

FRIENDS OF BELMONT SHORE

December 6, 2018 meeting, Bayshore Community Congregational Church, 6:30 pm

Welcome — President Bitta Sharma

- Simmzy's catered our meeting with appetizer plates for members. Thank you Simmzy's!
- Introduction of board members
- Introduction of Gabby Yates, District Office Director of Suzie Price's office
- Reminder to renew your membership dues for 2019
- Sunset at Olympix Event: FRIENDS earned \$1400
- Bring new socks to January meeting to contribute to Justin Rudd's Sock it to 'Em sock campaign

Treasurer's Report — Mike Crosby

- Beginning Balance, beginning of November: \$5,523.50
- Deposits/Credits \$149.12
- Checks/Debits \$150.00
- Ending Balance \$5,522.62

How pollution and climate change are impacting our community and what we can do about it: Panel Discussion

Alison Spindler, City Planner — findings from the LB Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP) and LB Science Review:

- Reduce gas emissions
- Prepare community for impacts of climate change
- Make communities safer and healthier

Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment, in form of extreme heat causes illness, infrastructure failure, more frequent drought, flooding, sea level rise. Come to CAAP Open House January 14 at Best Western for in-depth strategies. <http://www.lbds.info/climateactionlb>

Captain Charles Moore, Belmont Shore resident, discoverer of "The Great Pacific Garbage Patch," and founder of Algalita Marine Research and Education

The benefit of plastic is that it defeats natural decay; also the problem. 100 billion pieces in our ocean. Samples are collected, sorted, and studied in Algalita labs. Causes: "throwaway living" and the creation of synthetic materials. Problems with recycling plastic: 1) Low value of recycled plastic recycling. 2) No strategy for making plastic waste benign. 3) Vagrant plastic waste may be killing more animals than climate change.

What can we do? Focus on prevention vs. cleanup. Use less plastic, use less oil, less natural gases. Visit Algalita's store "Bring Your Own Long Beach," 148 N. Marina Drive (by Ballast Brewery) in selling alternatives to plastic toothbrushes, wrap alternatives, and more.

Larry Rich, LB Office of Sustainability Creator and Coordinator — sustainability programs for residents: 1) Plant trees in homeowners' parkways who request a tree. Many benefits of trees to cool us. 2) Mulch provided free of charge from city's regular tree trimming operations, either pickup or delivered free. 3) Rain Barrel Workshops: learn how to repurpose rain barrels to collect rain water, to use in your garden. 4) EV Charger Giveaway: LB residents can receive a

free Level 2 EV charger by obtaining a permit for its installation. Use of electrical vehicles encouraged. Also walking, biking, public transportation! 5) Yard Waste mixed into the landfill turns into methane. Need new infrastructure to convert the gases into energy. Till then, take your food waste into the community gardens or collection place. Visit: Willow Springs Park, 2755 Orange Ave for Sustainability Workshops and mulch. Prospective site: at CCC on Nieto. Check out: lbsustainability.com

Various questions from the members were answered by the panel.

Closing comments from the President: Invitation to join Justin Rudd's Beach CleanUp every 3rd Saturday of the month

Next meeting: January 3rd, 2019, 6:30pm

Minutes submitted by BJ Newell, board member