was named "Public Administrator of the Year" by the American Society for Public Administration, Sacramento Chapter.
 - Traffic safety has been improved there were only two bad accidents last year. We have 8 red light cameras.
 - San Juan High School has been improved with the help of some of CH money.
- Sports Authority is going in in Birdcage at the previous Room Source building.
- Chick-fil-a will be going in.
- CA Fitness has come in.
- Greenback has had the signals re-synched



- We have received about 10 million in stimulus money.
- The City Council has purchased 18 condos on Syanora. They will be destroyed and the space will be used for single homes in order to reduce the criminal element in that area.
- We are better off today than we were 12 years ago.
- Most neighborhood associations have to have fund raisers to get money. We are given \$3500 from our city council

- Some other information:

- The new CH Community Center is grand for the city.
It is an entirely green building and community members, etc can rent rooms in the building. It costs \$1500 for the main room and this is a lot less than many surrounding places. San Juan School District has rented a space for their administrators meetings. There have already been 50 events reserved in the new building which hasn't even opened yet!



There are water fountain in the back of the CH Community Center for kids birthday parties. There is a senior center with a fireplace. There will be a full time staff involved.

- One employee suggested furlows instead of cutting retirement, but the council lives for the community and felt that would affect the community whereas the health benefits would affect the staff.
- Some people are begging on the street and that is an issue before the Council. They are starting to work toward neighborhood watch in several areas. Look out for each other as well as those in bad circumstances.
- Hopefully, by summer time the street project improvements will be done.

3) NIP funds for Area 5 - we spent \$500 and we have \$3000 left for the year.

We need suggestions to spend some more money. Jon Paul looked into the suggestion of a 1/2 court basketball court at Brooktree Park. Tennis would take priority to basketball, but perhaps a court could be put in. We could put something up for about \$1200. Our association was asked what they thought about a basketball court. The park closes at dusk and there is no lights. One neighbor was concerned about kids playing late at night. If issues call the park security at 353-1823. The parking lot was suggested for this purpose instead of the tennis courts. Money is to be spent by the end of the financial year. Funds are there to improve our neighborhood.

Jon Paul added that his house was vandalized; he thinks because the lights were on all night.

5) Karen Moriwaki on Dunmore Way, has been displaying the street sign "How Fast Should I Drive Where Your Children Play". She found that people slowed down just to read the sign. She felt that the sign should be moved to different areas of the yard to keep people reading it. Overall...it's effective.

6) Scott Farnsworth our POP officer.

A new gang just popped up and hit Skycrest Elementary. It is a division of the Bloods. They are trying to get information about them.

"Citrus Heights is a really good town" and the CH Police are being proactive to keep it that way.

- Questions: Will video surveillance stand up in court? - Yes. It would need to have the date and time or you report it. It would be used to develop the case.

- One neighbor brought 2 teddy bears for the police. They carry them to give to kids who are innocent victims in the area where a crime is committed.

- The person who we received an email alert about turned out to be a legitimated salesperson who was overly aggressive.

Meeting was adjourned at 9PM