

Fisher Park Neighborhood Association

October 21, 2020 General Meeting Minutes

Planned Agenda:

- Welcome / Call to Order
 - Ground Rules
 - Treasurer's Report
 - Fill open Secretary position on JFPNA board
 - Upcoming Events
 - Veterans Day Tribute
 - Holiday Party
 - Any other events
 - Guest Speakers:
 - Captain Horner from Orange County Fire Authority to discuss the response to the September 21 fire in Santiago Creek
 - Sgt. Juan Montiel & Cpl. Danny Carrillo from Santa Ana Police Department to discuss their recent homeless response in our area and street racing
 - Open discussion
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Call to Order

- 7:05 pm by Rick Collins

Board member introductions

Treasurer's Report

- Currently \$5,120.15 in the checking account. There's another few checks coming in.
- Started the year with \$5,536.34.
- It's been strange with money due to COVID. Most of our income comes from Open Garden Day. Last year we got \$1500 from the event, but that didn't happen this year. Hopefully it'll happen next year. The rest is from member contributions. We're still going to spend carefully and prudently.
- We are encouraging everyone from the neighborhood to contribute. \$25 per household. Helps fund some of our activities. We appreciate it if you want to contribute.

Open Secretary Position on JFPNA Board

- Help us out with the minutes from the board meetings and general meetings. It's a pretty low key position.

- We try to meet once a month as a board, lately over Zoom. And there are the quarterly general meetings.

Upcoming Events

Veterans Day Tribute

- This is coming up. We're doing a cross-neighborhood tribute event.
- Going to start around 5:30. Gather at the park. Bring your own chair. Wear a mask. Doing some social distancing. Local boy scout troop. Lowering the flag and doing a flag folding. A trumpet player to play Taps when the flag comes down. Boy Scouts will be reading a bio about Jack Fisher, who was a WWI veteran. Honoring the veterans with a small gift. Please come, invite your friends and neighbors. Veteran or not.
- The city is being very kind in providing us with a new flagpole and sound system.
- Should last no more than one hour.

Holiday Party

- Every year this happens the first Friday of December, but this will be the first year that we're not quite sure how we'll do it. But we're going to work on it.
- In the past, we've put some lights up in the cabin, put out a tree, meet in the cabin, do a potluck, Santa came. That's all up in the air due to COVID. We're still figuring it out, it'll probably be outside.
- Hold the date for the first Friday of December. Games for the kids. We're still figuring out what the city is comfortable with.

January and Beyond

- We don't know yet. We want to have stuff every month. Interested in getting to know all the neighbors. Watch our social media for more.

Guest Speakers

Chief Henry, Orange County Fire Authority - September Creek Fire

- It was dusk when it occurred. Initially came in as a tree fire. Then it got augmented to a structure response. When we send a structure response, we typically send 4 engine companies (pumper trucks). As the fire progressed, we were receiving multiple 911 calls (fire in the creek, houses on fire in Park Lane/River Lane, outbuildings in Jack Fisher Park). At one point, we had 7 different units with an additional 3 units responding. First unit was on scene in 3.5 minutes. Starting accessing the back of the homes. Investigators were called, there was no natural ignition source; it was caused by humans. There were homeless encampments back there so they believe it was related to that. Unable to determine whether it was from a cooking fire or intentional.
- There was a question about how people were able to access the creek through backyards.
- Question of whether the new fence around the park impacted the response, but Chief Henry didn't think so.

- Does the fire authority have a list of which homes have easier access than others to the creek? On our fire plan, we have homes that have been identified that have access gates. But we can access any fence. The latest map that Captain Henry has shows many homes off Park lane that have access to the creek.
- Sgt. Montiel said QOLT are coming out on a regular basis to clear out brush on the creek. Private property in the creek is now being labeled and the city is holding those owners to maintaining their property. The City Manager's office considers this a high priority.
- Captain Horner (StephenHorner@ocfa.org) - Would like to be included in the group, invited to future meetings.

Sgt. Montiel, Santa Ana Police Department - Homeless Update

- Nancy wanted to shout out with the QOLT team's activity. Responds from 6am to 11p. If you come across an encampment that doesn't need urgent attention, use the mySantaAna app. They've gotten hundreds of homeless into shelters, even amongst the pandemic. Go look between Main Street and Broadway. We've pretty much cut it to bare bones, getting rid of hiding spots. You'll hopefully soon have the same view between Flower and Broadway. Arrested 16 individuals in two hours. On private property, they have to get a verbal warning before they can be taken into custody. If they don't leave or they come back, then we will cite them. The issue with the jail is the county is not accepting anyone unless you physically harm someone. Our goal right now is to get them what they need to get off the street permanently. They're never left there, always escorted off.
- Are there plans to expand the QOLT team? Are there currently only 3 members? It was one officer before March then it was expanded to 5 officers and now it's 10 officers working 7 days a week, responding to nothing but homeless issues. One of the largest teams in the city/PD. Unaware if there are plans to expand.
- Red Roof Inn had over 100 violations when Code Enforcement stopped by one time.
- No Trespass Form that individual businesses usual sign. A lot of the residents on Riverside and maybe Park sign a No Trespassing form on file. If we find someone on the property, we can arrest them without contacting the owner. We are still required by law to provide the warnings.
- When we call in homeless on a bike towing another bike, the dispatch questions whether that individual was asked. Years ago, the city stopped requiring registration on bikes so it's impossible for us to determine who the bike belongs to. If you think something is suspicious, call it in.

Adjournment

- Meeting ended at 8:15 pm