



Carmichael Creek Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Est. 1986

www.carmichaelcreek.org

We are now sending minutes by email if we have your email address. If you would like to change how you receive these minutes, please let us know at ccna@carmichaelcreek.org.

Everyone is welcome to attend our next Board meeting: Thursday, January 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Carmichael library.

Minutes of the November 14, 2013, Annual Member Meeting

Co-President Manda Ness called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. at the Carmichael library. The following Board members (noted by an “x” at the left of their names) were in attendance:

x	Anne Berner	x	Sandy Helland	x	Manda Ness
x	Lora Cammack		Richard Humphrey	x	Julia Reyes
x	Sharon Doughty	x	Riki Merrick		Cindy Younger
	Sandra Dunn	x	Buck Meyer		

Welcome by Manda Ness: Manda welcomed the 60+ neighbors and friends who attended the meeting. She introduced Jonathan Glatz, a staffer from Assemblyman Ken Cooley’s office and mentioned that Jonathan will attend the January CCNA board meeting to gather information and questions for Assemblyman Cooley. Manda then introduced the students from two high schools in the San Juan Unified School District who entertained and provided information about their award-winning school programs – Rio Americano High School’s Jazz Band and Mira Loma High School’s Arcade Creek Project.

Three members of the **Rio Americano High School’s Jazz Band** played for ½ hour before the meeting and the music was fantastic! The Rio Americano band program has a long history of wonderful musicianship. The goals of the Rio program are to provide the finest possible musical education and to create an atmosphere that promotes character and excellence from all students. In their largest fundraiser, the Playathon, the Rio Band raised \$28,000 this year. The band will be playing at the CSUS Jazz Festival on December 14, 2013.

Three students from the **Mira Loma High School’s Arcade Creek Project** explained that students in the International Baccalaureate (IB) program at the school are involved in a multi-year study of Arcade Creek, the neighborhood waterway just north of the school. This coordinated and collaborative project, which began in 1998, integrates the various components of the sciences taught at the school. Throughout the school year, all IB juniors and seniors play an active role in the project and are allowed the opportunity to see how science truly is an integration of disciplines. Each year’s work is synthesized and used to analyze the seasonal and yearly trends in the watershed.

Manda then introduced the four speakers featured at the meeting. Main points from their talks are summarized as follows:

Susan Peters – Sacramento County Supervisor, 3rd District:

Susan Peters introduced her chief-of-staff, Howard Schmidt, as the main contact person for her office. After five years of reduced revenues, the county avoided further reduction in staff and had money left over; one-time funds were used to pay down debt and ongoing funds were used to fund positions for park rangers and POP (Problem Oriented Policing) officers. Safety is still the #1 priority for the county and 43% of the budget is allocated for that. The District Attorney's office was allocated more funds for prosecutor, code enforcement and blighted property response. The probation budget was increased to help with realignment (the shifting of inmate population from state prison to the county jail).

Other topics: The recycling center on Fair Oaks Boulevard has been closed, the county has increased funds for homeless services, residents should report panhandlers in the street medians to the Highway Patrol (traffic hazard), there is a \$455 million backlog for maintenance of county roads. The county is considering a ½ cent sales tax to fix the roadways. Residents should contact www.sacdot.com to report potholes. The county has a new ordinance for blight repair (the county will paint over graffiti and then charge the property owners for it if the owners do not take action).

Carmichael news: Fair Oaks Boulevard between Engle and Landis is scheduled to be updated in 2014; left and right turn lanes will be rearranged and a traffic light will be installed at Landis. A ground-breaking ceremony was recently held for the Milagro Shopping Center (Fair Oaks Boulevard between Marconi and El Camino). Construction has begun on an assisted-care facility near the Bel Air Shopping Center (by the Fair Oaks/Manzanita split). New speed tables have been installed on California Avenue. Studies of traffic patterns, including pedestrians and bikes, accidents and neighbors' input are all factors for speed table locations. Safety issues with crosswalks should be reported to www.sacdot.com.

Doug Kobold, Program Manager, Sacramento County Municipal Services Agency

The audience participated in a short exercise to test knowledge on what items should be recycled, what should be thrown in the garbage, and what need to be taken to collection centers. In general, almost any plastic can be recycled; paint stores now are required to take back old paint cans; medicines, batteries, fluorescent lights, appliances, tires, electronic waste are all special hazard items and must be brought to the Kiefer Landfill (12701 Kiefer Blvd.) or the North Area Recovery Station (4450 Roseville Road). Residents are urged to check the county website: www.sacgreenteam.com for information on recycling and item disposal.

Doug reminded audience members that damaged garbage, green waste and recycling containers can be replaced for free by calling the Sacramento County Waste Management & Recycling (www.sacgreenteam.com or www.saccounty.net or 875-5555). Also, one bulky waste cleanup (5' x 5') is free each year. Additional pickups are \$25.00.

Sac Metro Fire District Supervising Fire Inspector Russell B. Blair and the firefighters from Station #109.

Station 109, on Robertson Avenue, is home to the only HazMat unit in the county. It logs about 4000 calls a year. Many of these calls are medical in nature since Carmichael is home to a large number of convalescent homes and apartments. When residents call for help, they are encouraged to leave a good description of the landmarks near their houses and make sure addresses are visible. The firefighters stated that, within Carmichael, response time is 4-5 minutes.

Inspector Russell Blair stated that the #1 cause of fire is unattended cooking fires (grease). Other frequent causes: Space heaters placed too close to fabric, arson, improper use of extension cords, smoking, clothes

dryers (vacuum lint, don't run unattended) and unattended candles and decorations. He stressed that smoke detectors are very important and new ones are combined with carbon monoxide detectors. It is important for residents to keep defensible space around houses. Chimneys should be swept when over 1/8" of soot has built up. Inspector Blair can be reached at blair.russell@metrofire.ca.gov or via phone: (916) 859-4329.

Tarry Smith, District Administrator, Carmichael Recreation and Park District

Mr. Smith reported that, to develop Sutter-Jensen Park, enough funds have been raised to build a 6' wide trail from the parking lot at Sutter, connecting to Jensen Park via a bridge. If an additional \$7000 can be raised, the trail can be widened to 10', which will help with maintenance. An arm to the west end of Sutter Avenue also could be constructed.

An open house on December 5 (before the Christmas tree lighting ceremony) will be held to gather opinions on a Master Plan for Carmichael Park. Traditional workshops on January 11 and March 18 are scheduled, also.

Surveys were sent to 1400 homes in the neighborhood to gauge the willingness of property owners to add a benefit assessment to upgrade the park system. An assessment of \$39 per year can fund \$4.1 million in improvements, while an assessment of \$44 per year can pay for \$4.9 million in improvements. The survey included ideas for specific improvements. If it appears that property owners support such an assessment, the measure will be put before the voters. A vote of 51% is needed for passage.

After the speakers concluded their remarks, at 9:00 p.m., Manda Ness called to order a short CCNA business meeting.

Highlights of the CCNA Business Meeting:

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Sharon Doughty presented the latest treasurer's report:

Beginning balance (October 14, 2013)	\$6,448.99
Deposits and credits (+)	+920.00
Expenses (-)	-1,188.12
Ending balance	\$6180.87

A correction was made to the beginning balance as reported in the October 14 minutes: Deposits totaled \$900 instead of \$800 as reported. The beginning balance of \$6,448.99 above reflects this correction.

Expenses included a \$500.00 donation to the American River Natural History Association (ARNHA) and a \$53.46 expenditure (to Anne Berner) for copying charges and stamps. The following expenditures had been approved by email: \$401.00 to Anne Berner for copying newsletters and minutes and \$233.66 to Sharon Doughty for signs and publicity.

Sharon thanked all those who volunteered to deliver newsletters to the residents within the CCNA boundaries.

Membership: Anne Berner reported that it is membership renewal time and members should have received renewal notices. (Membership note: Many members already have sent their \$20 renewal fee. If you have not yet renewed, a renewal form and envelope are included with these minutes).

Anne stated that minutes of CCNA meetings are posted each month on the CCNA website (www.carmichaelcreek.org) and are sent either by email or post to all members.

Election of CCNA Board of Directors: The following slate of CCNA board members for 2013-2014 was elected by a voice vote of the membership (Motion by Manda Ness, second by Riki Merrick).

Berner, Anne
Cammack, Lora
Cooper, Jorel
Doughty, Sharon
Helland, Sandy
Humphrey, Richard
Merrick, Riki
Meyer, Buck
Ness, Amanda
Reyes, Julia
Shell, Laverne
Younger, Cindy

Next Meeting: The CCNA board meets every second Thursday of the month and members are always welcome. The next business meeting will be Thursday, January 9, 2014 at the Carmichael library.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Riki Merrick, Secretary

Announcement from Supervisor Susan Peters' office:

Supervisor Susan Peters wishes to alert the Carmichael Creek and Carmichael Colony Neighborhood Associations that thousands of runners are expected to be racing through your neighborhoods on Sunday, December 8, during the annual California International Marathon. The 26-mile grueling trek begins 7 a.m. in Folsom and concludes at the State Capitol.

As you know, this event attracts world-class competition and several thousand out of town visitors travel to our area to participate in or watch the marathon which contributes to our local economy via renting lodging, dining in restaurants, retails sales, etc. Fair Oaks Boulevard is part of the route so Carmichael residents south of that roadway may find themselves "land-locked" while the race is in progress due to street closure. Accordingly, Supervisor Peters wants to make sure your respected associations are advised about the upcoming marathon in the hope that you can advise your members since these closures may cause some inconvenience for residents that morning. Residents can view specific street closures on the marathon's webpage at www.runcim.org.