

**Natomas Community Association
Executive Board Minutes 10/17/18
South Natomas Community Center
2921 Truxel Rd, Sacramento, CA 95833
6:30 PM to 8:00 PM**

1. Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM.

2. Agenda Items Approved For the Meeting.

3. Attendance

- a. **Executive Board Members:** Ericka Harden, Leslie Taylor, and Lizzie Edmondson
Excused Absences: Janae Grant

Public Officials and Organization Representatives: Sacramento Police Department: Lieutenant Hansen; Sacramento Police Department Dispatchers; Councilman Harris's Representative: Jocelyn Navarro; Sacramento Regional Transit: Hakeem Mohamad (hmohamed@sacrt.com); Natomas Teacher's Association: Cynthia Connell (cynthiaconnell100@gmail.com); Firehouse 15 Artist: Michael Stutz (mdstutz@gmail.com); City of Sacramento, Department of Arts: Donald Gensler

Public Attendees: Pat Sandlin, Mike McWhorter, Janet Sager, Dolores Buck, Howard Knudsen, Gretchen Lange, Sandee Smith, Angela Chow, Amie Tokuhama

4. Sacramento Police Department Updates:

- a. 911 Text Roll-Out – Sacramento Police Department Dispatchers
1. Text was launched on 10/17. In order to use the text function individuals must 1) have a data plan 2) Not be "roaming", 3) Cannot contain multi-media (pictures, emojis, etc). Emojis show up as symbols. For example, guns show up as "+".
 2. When a text is received dispatcher will ask for the location first, they do not receive GPS information with texts.
 3. Translation services are not available yet. This is a vendor issue and they are hoping to add these services in the future.
 4. Individuals should text instead of calling if it is safer to do so.
 5. The system is linked to CHP and other services so you will not need to repeat information if you are transferred, but dispatchers will still need to review the call transcripts if you are transferred to another service.
 6. This texting service has been rolled out in other regions, Chico, Los Angeles, and the East Coast of the US. All cities/regions that have launched this system have reported success with it.
 7. They received their first call this morning and it was successful. It logs your phone number so if they cannot reach you or if you don't respond they will try to get back into touch with you.
- b. Sacramento Police Department Update - Lieutenant Hansen:
1. Shooting at Bridgecross and Elkhorn in North Natomas

- a. A media release just came out describing the events of a homicide that recently took place. Police officers responded and couldn't find evidence and they cleared the scene. A while later, a victim showed up in the ER with wounds and later passed away. Officers have been trying to determine where the crime actually took place. At this time, they were only narrow it down to a few blocks. With the current evidence, the police department believes that this was an isolated incident.
2. Code Enforcement Day Update:
 - a. Code Enforcement is a dedicated day where PD works with community members. For this code enforcement they focused on the area West of Truxel Road, and South of the Highway. Sandy Smith and Ericka Harden canvassed the area prior to the day and identified 782 issues so police could target their efforts. Sandy and Ericka spent more than 10 hours of volunteer time over a two-week period.
 - b. The types of issues that were tagged were abandoned/unused cars (cobwebs on tires or flat tires). Owners were given an opportunity to move or mobilize the cars once they were tagged and many of them did. The remaining cars were towed. The towing team spent hours moving cars.
 - c. Following the code enforcement day community members have been continuing to report issues. PD encourages you to continually report issues so they can maintain everything. Call 311 or reach out through the community center contacts to report unoccupied/immobile vehicles. They have a long cue so it can take a while to have the vehicle tagged or towed after it is reported, but it will eventually be taken care of.
3. Public Questions/Comments For Lieutenant Hansen:
 - a. What is happening to deter the car break ins at night – Sandy
 - a. Sac PD assigned one police officer to follow-up on every car break in reported for 90-days. The officer read every single report for Natomas and followed up with every report and citizens were given a tip line. He identified 12-13 people that have warrants or arrests pending right now.
 - b. PD has been trying to engage the community more and with that is one negative, that when you engage the community more people report things and the numbers can look inflated.
 - c. A lot of people previously didn't complete an online report. The numbers went up, even with the uptick in reporting. There are multiple factors: economics, where cars are parked, changes in legislation, etc. The community involvement has helped a lot and when citizens provided videos, etc.
 - b. Can you describe the Body Camera Policy? – Ericka Harden
 - a. Anytime a police officer that is in an identified uniform needs to wear a body camera or if they are doing investigative reporting, or engaging with the community. In his opinion, the bodycam is one of the best tools.
 - c. BelAir Shopping Center Update at Truxel and El Camino

- a. There have been more patrol calls in the shopping centers that have had issues. Police are continuing to work with Councilman Harris's office do make updates and changes to the property.
- d. NCA Board is going to be talking about how they can work with law enforcement. In 2019 one of the priorities will be to bring PD together with Natomas citizens and in particular getting students involved. Leslie will be in touch with citizens to get feedback and to engage them in the planning.

5. South Natomas Fire Station 15 Artwork Update - Donald Gensler and Michael Stutz

- a. Donald Gensler manages public arts projects for the city. They are working on a new piece of artwork that will be placed in front of the new fire station 15. Michael was selected as the finalist to do the project at fire station 15.
- b. June 2018 a stakeholder meeting was held with members of the community and the Natomas Garden and Art Club. Based on discussions at that meeting and other events Michael has proposed the following:
 - 1. A 14-16' tall tableau, Nighthawk over the waters. The Nighthawk is native to the area and it is symbolically linked to the high school football teams and the fireman themselves. They call themselves "Nighthawks". They have called themselves this for the last 20 years. The artist also would like to represent the strong connection that Natomas has to agriculture in the statue.
 - 2. Nighthawks actually aren't hawks it is a small bird related to witerals, They are nocturnal, which is important because fireman are working at all hours. They have sparrow like wings that look like fire when it is gliding.
 - 3. The statue will be placed in the last remaining spot in front of the fire station. The sculpture brings a natural version of the piece instead of the mystic caricature that is commonly used in nighthawk logos.
 - 4. He is still working on the lighting at night.
 - 5. It will be installed Spring 2019. It is unlikely that the art will be installed at the ribbon cutting.
 - 6. Gensler – The process is that the artist works with the community and then the artist takes license and he develops it and there may be slight changes
 - 7. Funding for the sculpture - 2% of capital improvement projects are set aside for artwork.
 - 8. Christina and others commented that the sculpture represents the community well and that they feel like they incorporated the suggestions from the last public meeting.
- c. Relocation of the art installation at the old fire station in South Natomas is still in the process of being relocated. The placement of this art piece was discussed at previous NCA meetings. Since those discussions, the artist has stated that the art needs to be installed in a circular fashion and all pieces need to stay together. Jeff Harris's office is seeing if the art could be placed in the circle in front of the South Natomas Community Center as a potential location. However, they need to make sure that the art installation will not interfere with the annual Christmas Tree Installation.

6. Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT) Updates – Haquiem Mohamed, Marketing Specialist (hmohamed@sacrt.com)

- a. SacRT lowered bus and transit fares as of 10/1/18 in an effort to increase ridership. As part of this they also reinstated the 25 cent transfer passes.
 - b. SacRT is in the process of reoptimizing bus routes and will be optimizing bus routes to be either 1) High Frequency, where there is 15-minute bus service, but stops will be further apart than they currently are 2) Lower frequency bus service (every 30-minutes), but bus stops will be placed every ¼ mile.
 - c. November 13 community meeting that they would like public to attend and provide feedback. It will also be live streamed, and individuals can comment online www.sacrt.com
 - d. Public Comment:
 - 1. Christina Damien asked if trash cans can be brought back to the bus stops along Truxel. They were recently removed.
 - 2. The public stated a need for increased service on the weekends down Truxel and increased service on the other side of the interstate in the Duckhorn Area. Mr. Mohamed suggested that individuals attend the webinar or meeting on the 11/13 with these requests.
7. District 3 Councilman Harris' Update - Jocelyn Navarro
- a. Park Updates:
 - 1. The Fort Natomas playground at the South Natomas Community center is reopened after the installation of shades that took place in September 2018. The Grand Opening Ceremony will take place on 10/23/18 at 10:00 AM.
 - 2. Improvements have been made to Jefferson Park by installing benches and shade trees.
 - 3. Gardenland Park Water Feature has not been working and is guaranteed to be working next summer.
 - 4. Oak Tree Park is a new park located on San Juan a few blocks East of Truxel is now open. All of the construction is not complete. They are currently seeding the grass and some areas are still fenced in.
 - b. Behind the Badge (copy notes from last meeting).
 - c. November 6th Presidential, State, and Local Elections – All ballots have been mailed out to register voters. There are additional polling stations open and some polling stations are open for extended periods of time prior to the election.
 - d. Fire Station 15 Opening – The opening of this fire station has been delayed due to the door installation. The doors should be installed in November with the grand opening event to be announced at a later date. .
8. South Natomas Grocery Outlet Opening - Tony and Nikki Chand Grocery Outlet Owners (El Camino and Truxel)
- a. Tony and Nikki have been living in the Natomas area for the last 15-years. Walgreens was supposed to open in the location, but backed out of the lease. Grocery Outlets are not a traditional grocery store. They have their own products and the inventory changes based on availability of items and product deals. They will carry a number of organic items and will have Meat, Seafood, Produce and Cosmetic Departments. They will also service as alcohol, but that is not one of their primary focuses. They will not service “hot” foods since they do not have the license necessary to serve that type of food.
 - b. The grand opening will take place on 12/13/18 at 9 AM. They will be giving out \$100 gift cards to the first 60 people in line. They expect people will arrive very early to get their

place in line. They will have vendors and food trucks at the grand opening. The first hour of the grand opening they will be donating a percentage of the proceeds to Make A Wish Foundation.

- c. Hiring Fairs will be held on 10/26, 11/2, and 11/9 from 10-3 at the grocery outlet site. Individuals can also apply online. Employees will need to be 18 or older because of safety requirements and the need to operate machinery.
- d. Discounts will be offered to individuals that qualify for the "Hero Card". Heroes include: first responders, police, EMTs, veterans, active military. There are also educational discounts for aids, tutors, and teachers.
- e. Ericka Harden suggested that they consider donating food to Joey's Food Locker as a way to support the local community.

9. Public Comment

10. Announcements

- a. Joes Food Locker will be open this Friday at 4:00 PM. – Christina Damon
 - 1. Joey's Food Locker is a food bank and clothing closet located at the South Natomas High School. There are no qualifications to receive food. They feed ~300 families/year. Follow the Tennis Courts and go to the back to find it.
 - 2. Donations can be dropped off at the High School office. Just set donations inside.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.