

BCAC Meeting Minutes, February 13, 2012

1. Call to Order and Welcome (Ty Greaves) – 7:00 PM
2. Introduction of Guests (Ty Greaves) – Councilmember Kansen Chu, Councilmember Pete Constant, Supervisor Dave Cortese, BUSD Superintendent Will Ector, BUSD Board David Neighbors, Water District Richard Santos, ESUSD Director Van Lay, Neighborhoods Commission (Linda Locke, Rafael Sabic), Former Chair of Board of History Bob Gross
3. Agenda of January 9, 2012 Meeting (Ty Greaves) – Approved unanimously.
4. Minutes of December 12, 2011 Meeting (Tyler Shewey) – Approved unanimously.
5. Treasurer's Report (Linda Locke) – Beginning balance of \$2,455.26. Ending balance of \$2,614.59. Approved unanimously.
6. Berrvessa Business Association ("BBA") (Bill Hughes) – Gina Cortes (KeyPoint) not able to make it today. Both BCAC and the individual will get \$25 to open a personal account at KeyPoint.
7. Featured Speakers: Pension Reform Initiative on the June Ballot (Councilmembers Kansen Chu and Pete Constant) – Discussion and debate on pension reform initiative on June ballot. The text of the bill is available online.

A. Opening Remarks – Constant: SJ has had a decade of struggling with budget deficits. Initially, SJ addressed this with one-time changes and kicking the can down the road. Now, SJ has had to close facilities or forego opening them, such as a police substation, libraries, and community centers.

Problem: The root of the problem is pensions, which now costs SJ \$245 M up from \$71 M from 10 yrs ago, or \$1 of every \$5 spent. Pension costs will continue to rise to \$300 M (not including retirement costs), which may even jeopardize the benefits of current retirees. CA is adopting a very similar pension program, and 63% of CA League of Cities have already reformed their pensions. The vote is very tight on SJ City Council.

Provisions: There will be no change to accrued benefits. (1) Participant may maintain current benefits, but will have to pay the difference in a phased in program. (2) Alternatively, participant may go into a new plan, which caps benefit at 9% of pay, and cost is reduced. (3) Newly hired SJ employees participate in a new pension system.

Result: Free up money to restore services and open facilities that have already been built.

B. Opening Remarks – Chu: Supports pension reform, but differs as to the process. City employees have taken 10% pay cuts for 2 consecutive yrs. The ballot initiative is 17 pgs long. There is low-hanging fruit that we should grab. The economy is improving and we may not need to cut so hard. There is already a second tier in place today for new hires that will save money going forward.

Opposed for the following reasons: (1) *Illegal* – if reform initiative passes, there will be a lawsuit and

injunction, and then SJ would not be able to negotiate any further. The ct can drag this out for 4 yrs. (2) *Collaborate* – we must find a way to solve this problem together. (3) *Protect retirees with fixed income* – sometimes SJ retirees outlive the actuarial projections and should be able to afford to live in SJ.

- C. Question 1: Have you read City Manager Figone's fiscal reform plan, and to what extent do you agree?

Constant: Read it and supports almost all of it, but believes it should be a DC plan rather than a DB plan.

Chu: Read it and supports the legal parts of it, but disagrees as to limiting the amount of money spent on the pension plan. Believes there is still low-hanging.

- D. Question 2: What do you believe is your obligation regarding SJ fiscal costs, and balancing the budget?

Chu: Balance budget as required by law.

Constant: Make sure SJ residents get the services they need. The private sector has faced cuts, and they public sector must cut as well.

- E. Question 3: Why do people oppose pension reform?

Constant: It impacts them personally. This is why SJ City Council took a pay cut before cutting employees.

Chu: Pension reform should occur so that SJ is a place where everyone can work, play, and retire.

- F. Closing remarks:

Chu: Supports pension reform but wants to go after the low-hanging fruit first. For example, if SJ increases retirement age by 1 yr, savings will be huge. Then they can address the difficult issue. Collaboration will improve pension reform.

Constant: The reform initiative is 17 pgs long because it is complicated, but it has been well-thought and considered. The severability clauses are in place in case certain parts are illegal. SJ exists for the health, safety, and welfare of the residents. Most of the costs are personnel. It is not an employment agency, but to provide services in the most efficient, practical matter possible.

8. Announcements (Ty Greaves) – Next month: Citizen of the Year and Hawaii cultural presentation.

A. Wally: Shooting clinic for novices. Cost is \$15. Must be 18 yrs of age. Mandatory safety course, and coach for every individual. Metcalf on April 14, July 14, September 8.

B. Councilmember Kansen Chu (Anh Tran): Weekly notices. Sign up on the website. BCAC won award this weekend. Events coming up – review website.

9. Adjournment (Ty Greaves) – 8:20 PM

Snacks provided by David Hernandez and Richard Santos.

Minutes prepared by Tyler A. Shewey



The Berryessa Bulletin

The Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council Advocates for District 4 and the Berryessa Union School District
May 14, 2012

Vol. 23, No. 5

Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council Meeting

May 14, 2012

Berryessa Community Center
3050 Berryessa Road

If you wish to make an announcement, please fill out a yellow speaker's card at the sign-in table and notify Ty Greaves at the beginning of the meeting.

1. 7:00 Call to Order
 - President, Ty Greaves
2. 7:01 Introduction of Guests
 - President, Ty Greaves
3. 7:03 Minutes of April 9, 2012 Meeting
 - Secretary, Tyler Shewey
4. 7:05 Treasurer's Report for May 14, 2012
 - Treasurer, Linda Locke
5. 7:08 Berryessa Business Association
 - Introduction: Bill Hughes
 - Speaker: Bob Stewart
6. 7:13 San Jose Police Department Update
7. 7:18 Berryessa Union School District Update
 - Superintendent, Will Ector
8. 7:23 Report on BCAC Focus Items
 - Parks (Mike Flaughter)
 - Neighborhood Commission (Sabic, Locke)
9. 7:28 Special Recognition
10. 7:33 Guest Speaker – Dennis Hawkins, SJ City Clerk – "Elimination of SJ Boards and Commissions"
11. 8:25 Announcements
 - President, Ty Greaves
12. 8:30 Adjournment

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Monday, June 11, 2012

Next BCAC Executive Board Meeting
Monday, May 21 at 7:00 PM
BUSD Office – 1376 Piedmont Road

Notes:

www.bcaconline.org

President: Ty Greaves
 Vice President: Rudy Nasol
 Secretary: Tyler Shewey
 Treasurer: Linda Locke
 Corresponding Secretary: Tam Truong
 Past President: Mike Flaughter
 Officers at Large: Marlou Bitcon, Sita Kern, Rafael Sabic, Bill Hughes
 Webmaster: Chuck Mondave

BCAC Meeting Minutes, April 9, 2012

1. Call to Order and Welcome (Ty Greaves) – 7:00 PM
2. Introduction of Guests (Ty Greaves) – Councilmembers Kansen Chu and Madison Nguyen, Water District Richard Santos, Neighborhoods Commission (Linda Locke, Rafael Sabic), SJ District #4 candidates (Tam Truong, Rafael Sabic), Dave Cortese's office, BUSD Dave Cohen, Daisy Chu
3. Minutes of March 12, 2012 Meeting (Tyler Shewey) – Approved unanimously.
4. April Treasurer's Report (Linda Locke) – Beg. balance \$2,744.59. End. balance \$2,669.40. Approved unanimously.
5. Berryessa Business Association ("BBA") (Bill Hughes) – Working on getting John's of Willow Glen to Berryessa.
6. BCAC San Jose City Council District #4 Candidate Forum – Kansen Chu, Rafael Sabic, Tam Truong (Rudy Nasol)

A. Question 1: Why are you running for SJ District 4?:

Tam Truong: (1) Improve business environment, esp. small business. (2) Pension reform. (3) Infrastructure improvements (i.e. better roads and traffic lights).

Rafael Sabic: Help engage people in gov't, grow local business, and restore Alviso to its historical status.

Kansen Chu: Capital improvements to Alviso, North SJ (led effort to form task force and create neighborhood plan), more commercial space at Flickinger.

B. Question 2: Position on Measure B (pension reform), how to address pension costs, and foreseeable future?:

Rafael Sabic: Supports Measure B. SJ must address pension issues. SJ City Council voted 8-3 in favor. If it does not pass, will have to continue negotiating.

Kansen Chu: Does not support Measure B, but strongly supports pension reform. There is still low hanging fruit. Furthermore, portions may be illegal, which will cost SJ more money. Process has alienated SJ workers.

Tam Truong: Supports Measure B. Believes it will pass, that it is legal, understandable, and reasonable. Need to improve SJ services. If it does not pass, will continue working to reduce pension costs.

C. Question 3: How will Envision. 2040 impact SJ, and how do you propose we address impact?:

Kansen Chu: Believes it is positive in general, but also wants to push healthy eating and living.

Tam Truong: Likes it but there is no budget to support things like traffic congestion, restaurants, and services.

Rafael Sabic: It gives us a foundation for community principles, but it is insufficiently funded.

D. Are you in favor of the BART extension, or what alternatives do you propose?:

Tam Truong: Supports it so long as it works with roads, light rail, and other forms of transportation.

Rafael Sabic: Supports it, but believes it should connect to Santa Clara to reduce congestion.

Kansen Chu: BART is a big issue, and he has held at least 5 community meetings on this issue. He strongly advocated that Berryessa not be a terminus station, but there is a Federal funding shortage.

E. What programs and regulatory changes do you support to improve business in SJ?:

Tam Truong: Overturn plastic bag ban, which sends ppl away to other cities to shop.

Rafael Sabic: Speed up process to encourage business and have more public involvement.

Kansen Chu: Worked to start BBA, push for 8 M sq. ft. of new commercial/industrial in North SJ. Visit businesses and help them grow together.

F. What will you do to improve services to citizens?:

Kansen Chu: Address pensions without Measure B.

Rafael Sabic: Work hard for pension reform. (1) Economic development. (2) Pension reform.

Tam Truong: (1) Public safety – ensure sufficient police. (2) Increase flights to SJ. (3) Restrooms in parks. (4) Maintain trees in Berryessa.

G. Closing remarks:

Tam Truong: Protection for SJ residents is his priority, and believes SJ needs to give incentives for business to locate in SJ. www.truongforcitycouncil.com.

Rafael Sabic: Story: Chance to make a change by voting for him. Pledge: Will work very hard.

Support: Looking for support for vote to make change. <http://www.sabicforcitycouncil.com/>.

Kansen Chu: Works very hard, and invites input from everyone. Would like to continue as public servant, leveraging his experience and relationships. <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/district4/>.

7. Announcements (Ty Greaves) –

- A. *Gene Lee (Save the Libraries):* Trying to get measure on ballot to increase library funding w/o raising taxes.
- B. *Wally:* Shooting opportunities extended to other youth organizations such as Boy Scouts.
- C. *Anh Tran (Kansen Chu):* (1) April 14 – Office of emergency services, 2 hr disaster preparedness training. (2) Pride of District 4. (3) 2d Annual Family Day – April 28. (4) Community budget meeting – May 3 at Alviso library; May 16 at Berryessa library.
- D. *Lorrie Yarwosky:* (1) May 12 – Art & Wine Festival. (2) May 15 – Amgen Bike Race start at Berryessa Community Center.

9. Adjournment (Ty Greaves) – 8:30 PM

Snacks provided by Rafael and Tereza Sabic.

Minutes prepared by Tyler A. Shewey



The Berryessa Bulletin

The Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council Advocates for District 4 and the Berryessa Union School District
March 12, 2012

Vol. 23, No. 3

Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council Meeting March 12, 2012

Berryessa Community Center
3050 Berryessa Road

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1. 7:00 Call to Order

- President, Ty Greaves

2. 7:01 Introduction of Guests

- President, Ty Greaves

3. 7:03 Minutes of February 13, 2012 Meeting

- Secretary, Tyler Shewey

4. 7:05 Treasurer's Report for March 2012

- Treasurer, Linda Locke

5. 7:08 Berryessa Business Association

- Introduction: Bill Hughes
- Speaker: ~~Hai Dang~~ Gina Cortes
Keyport Credit Union

6. 7:15 BCAC Citizen of the Year Award

- Introduction: Dave Cortese

7. 7:45 BCAC Ethnic Recognition – Hawaiians

- Introduction: Tam Troung

8. 8:25 Announcements

- President, Ty Greaves

9. 8:30 Adjournment

- President, Ty Greaves

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
April 9, 2012

Next BCAC Executive Board Meeting
Monday, March 19 at 7:00 PM
BUSD Office – 1376 Piedmont Road

Notes:

www.bcaonline.org

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Secretary: Tyler Shewey
Treasurer: Linda Locke
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