

PIRU NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING

PO BOX 162, PIRU CA 93040. 805-814-6140

COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY March 19, 2025

VOLUNTEER EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT: KEN WISEMAN
VICE PRESIDENT: IRENE RUIZ
TREASURER: JUDY DALEY-LOVETT
SECRETARY: MEGHAN SHEETZ
MEMBER AT LARGE: ANDREA ARREDONDO

MEETING LOCATION: **Community Center – 802 Orchard Street**

GENERAL MEETING: BEGINS - 7:07pm

- CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – BOARD ROLL CALL
 - Present: Ken, Irene, Meghan, & Andrea
 - Absent: Judy
- MEETING MINUTES February Minutes – Meghan
 - Irene motions to approve. Andrea seconds motion. All Ayes.
- TREASURY REPORT: Treasury Report – Judy via email
 - Irene read via email balance \$12,467: Solar lights replaced at bridge. Good for two to three years. Providing coffee services at community meetings. Senior Center needs attention to new TV. Internet works thru hotspot and firestick provides entertainment. Canceled ATT cable.
 - Irene motions to approve. Meghan seconds motion. All Ayes.

LIGHTS & SIRENS:

- LOCAL FIRE REPORT – Chief Garcia
 - Middle of retirement season. Currently 25 recruits in training.
 - Eleven Type 3 Engines to replace old trucks.
 - Fire Station upgrades within the next 3 years. When finished will have four truck bays.
- CHP REPORT – Not Present
- SHERIFF REPORT – Officer Paz
 - No Update
 - **Resident:** Who do we call with assistance to alleys blocked by parked cars?
 - Call Sheriff non-emergency line. Should be the CHP's jurisdiction.
 - Allow new lieutenant time to adjust to community needs.
 - Resident isn't sure there is a jurisdiction because CHP & Sheriff keep throwing it back and forth to each agency.
- CERT or Firewise – Irene
 - CERT No Update
 - Firewise chipping event coming April 19th.
 - Location near skate park
 - Creek Grant money: engage with fire groups and select areas along Main St./Creekside for clearing.
 - **Resident:** Both events are Firewise events?
 - Yes, Coastal Waterway Grant (\$5,000) combined with fire mitigation will provide public access point to creek.
 - Chipper Event goal is to provide breaks every 100 yards (from Main St. To Orchard St. To Center St.) to allow for escape and ease fire fighting. Continual work and goal are to provide chipping event biannual to cover more areas in Piru.
 - May need second chipper and mobile chippers to reach homes.

GUESTS: None scheduled

LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATES:

- Public Works Update –Ken/Donald.
 - Safer Sidewalks Grant 2022
 - Couple sources of funding: Safer routes to school & active transportation grant.
 - Not fully funded, reasons for delays. Public Works updated report to come...
 - First priority: Soccer Fields and the commercial truck parking. Still studying issue, need justification to deter commercial parking and not residential.
 - **Residential concerns:** Safety hazard, unsafe to cross street (Center St to soccer fields), even with more lights.
 - **Resident:** Who's in charge for the trees on the walk pass?
 - Manuel: County installed fence but has no replacement costs. Trying to decide if County can maintain or needs to tear down fence.
 - Weed abatement: County should provide biannual clearing: April/October.
 - Will be out next month to trim weeds.
 - Manuel will continue to work with Ken re: the fence issue. No grant money makes difficult for completed projects.
 - Ken suggests shortening the run and this will fix fence.
 - **Resident:** Who's in charge of what? Finds it difficult to keep track and follow up.
 - Mostly agreed upon but not completely resolved. Ken walked through problem areas with VCTC and Public Works. Can send photos to Manuel and he will help dial in the work.
 - Don has bought a mower and he and his son have volunteered their time mowing but not a permanent solution.
 - No Commercial Parking in front of soccer fields
 - **Resident:** Isn't commercial parking restricted townwide?
 - Manuel: No, just allotted areas.
 - Filming Update –Ken/Kat Jauch
 - HBO updates
 - Donations increased up to \$59,000
 - Ken has had positive interaction with Mark the film site manager.
 - Downtown businesses still open
 - Signage issues resolved
 - Can turn signs up after 5 pm on weekdays and fully on weekends.
 - Website Update –Kat Jauch

- No Update
- Piru History – Historic Walking Tours - Maria C.
 - Checking in on public's interest in bringing the historic walking tours back to Piru.
 - Existing material – templates available
 - Old brochures with points of interest
 - Walks monthly? Quarterly? Locals only?
 - Be good to connect with Heritage Valley Tourism.
 - **Resident:** Trains would bring tourists for walking tours.

Events:

- May –May 29, 2025 – Piru Highschool Senior Dinner event at Newhall Mansion
 - Please send us any names of graduating high school seniors who live in Piru. **ALL PIRU SENIORS ARE INVITED.** Please RSVP.

Old BUSINESS:

- Fire Mitigation and Creek access clearing – Ken/Mike Lopez
 - See above in CERT update.
- Status on having generators in town at School, Community Center, and Senior Center
- **Event Leadership**
 - Be a Coordinator for one or more of our events: Halloween, Viva Piru, Senior Dinner, Mansion Tour, Christmas Parade, Youth Summer Event, Bicycle Rodeo, Lake event, lots of other opportunities to host events!!!!

OTHER NEW BUSINESS:

- Keep your eyes out for postings of upcoming brush and tree limb clearing – looking for several volunteers.
 - See above in CERT update.
- FEMA flood designation – support from Congresswoman Julia Brownley
 - Properties designated as flood zones and was never notified by FEMA but by mortgage lenders.
 - Residents are fighting back and Rep. Brownley is supportive.
 - Leads have been helpful with the claims.
 - Resident received an email for claim 2-3 weeks ago for underground drainage on property that he was not aware of at time of purchase of home. Will keep PNC updated of progress.
- Other important improvements for Piru?

PUBLIC COMMENT - WE WILL ALWAYS HOLD 30 MIN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

3 MINUTES PER COMMENT PLEASE

- **Manuel Update:**
 - **Fillmore Bridge: Tracks washed out two years ago.**
 - **Owned by VCTC, maintained by Northern Sierra Railways.**
 - **Progress thus far: FEMA grant application, Consultant to plan project,**

permits, work begins June/July and completed by October.

- Rancho Camulos:
 - Open to public on Sundays or by appointment.
 - Volunteers needed
 - Upcoming events: 3/30 Music Event & 4/11 Annual CA Fiesta de Rancho Camulos (biggest fundraiser of the year.)
- Chiquita Landfill update:
 - Lisa has been attending the monthly meetings at the Newhall Library.
 - Landfill is officially closed due to growing concerns.
 - Underground fire due to chemical reactions for over a year.
 - Leachate toxins growing and hazard to water supplies.
 - Landfill caught with violations, not being truthful with practices.
 - Important for community to stay vigilant since we are downstream from landfill.
 - Well monitor placed 9 months ago but still no monitoring in river.
 - Bad air quality, hazards to water source, getting worse.
- Resident: Any coffee shop spring break hours? Good idea! Will look into it.
- Roy Ruiz joins the Fillmore & Piru Veteran's Board – Congrats!!
- Williams Homes:
 - Upcoming Health Fair and Meet Your Neighbor Event at the soccer fields. April/May date, more to come!
- Ventura County Library:
 - Annual Customer Survey is here! Please give us feedback to help advocate for the Piru community.

NEXT PNC MEETING –April 16, 2025 –Community Center – 802 Orchard St.

**THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR VALUABLE TIME WITH THE PNC AND OUR COMMUNITY!
Meeting End 8:11pm**