



CIELO VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes – September 12, 2019

Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance and Introduction of those in attendance

The Cielo Vista Neighborhood Association's monthly meeting was called to order on September 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Martita's Lunchbox Restaurant. President Mike Adjemian welcomed all members, guests and elected officials. Following the pledge of allegiance, the meeting attendees identified themselves and stated their street address.

Guest Speakers

Dora Elkabachi, Partnership Program Coordinator ESD, City of El Paso, introduced herself and reviewed the services that fall under the jurisdiction of the ESD (Environmental Services Department). The services they provide include garbage and recycling bin repair/replacement, citizen collection sites, code enforcement, garbage collections, vector control and recycling. Ms. Elkabachi reviewed the availability of a new ESD APP that allows customers to request a garbage bin repair, report a code violation, a missed garbage collection and other ESD services via their mobile phone or desktop. At the conclusion of her presentation she introduced Jimmy Smith, Code Compliance Manager, who explained the function of the Vector Control Department and provided details on the work being done to address the mosquito problem. He passed out literature and packets with items to help with prevention of the West Nile and Zika viruses.

George de la Torre, Manager of Strategic Communications & Community Engagement, El Paso Electric, reviewed details of a Federal Tax Credit, a Fuel Refund and some initiatives that had been filed with the Public Utility Commission of Texas. These initiatives included: A Transmission Cost Recovery Factor, a Distribution Cost Recovery Factor and Community Solar Expansion. He also discussed plans to replace existing electric meters with smart meters and the status of EPE's agreement to be purchased by the Infrastructure Investments Fund. Mr. De La Torre was made an honorary CVNA Member and presented with a CVNA shirt.

Cassandra Hernandez, District 3 City Representative, provided information on an idea she presented to City Council to rename the Sun Metro Eastside Transit Center to the "Arturo Benavides Transit Center". Mr. Benavides was a retired Sun Metro driver and one of the 22 people killed in the mass shooting at the Cielo Vista Walmart. A petition for those in favor of renaming the transit center was circulated for signatures. She then discussed the upcoming November 5th bond election and reviewed the various Departments and services that would benefit from the funds if the bond proposition is approved. She also provided details on the status of the November 5th District 3 special election to fill her seat.

Cesar Blanco, State Representative, District 76, began by stating that 1,400 bills had passed during the 86th Legislature. Some of the areas that the bills addressed include: Investments in Health Care for Women and Children, Health Care, Economic Development and Tourism, Driver's License Program, Improvements to Public Education, Taxpayer Protections, Sexual Assault and Trafficking Prevention, Mental Health Resources, Emergency Preparedness. He spoke about the mass shooting at the Cielo Vista Walmart, the Texas Governor's response and the creation of a Domestic Terrorism Task Force.

Business for Discussion

Unveiling of New CVNA Banner & Fliers

Mike introduced the new CVNA banner and fliers as well the new CVNA motto "The Strength of its People, the Power of Community".



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Presentation to Officer Patrick Martinez & Family

Mike presented Officer Martinez with the additional gift card donations that had been collected and a Burges shirt and cap. Officer Martinez expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone in attendance.

Neighborhood Summit

The 15th Annual Neighborhood Summit will be September 14th, 8 am – 3 pm, at the Fort Bliss Centennial Banquet Conference Center, 11199 Sgt. E. Churchill St. Mike encouraged everyone at the meeting to attend the Summit.

CVNA 15th Anniversary and National Night Out

Mike reviewed the planned activities of the 2019 National Night Out and CVNA 15th Anniversary event that will be held on October 2nd from 6 pm to 8 pm at Ponder Park, an invitation to the event was extended to everyone in attendance.

National Coffee with a Cop Event 10-2 @ 9:00 am Luby's

Mike shared the purpose of the Coffee with a Cop Event and extended an invitation to everyone in attendance. The event will take place Wednesday October 2nd, 9 am at the Luby's Restaurant, 1188 Hawkins.

ESD's Neighborhood Cleanup Saturday Sept. 28th, 2019

This year's ESD Neighborhood Cleanup is Saturday, September 28 from 9-12, followed by lunch for the volunteers' at Cicis Pizza. Mike asked those interested in volunteering to be at Ponder Park by 8:30 am.

August Meeting Minutes

Armando Renteria asked the membership to review the August 8, 2019 meeting minutes. There were no corrections or additions, the minutes were accepted and approved by the membership.

Treasurer's Report

Armando Renteria presented the Treasurer's report with a September 12, 2019 ending bank balance of \$570.00, the report was accepted and approved by the membership. Armando also made a motion to have the previous CVNA Treasurer's name (Carlos Martinez) removed from the CVNA Wells Fargo checking account, the motion to have the name removed was approved by the membership.

Open Forum

Elsa Chacon provided details of a Women on the Fairway "Fore" Education Golf Tournament sponsored by LULAC Council #9 and International Hispanic Cultural Institute, the tournament will be Saturday, September 21st at 8 am.

Bertha Adjemian announced that CVNA shirts and caps were for sale.

Closing comments

There being no further business or questions the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.