

OLD TORRANCE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MARCH 18, 2009
MEETING MINUTES
BARTLETT SENIOR CENTER

OTNA President Trish Stewart brought the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 p.m. and acknowledged the current Officers, Vice President Bob Voeste, Treasurer Jim Herren and Secretary Delores Sutherland.

In attendance at tonight's meeting was Torrance City Councilman Pat Furey, also the current President of the Torrance Education Foundation. Trish Stewart asked that he give us a brief update of the upcoming summer school program that will be available in our city– which is being referred to as the “South Bay Enrichment Academy.” This is a positive move to continue to help students in the Torrance Unified School District maintain necessary educational requirements. The program is scheduled to begin the first week of July.

Also in attendance at this evenings meeting was Joan Waddell, a new OTNA member and staff member of the Alcoholism Council of the South Bay, located here in downtown Torrance. Joan has worked with this organization for many years, and in the past few years has been personally responsible for organizing efforts to keep some local beaches in the South Bay smoke free and clear of related trash. If you would like to participate in helping in these efforts you may contact her directly.

Jim Herren presented our current Treasurer's Report and reminded everyone that OTNA is now accepting membership renewal fees for 2010 – cost is only \$10.00. Jim also

presented the membership with the list of charities, which OTNA would like to support in this upcoming year:

Armed Forces Day Parade
Torrance High School = Sober Grad Night
Switzer Center
American Cancer Society – Relay for Life

Motion was made by Janet Payne and seconded by Delores Sutherland to approve this year's donations.

OTNA Membership was advised that OTNA was recently recognized by the Kiwanis Club of Torrance and the Lomita-Torrance Airport Rotary Club with a “Community Partnership Award” by Mayor Scotto for their efforts over the past years in implementing bi-monthly neighborhood cleanups. A special thanks to Charles Payne for spearheading this ongoing program!

Reminder that the 28th Annual “Easter in El Prado Park” will be taking place on Sunday, April 12th at 10:00 a.m. sponsored by the Exxon Mobil Corporation.

Trish introduced this month's sponsor, John Hahn, who is the Assistant Vice President at our local Bank of America. OTNA members were given a generous “refer a friend” offer and OTNA members may contact John directly for details.

Our special guest speaker this evening was Dr. Connie Vadheim, professor at California State University Dominguez Hills and who also works closely with the naturalists at Madrona Marsh. She gave an extremely interesting and informative presentation relative to landscaping with the use of California native plants, particularly those that can be used here our neighborhoods in Old Downtown Torrance. The residents themselves can actually do much of this type of planting. THANKS CONNIE!

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 20th, 2009 at the Bartlett Senior Center. Refreshments will be served at 7:00 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.