

BERRYESSA BULLETIN

Berryessa Citizens Advisory Council Advocates for District 4, and the Berryessa Union School District
September 14, 2009 Volume 20 Number 10

**Berryessa Citizens Advisory
Council Meeting
September 14, 2009**
Berryessa Community Center
3050 Berryessa Road

Please fill out a yellow speaker's card at the sign in table and check with Mike Flaughter at the beginning of the meeting if you wish to make an announcement.

- 1. 7:00 Call to Order and Welcome**
Mike Flaughter
- 2. 7:02 Minutes of June Meeting**
Linda Locke
- 3. 7:04 Treasurers Report**
Marlou Bitcon
- 4. 7:06 the City of San Jose Budget**
Council Member District 4 Kansen Chu
And Deputy City Manger
- 5. 7:40 the County of Santa Clara
Budget**
County Supervisor Dave Cortese

6. 8:15 Announcements

Invitation of join BCAC
See Marlou Bitcon

8:30 Adjournment

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

October 12, 2009, 7:00 pm

Berryessa Union School District Boardroom

1376 Piedmont Road

Topic: History of Berryessa (continued)

Next BCAC Executive Board meeting:

Monday, September 21 at 7:00

BUSD Office – 1376 Piedmont Road

Web page: www.bcaonline.org
Newsletter Editor: Linda Locke
Web – Master: Chuck Mondave

Minutes for BCAC, June 8, 2009

1. Call to Order and Welcome (Mike Flaughter) – 7:01 PM
2. Minutes of March Meeting (Tyler Shewey) – 7:03 PM -Approved with changes
3. Treasurer's Report (Marlou Bitcon) – 7:04 PM
Ending balance of \$2,484.60 - Approved
4. **Future of the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds** (L. Klameki) – His is to increase revenue from properties. They have had some projects that were very successful. Santa Clara County Fairgrounds has been in existence for over 100 yrs. It consists of 150 acres at Monterey and Tully. Of the 150 acres, 14 acres is a major parking lot, 36 acres contain the buildings, 100 acres, formerly race tracks, now 100 acres of dirt. There is a paintball operation there and a motorcross area. The Fairgrounds has run at a deficit of about \$300,000 over the past 10 yrs. The Board of Supervisors has had to support that out of the General Fund. The Board now endeavors to make the Fairgrounds stand on its own feet financially. The goal is to make the Fairgrounds profitable. Over 700,000 people attend events at the Fairgrounds each year. Many organizations cannot afford to meet elsewhere. After 18 mos of study, public hearings and open Board meetings, the Board decided to ask the community what it wanted. They will not screen comments. This is his 72 meeting, most of which have been out in the community. The entire Fairgrounds are up for discussion.
5. **Single Use Disposable Shopping Bags** (E. Mendoza, S. Lacaze, City of San Jose Environmental Services)
In Oct 2007, the Green Vision looked for ways to improve the environment. Their aim is zero waste through recycle, reduce or reuse. Plastic bags is a part of that. In Feb 2008 stakeholders began meeting with local representatives. At the same time, the County also looked at this issue. A number of creeks in this area are "trash impaired. Bags are easy to address relative to other issues. The County Recycling and Waste Reduction Commission makes recommendations to cities. Bags come from 14 M trees, 12 M barrels of oil, which creates 38 bags. We use these bags for 12 minutes. Bags end up in landfills, litter in the street, and recycled. Only a small percentage get recycled.

San Jose spends \$3 M per year on litter removal, not counting volunteer hours. Recycling plastic bags is not so easy because the bags get stuck in the machinery
Coalition to Support Public Education / Recycling and Oppose Single-Use Bag Bans / Taxes (R. Kenny)

He works for American Chemistry Council and stands with many individuals in opposing this. There are 3 basic options: tax both, tax one, or something else: public education, recycling, clean-ups, promote reusable bags, better enforcement of litter laws. Paper bags are 3-5 times more expensive. Businesses would have additional tracking system. 90% of Americans reuse their plastic bags. A ban on grocery bags would require people to purchase other bags. Plastic bags are great for individuals using public transportation. Plastic bags make up 0.5% of the U.S. solid waste. It takes 91% less energy to recycle plastic bags than paper bags, by weight. Production of plastic bags consume less than 6% of the water as paper bags. Plastic bag manufacturing produces 50% of the greenhouse gases. Biodegradable bags are about \$0.19 each, paper bags are \$0.10 each, and plastic bags are \$0.015 each.

6. **Membership Discussion** – 8:12 PM
Motion for encouraging reusable bags, education and outreach, and opposing bag ban and fee for 1 yr. At that point we should re-evaluate the bag ban proposal. Favor: 13. Oppose: 7. The Board will review any draft before it goes out.
7. **Announcements** – 8:30 PM
Website has changed dramatically,. There will be more additions as we go forward. We will discuss the motion at the Board meeting.
 - M. Liebman did a great job in keeping people calm during the Swine Flu.
 - McAllister: ESUHSD will continue athletics. On May 3 there was a 5K run that raised \$130,000. The Board saw it as a very positive sign and has targeted them as a fundraiser. West Coast Aquatics received a grant to teach students how to swim. They would have to go to Overfelt HS.
8. **Adjournment** – 8:34 PM
 - M. Bitcon brought snacks tonight.