

ACONA Meeting Notes

September 25, 2018

After introductions, the following topics were presented.

Update on the Altadena Library

- Speaker: Terry Andruet, Altadena Library Board of Trustees

Library budget is \$3.5 million; operates with a small surplus. Most funds come from property taxes, with some grants, donations, and revenue from services such as passport processing. Main branch needs a new AC, pathway lighting, bridges rebuilt. \$5.1 million needed, \$1.5 million in immediate need.

Bob Lucas needs about \$366K work done. Lighting, new pavement.

American Libraries Association study: From Awareness to Funding. (http://www.ala.org/advocacy/sites/ala.org.advocacy/files/content/2018_From_Awareness_to_Funding_Report.pdf)

10% super supporters

25% probable supporters

The rest are not likely to be supporters, including chronic non-voters.

86% of library funding comes from local sources. Most people don't realize that.

Fewer voters are likely to support increased funding (without increased awareness of what the library does).

Parked Car Safety

- Speaker: Capt. Vicki Stuckey, Altadena Sheriff's Station

Used car buyer beware: A "too good to be true" price: might be a stolen car

Keys: should get two. If there's only one, the car might have been stolen.

Don't meet the seller alone; don't bring cash; meet in a public place (Sheriff's station is available for these meetings).

Paperwork: Car thieves change the VIN and re-register using another VIN. Check the VIN before you buy the car. Look at the registration to see when the paperwork was issued.

Shouldn't be within the past few days. Have them show you ID. Keep copies of all documents about the sale including ads.

It takes only about 33 seconds to steal a car. Late model Hondas and Toyotas are the most stolen cars because they're easy to break into.

Be cautious of unknown valet services.

Don't leave valuables in plain sight, and don't think covering them with a blanket or a towel will keep them safe.

Day One Walk to School Day

- Speaker: Jazmine de la Torre, Healthy Communities Initiative

See slides for details on the benefits and processes of the Walk to School program.

Jackson is having a Walk to School Day on October 9 from 7-7:50am.

Route is from Lincoln/Ventura, down Lincoln, then right on Woodbury.

Day One is doing parent classes and will be participating on the day.

Recycling and Zero Waste

- Speaker: Jonathan Levy, Zero Waste Project Manager

Contamination is a big issue in recycling. Clean example: paper cups have plastic liners.

China used to accept 10% contamination; now only accepts 0.5%. After the China ban a local recycling company went from 70% to 33% recovery.

Goal is zero waste, rather than recycling.

For every 1 lb. of material we come into contact with, there are 70 lbs. "upstream" from us.

Good example: vegetables. There is severe attrition (waste) from field to table.

AB341 Mandates commercial recycling (includes multi-unit residences of 5 or more units), but it's not very far reaching. AB1826 covers organic recycling.

Q&A

Q: Is LoJack still useful? A: Yes, law enforcement still contracts with LoJack. Within 20-30 minutes of reporting your car stolen, law enforcement can recover it.

Q: What is the US going to do when they run out of landfills? A: Waste management has 100 years of capacity. That said, we still need to rethink our focus on recycling versus reducing waste.

Q: Don't poisons come out of landfills? A: Organic material generates methane. There's a push to remove these materials from landfills.

Q: What do you know about Allen Co.? A: They process all the blue bin material for LA County.

Q: What numbers on plastic are recyclable? A: #1, #5 have good market value. #2 & #4 variable. #3, #6, #7 - avoid.

Q: Is there any way to recycle textile fiber? A: Most recyclers take materials from businesses, but there aren't good opportunities for consumers to recycle textile fiber.

Q: Our catalytic converter was stolen. What do you know about the Cat Clamp? A: Contact your mechanic or car dealer to see if they have a lock. Sheriff's Department cannot make recommendations.

Comment: Candidate forum October 3 for library board of trustees. The ballot has the ALD candidates at the end. There are two-year and four-year terms up for election.

Q: There is only one recycle plant in Altadena. What can we do to get more locations in Altadena? A: The State adjusted how they reimburse these companies (downward), so recycling companies have pulled out of California. Best solution is to get together as a community.

Q: Walk to School day is focused on Jackson. How do we get this going at other schools in Altadena? A: Day One doesn't have the capacity to do it at all the schools, but community liaisons at the schools are important advocates.

Q: Do you need volunteers to help people learn English? Do you have training? A: Day One welcomes volunteers to help in many capacities. Email Jazmine (jazmine@godayone.org). Altadena Library has a volunteer desk. You can contact them and they will get back to you about how you can help. The Sheriff's Station also uses volunteers. Contact Community Relations there.

Q: Is it really more dangerous to walk to school now? A: There's more traffic, and there's speeding. That creates an unsafe environment.

Comment: Maybe pedestrians assume too much about their safety when they are in a crosswalk.