

# MEETING MINUTES

April 18, 2013

*Crescenta Valley Town Council  
The Community That Cares  
www.theCVcouncil.com*

*Welcome to the monthly meeting of the Crescenta Valley Town Council.*

*Please turn off, or set to manner mode, cellular phones while inside the Council meeting*



1. Call to Order & Welcome President Davis at 7:02 PM
2. Presentation of Colors by the CV High School JROTC & Flag Salute led by Councilmember Harry Leon
3. Invocation Father Ghevont Karazian, Pastor of the Armenian Apostolic Church of Crescenta Valley
4. Roll Call Recording Secretary Cheung  
Councilmembers Davis, Beyt, Beatty, Battles, Leon, Erickson, Claessens, Cheung, Dickson, Thomas, and Marshall present. Councilmember Suh absent.
5. Approval of Agenda for April 18, 2013 – Motion by Councilmember Beyt, Second by Councilmember Leon. Approved unanimously
6. Approval of Minutes from March 21, 2013 – Motion by Councilmember Beyt, Second by Councilmember Beatty. Approved unanimously.
7. Proclamation – Armenian Genocide Mike Keleshian, Director of the Crescenta Valley Armenian Community & Youth Center
8. Youth Council Lori Mandjikian (3 minutes)
  - a. Adopted draft of CV Youth Council Logo, seeking approval from council
  - b. Basketball fundraiser with 3-on-3 games
  - c. Presentation from CVHS Organic Garden Club – seeking partnership with the city of La Crescenta
    - i. Councilmember Erickson: Do you have approval from the district? Yes, they are working with teachers and administrators to make sure that the project is sustainable.
    - ii. Councilmember Marshall: How much are you trying to raise? Working with the school to figure out how much funding needs to be raised and how much needs to be
    - iii. Councilmember Erickson: In calling it a community garden, does that mean that people in the community can plant their own things? No, but the land and the produce will be accessible to the public. Councilmember Beatty: Suggests having a fundraising basket at organizations
    - iv. Councilmember Battles: Would like to invite the club to the ASTER Board meeting, which would be a great resource for the club.
    - v. Councilmember Davis: How can we stay in touch with you with resources or thoughts for your club? There is a Facebook page, and people can also contact Mrs. Widaman, at jwidaman@gusd.net.
    - vi. Councilmember Leon, Mr. Mike Keleshian: The Armenian Community Center will donate \$300 to the organization.
9. The Boys and Girls Club of Burbank & Greater East Valley Lianne Depino, Area Director (3 minutes)
  - i. Purpose is to inspire and enabling all young people to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens.

- ii. Started programming next to the CV Dog Park for youth. Connected with CVDAPC and will be presenting 40 Assets. Looking forward to a continued partnership in the area.
- 10. Arbor Day (April 20) Councilmember Beatty (3 minutes)
  - i. Will be this coming Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, with great presentations, community organizations, Supervisor Antonovich, and Sheriff Lee Baca.
  - ii. *Councilmember Claessens: Will a tree be planted at Two Strike Park?* No, a tree will be planted on Ensinal Ave. and Pennsylvania Blvd for Nico Pappas' Eagle Scout project.
- 11. Scholarships Councilmember Harry Leon (3 minutes)
  - i. 11 scholarships and 3 excellence awards will be given out. Names will be given out when scholarship recipients are notified. Slightly short on funding, and seeking additional help (tax-deductible)
- 12. Crescenta Valley Prayer Breakfast Councilmember Leon (3 minutes)
  - i. May 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 doors open, 7:00 – 8:30 AM at the Mormon Church with Mr. James Smiley speaking. CVHS students are invited to come.
- 13. First Responder's Reports
  - a. CHP Officer Kevin Denmon
    - i. Dip in citations is because the COPS officer still in training, but will be back out. Appreciated the chance to present a booth at the Hometown Country Fair to interact with members of the community.
    - ii. Traffic collisions are down – people are paying attention and being more careful.
    - iii. Press conference at Burroughs High School for National Distracted Driving month – will be citing people more aggressively.
    - iv. *Councilmember Leon: Is there any special program or announcement for the upcoming graduation and prom season?* Has been getting lots of phone calls to do seminars and assemblies at the schools. Schools can have their expenses reimbursed through a grant from the state to stage a fake mock traffic collision.
    - v. *Councilmember Beyt: What is the cost for talking and driving?* First-time fine is \$150, but the second time, it doubles.
    - vi. *Councilmember Erickson: Would like to formally invite you to the Arbor Day event.*
    - vii. *Councilmember Cheung: What qualifies as ticket-able distracted driving?* Use of phones or GPS is ticketed. Eating, putting on makeup, shaving.
    - viii. *Councilmember Dickson: What is the most current information on using your GPS system while you're at a stoplight.* Any time you are in transit, you cannot be using anything in your hands – even if it's in your hands. If it's mounted on your dashboard or windshield, that is okay. The best thing to do is to mount it.
  - b. Los Angeles Sheriff Capt. Dave Silversparre
    - i. Had Volunteer Appreciation Dinner for 140 people appreciating 25,000 hours of volunteer work throughout the community.
    - ii. Responded to 271 calls in March. No homicides or robberies, 1 rape, 2 aggravated assaults (domestic violence), 5 burglaries, and 13 larceny/thefts.
    - iii. Mondays are active theft days. 5 people taken in for residential burglaries. Recovered an item that was stolen in a Cypress residential burglary.
    - iv. 6 CV locker thefts, 2 commercial thefts. 2 auto thefts on the 2900 block of Los Olivos Ln.
    - v. Please call if there are suspicious cases and we will respond
    - vi. *Councilmember Thomas: Has crime increased in the La Crescenta area?* 3 years of 14% crime reductions, last year there was a 7% drop. *Are any of those recent arrests from recent jail releases.* Yes.
    - vii. *Councilmember Leon: Any specific times that those burglaries happen?* Most are during the daytime for residential burglaries.
    - viii. *Councilmember Battles: People are considering a neighborhood watch on Gertrude Ln.* Please contact Deputy Jorge Valdivia – the neighborhood watch programs

ix. *Councilmember Dickson: Can you say anything about the incident at the pharmacy in Montrose? I don't currently have any information, but will send updated information through Cheryl*

c. Los Angeles County Fire

Stephanie English

- i. 31 emergency medical responses, 1 hazardous, 1 fire call, 6 good intent calls. The LA County Fire Department stands ready with partnering agencies to respond to any terrorist attack – they have an internal homeland security department that is ready to respond to any crisis. Certified by the UN to deploy anywhere in the world for emergency operations.
- ii. Upcoming CERT class at Camp 2, SCE and California Fire Safe Council will be sponsoring the class. A chief will be teaching a class. May 11, 18, 25<sup>th</sup> from 9AM-4PM. Free lunch and breakfast with the firefighters at Camp 2 and can easily plug into the CV CERT structure.
- iii. New training for high school 9<sup>th</sup> graders to “train a generation of lifesavers.” Chest compressions can save a life, even if there is no mouth-to-mouth respiration. Doing this at Crescenta Valley High School and the Firehouse. Compressions are supposed to be 2” deep, and ribs are often broken. Asking Jenny to come back to the CV Town Council and to train at least a few people in the family, take them back to Fire station 63, and they will load Pulsepoint app onto their smart phone.
- iv. *Councilmember Leon: Congratulations on the opening of the new fire headquarters*

d. Senator Carol Liu's Office

Vickere Murphy

e. *Councilmember Battles: CV Dogs was the 5<sup>th</sup> District's Los Angeles County volunteer organization of the year, and Cheryl was recognized for her hard work.*

14. Public Comments and Community Announcements

*Please submit a speaker card to the President or Vice President. Discussion is limited to items NOT a part of this agenda. Each speaker is allowed 3 minutes. Council may ask questions or respond to the speaker but there will be no debate or decision. The President may refer the matter to the appropriate committee for investigation and report.*

- Public Comments that pertain to Safety / First Responders
- Mary O'Keefe, Prom Plus and Fire House
  - PTSA is now supporting the Firehouse with volunteers with Thursday. Will be open every third (subsequently changed to the first) Thursday with food. Also met with Rosemont PTA – Firehouse will be open in the morning Mon 4/22 and Tue 4/23 from 7:15 - 10:30 AM for testing.
  - Editing movie on pressure of school and positive ways to deal with the pressure. Had more footage than they thought. Also doing survey on drugs, social hosting, and cutting, making its way through GUSD and going into pilot programs with 10<sup>th</sup> graders in all the district schools.
  - Skate park money and design is there and the kids are ready to answer any questions.
  - Prom Plus: Taste of Montrose coming up on May 5<sup>th</sup> – approaching celebration of 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Prom Plus. Prom is on May 18<sup>th</sup>, and April 20<sup>th</sup> is a rummage sale to support the program. Also looking for volunteers to stay up for Prom Plus.
  - Please take some time and look at crosswalks, especially in school areas. A student was hit in the crosswalk at Altura and Pennsylvania.
  - *Councilmember Beatty: We have a great paper in the CV Weekly, and appreciate Mary and Jason's reporting.*
  - *Councilmember Leon: Grateful for your work for the community through the Firehouse, CV Weekly, etc.*
  - *Audience 1: Wasn't the Altura and Pennsylvania corner the same spot where a student was killed years ago? Yes, there previously was not crosswalk and signal.*
- Paul Dutton, CV CERT

- Had last class with Mark Yeager and YMCA Chaplain Corps, also with the LA County Clergy Council. CV CERT Saturday on April 27<sup>th</sup> at Rosemont from 9AM – 12PM. Will be inviting the Red Cross partnering more closely, and Lisa Dutton of CV CERT is now a certified Red Cross trainer. Also now Teen CERT certified.
- Roger Young, CV Fire Safe Council (not present)
- Suzy Jacobs, CV Drug & Alcohol Prevention Coalition
  - Will be at Arbor Day. 60 people were trained to bring the 40 Developmental Assets to the community. Two more free parenting classes at the YMCA – first about “motivation”, and second about “proms and parties.” Drug take-back event partnering with DEA on April 27<sup>th</sup> from 10AM – 2PM at CVS, Rite Aid. 60 kids showed up at Rosemont Middle School for an anti-drug club.
- Mike Baldwin, American Legion & Warren Spayth, VFW 1614, Two Strike Memorial Wall (not present)
- Marta Wiggins, La Crescenta Library
  - Lots of events going on for everyone in the community. Calendar of events is available online on the library’s website.
- Southern California Edison Ben Wong
  - Sent about 130 workers to the restoration effort in response to Hurricane Sandy for a total of about 33,000 hours. Update on the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project to meet the SCE
  - Sharon substation will have its fence replaced with a privacy link (vinyl flats) and are paying extra for the chain links to be the same forest green. Barbed wire will be facing more inward to be less visible.
  - Easement being requested in November 2012 to upgrade electrical facilities in this community for reliability purposes. 4 circuits are running at 45% at peak over ideal operating condition. Wearing out too quickly. Looking at alternative spots from an engineering standpoint and with other conflicts in mind at Two Strike Park. Had eliminated consideration of the original location at the request of the CVTC. Will involve additional costs, and will no longer need an easement at Two Strike Park.
  - *Councilmember Marshall: Will there be a line crossing over Rosemont Ave?* No, there is not an additional power line planned for this project at this time.
  - *Councilmember Erickson: How will the additional needed power be provided to the community?* Engineers are looking into alternative ways of upgrading the system.
- Crescenta Valley Community Association Sharon Weisman
  - CVCA Meeting in the La Crescenta Library Community Room for businesses on Foothill Blvd. (between Pennsylvania and Lowell). Glendale City, Police Department, and Chamber of Commerce will be present at the April meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 – 9:00PM at the La Crescenta Library. Some student committee members are going along the Foothill Blvd. business corridor to help implement the North Glendale Community Plan.
- Leonard Ghazarian, CV Chamber of Commerce (not present)
- Public Comments that do not pertain to Safety / First Responders (none)

15. Presentation – The Crescenta-Canada YMCA outlining the actions being taken at the Y to address the suicide/attempted suicide by the teens in our community Pastor Mark Yeager
- a. Wanting to train professionals to provide assistance for families and teenagers with professional mental, spiritual and emotional healthcare. The YMCA Chaplain services has 29 chaplains in training now in NIMHs compliant responses through FEMA.
  - b. *Councilmember Thomas: Do you still consider the YMCA a Christian organization?* Trained with three different organizations, and don’t want people to feel like they need to feel stuck in a

religious context when seeking help. YMCA has not stopped being Christian, but it has tried to serve the entire community, regardless of their faith or status.

16. Presentation - Susan Blauner, Director of Operations, Saving Lives Drug and Alcohol Coalition and Bradley Beach, District Administrator, California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC)
  - a. Drug Free Communities grantee to reduce drug and alcohol use in the San Fernando Valley through education, media advocacy, increased enforcement, and changing policies. No signage addressed the multi-ethnic community when working in the San Fernando Valley. ABC was helpful and supportive.
  - b. Signs were translated into Spanish, Armenian, Korean, Tagalog, Chinese – and certified by the ABC. Was certified twice to be sure that the language was correct. Came up with “Coalition Project in a Box” with resources for communities. Campaign is to reduce access to reduce usage. Encourages responsible vendors to stay responsible and stay in dialogue with the community.
  - c. Coalition will need to pay for printing signs (\$3.85/ea for 100 signs). Saving Lives will prepare letter design and envelopes.
  - d. Asking for permission to post signs in the CV community with 3-4 logos: ABC on the left, Saving Lives on the right, and 1-2 in between. Asking for permission to use the CVTC logo in conjunction with the CVDAPC logo on signs (the CVDAPC will be paying for printing)
  - e. Legal problems with doing more compliance checks “shoulder taps”
  - f. Website is: [www.savinglivescoalition.org](http://www.savinglivescoalition.org)
  - g. Motion by Councilmember Leon to endorse the Saving Lives Coalition and its efforts, and to support the CVDAPC in following up with vendors and posting signs, which will include the CV Town Council logo. Seconded by Councilmember Beatty. Motion adopted unanimously.
  - h. *Councilmember Battles: CVTC logo will only be featured in the unincorporated area, right? Yes, only in the unincorporated area. Does this include restaurants, liquor stores, gas stations? Yes.*
  - i. *Councilmember Claessens: Is this a problem in our area? Yes, it absolutely is. 27% get alcohol from adult friend’s home.*
17. Council Business
  - a. Correspondence Corresponding Secretary Battles
    - i. Complaint about vendor on NW corner of Briggs and Foothill. Code enforcement has contacted the property owner about current unpermitted use and has spoken with vendor about not selling without a permit.
    - ii. Dept of Public works – Contract with Allied Works ends in 2014. Will be presenting in the future.
    - iii. Complaint about 3000 block of Stevens – blight complaint (referred to code enforcement)
  - b. March/April 2013 Treasurer’s Report Treasurer Erickson
    - i. Motion to approve by Councilmember Erickson. Seconded by Councilmember Cheung. Motion approved unanimously.
18. Committee Reports and Items from Council
  - a. Land Use Committee
    - i. R1 Exploratory Committee re April 11 Councilmember Robert Thomas  
Land Use Meeting w/County Planning
      - County came to Land Use meeting and gave 6 options to pursue.
      - The following conclusions were presented: Because of the discouraging turn out for last week’s Land Use Meeting, it seems reasonable to estimate that there is not a strong community desire to change the R1 Zone ordinance. As stated by one of the attendees, “No one is leading this charge and it could take 6-7 years.” In addition, there seems to be a consensus from both sides at the LUM that there was, “a need for better code enforcement.”
      - The R1 Exploratory Committee therefore recommends the following, that: 1) No action be taken at this time regarding changing the existing R1 Single Family Residential Code, 2) The CVTC write a letter to Supervisor Michael Antonovich

recommending that he advise LA County Planning to implement a specific and effective “action plan” that will provide better code enforcement of existing code for our community. Said “action plan” will be presented as soon as possible to our Land Use Committee.

- *Councilmember Beatty: In the past, there was an attempt at redefining the code, but it was not adopted by the County.*
- *Councilmember Claessens: Motion to adopt and file the committee report.*
- *Councilmember Thomas: Would like the County to come up with a solution with regard to homes that have not been up to code so that the County could double-check.*
- *Councilmember Davis: R-1 Subcommittee should have made a motion at the Land Use Meeting so the Land Use Committee could have come with a recommendation tonight and this was not done.*
- *Councilmember Battles: Didn't Supervisor Antonovich already write a letter about the lack of continued enforcement and put something in motion? (Councilmember Davis) Yes, procedural changes were made. Due to the fact that this whole survey has been going for almost three years, when 30 people were in the room, they would think that Land Use would go to those people and ask them for their opinion.*
- *Councilmember Erickson: Was there a signup sheet that was taken for people who want to be followed up on? (Councilmember Davis) Yes, it was emailed to Councilmembers Battles and Thomas. Will re-email to Councilmember Thomas and include Councilmember Erickson.*
- *Audience 1: This has been going on for years, but has never been able to express concerns, point of view or input because it's never an open forum. Was here on Thursday, but was not allowed to vote on points presented. Began with the overbuilding of lots in our community.*
- *Audience 2: We have to be careful in our community. Both a homeowner and developer and we need to be careful to block non-conforming homes. As a builder, you can make any types of boxes, or make restrictions, and he could make a plan that would fit that code. As a homeowner, he does not want to have to deal with that. Frankly, there are not any lots left here that can be developed. If we put in more restrictions that make our homes non-conforming, it will hurt us in the future.*
- **Motion by Councilmember Thomas to accept the recommendation of the R1 exploratory subcommittee. Seconded by Councilmember Beatty. Council members Thomas and Beatty in favor. Council member Battles abstains. Councilmembers Cheung, Beyt, Davis, Claessens, Erickson, and Leon oppose. Motion denied.**
- **Motion to receive and file the report from the R1 committee with no action. Seconded by Councilmember Beatty. Councilmembers Davis, Erickson, Battles, Cheung, and Beatty opposed. Councilmembers Thomas, Claessens, Beyt, Leon in favor. Motion denied.**
- *Councilmember Davis: Issue should be picked up again when the Land Use Committee reconvenes, especially if outside members are allowed onto the committee.*

ii. Hankook Market CUP

Land Use Chair Frank Beyt

- **Motion by Councilmember Beyt to accept the CVTC Land Use Committee's recommendation to the CV Town Council for approval of this CUP with the condition to include the sale of only Korean sake. Second by Councilmember Claessens. Councilmembers Davis, Beyt, Cheung, Claessens, Beatty, Thomas, Erickson in favor. Councilmembers Battles and Leon opposed.**

iii. 2013 Land Use Committee

Land Use Chair Frank Beyt

- **Motion by Councilmember Beyt to adopt the recommendation of the Land Use Committee in reference to the composition of Land Use Committee membership that:**

“Members of the CVTC have the right of first refusal to serve on the LUC. Town Council members who opt to not serve on the LUC can vacate their seat and registered voters or property owners in unincorporated La Crescenta-Montrose can apply to be appointed to serve on the LUC. This potential LUC member would need to be approved by a majority vote of the full CVTC. A quorum of a LUC is 5.” Councilmember Thomas opposed. Councilmember Beatty abstains. Councilmember Cheung, Leon, Beyt, Erickson, Battles, Davis, and

- iv. SCE Proposed Easement at Two Strike Park Vice President Beyt
- Edison has decided not to ask for an easement into Two Strike Park
  - Members of CVTC thanked Vice President Beyt for all his hard work and coordination on this issue.
- b. Outreach Committee Recording Secretary Cheung
- i. Motion to approve use of the CVTC logo for publication of "Minutes-in-Brief"
- Motion to approve the publication of a one-page “Community Announcements” sheet for posting at community centers, local restaurants, and coffee shops with public safety announcements and a community calendar with events by non-profit organizations in the La Crescenta/Montrose area with council approval via email. Seconded by Councilmember Beatty. Approved unanimously.
- ii. Motion to approve use of the CVTC logo for publication of a Korean "Community Announcements"
- Motion by Councilmember Cheung to authorize a partnership with the Korean American Federation of North Los Angeles to publish a community announcements page in Korean, translated directly from the CVTC “Community Announcements” with the same requirements when the CVTC logo is used. Seconded by Councilmember Beatty. Approved unanimously.
- c. Youth Town Council
- i. Motion by Councilmember Cheung to authorize the Crescenta Valley Youth Town Council, a committee of the Crescenta Valley Town Council, to draft and approve a logo for committee correspondence with the stipulation that all committee regulations are followed, including supervision and approval by the Youth Committee chairperson(s) of all correspondence, and notifying the full town council of all activity and correspondence. Seconded by Councilmember Leon. Approved unanimously.
- d. Clean and Green Committee Councilmember Marshall
- i. Crescenta Commons
- Motion by the Crescenta Town Council Clean & Green Committee will accept responsibility for the ongoing support of the Crescenta Commons area located on the Southwest corner of Rosemont and Orange. Motion to accept the recommendation by Councilmember Marshall. Seconded by Councilmember Claessens. Motion approved unanimously.
- ii. Will be meeting on May 1<sup>st</sup> at Paul Rabinov’s house. Also meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup>
- iii. Troop 288 has a Pancake Breakfast on May 11<sup>th</sup> at St. Luke’s.
- e. *Councilmember Beatty: Glendale/Verdugo Chamber will be present*
19. **Adjourn in memory of the volunteer firefighters in Texas.** Adopted unanimously. Adjourned at 10:07 PM.

### Announcements

- Saturday, April 20, 10:00 AM – CV Town Council’s Arbor Day Celebration at Two Strike Park
- Thursday, April 25, 7:00 PM – CVCA Meeting in the La Crescenta Library’s Community Room featuring a candidate forum for GUSD Board of Education Candidates
- Sat., April 27, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM – CV CAN Special Olympics Track and Field Meet at CVHS

- Tuesday, April 30, 7:00 PM - Anti Bullying Event at the CV Armenian Center
- Wednesday, May 1, 7:00 PM - CVTC Clean & Green Committee Mtg at Paul Rabinov's
- Sun., May 5 – Prom Plus' Taste of Montrose with Wags N Whiskers at Montrose Harvest Market
- Thursday, May 9, 6:30-8:30 PM – Regularly Scheduled CVTC Land Use Committee Meeting in the La Crescenta Library's Community Room
- Sat. May 11 9:00 AM to Sun. May 12, 9:00 AM – Foothills Relay for Life at Clark Magnet High
- Sat May 11, 18, 25, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM – LA County Fire CERT Training at LACoFD Camp 2 (4810 Oak Grove Dr., La Canada). Reservations must be made online at [www.fire.lacounty.gov/CERT](http://www.fire.lacounty.gov/CERT)
- Thursday, May 16, 2013 6:00 PM – CV Youth Council General Meeting in the La Crescenta Library Community
- **Thursday, May 16, 7:00 PM - CVTC General Meeting at La Crescenta Library Community Room**
- Sat. May 18 midnight to Sun. May 19 6:00 AM – Prom Plus at the YMCA of the Foothills
- Tue., May 21, 7:00-8:30 AM – CV Prayer Breakfast “Stay Focused” at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (4550 Raymond Ave, La Crescenta, just south of Rosemont Middle School)
- Saturday, May 25 – Clean & Green Committee's Foothill Cleanup (more info to follow)
- Saturday, June 1 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM and Sunday June 2, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM – 30<sup>th</sup> annual Montrose Arts & Crafts Festival on the 2200, 2300, and 2400 blocks of Honolulu Ave.