



General Council Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2023

Via Zoom Call

www.theCVcouncil.com or contact@thevcouncil.com

Please turn off or silence cell phones while inside the Council meeting

1. Call to Order & Welcome: President Leon, 7:02 p.m.
2. Flag Salute: Led by:
3. Invocation: Led by: Jerry chaplain of the VFW
4. Roll Call: Recording Secretary Jeffrey Rodriguez - Present: Leon, Lewin, Rodriguez, Mueller, Kilpatrick, Yu, Baghdassarian, Ordubegian, Libra, Suh Not Present: Ahlers
5. Approval of November Meeting Minutes, **Motion** to approve by Councilmember Kilpatrick, Seconded by Councilmember Baghdassarian. Approved unanimously.
6. Approval of January Meeting Agenda, **Motion** to approve by Councilmember Lewin. Seconded by Councilmember Kilpatrick. Approved Unanimously.
7. Election Committee Report and Officer Candidate Slate by Councilmember Kilpatrick – The candidates running for CVTC received the following percentage of votes cast: Harry Leon 34%, Donna Libra 31%, Aram Ordubegian 20%, Ted Yu 9%, and Dr. Suh 5%. Congratulations to all those elected. **Crescenta Valley Town Council Officer Candidate Slate** – The slate was distributed to all Council Members. All regular members were eligible to run for an Officer position. The following candidates are running unopposed and will assume the following Officer positions: President – Chris Kilpatrick, Vice President – Harry Leon, Recording Secretary – Jeffrey Rodriguez, Treasure – Donna Libra and Recording Secretary – Kerri Lewin. - **Motion** to accept the candidate slate as presented by Councilmember Ordubegian, Seconded by Councilmember Baghdassarian. Approved unanimously **Motion** to move the swearing in of new Council Members and Officers to the February General meeting by Councilmember Ordubegian, Seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez. Approved Unanimously.

8. President Leon gives her Year-End Report – Thanks each Council Member individually for all their hard work, and highlights the various things each has done to help the council as well as make the community better. He thanks various people, organization and entities (including by not limited to): Supervisors Office, GUSD, Sherriff, CHP, Fire, LUC, CV Water District, Public Works, CV Chamber and many more. President Leon talks about his time on the Council (12 years), 7 as President, and how he’s tried his best to protect the community and Council. Despite people trying to sabotage and criticize his work, he’s tried to serve this community with integrity and loyalty. We had a great year and accomplished a lot of things. I’m happy to be a part of this team that we have, and looking forward to another great year. I’m not going anywhere, but I’d like to introduce your new President, Chris Kilpatrick. He’s someone I’ve become very close with over the last few years. He’s going to make a great President, and I’m going to do my best to continue to be there to support him in whatever he needs. President Kilpatrick says a few words - Thanks Councilmember Leon for all he’s done for the community over the last 12 years. He has always been there for me whenever I had a question about something or wanted his direction. Harry leads by example. He’s a man of action. I have no idea how he does all he does, but it’s truly remarkable. President Kilpatrick thanks everyone for the trust and support and looks forward to another productive year trying to make this community a safer and better place.

9. Community Reports (3 min and questions)

- a. Youth Council Liaison Chloe Baghdassarian gave the following updates – We had our In person meeting at the Sheriff’s department. We checked in with our various committees and formed new committees. We want to do a Boba fundraiser in the coming months as well as a Bake sale event. We’re also looking for internship opportunities in the community.
- b. Sheriff – Cpt. Rob Hahnlein gave the following updates. Part One crimes - 1 aggravated assault. Grandson straggling grandfather. 4 residential burglaries (smash and grabs) 2 GTA, 3 vandalisms, 1 Catalytic Convector incident and 5 identity theft incidents. We issued 162 citations and 34 warnings. Burglaries are up. A Burglary prevention presentation would be a good idea. I’ll work with the Council to make that happen. Part one crimes are down from the previous month. Citation are up by 26. We’d also like to host another etching event soon. Community questions answered by Cpt. Hahnlein - During a burglary are we allowed to confront the person breaking in. Answer – Generally if you scream/yell they will usually leave. If you’re in fear for your life then you need to do what is needed; How does the etching program prevent theft. Answer - It doesn’t, but it means we can track them and get them returned; I Live on Glenwood and Dyer where the posted speed limit is 15 miles an hour yet people speed there all the time. Can you please patrol that

- area. Answer – We can put one of our radar station there but it has to be on someone property. We'll also work with the CHP to patrol the area.
- c. Fire Department – Miss Grycan gave the following updates – Harry, Please pass along my phone no. to President Kilpatrick. We had a total of 73 response. 60 were medical and 38 were transported. There were 4 total fires, 3 of which were on December 2nd. Three were electrical fires. The other was a tree fire.
Community/Council question answered by Miss Grycan - When are we scheduled to get started on Zone Haven. Answer - We are a bit behind. I need to clean up some items before we go live. We mainly need to clean-up the map of the Altadena area. It was zoned incorrectly and I'm working on fixing that. I'd like to set up a meeting when things are live and ready to go to get the word out about Zone Haven.
 - d. CHP – Officer Keller gave the following updates – 5 TCs for La Crescenta. Only 1 had injuries and that was a fatality (freeway). Drastic drop in collisions. We're out in force patrolling the schools. Please feel free to shoot me an email about any specific concerns. Safety Tip – We're getting a lot of rain so be sure to check your tires and windshield wipers.
 - e. CV Chamber – Mr. Mike Baldwin gave the following updates – Congrats to all of the newly elected Council Members and Officers. We held our Board Members meeting this morning where we elected our Officers and Board Members. We have our Hometown Country Fair coming up on April 29th at CV park. We'll have games, rides and a classic car show. Mary Piola Educational Fund gave out a lot of grants this year. It went to the music department, softball, and high school robotics to name some.
 - f. CV Cert – No updated given
 - g. CV Ready - Fire Council - No update given.
 - h. CV Water – Brook Yaren gave the following updates – I'm the acting Director of Engineering and Operations. Our ground water level is up and we have 18 inches so far this year. We hope that continues. We have plans to replace a main pipeline on Orange Ave. This area has a lot of facilities that we need to work around. The pipe there is around 75 years old. This means that a main can burst at any time. Being so close to the school we'd like to address it now. We'd like to start on the second week of June. Our next board meeting will be on Feb. 14th. We'd love your feedback by mid-Feb when we'll award the contract. Community/Council questions answered by Mr. Yaren – The watering of plants by the freeway that don't need to be watered. It makes no sense with the rain we've had and it's not reclaimed water. What is your take on the misuse of water. Answer - Cal trans is our biggest culprit. We try and send them notices during drought season, but unless there's a policy change we really can't do much. We were able to do something in 2015 because of a policy change; What is the duration of the main project - It's expected to take around 90 days; Brooke Reynolds comments - We are having construction at Monte

Vista so we'll need to collaborate if there is other construction going on at the same time. Answer - Agreed. Let's talk after the meeting.

- i. CVCA – No updated given.
 - j. GUSD – Mr. Brooke Reynolds gave the following updates – California Department of Education announced their distinguished schools list. This year it was Elementary schools that were eligible. There are 956 Elementary schools in LA and only 70 received the award, and we had 5 of them in La Crescenta. CV High school participated in the Rose Parade. Rosemont participated in the Run For Fun event. The CV Cross Country team received first place. The District received grant money to provide support to students with mental health issues. We hope to partner with someone soon in re: Mental Healthy and using the grant money. Glendale is accepting application for our dual language programs. We extended our Kindergarten transitional program by 3 months. We'll continue to add 3 months every year until we can have all 4 year-olds eligible.
 - k. Land Use Committee – Councilmember Kilpatrick gave the following updates – We didn't meet last month but continue to monitor the housing issue. We continue to stay in contact with the County to work on ways to comply with the state housing mandate, but do so on our terms, while keeping the character of town intact. The best path forward will likely be to limit the development that can occur in our area by specifying exactly what type of construction will be permitted in our area. We hope to have a draft letter ready for the Town Council to review in re: Our opposition to the new Parking Ordinance they are trying to implement.
 - l. Streets and Transportation Committee – Councilmember Mueller gave the following updates – Prospect project is done. I've noticed a pothole still so I'll contact the County about that. We continue to work on the traffic issue and look for ways to make our streets safer.
10. Community Announcements (2 minutes)
- a. Library: Miss Martha Wiggins gave the following updates – If you need covid tests we have them here at the library. Please stop by if you need test kits. We are coming up on our 13 year anniversary on January 27th. Friends of the Library has sold books and given those proceeds to the library to purchase books for our community. If you want to read Spare. You'll likely wait around 3 weeks to do so. Other libraries you'll wait up to 6 months. Community/Council questions answered by Miss Wiggins – I've seen 2 news reports of libraries closing bathrooms because of illegal drug use. Is this a concern for our library. Answer – No. I've seen the same reports but that isn't an issue in our area.
 - b. Park & Rec – No update given
 - c. American Legion – Mr. Baldwin gave the following updates – VFW joined with the Moose Lodge to give \$500 to the Bailey Food Center and a \$1000 to the Glendale PD. Friends of Rockhaven is celebrating a 100 years of existence. They are having a

dance on Jan 28th at the American Legion Hall. The Women Club is having Bingo Night in there Hall on Feb 11th at 5pm. On Feb 25th the Community Scholarship (at the community center on Chevy Chase) is having a Bingo Night Event. They support La Crescenta as well so please come have a good time.

- d. Promplus/Firehouse – Miss Mary O’Keefe gave the following updates – Harry you may be stepping way but I’ll still call you all the time. Dec 22nd we had a Hanukkah celebration. We went through 30 pounds of Brisket. Our next event will be Cars 101 where we’ll teach our kids basic tips about cars. We’ll also have a Cooking 101 event to teach our kids how to cook when they go away to college. Promplus is heading toward our 30th year of being in existence. It will be a great event. We’ll have stuff like rock climbing, ziplining- and lots of fun stuff to do. We want to give our kids a safe place to go after prom.

- 11. Los Angeles County Public Works Presentation – Shirley Lai and Sarah Ahmed from the County will be presenting an update for the La Crescenta Resurfacing and Rehabilitation Project, which includes an update on the new crosswalk proposed. Miss Lai and Ahmed share a PowerPoint presentation titled **La Crescenta-Montrose Roadway Improvement Project**. This project started as a pavement resurfacing project as part of our Countywide Pavement Program to maintain good roads. As part of that, we saw an opportunity to incorporate other infrastructure improvements. The proposed improvements are: Resurface various roadways and curb ramps; Replace existing asphalt sidewalk with concrete on Orange Ave.; Install Bikeways in various segments to encourage active transportation; Construct drywells to capture more surface water and improve water quality; Construct continental crosswalks to improve pedestrian safety. Roadway segments that will be resurfaced include: La Crescenta Ave, Orange Ave, Prospect Ave, Ocean View Blvd, Montrose Ave, and Mira Vista Ave. Class II Bikeways (dedicated lane) will be installed on: Ocean View Blvd. (Park Ave – Montrose Ave – Northbound) and Montrose Ave. (Rosemont – County Boundary). Class III Bikeways (sharing the road) on: segments of La Crescenta Ave, Ocean View Blvd, and Orange Ave. We want to install continental crosswalks on Mountain Pine Drive (east leg), Henrietta Ave (South and West Leg), Update Orange Ave crosswalks (North, South and West legs), El Caminito (West Leg). Next steps – Finalize Design, Additional outreach and the project progresses and the anticipated start date for construction is September 2025. That concludes the presentation, but as a further update to another project, we’ll be giving a presentation for the Active Transportation Project at the next General Meeting. Community/Council question answered by Miss Lai and Ahmed – In regards to the Active Transportation Project and the Bike/Walk audits conducted... what Outreach did you do to the community. There weren’t a lot of people who came out for the Bike/Walk audit, and it concerns me that not a lot of Outreach was done. Answer – We used our normal outreach avenues; Community Comment – I can say that you’ll need to

improve on your outreach avenues because we've been in direct contact via email, numerous times, and I never received a notification about this Bike/Walk audit or about the project in general. If people you're in direct contact with didn't get any information or notice about this, then I'm guessing a vast majority of the community didn't either. Other comments revolved around not getting a notification and that the County needs to do a better job with Outreach for this project. The community has a lot of concerns about what is being proposed and taking out the medians we just installed not that long ago. The council recommends that the County try to reach more people in our area and to improve on their outreach to the community. Question about the Re-Pavement and Rehabilitation Project – It seems that the bulbouts are not a part of the project anymore and the County decided to go with continental crosswalks, is this true. Answer – Yes. The bulbouts are no longer a part of this project. We took feedback from the Council/community and combined with our research/data, decided continental crosswalks would be best; Is this project already fully funded or do you need to get more funding to start. Answer – The project is already totally funded sans the Drywells. That comes from a different grant and we are still trying to figure out how much we have available for that aspect of the project; What else do you need from the Town Council in regards to the project. Answer – Just let us know if you approve of our proposal or if you have any further concerns.

12. Public Comments

Public Comments and Community Announcements: This is for non-agenda items only. Please submit a speaker card to the President or Vice President. Speakers are allowed 2 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.

- a. No Public Comments.

13. Council Business

- a. Treasurer's Report: Councilmember Libra reads the November – December Treasury report (distributed to the Council). **Motion** to approve November – December treasury report by Councilmember Ordubegian. Seconded by Councilmember Baghdassarian. Approved Unanimously.
- b. Outdoor fitness center at Two Strike Park – No update given.
- c. Corresponding Secretary – Councilmember Lewin gave the following updates – We need to send a letter to Kathryn Barger about this Active Transportation Project. We

- need to monitor the outreach the County is doing to make sure they reach enough people. This is a very important issue for our community.
- d. By-laws Committee – No update given
 - e. Scholarship Committee – No update given.
 - f. Outreach Committee – Councilmember Baghdassarian gave the following updates – The total money collected for the Pancake Breakfast was \$4649.00. We gave various groups who helped their proceeds. After all the money was distributed the Town Council ended up with \$2975.33. There is a presentation coming up in re: the upper Briggs Terrace.
 - g. Pancake Breakfast – Update given above
 - h. Election committee reports – Councilmember Kilpatrick gave the following updates –

12. Adjourn: the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.