

**SAMARKAND NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
BOARD AND ASSOCIATION MEETING
October 26, 2006, 5:30 p.m.
Location: Mountain Room, Samarkand Retirement Community**

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME:** Meeting called to order at 5:33 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS:** Peter Basch, Wayne Beckman, Darwin Holter, Joyce Duncan Falk, Terry Johnson, Jack Meyer, Fred Marsic, and Jim Smith. (Absent: Anna DeVore, Judy Freeman, and Charlie Stapleton.)
3. **SHOWGROUNDS GUEST:** (Scott Grieve, Earl Warren Showgrounds CEO and General Manager. He has been at the Showgrounds for about 4 years. Mr. Grieve presented a slideshow on the Showgrounds history, which dates back to the Santa Barbara National Horse Show in 1919. The shows originally began down at the beach by the Potter Hotel. The show was moved to the present location in 1950; originally the purchase included 136 acres for 136,000 dollars. Governor Earl Warren frequented the horse shows and facilitated the purchase. The equestrian center was finished by 1958. In the 60's many famous music groups played there.

Currently there are 34 acres to the property, and it is managed by the 19th District Agricultural Association of the Division of Fairs and Expositions in the California Department of Agriculture. The district runs from Gaviota to Carpinteria.

The Showgrounds takes no money from the State General Fund tax dollars. Revenue is entirely generated by activity at the facility.

There are 2723 seats in the arena for events. The stables and additional rings house 600 full, box stalls for livestock; this is a big revenue generator. Over 8000 solar panels have been installed on top of the stables, providing 70,000 worth of savings (379kW-enough energy for 175 homes). The panels will be 80% effective after 20 years, and they will pay for themselves after nine years.

Other facilities: there are 22,000 square feet in the main exhibition hall, and it was originally built for the flower show (from the air it resembles a flower). Behind the older building is Warren Hall, which is used for a banquet room. Satellite racing is in the located in a smaller facility in the back. The parking lot has over 1000 parking sites, and has a variety of uses. There is an inline roller hockey facility in the back, an RV park (50 spots) restricted to patients at Sansum and participants in events at the Showgrounds. Finally, the site has value for emergency services.

The Showgrounds Website is www.earlwarren.com, and more information and schedules can be found there. Scott Grieve can also be contacted through the site.

A follow-up discussion covered the responsiveness of the Showgrounds to the impact of events in the neighborhood. Scott explained that the Showgrounds attempts to avoid events that are too loud. Discussion included the issues of traffic in the neighborhood from an event. It is complicated because the Showgrounds are on county property, and the neighborhood is patrolled by SB City Police. Scott welcomes suggestions and ideas. There are planning meetings before events to review past procedures for regular events such as the Fair.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes approved by affirmation.
5. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Since our last meeting, we changed our bank account to reflect our corporate status. The last newsletter and bylaws distribution cost \$197.88, and 17 members paid dues for \$115.00.

6. COMMITTEE UPDATES:

- A. ZONING:** A violation was reported to the City for an on-site structure. The City reported that no permit was required, but the building did encroach upon a setback. The owner was tasked to move the structure.

Joyce Duncan-Falk re-affirmed that the Zoning Committee needs to establish general guidelines for the types of referrals we will make in the future.

- B. NEWSLETTER/BYLAWS DELIVERY:** Special thanks to the following SNA members for helping to distribute the newsletter: Nadine Nichols, John and Anna DeVore, Meg Purdy, Joyce Duncan-Falk, Lori Onishuk, Maud Williamson, and Jim Smith, Charlie Stapleton, and Fred Marsic at Samarkand.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Bylaws Approval and Signing:** All changes were incorporated. Jim Smith moved to accept the by-laws as written. Joyce moved to amend the language in the beginning sentence of Article 3, Section 8, changing “which to that.” The motion was revised and unanimously passed. (M/S/C Jim Smith/Wayne Beckman.)

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Upper State Street Study:** No report because Anna was out of town.

- B. Police Department Mtg. At Oak Park on 9/21:** Michael Self was not present. Jim Smith reported that a meeting was held last night at the Parks Commission. The commission decided to take a motion to the City Council to change the closing time of Oak Park from 10 p.m. to one half hour after dark.

Many people commented on the increase in crime and transient activity in the area recently. The issue of alcohol in the park was discussed at the meeting. If a permit was required, then alcohol would have to be served within a “beer garden.” The opposing view is that existing laws are sufficient, and that new laws should not be passed to deal with the behavior of a minority of people. The Commission could not make a decision without more information about the types of arrests that had been made in the park recently.

- 9. OTHER BUSINESS:** A neighbor requested that the board reconsider the time of the meetings. Most of the evening programs start at 6:45. Jim suggested that it was to encourage guests. Peter said that we would take it into consideration.

10. COMMUNICATION

Confirmation of meetings:

- i. November meeting: Thursday, November 16, 5:30 p.m.
- ii. Guest/location: TBA

- 11. ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

*** Minutes and other organization information may be found at:**

<http://samarkandneighborhoodassociation.org>