

July 31, 2011 CCA Meeting Minutes

Present: 17 Carson residents at the CCA Community Center, 3:10-4:30pm. (1h, 20m)

The meeting started with a big “thank you” to the Bissells for hosting the Summer Fair once again at the Poco Loco General Store. The Carson community is strongly urged to shop at the Poco Loco as much as possible, as they have done a great deal to enhance Carson and are in need of our business so they can continue to stay open.

Fire Department: Art Wilbur reported that the 501(c)3 application has been filed, and we should hear back within 90 days. Meanwhile, we are moving along well with establishing the Carson Volunteer Fire Dept. At the recent nearby fire, we had a larger turnout of volunteers than did the Ojo Caliente Fire Dept.

We have a warning siren going up at Gregg Scott’s place, which is 2.5 miles down the South Carson Road. We also will put up a pole and another siren at the Community Center, to alert the north end of Carson in the event of an emergency. Once both sirens are in place, we will announce and then perform a test run. The sirens will serve as early notification of nearby fires.

We need to have fire drills on a regular basis, perhaps once every 3-4 months. First, we need to create an evacuation plan map for the community, which would be a permanent fixture, and also list on that map steps people should take now to prepare for an evacuation, (e.g.: keep important docs such as IDs, credit/debit cards, medications, etc., in an easily accessible place). We also need to establish an assembly area for evacuated animals in the event of an emergency. One likely possibility is the Poco Loco. There was discussion about having a special meeting each spring, before fire season, for community evacuation preparedness.

Any changes to the map need to be submitted to Terry Wolff this week, as he needs to complete this project. Same for the phone tree, as he, Jerry Boxberger, and Elisabeth Maier would like to finish those revisions. Please submit the letters with your info and your vote if you have not done so already.

Summer Fair recap and suggestions for next year: Eric Bissell suggested we do more advertising, and also he noted the 2 port-o-potties did not seem to get much use; it may not be necessary to rent them in the future. Terri Bissell said that Jim could have benefitted with more volunteers to help build the stage. However, it was noted that the music was somewhat of a controversial issue, and that the stage was a last-minute idea that few people knew about until it was under construction. In any case, it was agreed that the stage and the music program was definitely an added element of entertainment and fun for the fairgoers.

Deborah Perrin proposed we spend more time on the raffle next year, as it is a big money-maker and did not really get the attention it needed this year as the person in charge of the raffle backed out last minute. She suggested we use color photos from the past 2 fairs in our advertising next year, and submit press releases earlier.

A motion was passed to hold the Carson Summer Fair next year on July 1, 2012, instead of the 4th.

This year's Summer Fair grossed \$1949.80 and netted \$1068.79. The food committee noted that we sold approximately the same number of burgers this year as we did last year, but fewer hotdogs. More veggie burgers might be a good idea for next year, too. The best bake sale items were pies, tollhouse cookies, and brownies, as well as the homemade dog biscuits. The bottle water was not a big hit, but tea and lemonade sold well. Art and Sharon Wilbur donated the BBQ grill to the CCA.

A motion passed unanimously that the only food vendors at next year's fair should be the CCA and the Poco Loco, as food is one of our highest sources of revenue.

A motion passed unanimously to have letters of agreement for vendors to hold harmless the CCA, to not sell food/drink, and to contribute 10% of sales to CCA.

We should consider providing more shade tents, perhaps for the turkey shoot, etc.

It's important to remember the point of the Summer Fair is not just to raise \$, it's for community fun, a way to meet new people, and also to recruit volunteers for the FD. Once we get our federal tax-exempt status, we can realistically expect to get large donations from a variety of sources.

Storage shed: We need to put on a new metal roof. Rob Hughes will order the Propanel if he can't get it for free somewhere.

Treasurer's Report: We have approximately \$2000 in the CCA bank account. We will soon receive \$4000 which we netted from LA Modern Auctions for the recent sale of 6 of the elephant stools, thanks to Deborah Perrin's keen eyes and knowledgeable research!!!