

Racquet Club Estates Neighborhood Organization
BOA Meeting Minutes (**APPROVED**)
October 11, 2008

The meeting commenced at 10:00 AM at the home of Lauren Scarbro and Steve Schultz at 896 E. Racquet Club Road.

The following BOA members were present: Rick Vila, Dean Nicastro, Todd Hebert, Nat Gozzano, Scott Kennedy, Ron Oliver, Timm Fryman.

The following RCENO general members were present: Lauren Scarbro, Steve Schultz, Leigh Frost, Bob Merliss, Marty Kapff, Brian McGuire, Ken Lyon, Donna Sherwood, Scott Sherwood, Alan Friedman, Barbara Robinson, Barbara Corday, Roger Lowenstein, John Shields.

The following personnel from the Palm Springs Police Dept. were present: Lt. John Booth, Sgt. Mark Stafford, Officer Mike Heron.

- 1) Minutes of the September BOA Meeting were approved.
- 2) Rick opened the meeting by welcoming the general members who were present and thanking them for their participation. Because of the number of items on the agenda Rick asked that the proposed agenda time limits be adhered to so that we could get thru everything.
- 3) Rick introduced Lt. John Booth of the PSPD who gave a presentation on the City's new Neighborhood Policing Officer (NPO) program. Sgt. Mark Stafford and Officer Mike Heron were introduced.

Lt. Booth explained that the NPO program was established to address **non-emergency quality of life issues** within specific neighborhood "beats". The City is divided into 6 beats. Racquet Club Estates is part of Beat #2.

Contact info for the 3 PSPD personnel servicing Beat #2 is as follows:

Sgt. Mark Stafford (760) 323-8115 mark.stafford@palmsprings-ca.gov

Officer Mike Heron (760) 778-8440 ext. 6571 michael.heron@palmsprings-ca.gov

Officer Don Benstead (760) 778-8440 ext. 6520 don.benstead@palmsprings-ca.gov

Additional Contact Info for PSPD was provided as follows:

www.pspd.com (PSPD website)

Dial 911 for all emergencies, including crimes in progress

(760) 327-1441 PSPD Central Dispatch

(760) 323-8115 PSPD Watch Commander

(760) 778-8469 Graffiti Hotline (This is to report graffiti after the fact, so that the city can send a clean-up crew as soon as possible. If you see someone in the act of spraying painting graffiti, you should call Central Dispatch.)

Code enforcement related issues should be reported directly to the 24 Hr. Code Compliance Hotline at (760) 778-8434.

RCENO Board of Advisors encourages residents to cc: rcenorg@gmail.com on any emails sent to our Beat Officers so the RCENO can follow up and be informed about any non-emergency quality of life issues within the neighborhood.

Lt. Booth announced 3 upcoming/ongoing programs that RCENO residents might want to participate in:

--Citizen Police Academy is a 13-week program that introduces participants to all aspects of the police department including hands-on training. The next session commences in January 2009 and residents can sign up on the PSPD website at www.pspd.com

--Neighborhood Leadership Academy is a monthly 4-hr class that addresses specific topics. The Oct 18th class is about Neighborhood Watch and Home Security. The November 22nd class is about Gangs, Graffiti and Hate Crimes. To sign-up, call (760) 323-8101.

--Citizens On Patrol is an extension of the Citizens Police Academy. It trains citizens to serve in a volunteer capacity assisting PSPD with specific non-emergency related activities.

4) Dean reported that the bank account has been opened and all monies have been deposited. Our dba filing will be published in a local newspaper to meet the requirements of the IRS. RCENO current bank balance is: \$2,325.00.

5) Todd reported on items from the PSNIC meeting held on October 9th: (items below are reprinted from an email Todd sent out to the BOA after the PSNIC meeting)

Regarding our picnic, we will need to pay a \$112 permit fee. The city will pay the insurance fee of \$175.00. The picnic was discussed in positive terms.

The PSNIC board is insisting that at least one member from each NORG volunteer for a subcommittee. There are 8 subcommittees as follows: Ecology, Neighborhood Character, Neighborhood Support, New Neighborhood ORGS, Code Enforcement, Communications, Crime & Safety, Finance.

The PSNIC Board is up for elections in December. In case anyone is interested, there is one vacant seat (Vice Chairman) and no competition for other seats.

The vacation rental ordinance is going into effect on 10/17; owners will be given an additional 60 days to get the permit/license.

Much time was spent on the Great Southern California “Shakeout” taking place from 11/12 to 11/16, with the 13th as the mass participation day. PSNIC wants all NORGS and their members to take part. Jack Becker has a PowerPoint presentation with digital modeling of what 7 pointer would do in the desert. Jack is willing to make this presentation available to any interested parties. His cell number is 567-3417. www.shakeout.org

The new “blade signs” for El Mirador and The Movie Colony were displayed and look good.

Vector Control gave a report; The new city website is going online 10/20/08.

Closure of Palm Canyon and security for the Biker weekend were discussed.

On 11/08, Dr David Suzuki will offer a free lecture on “A Vision for a Sustainable Future”. The location is Palm Springs High at 4 PM.

6) October 25th Potluck Picnic Update:

Sponsorship Committee (& Inkind Donations) – full report to be presented no later than Saturday, October 18th by Nicki Randolph/Leigh Frost. Dimmi Spirits has signed on as primary sponsor at \$500. Several local area businesses may offer cash contributions or gift certificates (for the raffle). Details to be included in the Oct. 18th report.

Food Committee – Todd may have a sponsor to donate bottled water. We will need to purchase ice, soft drinks, plates, napkins, table clothes, utensils, trash bags, etc. and, perhaps, some basic food items. An amount of \$300 was authorized for these purchases.

Ron Oliver will coordinate the raffle (and serve on the clean-up committee). He'll also be in charge of music.

Ron and Timm will organize the membership and information table/booth.

Rick will write and submit a formal press release.

\$100 was authorized to spend on re-usable Racquet Club Estates Neighborhood Organization banner(s): 3' x 7' and will include website address. Nat will design; Leigh will order.

Please refer to the September 2008 BOA Meeting Minutes for a list of Committee chairs/personnel.

Rick informed us that BOA Members were covered under the City's liability insurance policy.

7) Scott Kennedy raised the concern about making sure the non-Alexander properties (Meiselmans, Wexlers, etc.) were duly represented in all RCENO materials and activities.

8) Roger Lowenstein expressed interest in working on issues related to Preservation/ Mills Act/Historic Overlay for the Racquet Club Estates. Roger, Ken Lyon and Scott Kennedy had a conversation after the meeting to discuss these topics. The BOA agreed that these were areas that needed to be explored in the coming year.

9) Picnic Flyers were distributed to volunteers to deliver to RCENO houses.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.