

Minutes
Hermosa Beach Sister City Association
June 7, 2010

Attendance: George Barks, V.P., presiding; Cathy McCurdy, Treas.; Moira Nelson, Secy.; Don DeMaderios; Amparito Doolittle; Merna Marshall; J.R. Revicsky

Call to Order: George Barks, 7:10 p.m. The meeting opened without a quorum. Discussions were held but no motions entertained until after the arrival of the seventh attendee, J.R. Revicsky.

Discussion of Minutes: Minutes of the April 5, 2010, meeting were discussed and two amendments made, to be voted on at our next meeting (July 5).

Report on Paramedic Trip to Loreto:

Paul Hawkins and Mike Garafano reported on the paramedic-training session they conducted last May in Loreto. They had the opportunity to see the Loreto bomberos in action, dealing with a house fire, and were highly impressed. The Loreto firefighters "do a great job with what they have." The paramedic training program graduated one new paramedic this trip (after he passed a "brutal ... test" with flying colors). We need to provide him with a certificate. Also, a new fireman has joined the Loreto brigade and will require paramedic training; and a new student (female) came from Constitución to join the class and stayed the entire session.

An international rescue organization has offered certain supplies and equipment for Paul to take to Loreto, including two EKG machines equipped with external cardiac pacing. Paul had to buy specific disposable pads for them, and also new batteries, on the advice of the vendor's technician, who checked the machines over. The vendor provided a simulator to be used for teaching how to use the machine. Paul took one machine with him to Loreto and is hoping one of the chaperones coming on the July student-exchange trip can take the other machine down (it's designated for the Loreto Red Cross).

During this last training session, federal authorities in Mexico conducted an investigation of the HBSCA paramedic training program that ultimately resulted in putting the program on a more official footing. Henceforth, it will operate by permission from the federal health department in La Paz.

Paul also reports that Dr. Collins and Paulette have formed a Mexican nonprofit organization that officially owns all the equipment HBSCA has donated for the paramedics' use. This will help ensure that the equipment will continue to be put to the use for which we intended it.

The next paramedic training session is being planned for November. \$2488 remains in the 2010 budget for this purpose.

Tri-Cities Cinco de Mayo Fundraiser:

HBSCA netted \$5125 from the Cinco de Mayo fiesta, some \$3000 over the projected amount. Of the three sister city associations, HBSCA sold the most raffle tickets.

Treasurer's Report:

Other budgetary highlights and activity include Total Current Assets of \$28,351.24, after paying approximately \$800 for the needed paramedic supplies. \$285 in membership dues came in this month, taking total membership dues beyond the amount projected for this year.

J.R. Revicsky joined the meeting at 8:10 P.M., in time to hear the treasurer's report and fill out the quorum, so we were able to vote on its approval: **Motion**, Merna Marshall; 2nd Amparito; so ordered.

2010 Scholarship Students:

Cathy McCurdy announced this year's recipients of HBSCA's two \$500 student scholarships: Christian Murphy from Redondo Union High and Kathryn Sanders from Mira Costa. Both are previous graduates of Hermosa Valley School who participated in the HBSCA student exchange.

Table at Nonprofit Fair and Chamber Mixer

HBSCA will exhibit with 13 other Hermosa Beach nonprofit groups on June 17 at the Kiwanis Hall, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Each group will bring an appetizer to share and will provide information about its activities and goals. A **motion** was proposed by Cathy McCurdy to raffle off a \$25 gift card to Ortega 120, any cost being categorized as an administrative expense; 2nd, George Barks; approved.

Update on Student Exchange

The exchange students, accompanied by 4 chaperones, are arriving July 15 and leaving July 22. George passed around a tentative schedule of activities for the visit. George will provide a budget for the planned activities and submit it for discussion at next month's meeting. Of the money allocated to the student exchange in this year's HBSCA budget, \$4375 remains. George feels he should also be able to use (if necessary) an additional \$1000, the amount the student exchange group sold in raffle tickets at the Cinco de Mayo party (the purpose of this endeavor was to offset the airline subsidy). Merna feels that George should be granted money for the auction items he brought back from Loreto.

Update on Biannual Auction

The HBSCA biannual auction is scheduled for Sunday, October 3, at the Sheldon home. Merna Marshall has agreed to chair the event. She asks that we start collecting auction items immediately, and she will set up a spreadsheet for everyone to use.

Nonagenda Items

▶ Amparito attended the recent U.S.-Mexico Sister City Association Barbecue in Alta Vista Park and reports that Nicole and Mackenzie represented us there with flair. She also mentions that the El Monte Sister City Association that gave us the wheelchair has offered us diabetes supplies. J.R. warns that glucose monitors are frequently given out for free because the manufacturers make their real money from the expensive test strips that are used with the monitors.

▶ George is going to schedule a debriefing meeting on the Cinco de Mayo Fiesta.

▶ The man who sold us the wheelchair for Primo has other inexpensive used wheelchairs and walkers for sale. George will ask Dr. Collins if Loreto wishes to buy any of these items.

Announcements:

➤ HBSCA will provide volunteers to work in the Fiesta de las Artes beer garden over Labor Day weekend.

Adjournment/Adios: 9:05, by George Barks.

Respectfully submitted,

Moirá Nelson
Secretary