

**THE DOBSON ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
SARATOGA RECREATION CENTER**

June 18, 2009 - 7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Vice President Ted Disbrow, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present were: Barry Hegrenes, Frank Mizner, Lynda Bailey, Joanne Smith, Guy Wolf and Ted Disbrow. Mike Wall, Chuck Fletcher and Sandra Murray had excused absences. The following staff members were also present: Michele Ray-Brethower, Faye Bristow, Kimi Towery, Roger Singleton, Donna Chapman and John Knapp.

HOMEOWNER COMMENTS OR PROPOSALS:

1. Jean Ettinger, 2628 W. La Senda, gave a brief history of the Tai Chi program on the Ranch in response to rumors about changes to the program. Ms. Ettinger has been a Ranch resident for 35 years, and been active in the Tai Chi program for 9 years. She said that the Retirees Club was responsible for getting it started, in response to an interest in Tai Chi expressed by members of the club. Tai Chi instructor Debbie Gordon was looking for a suitable place to practice Tai Chi as she was retiring from Mesa Community College and wanted a place to practice with her long time students. Ms. Ettinger introduced Ms. Gordon to the then recreation director at La Casita, who agreed to let her club use the facilities in exchange for providing free lessons to Ranch residents. It was agreed that non-residents would pay \$5 per class and provide a salary for the instructor at no cost to the Ranch. She believes Tai Chi provides a service to the Ranch and fears that the new proposed fees could cause the club to leave the Ranch.

2. Wendie Clement, 2408 W. Catarina, who is president of the Dobson Ranch Women's Club, said that the club sponsors two scholarships for Dobson Ranch graduates and requested additional sponsorship funds from Dobson Ranch. The club holds fundraisers throughout the year to provide funds for the scholarships, but the economy has made any fundraising efforts extremely difficult. Historically the Ranch has provided \$500 to the club.

**DOBSON DISTRICT CRIME REPORT
COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER CHAD TOWNLEY**

Officer Townley reported crime statistics in the Dobson District reflecting a 24% decrease in violent crimes this year. There is a 20% decrease in total property crimes and overall Dobson Ranch is doing very well. Two hot topics historically in Dobson Ranch have been residential burglary and vehicle burglary, and both categories were down last month, with two vehicle and three residential burglaries reported. No residential burglaries were reported from May 25 through the 14th of June. He cautioned homeowners to lock their cars and their homes to prevent these crimes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Disbrow presented the consent agenda, consisting of approval of the Board minutes for May and the May financial statement. Mr. Mizner moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Bailey and unanimously carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There was no President's report.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In addition to the written report, Ms. Ray-Brethower reported that three light poles have fallen, two at Saratoga and one at Los Altos, and the two at Saratoga have been repaired. The lights have been out at Laguna Park due to an electrical line being cut, and the La Casita pool renovation is moving along smoothly.

Mr. Mizner asked about boat slip rentals, and was told that they have all been spoken for. Security cameras are being installed next weekend at the dock. He also asked about the demolition of the racquetball courts and was informed that the Board would decide later on the future of the building.

The reserve study update was provided for the board's information and a decision will be made later about agreeing to the proposed yearly update.

There will be an executive session following this meeting for a legal update.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, FINANCIALS

The minutes were approved with the consent agenda.

2. The Member Services/Marketing Commission – Mr. Mizner gave the Beautification Committee report, and said the committee has decided to consolidate the June and July meetings on June 9th and had a good discussion about projects for the next year. The June minutes are not provided this month, but will be in the July Board packet.

3. Finance Management Commission – The financial statements were approved earlier in the meeting.

4. Master Planning Commission – Mr. Hegrenes said the last study meeting was very productive and that the master plan will be changed from time to time as it is a living document. An updated version of the plan will be provided at the August meeting, and approval of the changes will be made at that time.

There was no Water Management meeting. Water usage is being reduced at all the facilities, with the exception of Los Altos where there are many areas of concern due to the old irrigation system. Replacement of the entire system would cost \$80,000. We are slowly renovating the irrigation systems, beginning at Frisbee Park.

5. Recreation Commission. Ms. Smith reported that she and Ms. Bailey met with several of the class instructors last week and came up with a proposed class policy with Ms. Towery, and they are waiting for more feedback from instructors before presenting it to the Board. The pre-school is doing well; there will be seven weeks of kid's camp in the summer and so far 21 kids are signed up for fall pre-school classes. A junior golf program is offered this year in conjunction with the Dobson Golf Course that has been received well. A tennis camp is offered at 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. that has also been received well. The Dobson Dolphins have 204 kids signed up, and a golf tournament is scheduled for this fall. In addition, possible activities for fall are a costume dance for teens and pre-teens for Halloween. Ms. Bailey said the only scheduled activity for the Yacht Club is a wine tasting on the 27th.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Fitness Trails A map of the proposed fitness trail was included in the board packet, and a trail is scheduled for both sides of Dobson Road. A "Did you Know" trail will be made with signs along the way containing little known facts about the Ranch. Mr. Caine is assisting in formulating the maps, and also is working on a program for a new map to be distributed to new and old homeowners. There was discussion about the map.

2. Los Altos Exercise Equipment. The exercise equipment will be installed beginning next Wednesday, the 24th, and brickwork and wood chips in addition to low growing plants will also be installed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Homeowner Comment Ground Rules A plan to allow homeowner comments prior to each item discussed at the meetings was included in the packet. Mr. Mizner suggested printing the rules to request to speak on the back of the homeowner comment sheet. The rules are modeled after the City Council meetings comment rules. Three homeowners would be allowed to speak on each side of the issues, with comments limited to three minutes. Ms. Bailey moved to accept the "Resident Speaks" Guidelines to be put in control at the July meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mizner and carried unanimously.

2. Dobson Women's Club Sponsorship. Ms. Ray-Brethower asked Ms. Bailey to excuse herself from the vote because she is a member of the Women's Club. Mr. Wolf moved to award a \$500 donation to the Dobson Ranch Women's Club for funding of a scholarship. The motion was seconded by Ms. Smith and unanimously carried, with Ms. Bailey recusing herself.

Miscellaneous Business:

1. Ms. Ray-Brethower announced that the City of Mesa Transportation Department is working on the plans for the Dobson /Guadalupe right turn lane, and she will be asking Mr. Dan Cleavinger from the City to speak at the August meeting about the project.

2. Ms. Bailey reported that she, Mr. Fletcher and Ms. Bristow had attended the June CAI luncheon , and the program was a discussion about the latest legislative action. She recommended that all Board members contact the legislative committee and get on their mailing list. Ms. Ray-Brethower said that she would contact CAI.

HOMEOWNER COMMENTS:

1. Manelle Williamson, 2519 W. Madero, commended the Board for the new Homeowner Comment policy, and suggested that the Board conduct town hall meetings every quarter or twice a year to keep homeowners informed. Ms. Ray-Brethower was asked to consider the concept.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

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