

Legislative Action Committee
March 4, 2010

ATTENDANCE:

Dennis Chiappetta – Athens Services
Gene Morrill – Certified Auto
Dr. Christine Smith – COUSD
Steve Johnson – Assemblyman Adams

Dr. Cliff Hamlow – Azusa Pacific University
Brian Mejia – Supervisor Antonovich
Bob Cruz – The Gas Company
Donna Lee – So. Calif. Edison
Doris Blum – GUSD Fdn.

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

Flag Salute

Welcome

Amendment to the February 4, 2010 minutes. The word grapple was misspelled. Approval of the February 4, 2010 minutes.

Chairman's Report, Cliff Hamlow –Cliff discussed the March 18, 2010 Senator Huff Education Summit at Citrus College. Divided into two sessions, the 3:30 to 5:30 pm session is for school representatives only, while the later session which starts at 6:00 pm is open to the public. Ken Kay of 21st Century Skills is scheduled to make presentations to both sessions. Other speakers include Dr. Geraldine Perri, Citrus College President, Dr. Catherine Nichols, Glendora USD Superintendent, Mr. Dan Harden, The Career Tech Education Center, Fairplex and Mr. David Rattray, Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. The San Gabriel Valley Coalition and ACSA are sponsors of the event.

Gene Morrill asked if the summit was going to be recorded for later broadcast to the public.

Doris Blum said she needed to check with Mr. Kay to see if he would allow his speech to be recorded.

Cliff asked for suggestions on how to get more Chamber members involved in the legislative committee. More involvement from the community and business leaders would lead to better discussions on legislative issues affecting the citizens and businesses of Glendora.

Bob Cruz suggested that Cliff and Chamber President, Dennis Chiappetta draft a letter to invite the business leaders of Glendora to the meetings. He also suggested that personal contact be made to members of the Chamber to invite them to the meetings.

Cliff Hamlow asked Bob if there were specific businesses he would like targeted for involvement in the monthly meetings.

Bob Cruz suggested that it would be great to have representatives from the banking industry, the medical field, real estate and other such groups. And leaders from the business community, as they need to have their voices heard on issues.

Dennis Chiappetta suggested that someone from the Business Improvement District be asked to attend the meetings.

Steve Johnson suggested the committee book speakers for each meeting. Having a monthly speaker discussing issues that are controversial or even not controversial, is an incentive to get people involved. And not being afraid to take a stand on issues is another key ingredient in getting people involved. Steve mentioned that the Arcadia Chamber of Commerce, always has speakers at their meetings, they frequently take stands on issues and their legislative meetings are well attended.

Gene Morrill questioned how a speaker, and all the reports from the Legislative Representatives, schools etc. could be fit into a one hour format.

Steve replied that the Arcadia Chamber fits it all in by limiting the length of time for reports and the time allotted for the speaker.

It was agreed that Cliff and Dennis would draft a letter of invitation to the legislative meetings.

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

Brian Mejia, Supervisor Antonovich: Brian reported that Jay Gomez retired after 32 years of dedicated service to the Supervisor's office. The affect on the County from the "early release of prisoners program" is being monitored. The Supervisor supports SB 2131 which will restore funding to foster care programs. The problems caused by the winter rains to the fire impacted areas is being studied. The Supervisors 13th Annual "Remembering our Veterans & their Families Past, Present and Future" event will take place on Saturday, May 29th at Arcadia County Park from 10 am to 3 pm.

Jody Roberto, Senator Bob Huff: No report

Richard Rea, Congressman David Dreier: No report

Steve Johnson, Assemblyman Adams: Steve reported that the State is broke and the only way out of the fiscal mess is to create and keep jobs. The Assemblyman's Legislative Package includes AB 161 – which streamlines the process by which businesses send written notices & reports to shareholders. AB 222 – Energy Biofuels, which expedites the production of non-food derived biofuels, green power and other bio-based products from biomass. AB 918 – Unattended Donation Boxes, which specifies the marking requirements on unattended donation boxes and discloses information that will help people make decisions on where they donate their used items. AB 1979 – Child Day Care Licensing, requires every state licensed day care to be visited yearly by the State Department of Social Services. AB 2269 – Heart Presumption, which is very confusing and technical, provides the same rebuttable presumption to hospital police officers @ the Department of Mental Health hospitals and the Department of Developmental Services for heart conditions that are provided for under current law for police officers at Atascadero State Hospital. AB 2491 – Medical Liens, which reverses a court decision that an attorney has no fiduciary duty to the doctor when there is no signed lien against the amount recovered in a personal injury lawsuit. AB 2582 – Criminal Procedure permits people who kept their record clean for one year, to expunge non-traffic relations infractions exactly as they can with misdemeanors and some felonies.

Ken Herman, City of Glendora: No report

Glendora Unified School District, Dr. Catherine Nichols: No report

Charter Oak Unified School District, Dr. Christine Smith: The district has finished bench mark testing. Cuts to foster care programs and mental health programs are affecting the schools, who are now becoming responsible for these children. It is unfortunate that many of these children have problems that the schools are now having to deal with. Budget issues are still a concern.

Marilyn Grinsdale, Citrus College: No report

Metropolitan Water District, Luis Cetina: No report

So. Calif. Edison, Donna Lee: Edison is continuing with the installation of automated meters at the residences and businesses of their customers. Edison is hiring and the Tehachapi Project will create additional jobs. Applications are being accepted for grants to education, environmental programs etc.

Bob Cruz, So. Calif. Gas: Bob reported that soon automated meters will be installed in residences which will eliminate the need for meter readers. The Gas Company is negotiating and close to a settlement with the Union regarding the retraining of the employees who jobs are threatened by this change. A recent J.D. Power and

Associates study showed that So. California Gas Company ranked “Highest in Customer Satisfaction with Residential Natural Gas Service in the Western U.S.”

Dennis Chiappetta commented that the Glendora Chamber could write a letter of support in favor of the automated meter readings.

Gene Morrill, Certified Auto: Gene reported that AB 32 is a big issue and is beating up the auto repair industry. The Glendora Rotary Club is hosting a fundraiser on Saturday, April 24th featuring the Harlem Wizards versus the Glendora High School alumni basketball team. Tickets are \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door and everyone was invited.

Dennis Chiappetta commented that AB 32 is forcing mandatory recycling and the AQMD is basically forcing the use of alternative fuel vehicles. The Puente Landfill is closing.

Cliff Hamlow commented that he applied for a seat on the “We draw the Lines” redistricting committee and asked for suggestions on whom to approach for letters of recommendation. The committee needs to take a look at the Legislative Priorities and consider updating them for the 2010 – 2011 year.

Old Business: No report

New Business: No report

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.
Minutes recorded by V. Thompsett