Mary Solis, president of the Verdemont Neighborhood Association, called the members together to start the evening’s meeting at the Verdemont Community Center and Library at 7:00 pm.

Mary asked Michael Craft to begin the Pledge of Allegiance for the group.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Mary welcomed the attendees and guests. Mary then thanked each of those involved in making the Verdemont Community Center and Library a reality. Mary thanked:

County Supervisor Josie Gonzales,

California State University San Bernardino,

The City of San Bernardino,

The San Bernardino County Library systems,

San Bernardino Unified School District,

The Pipe Fitters Union,

And the San Bernardino Fire Fighters Union.

Additionally Mary acknowledged the efforts of Chas Kelley for his tremendous efforts in getting funding for the placement of the VCC&L, the city council for approving the facility, and all of the volunteers for their efforts at and for the VCC&L.

Mary then let the attendees know that Mario Suarez, principal planner, of San Bernardino’s Community Development Department would be addressing them shortly. First she wanted to thank all of the participants in September 10th’s Citywide Beautification project.

Michael Craft (this guys name just keeps popping up!?!?!?)

Dan Day,

Linda Burks,

Barbara Dawson,

Bob and Gail Edwards,

Carl and Marie Affattati and their son Nick,

Kevin Mitchell and his helper James

Joe and Patrick Solis (related to Mary?),

Larry Heasley,

Steve and Jerry Cotton,

The Ken Bush family,

The Lugo family,

Manuel GIllentine,

John Burks and his team of eight, who worked on the Chestnut Trail,

Jim Gerstenslauger for graciously allowing us to use the Western Regional Little League parking lot as a dump site.

Mary also mentioned that Amanda Jacobs and the Kendall Hills Neighborhood Association had 300 volunteers on September 10th as well.

Mary then recognized city attorney Jim Penman who had come to the meeting as well.

Mary then introduced Mario Suarez, of San Bernardino’s Community Development Department. Mr. Suarez began by giving his educational background as a graduate of California Polytechnic Institute of Pomona, then earning a master’s degree in Organizational management. He has continued his education as well (but I couldn’t hear what the programs he said.)

Mr. Suarez said that his main focus is to hear and understand citizen concerns regarding plans for projects within the city. He is concerned with all planning efforts, not just the plans for the new SBx mass transit project. Mr. Suarez handed out copies of the official meeting notice for the “Notice of Community Meeting” to receive information on Planning Efforts for Transit Oriented Development. The

meeting will be held on Thursday, September 29th from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm ad the Verdemont Community Center.

Mr. Suarez also indicated that he wants those at this meeting to consider their concerns and comments for the new mass transit effort and bring them to the meeting next Thursday. If people are unable to attend, they can call the phone number on the flyer, 909-384-5357, ext: 3354 to present our questions and concern to Mr. Suarez directly.

Mr. Suarez indicated that we may have concerns regarding impacts of a mass transit line on area businesses, or on the residential impacts. He also wants to ensure that the new mass transit system reflects the high standards of the neighborhood. He wants to ensure that the design is conducive to our area.

Mr. Suarez opened the floor to questions: the following members asked questions, or expressed concerns.

Michael Craft (really, dude, a third mention, really??),

Robert Ramos,

Manuel Gillentine,

Bob Edwards,

And Lynette Kaplan.

The questions focused on whether there will be a parking lot in the Verdemont area, or is it just a ‘stop’/turn around? Mr. Suarez indicated that there will be an 80 spot parking lot in the Verdemont area as well as the turn around for the articulated buses. Several other questions and idea were presented for Mr. Suarez’s consideration. Mr. Suarez took note of the questions/concern and turned the meeting back over to Mary.

Mary then introduced Lynette Kaplan, fire commissioner for the city. Lynette handed out the “Ready! Set! Go!” pamphlet. Lynette (and the pamphlet) show the proper considerations to assist homeowners in there fire deterrent choices for the roofs, home, landscaping, etc.

Mary then introduced city attorney Jim Penman who then acknowledged one of his office’s investigators (name not written down). Mr. Penman then let the group know that seven search warrants had been served on Wednesday, September 20th regarding the San Bernardino International Airport. Mr. Penman said that his office had been working with state investigators for over two years. He also indicated that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is checking into the connection(s) between a city level politician and an airport commissioner.

Mr. Penman also said that there have been four other investigations in city hall ongoing. It’s considered that the four ongoing investigations may be the cause for the turmoil at city council meetings over the last two years.

Mr. Penman thanked Mary for the time to speak.

Mary then adjourned the meeting for the attendees to enjoy the annual Ice Cream Social for the Verdemont Neighborhood Association members.