
The Craftsman Village Historic District Newsletter

1st Quarter - 2013



A word from the Co-Chairs

Just a reminder that our newsletter and historic district meetings are now being done on a quarterly basis. We anticipate that in-between our regularly scheduled meetings, focus/task groups will continue to meet. The schedule of meetings is:

January 2013, April 15, 2013, July 15, 2013 and Oct. 21, 2013. All meetings will be held at 1203 E. 8th St. and are at 6pm.

What's Happening In Our Area

It seems not that long ago our neighborhood was under siege by construction equipment. As you can tell the work has been completed and both the streets and the sewer system have been upgraded. A special thanks to the 1st, 2nd, and 6th council for underwriting the cost of the repaving of Orange Ave. and the repair of some damaged curbs. Also, a special thank you to Robert Verceles of the Long Beach Water Dept. for his assistance in seeing this project through to a successful completion!

Our long awaited Craftsman Village Park has experienced a delay due to some changes in the lighting specifications required by the Long Beach Police Department. This is to ensure evening safety. First district reports the park should be completed by October. We look forward to celebrating the opening of our new park!

After many years of hard work and dedication on the part of CVHD residents and city services, the nuisance property at 845-849 1/2 Orange Avenue is now vacant and awaiting some building upgrades. Until then, please report any suspicious activity or graffiti to the appropriate city services.

Bembridge House

The Craftsman Village Historic District members once again participated in the annual Christmas At The Bembridge Event. The entire house looked beautiful and if you haven't had a chance to tour it, mark this event on your calendar for next year. A special thanks to Michelle, Tim, Jose, Peggy, George, and Ryan for their help in making this happen. It was inspiring to work in conjunction with the other historic district in our city to create a truly Victorian Christmas.

On another note, the Bembridge House has undergone some renovations and will soon be available for rental for special occasions.

The Little Things Count

This is a new twist on the "broken window" theory we have heard discussed many times. In order to keep our neighborhood looking good and to move forward as a respected historic district, please remember it's the little things that count and make a big difference. Neighborhoods that look well-cared for and show pride of ownership tend to have less crime. Make a difference by:

Keep yards/lawns trimmed

Pick up litter

Remove/call in graffiti immediately

Know your neighbors

Report crime/
Suspicious Activity

Set up Vacation Holds for mail service

Maintaining Historic Integrity

As residents of a Historic District, it is important to take the proper steps when making any changes to the exterior of your home. This not only increases the value of your home, but maintains CVHD as an example of historic integrity. By maintaining this integrity, your home's value will increase over time.

Any exterior work requires a *Certificate of Appropriateness* and a *Building Permit*.

These are both available from the office of **Development Services**. This extra step will ensure that the work meets city requirements and serves as a protection for you, the homeowner. The City of Long Beach does have the ability to require a homeowner to "undo" any non-approved work. Please feel free to contact Lynette Ferenczy at 570-6273. Lynette is a city planner and has expertise in historic district ordinance.

A Fond Farewell and a New Face

After two years on the job, Officer Laurie Briney, our Patrol Resource Officer (PRO) is moving on to pursue some career advancing opportunities. Officer Ken Green will be the new PRO. His contact information is Kenneth.Green@longbeach.gov or

562) 570-3462. I know the entire neighborhood joins me in thanking Laurie for her years of service and always being willing to take the extra step to help us out.

There are some related changes to the Police Department structure that affect us as well. South Division and West Division have been consolidated and is now "West Division." CVHD is now in the west division. Effective 2/16/13, you will need to email requests for information/concerns/complaints to "lbpdwest@longbeach.gov".

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The Craftsman Village Historic District-Upcoming Events



Next Clean Up Dates- Mar. 9 at 1524 Hellman; Apr. 13 at 1445 9th St.

For more information, contact Michelle Arend-Ekhoff at (562) 599.3559

This newsletter is produced by the Craftsman Village Historic District.
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Copies of this newsletter provided free of charge by the Neighborhood Resource Center (562) 570-1010.

www.craftsmanvillage.org