

Sunnyvale Neighborhoods Association Meeting, August 6, 2012

For Neighborhood Leaders:

- Nathan Truitt asked that all associations send him their updated contact information. He will be contacting us, but you can send him your information beforehand to ntruitt@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us.
- Kathy Besser presented a welcome bag that Cherryhill gives to all new neighbors. It is a reusable bag and they got a grant to do the initial purchase with the theme "reach in/reach out"-- reach in to your neighborhood and make friends with your neighbors, reach out to the community and get their support! They reach out by getting sponsorships from businesses that are then listed on the outside of their bag (\$100 each) and each sponsor gives them the latest coupons, etc. to put in the bags. They reach in to their neighborhood by giving new neighbors this great welcome bag that includes a welcome letter, neighborhood association letter, coupons and baked treats! Contact Kathy Besser if you have questions or would like her help with the graphics on your bag! khb@graystar.com. The bags are pictured on Cherryhill's website, <http://www.cherryhillna.org>.

To Send on to Your Neighbors:

Councilman Jim Griffith was the first speaker of the evening:

Sunnyvale Centennial Celebration on Saturday, August 25th and Sunday, August 26th! Lots of great stuff happening- Go to www.sunnyvale100.com for more information.

Sunnyvale Budget was passed at end of June and it's a balanced budget. We're now projecting a balanced budget for the next 20 years (Sunnyvale balances its budgets 20 years into the future, the only California city to go that far out) and we have no more service cuts

- Sunnyvale used conservative numbers-- but did make some assumptions about compensation and pension.
- Last year we were \$7 million under budget, the year prior- \$5 million. We are the only city in the county with no layoffs or furloughs.
- Thursday library hours are back and we received a \$6k grant for e-readers (approx. 30 e-readers). We also now have more book buying.
- Road work back, tree maintenance is back to seven year rotating cycle.
- We have 70 million in reserves in the bank.
- Sunnyvale still has to work on pension reform.

Downtown Development

- In 2009 Sandhill (Developer) and Reef (\$\$) ran out of money and stopped the project.
- In 2010, Wells Fargo took ownership.
- City Council and the Bank agreed on what to build and put it out to bid-- 38 developers placed a bid. Three days prior to the agreement, a lawsuit was filed between Sandhill/Reef/Wells Fargo. This has held up the process as there is no agreement at this point and there has been a back and forth in the courts (the City is only peripherally involved).
- Town and Country is SEPARATE and moving forward with housing and restaurants to be completed next year.
- Apple moves in this week!

Study Session: Library and Civic Center

- It is recommended that the size of a city library should be 1 square foot per person. Our library is less than half of what it should be as now ours is .43 square foot per person, which is the lowest in the area. - In 23 years our library has had no added space. There has been talk about a new library and a branch library option. At the study session this week, three proposals were examined.
 - Use some of the funds from the sale of the Raynor Activity Center and use the location of the Lakewood pool to build a branch library on the North side of Sunnyvale. This is a possibility that is being examined. Land owned by the school district so would be a partnership.
 - Replace the main library-- the most likely location would be at the Community Center on Remington. This would cost \$66 to \$74 million dollars and would require a bond as the city can't afford this expense.
 - Redo the entire civic center (court house, city hall, public safety, and library) as all are aging. We could use funds from the sale of property on El Camino and Mathilda-and the net outlay would be zero. Some of the downsides would be we'd have more dense housing and retail- and we'd have a lack of control on the development. The city currently owns about 25 acres of land in that area. City council voted on Wednesday for a slight hybrid of the above---they like #3---but would like the new library to be located on Remington not by City Hall. This option is being explored. The initial proposal shows that the Community Garden would not be touched.

Jim would be happy to speak at any of your neighborhood association events.

Lt. Tracy Hern of Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety spoke next on the subject of gang enforcement:

- *There are three main gangs in Sunnyvale:
 - SST- Sunnyvale Sureno Trece
 - VVS - Varrío Via Sol
 - VMV - Varrío Mountain View

- Gangs have been here for the past 65 years but they are less than 1% of the population. They do perpetrate a disproportionate amount of crime in Sunnyvale but 95% of the crime is gang-on-gang.
- There is gang activity at all of our Middle Schools, both High Schools (Fremont/Homestead) and even a couple of the elementary schools. T
- There are three levels of gang affiliation. Validated members (obvious proof that they are in the gang like tattoos, they admit it, etc.), Associates (not yet validated), and Peripheral (they might live in the same neighborhood, etc.). Validation means that the gang members are validated as such by Sunnyvale Public Safety (there are criteria).
- There are a large number of additional factors that apply to the sentencing of validated gang members which mean that they serve longer sentences – so they don't want to be caught in Sunnyvale.
- We have a very strong gang enforcement team and have done a great job in cutting back the gang activity in Sunnyvale.
- *If you see something suspicious, call the police (408-730-7100, 911 for emergencies). Public Safety needs your help and you can call anonymously. Please report graffiti. We have NEAT Team volunteers and Public Works that also cleans graffiti. *Always take a picture* for the police before you remove graffiti. Public Safety keeps a database of graffiti and tags and uses it to prosecute old cases when someone is caught.

Communication

If you would like to keep up on current city events, there are two blogs that are very useful. Jim Griffith's blog, and the City Manager, Gary Luebber's blog:

<http://www.dweeb.org/> (Jim Griffith)

<http://sunnyvale.ca.gov/Newsroom/Blogs/catid/1/City-Managers-Blog.aspx> (Gary Luebbers)

Thanks!

Reid Myers, Note Taker 8/6/12