

**Legislative Action Committee
June 3, 2010**

ATTENDANCE:

Blum, Doris – GUSD Fdn.
Boyer, Gary – Southland Properties
Cruz, Bob – The Gas Co.
Hamlow, Dr. Cliff – APU
Herman, Ken – City of Glendora
Johnson, Steve – Assemblyman Adams
Lee, Donna – So. Calif. Edison

Mellinger, Faith – PV Habitat for Humanity
Morrill, Gene – Certified Auto
Roberto, Jody – Senator Huff
Sparling, Fred – Classic Coffee
Taj, Arif - Sportclips
Imboden, Fawn - ACCU
Kuhn, Bob – Alandale Insurance

Meeting called to order at 12:10 p.m.

Flag Salute

Welcome

Approval of the minutes from the June 3, 2010 Legislative Meeting

Chairman's Report, Dr. Cliff Hamlow – Cliff reviewed the Goldline luncheon with CEO Habib Balian at America's Christian Credit Union on May 21, 2010. America's Christian Credit Union was thanked for hosting the event and providing lunch for everyone.

Arif Taj commented that he found the meeting very informative and that it provided him with useful insight on how the Goldline got funded.

Cliff Hamlow continued the meeting by informing the committee that the Coalition for Competitive Insurance Rates has asked the Chamber for a letter of opposition to proposed legislation that would tax reinsurance.

Insurers in the U.S. who underwrite property & casualty, crop and terrorism insurance assume massive amounts of risk. To continue writing policies, these insurers must sell portions of that risk to reinsurance. Reinsurance covers the difference between the premiums paid by consumers and the total coverage of the policies. Proposed legislation would require insurance companies to pay taxes on 87% of the reinsurance they purchase which would lead to increases on premiums and reduced access to high-risk coverage. After a brief discussion, the committee voted to oppose the measure. As requested by the Coalition, letters of opposition will be mailed to the Honorable Xavier Becerra in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Legislative Updates - Please limit reports to 3 minutes or less and bring handouts for the Committee:

Brian Mejia, Supervisor Antonovich: No report

Jody Roberto, Senator Bob Huff: Jody reported that the legislature continues to deal with the budget. SB 1051 regarding the authorization of trained, but non-medical school personnel to administer Diastat in an emergency situation to a student with epilepsy was defeated. The Senator is happy that SB 1116 – Heritage School Affidavit & Waiver – which clearly defines “heritage schools” and requires them to file with the Department of Education for affidavits similar to private schools, will be heard.

Doris Blum asked if the possibility exists that changes could take place on how the state budget is figured.

Jody Roberto replied that the possibility exists, but probably won't happen until sometime in the future.

Steve Johnson commented that the May budget revisions were of no help to the schools.

Bob Cruz commented that reductions in funding per student have increased from \$250 to \$450, forcing the schools to refigure their budgets.

Richard Rea, Congressman David Dreier: No report

Steve Johnson, Assemblyman Adams: Steve reported that California revenues for personal income taxes has dropped from \$55 billion in 2007 to \$44 billion in 2008. Also sales tax revenues are down and the unemployment rate in LA County is 12%. The Obama version of the health care bill has passed the Assembly. The Democrats have proposed \$5 billion in new taxes.

Ken Herman, City of Glendora: Ken reported that things in the City are pretty good. The vacant City Council seat has been filled. Terry Kent from the Planning Commission was selected to fill the vacancy. Sales tax revenues have leveled and consumer spending has increased. The street light assessment was voted down, so the City is looking at options to keep the lights turned on. The City is facing a \$1 million dollar deficit, so they are looking at proposals to balance the budget.

Glendora Unified School District, Doris Blum: Doris reported that things are looking very bleak for the district right now. It's likely that teacher layoffs will occur and the district is looking for a new superintendent. The revised budget needs to be filed by the end of June and the district is still dealing with declining enrollment.

Charter Oak Unified School District, Dr. Christine Smith: Bob Cruz reported for Dr. Smith that the district has applied for a loan from the State to be used for school improvements. These monies can not be used for salaries, only for school improvements. Seven employees have been laid off and they are also dealing with declining enrollments. The State needs to change how they provide funding to the schools. Graduations will take place on June 10th at Azusa Pacific University.

Bob Kuhn asked if the schools if they are projecting what their revenues might be 10 to 15 years from now?

Doris Blum replied that yes they are. The district is looking at mandatory furlough days and dropping the number of school days to 175.

Marilyn Grinsdale, Citrus College: No report

So. Calif. Edison, Donna Lee: Donna Lee reported that Edison would be willing to work with the City of Glendora on the street lighting issue. The Smart Connect Meter Program is ongoing.

Bob Cruz, So, Calif. Gas: Bob Cruz reported that usage is increasing as more and more customers take advantage of the Gas Company's Customer Assistance Programs. A sure sign that times are still tough for many people.

Bob Kuhn, Metropolitan Water District: Bob reported that the Metropolitan Water District passed rate increases to its customers and 3 Valley Water Municipal District made cuts to their budget. Water clean-up in the San Gabriel Valley remains a hot topic. The Perphial Canal and the needed fix to the Delta are water issues voters are going to contend with in November.

Cliff Hamlow suggested that the committee host a legislative luncheon focusing on water issues.

Gene Morrill, Certified Auto: Gene reported that AB2289 passed and will revamp the current smog check program.

Gary Boyer, Southland Properties: Gary reported that SB1178 will extend tax relief for short sales and foreclosures making it easier for people to walk away from their mortgages.

Old Business: No report

New Business: Cliff reminded the committee of the membership lunch at T-Phillips on June 17th and the Installation Dinner at the Country Club on June 30th.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm.
Minutes recorded by V. Thompsett

