



2009 Annual President's Report

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathy Martins, President
Mel Medeiros, Vice President
Margaret Wright, Sec/Treasurer
Richard Ogg, Board member

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A MESSAGE FROM BOARD PRESIDENT KATHY MARTINS



BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATIONS:

In October, Wulf Bieschke resigned from the Board due to business obligations. As a small business owner he believed it necessary to devote more time to his small business endeavors. Wulf served on the Board for four years and as President for nearly two years. He spent many hours attending and committing himself passionately to various committees including the Economic and Redevelopment Committees, EALI, The SLZ Initiative, Marijuana Ordinance and the Ordinance Review Committee. The Board wishes to acknowledge Wulf for his invaluable contributions as a Board member and thank him for his valued leadership.

Ten months after being seated, Richard Ogg resigned his Board position in December because of incompatible philosophical reasons with the Board. Richard and his wife, Sofie could be seen dispensing popcorn at community events this past year. Although Richard will no longer hold a Board seat he remains a committed and passionate member of our community and will continue to serve on the Hayward Airport Committee. We thank Richard for his time and dedication during his tenure.

WEBSITE: WWW.SLVHA.COM

We are in the process of updating our website and expect to be finished by February 28. Among other changes, the Association minutes for 2009 will be posted to give you an opportunity to do an in-depth review of Association activities. We also request that you send us your email so that we may inform you of community activities and send you a monthly Board Agenda for the Association meeting. *For those that are not on the list yet, please email your information to: slzvha@aol.com.*

HOMEOWNER ACTIVITIES:

Meet, Greet and Eat

The Board has continued to Host Meet, Greet and Eats for our homeowners at the rate of about 5 times a year. These events have two main goals, one to introduce homeowners to their elected Board Members and two to strive to involve them in the monthly Board Meeting where the decisions that affect our everyday lives are made. This year's highlights included a baked potato and chili bar and our very own Hot August Nights! We want to thank all our homeowners who attended and see what the Village Homes Association has to offer and we look forward to continuing to reach out to our residents.

Earth Day

The Community Engagement Committee began the planning of a Clean Up day in San Lorenzo. In the past these have been somewhat unsuccessful with only a handful of people in attendance. In coordination with National Earth Day we planned an Earth Day clean up at Mervin Morris Park. Over 60 homeowners of all ages came out in force and we cleaned the parks, the major thoroughfares and even our commercial corridor. The event was extremely successful and we are excited about incorporating Earth Day into our Annual Calendar.

Halloween

Last year we expanded our Halloween event to try and serve a larger amount of children. This year we improved on our event once again with MORE MORE MORE. More games! More Vendors! More prizes! The event was so successful that the games ran longer than originally scheduled. It was by far our largest event ever and we want to take this opportunity to thank the office staff, ACSO and Alameda County Fire Department for all their assistance in making this yet another memorable event.

BOCKMAN ROAD DEVELOPMENT:

The developer, The Olson Company, completed the homes for the south side of Bockman. As of today they have still not found a commercial tenant for the 7500 sq foot commercial space. In addition the North Side Remains for sale by owner after Olson opted out of their contract to develop the North Side.

Farmers Market

After a long wait the Farmers Market finally came to San Lorenzo. In an ongoing effort to reach out to our homeowners the Village Homes Association acquired a booth at the Farmers Market and committed to distributing a "Village Voice" newsletter at each and every Farmers Market.



In addition we conducted surveys and took advantage of the opportunity to meet many of our homeowners and answer homeowner questions. We look forward to the return of our very own Farmers Market next spring.

NEW LOGO:

The Village Homes Association after over 60 years began the process of updating our logo. After displaying choices at the Farmers Market and at Board Meetings for several months we adopted a new and updated logo. It was a challenge to update the look but stay true to the nature of the Village. Look for it on all the communication you receive from the Association. Many thanks to Brent Sacrey at Adept Printing in San Leandro who did all the logo work gratis.

POLICIES APPROVED:

The Board had several open town meetings on the Front Yard, Garage Policy and Shed and Outbuilding policy. Through the collaboration of both Board Members and Home owners alike we feel that we adopted a policy to adapt to the changing needs of the homeowners of today. Prior to passing both policies, the information was published in full detail for homeowners to review.

HARD PARKS

The Board expressed their disappointment to HARD administrators regarding the maintenance of San Lorenzo parks. Director Medeiros served on the Advisory Committee this past year and was part of the group that evaluated individual parks and reported their condition to the Board of Directors. Larry Lepore, Director of Maintenance encouraged the community to call and report any problems to him directly. We are currently looking for a dedicated resident to serve on the HARD advisory committee.

VILLAGE SQUARE DEVELOPMENT:

In December, Bohannon Corporation presented to the Redevelopment Committee several possible options for the development of the commercial corridor. After submitting several different designs Bohannon advised that we were only in the preliminary stages and they plan to update us at the March 3 Redevelopment Committee Meeting.

SAN LORENZO LIBRARY:

Board and staff continue to serve on the San Lorenzo Library Advisory Committee. Many of the committee members objected to the process the County requires for the purchase of artwork. Ultimately the committee's recommendations were not accepted by the County.

Director Wright reported at the last meeting that the construction for improvements to the San Lorenzo Library was discussed. The renovations will take place starting in April and the facility will be closed for approximately 10 to 11 weeks with reopening scheduled sometime in late summer. Wright also indicated that the possibility of the library expansion to 10,000 feet was discussed briefly at the meeting. Supervisor Lai Bitker at her state of the county address has made the library expansion a priority for 2010.

SAN LORENZO INITIATIVE

In an effort to concentrate her efforts in the unincorporated area Alice Lai Bitker conducted a governance study which resulted in the formation of two committees. The first dealing with Land Use issues and the second with Early childhood development and youth activities. Through the collaboration of Bitkers office and several of our public agencies we are seeing the effect of these committees' goals and partnerships.

Enforcement of CC&Rs

(Covenants, Conditions, & Restrictions) *This past year, the Board referred over a dozen homeowners to the collection agency for not paying fines that were imposed because of CC&R violations.*

Violations Jan to December	2008 Letters	2009 Letters
Vehicle Storage or Repairs	209	133
Boat/Trailer kept on Lot	73	100
No Maintenance, Lawn care	436	480
Parking on Unpaved Area	57	66
Other: Noise, Bldg., animals	380	368
Holiday Lights	49	56
TOTAL	1204	1203
Formal Hearings	364	250
Attorney Referrals	1	0
County Referrals	182	215

HAYWARD AIRPORT

The Board reviewed two possible alternatives for the airport expansion. The first alternative was at the western-most boundary. The street extension would wrap around and connect to Corsair Blvd. on the south side of the Airport. The second option is to construct a Tunnel which would keep the road close to its original alignment by building under the area where the Runway Safety Zone extends. The Tunnel Alternative would add \$35 million to the existing cost estimates.

Resident Ernie Delligatti, a representative for the San Lorenzo Homes Association on the airport committee, stated that there are several issues with both of the proposals. Future roads in the area would cause the airport to lose at least 1000 feet of runway and thus the amount of jets in and out of the airport would need to be decreased. He noted that the other option to put a tunnel under the area would create problems with Homeland Security that the City would not be able to mitigate. We continue to monitor the situation and report to homeowners.

STUDY COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE

We continue to work with Supervisor Miley in an effort to improve better local control in County government. An Unincorporated Area Group named the Neighborhood Advisory Group (NAG) comprised of community leaders from San Lorenzo, Ashland, Cherryland, Hillcrest Knolls and Fairview was created to focus on the following responsibilities:

- 1) Serve as a resource for citizen input and advice on community issues
- 2) Identify and address issues of concern to the community
- 3) Develop and recommend priorities for services and methods of service delivery in the community
- 4) Review proposed County spending in the community. Recommend priority issues that the group has dealt with this year, including the marijuana ordinance, billboards, the housing element, and a proposed moratorium for Cherryland.



July 4th

This year we added yet another Celebration to our calendar. Our very own Old Fashioned Fourth of July celebration!

We had a day jam packed with activities for the children all the way to the Great Grandparents. We had local performers sing patriotic songs and had our Supervisor Alice Lai Bitker judge some very important parking lot games. In addition to a teen talent show we also had a pie making contest, a pet disaster preparedness demonstration and a power point presentation on the history of the Association. We had nearly 300 in attendance that day which far exceeded our expectations

REDEVELOPMENT CAC COMMITTEE

This past year there was a study conducted to purchase the Church property at Hacienda and Via Toledo. Some of the possible uses for the building were for a multi-purpose center, park or community garden. After discovery it was discussed that the committee felt the price of the property in its current condition plus the necessary funds for renovation would not be the best use of the committee funds.

This year the (CAC) the Citizen Advisory Committee approved the funding of the expansion of the Castro Valley Chamber to include the unincorporated areas of Ashland, Cherryland and San Lorenzo. We now have the Castro Valley Eden Area Chamber which is currently expanding its reach to businesses in the unincorporated area. The Chamber currently operates in the unincorporated area out of Supervisor Lai Bitkers office.

Redevelopment also approved the purchase of New Neighborhood Watch signs and stickers to replace outdated and worn signs. In addition there was the approval of monies to purchase graffiti removal kits which do a tremendous job of removing unsightly graffiti.

SAN LORENZO ECUMENICAL FOOD PANTRY

This last year found Director Medeiros volunteering his time at the San Lorenzo Food pantry. Over the past year the food pantry has gone from serving 400 families to over 1800. The pantry has recently received its 501C-3 non profit stats and is starting a drive to receive corporate donations. In addition they are extending their reach to a Family Help Center where they help process food stamp applications.

Committees and Meetings:

Board Members, and/or the Administrator, staff and community members of the Association represent the Association on the following committees either by being a member of the committee or by attending meetings:

Board of Supervisors Unincorporated Meeting; Economic Development Committee; Community Engagement Committee; Ordinance Review Committee; Eden Area Redevelopment Committee; COP Shop; Health is just not Healthcare; Oakland Airport Noise Forum; Eden Area Youth Collaborative; Alameda County Budget Committee; Sheriff's Advisory Committee; San Lorenzo School District Board Meetings; San Lorenzo Little League; League of Women Voters; Alameda Co. Tree Advisory Board; San Lorenzo Theater Association; Alameda Co. Board of Zoning Adjustments; Alameda Co. Planning Commission; San Lorenzo Library Advisory Committee; San Lorenzo Initiative; San Lorenzo Youth Committee and the San Lorenzo Specific Plan Committee.