

From: Roy Moore
Subject: Brea Net
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To: Mailing List

BREA NET – Issue No. 639

Hi Neighbor:

After the City Council reorganization at our last meeting a few residents asked me if there was a policy that we followed to determine who became mayor and mayor pro tem. For probably over 20 years the Council followed an unofficial seniority order. Starting with the mayor and mayor pro tem followed in seniority by the other three council members. A new council member was placed at the bottom of the list. Each year the mayor pro tem was elevated to mayor and the retiring mayor became last in seniority as each of the other members moved up. If a member resigned or was not reelected every member moved up to fill the vacant spot. With two notable exceptions, this system worked well. Council members could disagree on issues but differences could be set aside and each member could serve as mayor and mayor pro tem at least once every five years.

For four of the last five years the council majority has chosen to deviate from the unofficial seniority list. This is, of course, their right because majority vote prevails. During our most current reorganization, after council member Garcia was nominated for mayor, **I attempted to make an alternate nomination of council member Simonoff and was challenged, in error, by the City Attorney saying I couldn't do so.** Folks, I don't think for a moment that my nomination of council member Simonoff would have changed the results of the election. I do feel that by not allowing his nomination was a disservice to council member Simonoff. He has been elected by the Brea voters to five terms on the City Council, has served well for 16 years, has been at the top of the seniority list for the last three years and has been denied his turn as mayor. **It is time to put aside petty politics and personal differences and work together for what is best for all Brea residents.**

The City council is back in session next Tuesday with a very light agenda. Main business will take place in Study Session as we discuss our top goals for fiscal years 2013–2015 and modifications to the Art in Public Places Manual.

Just because there are few major items on the agenda doesn't mean things aren't happening:

- As you probably already know, as of January 5 the Orange County Sheriff's Department took over the Yorba Linda police services from Brea. Our Brea PD will now be concentrating all our resources on protecting our Brea citizens.
- The City will close escrow soon with the Blackstone developers and take over ownership of 495 acres of open space. The land is accompanied with the CFD funds for land maintenance.
- The modular buildings for Fire Station 4 in Olinda Village are being built and should be in place in about ten weeks.
- Brea should have a dog park by the end of 2013.
- Brea will be relinquishing its interests in the Tri City Park to the County in about 60 days. This saves Brea about \$35,000 annually.
- Analysis of the 2012–2013 budget is continuing with adjustments for the loss of the Yorba Linda police contract.

Moore next time, Roy