



Mar Vista Community Council



ELECTION & BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Chair: Martin Rubin (martin.rubin@marvista.org)

Vice-Chair: Holly Tilson (holly.tilson@marvista.org)

MINUTES

Wednesday, December 18, 2019, 6:00 PM

Windward School | 11350 Palms Blvd | L.A., 90066 - Room 1030

Presided over by committee Chair Martin Rubin, along with Vice Chair Holly Tilson

In attendance: Martin Rubin, Mary Wheeler, Elizabeth Wheeler, Kathryn Wheeler, Gabriel Hill, Wayne Wheeler, Seme Park, Holly Tilson, Andrea Ambriz, Melissa Stoller, Joan Winters, Christine Stemar (left @ 7pm), Stacy Shure (650pm-7pm)

#1: Introductions – Those present welcomed, introductions done as needed.

#2: Minutes – Motion to approve November 25, 2019 minutes moved by Kathryn Wheeler, seconded by Holly Tilson. Motion approved without objection.

#3: Public Comment: (for items not listed on the agenda) Trump impeached

#4: Chair Report: None

#5: Vice Chair Report: None.

#6: Old Business

#6a–Removal of board member by Recall. Motion to table until Selena Inouye (motion’s author) can be present to present. Moved by Melissa Stoller, seconded by Kathryn Wheeler, approved without objection.

#6b-Governing Board. Melissa Stoller presented her suggested change to the bylaws, which would increase the number of Directors from 13 (1 Community Director, 6 At-Large Directors and 6 Zone Directors to 19, adding 1 Youth Director, 1 Business Director, 3 Renter Directors, 1 additional Zone Director (splitting Z6 into 2 Zones creating a Zone 7) + the existing 6 At-Large Directors and 1 Community Director.

The Chair stated he would like to allow everyone to speak to this proposal so would like to go around the table twice so each person can respond to each other’s comments.

Minute-taker’s Note: The following is a summary of the comments/discussion not necessarily in order given.

Some were for increasing the NC to 19 and adding designated seats for youth/business and renters citing more inclusive, reflects the composition of the community, should increase the size of council based on the increase in population. MVCC is trying to get more involvement, maybe increasing the available director positions would do that. Youth seat is needed, they can bring a valuable perspective to the council. A representative of the Business Community could give the NC a better understanding of what the business community needs to thrive. Expanding the council is planning for the future, for increased population, increase density.

Others felt the increase to 19 was too large all at once, unmanageable, maybe only an increase of 2 vs 6 to start. Agreed it should be an odd number to break tie votes. No need to create special interest seats (countered with Zone directors could be seen as a special interest by some since most zones have Neighborhood Associations (NAs) that are heavily homeowners. Countered with NAs and Resident Associations are open to all, it’s up to individuals to join/participate, if renters feel unrepresented by the NAs they could start their own association within a building or zone. Renters and business owners have the same opportunity to campaign for seats as everyone else in the community. It is a lot of time and effort We should be working toward common goals for the MV community stakeholders not have special interest seats. Where does it end. The MV Chambers currently has the opportunity to send a representative or report to the BOD each month regarding local business concerns and isn’t. Several felt we could have a Youth Committee vs a Youth Director, which had the potential to involve more students/minors than having one board seat which would consume too much of a high schooler’s time. Minors require supervision, is the MVCC responsible for the minor? The City Council doesn’t have a youth position or a renter position (countered with city council does have employees assigned to address renters rights so maybe that explains the need for NCs to have a designated board seat(s). Suggestion made to have all zone directors (based on population), which would provide better local representation than

having an equal number of at-large directors which can result in under/over representation in any given area. Each Zone could have 2 directors, one renter, one property owner, which would give renters more designated seats.

Many felt the MVCC has major areas of dysfunction regarding communication between CD11 and MVCC, between the 13 board members, etc. which needs to be fix before we expand. We need more civility, orientation, training. Communication is critical.

MVCC Outreach to the community is moving forward, North Westdale Neighborhood Association (NWN) keeps up community interest in Z2 with their newsletters.

Semie Park, DONE representative, during the meeting commented that committee meetings should have no more that 3 MVCC directors present which would constitute a quorum, (*secretary's note-this meeting had 5 during the whole meeting and 2 more for part of the meeting*), if more are going to attend it should be a joint board committee meeting to avoid violating the Brown Act. It was stated that MVCC's committees had no set quorum because their membership is whoever shows up, could be 3-100+, all present are considered voting members. She stated DONE would be sending suggested language for us to change our bylaws. There were more questions and Semie said "legal" would need to answer them and suggested asking the MVCC Chair to contact legal for answers.

The meeting was extended by motion for 10 minutes (but ran 15 minutes over) to allow the remaining 4 people to have a second comment. Moved by Holly Tilson, seconded by Andrea Ambriz, majority present approved.

#7: New Business: Ran out of time for new business, 7a-g

#8: Announcements: None.

#9 Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday – January 29, 2020, 6PM

Location: Windward School - 11350 Palms Blvd, Room 1030

#10 Meeting Adjourned: 7:45PM