



NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL #4
TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2024, 7:00 P.M.
SIMI VALLEY LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM
2969 TAPO CANYON ROAD
SPECIAL MEETING LOCATION

AGENDA

NC #4 Chair	Gina Truncale
NC #4 Vice Chair	Don Diamond
NC #4 Secretary	Amy Obringer
City Council Liaison	Council Member Elaine Litster

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance

2. Agenda Review

3. Approval of Minutes

4. Correspondence

5. Public Statements/Comments

This is the time allotted for public statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Executive Board not on the agenda. Statements and comments are limited to no more than three (3) minutes per speaker.

6. Informational Presentation(s)

a. Drops of Change – Strategies for Water Conservation

7. New Business: None

8. City Staff Comments



9. Executive Board Comments

This is the time allotted for Executive Board member statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Neighborhood Councils, to give an Ad Hoc Committee Report, or to make any announcements related to community events and other items of interest.

10. Adjournment: Tuesday, May 21, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

/s/
Mara Malch
Deputy Environmental Services Director

If any interested individual has a disability that may require accommodation to participate in this meeting, please call the Neighborhood Council Program at (805) 583-6756. Upon advance notification, reasonable arrangements will be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Welcome

Chair Gina Truncale called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. She also confirmed that a quorum was present.

Gina Truncale	P	Tracy Bodis	P
Don Diamond	P	Holly Harpham	P
Amy Obringer	P	Amber Powell	P
Dale Cutler	P	Kris Mauldin	A
David Hechter	P	Salwa Scarpone	P
Steven Koep	P	Vacant	
Susan Derksen	P	P=Present; E=Excused; A=Absent	

2. Agenda Review

No changes were made to the agenda.

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Don Diamond and seconded by Salwa Scarpone to approve the March 19, 2024 minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Correspondence

Jan Smith vacated her seat.

5. Public Statements/Comments: None

6. Informational Presentation(s)

a. State of the Region

Samantha Argabrite, Assistant City Manager, delivered the State of the Region Report, distributing State of the Region books to attendees. In 2021, the county’s population was 845,225 with a median age of 38.7. Birth rates are decreasing in Ventura County with 8,785 babies born in 2021. Public school and community college enrollments are declining. Income disparities persist, with men earning more than women across all education levels. In 2021, the per capita income was \$41,863, and the median household income was \$94,150. Political affiliation leans towards Democrats, except in Simi Valley, where Republicans hold the majority. Ventura County’s gross product was \$58.3 billion in 2021, yet the high cost of living persists, with soaring home prices exceeding \$1 million in some areas of the county. Rental rates remain steep and remote work is on the rise. Agriculture remains a significant sector, with strawberries generating \$662.7 million in revenue in 2022. Employment trends show a strong recovery from

pandemic losses. After a 7% decline in jobs from 2019 to 2020, the county saw two years of solid job growth, capped by 4% growth in 2022; the best single year of the 21st century. Despite job growth post-pandemic, industries with higher compensations are shrinking. The county's nonprofit sector employs over 10,000 individuals but offers below-average wages. The county faces challenges, including high rates of opioid deaths, COVID-19 fatalities, and a growing population experiencing housing insecurity or homelessness. Despite these challenges, Ventura County maintains a low crime rate, making it one of the safest large counties in California.

7. New Business

- a. Nomination of a representative and alternate to the Committee for Community Rating System (CRS) and Program for Public Information (PPI)

Upon conclusion of the discussion, Don Diamond moved and with a second from Tracy Bodis to nominate Steven Koep as the representative and Amber Powell as alternate to the Committee for Community Rating System (CRS) and Program for Public Information (PPI). The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Nomination of a representative to the Community Projects Grant (CPG) Review Committee

Upon conclusion of the discussion, Amy Obringer moved and with a second from Tracy Bodis to nominate David Hechter as the representative to the Community Projects Grant (CPG) Review Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

8. City Staff Comments

Kelly Duffy asked all Executive Board members to make sure they are signed up for govDelivery with the City to receive Neighborhood Council meeting packets, press releases, city news, and much more. She also announced recruitment for new Neighborhood Council Executive Board members will conclude on Friday, March 29, 2024. She asked Executive Board members to continue to share the recruitment with neighbors. The Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center Foundation is accepting applications. The deadline is Friday, March 29, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. There is a Housing Rights Workshop at the Simi Valley Public Library on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. Flyers were made available for the workshop. Free Easter breakfast for seniors is hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Simi Valley, on Sunday, March 31, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Simi Valley Senior Center. The Simi Valley Council On Aging (COA) will host their Bingo Bonanza at the Simi Valley Senior Center on Saturday, April 6, 2024.

9. Executive Board Comments

Dale Cutler announced there will be a free senior breakfast on Sunday, March 31, 2024, at the Senior Center.

Salwa Scarpone, Susan Derksen, and Gina Truncale announced the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Foundation needs people for the its board. The Foundation is the fundraising arm of the Cultural Arts Center.

Don Diamond reported that Council Member Elaine Litster will be performing in the Orchestra with him at the Little House on the Prairie 50th Anniversary Cast Reunion and Festival.

David Hechter announced the Simi Valley Acorn, a newspaper covering Simi Valley and Ventura County, has been sold. The digital issue is now available online for free.

Steven Koep announced Stoneridge Golf Tournament to benefit Sarah's House Maternity Homes will take place at Tierra Rejada Golf Club in Moorpark on Friday, May 10, 2024.

10. Adjournment: Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

By consensus of the Executive Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.