MINUTES

LUCERNE VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (LVEDA)

TUESDAY, NOV 7, 2017 -- 5PM -- SENIOR CENTER

[Board voted to pay $300 to SCE (or someone they choose) to get the Sunshot project going.

December meeting -- devote entire meeting to schools and their PowerPoint presentation about the progress they and the students are making. Have it be our Christmas potluck strictly.]

Meeting called to order 5PM. Minutes approved, moved Magee, second Rib. Attendance taken.

Treasurer's report: Collection last month $70. Paid $500 insurance. Balance $3776.46.

Sgt. Siebert wants addresses of marijuana grows in LV. Call in to Substation at 760-2486686 or 760-2487328. Much concern about the overall effect on civility by the pot farms and what they represent.

Cong. Cook (Dakota Higgins): Cong. Cook has been named Chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee under the House Foreign Affairs Committee. In this committee, they will deal with the Kingpin Act, which has to do with moving money around (laundering) to avoid detection and legal enforcement. Re Tax Reform Act: Cook hasn’t taken a position yet due to too many moving pieces. Medical deduction set to go away. LG commented that as it stands, NFIB is opposed to the bill for the unfair treatment of big business compared to small business. Dakota promised to take the comments back to Cook.

Assemblyman Obernolte by Chris Scott. The current legislative session has ended. Obernolte had 8 bills progress through the system, and governor has signed several. Others may be signed in next session. Chuck Bell brought up the subject of hauled water, requesting that there be a bill to exempt just our local area (High Desert and mountains) since it is such an important, localized issue. Jean Fuller or Obernolte to author the bill? Scott repeated that the local district office is there to help with any state-based issues for the constituents.

Third District absent. Comment made that Ramos no longer tries to represent the desert areas of his district.

MWA by Jim Ventura. Jim discussed the pressures and costs of water issues, statewide, including the repair of the Oroville Dam and a pair of water tunnels being considered under the Sacto Delta. In order to raise the money for this, there may be an increase on property tax bills, under Mojave Water Agency 2. Or under consideration: sell or lease some of our water entitlement. Nov. and Dec. board meetings will start at 3:30 due to holiday busyness. In Jan., MWA board and committee meetings will begin at 9:30 AM. ABC’s of Water coming soon.

LV School District by Jim Harvey. Enrollment slightly up at 719. Thursday’s School Board meeting will be a public hearing to consider adding a third charter school, aimed at talented athletes, to provide home studies and a coach at their chosen sport. At next month’s LVEDA, the District will present a Powerpoint on the goings on at the school. Richard requested that Jim include more detail on charter schools and how they affect kids’ performance. Chuck pointed out that the school is starting an Adult Computer Class, Thursdays at 4-6PM for morons like himself.

Book project reported by Bill Lembright. Moving sloooowly. Same report as last month.

Ride in the Rocks – per Dave Rader, no results in funds raised are in yet.

MAC meeting will be Thursday, 11/16.

Community Plan: Terri Rahal at County says that consultants were primarily responsible for the gobbledygook.

Richard Selby gave his presentation on Crossroads Senior Community, the history of how the idea came about, and its current status. We now have an official and excellent Needs Assessment produced by Jim Wolf of Gobar & Associates, plus a conceptual drawing of how it might look that matches the assessment. Dave Rib reported that we are into the project for about $12,000, much less than anticipated, and significant amounts contributed by parties outside LVEDA. Richard and his partner Dennis Gentry have done most of the work. We can now take the document and drawing to parties who might be interested in doing the project.

Bill Lembright asked about the status and next steps in fight against industrial scale solar. Chuck and Richard put together a LVEDA position statement stating our strong demand to restore the portion of the Community Plan (CP) that would prohibit industrial scale renewable projects in communities with CP’s. (This was removed by sleight of hand by Ramos.)

Other things that could assist in our efforts to keep these projects out: The status of Hwy 247 as potentially a Scenic Highway could kill some projects. The Office of Ratepayers’ Advocate of the Public Utilities Commission, together with the requests by PG&E and SCE to stop building new renewable generation installations until 2030, due to a glut of solar power, could kill them. The horrible demographics and income levels of Lucerne Valley, as stated in our Senior Needs Assessment, could kill or slow them, since we cannot affort non-productive, non-revenue-producing projects here. An adherence to the County Vision Statement, which states that unwanted crap should not be imposed on our communities, might help. The County Solar Ordinance says there should be no large-scale renewable energy projects in CP’s should be cause for the Renewable Energy Conservation Element to be brought into line with it.

Sunshot: Lorrie found a good company to do a feasibility study. We have to pay $300 application fee to SCE to get things started.

December LVEDA will focus on the School District Powerpoint, and also it will be a potluck. Jean Magee will be coordinator for the food. Please call her at 760-9531513 or email at jean.magee@ymail.com.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50PM