

MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JUNE 8, 2010
MINUTES

7:05 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The following members of the board were present: Laura Bodensteiner, Sharon Commins, Geoffrey Forgione, Bill Koontz, Marilyn Marble, Tara Mulski, Albert Olson, Maritza Przekop, Chuck Ray, and Alex Thompson.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeffrey Childers, LADWP NC liaison, discussed upcoming budget meetings.

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mayor of Los Angeles – Antonio Villaraigosa rep. by Jennifer.Badger@lacity.org , Westside Representative announced the Town Hall for ARRA funding on June 21 at Westwood Rec Center. She presented the budget poster that was a result of the budget survey.

CD 11 - Bill Rosendahl, rep. by Len.Nguyen@lacity.org , Field Deputy reported that the deadline for marijuana dispensaries to close has passed.

OFFICERS AND LIAISON REPORTS

Chair Albert Olson presented the list of committee chair nominees.

ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION: Nomination of Committee Chairs/Co Chairs by Chair to Board of Directors and Motion to approve appointment of Committee Chairs for 2010-1011

NOMINATIONS FOR MVCC COMMITTEE CHAIRS/CO-CHAIRS:

Community Outreach Committee Chair: Maritza Przekop

Education, Arts, & Culture Committee Co-Chairs: Kate Anderson and Babak Nahid

Election & Bylaws Committee Co-Chairs: Geoffrey Forgione and Bob Fitzpatrick

Green Committee Co-Chairs: Laura Bodensteiner and Sherri Akers

Historic FireStation 62 Ad Hoc Committee Co-Chairs: Sharon Commins and Rachel Swanger

Planning & Land Use Management Committee Co-Chairs: Sharon Commins and Steve Wallace

Recreation & Open Space Committee Co-Chairs: Tom Ponton and Jerry Hornof

Safety & Security Committee Co-Chairs: Bill Koontz and Rob Kadota

Santa Monica Airport Committee Co-Chairs: Bill Koontz and John Kuchta

Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Co-Chairs: Chuck Ray and Ken Alpern

NOMINATIONS FOR MVCC LIAISONS & REPRESENTATIVES

LANCC Representative: Marilyn Marble & Albert Olson

DWP MOU Representative: Chuck Ray

Director for Animal Welfare: Lola McKnight

BiMonthly CD11/LADOT Traffic Committee Chair: Linda Guagliano

Nominations were made and seconded.

Motion passed.

Albert Olson reported that he is planning a committee chair orientation. He also reported on organizing the farmers' market booth.

First Vice Chair: No report

Second Vice Chair: No report.

Secretary: No report.

Treasurer: Alex Thompson reported on DONE's requirement to use a budget template.

Director for Animal Welfare: No report.

DWP MOU: Chuck Ray reported that the MOU executive committee met with Austin Beutner who expressed his willingness to work with NCs. They discussed the motions in front of the city council to change the governance of the DWP. He also announced that a 10-year plan is being developed. The MOU met and discussed water issues. The committee voted to ask the LADWP for adequate time for NCs to discuss programs.

Bi Monthly CD 11/LADOT Traffic Meeting Sub Committee: Linda Guagliano reported on the May 12 meeting. Next meeting on

July 14. The committee took up 5 stop sign items. Palms and Rosewood stop sign has been asked for.
LANCC Delegate Report: Albert Olson reported that the City Council is being advised to reject the DONE reorganization proposal.
Mayor's Budget Planning: No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive & Finance:

ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION: The Mar Vista Community Council approves the attached proposed budget for the fiscal year 2010-2011 in accordance with the MVCC bylaws and within the guidelines set forth by the City of Los Angeles and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (see Appendix Item 1). (This approval recognizes that year-end figures issued by DONE regarding rollovers from previous years might differ slightly from the projections in this document, and will not affect the budgetary allocations for the new fiscal year.)

Albert Olson reported on the changes in the budget from previous years, including lower funding for newsletters, community improvement grants, and NA newsletter advertising. DONE is requiring a template budget be used, but they have not released it.

Alex Thompson suggested that the Board approve this budget.

Geoffrey Forgione suggested tabling the motion until more board members were present.

Linda Guagliano asked about the reduced funding for NA newsletters.

Alex Thompson explained how the funds were allocated in this budget based on what was allocated and spent in previous years.

There is an additional \$775 is available. Albert Olson suggested adding it to the newsletter allocation.

Alex Thompson offered some amendments to bring the total to \$45,000.

Motion passed.

Administrative Report: The Executive and Finance Committee rejected the invoice for \$200 (Invoice Number: 20100401001002) submitted by Bill Scheduling and recommends that it not be paid.

Motion to table. Motion tabled.

ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION: The MVCC approves the submitted May statements for the 2 US Bank MVCC Purchase Cards (statements to be provided, see attachments).

Tara Mulski asked about the Barnes & Noble purchase. It was the book purchase allocated at the previous meeting.

Motion passed.

POLICY MOTION: The Mar Vista Community Council recognizes both the need to find efficient ways of reducing the City's expenditures, and the responsibility of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to be part of these reductions.

However, upon careful review of Council File 10-0777, The MVCC strongly recommends that DONE remain as a Charter-mandated stand-alone department; and that the funding mechanism for Neighborhood Councils remain a City function rather than outsourcing to any not for profit entities.

The MVCC also recommends the streamlining and simplifying of DONE's financial oversight of Neighborhood Councils by:

1. Utilizing the existing Purchase Card system-with expansion to include limited check writing---for all payments up to a reasonably high per-payment limit, and utilizing Demand Warrants for the few remaining expenditures that would not fit into this system.
2. Eliminating petty cash.
3. Creating a definitive policy on permissible expenditures, and providing for effective and timely enforcement measures.
4. Mandating NC Board approval via a public meeting vote for all expenditures, with monthly NC Board approval of Purchase Card statements and funding withheld for noncompliance.

Tara Mulski commented that going on record with this motion is very important.

Marilyn Marble asked if this would make NCs more transparent.

Motion passed.

Community Outreach Committee

FUNDING MOTION: Renewal of previously approved August 12, 2008 motion of funding of Neighborhood Association Newsletter Ads, but reducing the amount from \$6,000 to \$2,000, and remit back to the Outreach Committee to decide how to equitably divide the money.

Tara Mulski commented on the costs of print newsletters vs. newsletters going online and how to equitably distribute the money.

Motion passed. 7 for, 2 opposed (Marilyn Marble and Alex Thompson).

FUNDING/POLICY MOTION: Reaffirmation of MVCC program for support of block parties, as passed September 25, 2008.

Motion passed.

FUNDING MOTION: The MVCC allocates \$300 for the Keeshen Block Party to be held on July 24, 2010, contingent on the following conditions:

- i) All publicity for the event must include a reference to MVCC sponsorship
- ii) The organization or group putting on the block party must provide a forum for public introduction of the MVCC to the attendees at the party. In addition, the MVCC shall be allowed to host a booth or table where promotional materials can be distributed.

Motion passed.

Community Outreach Committee:

FUNDING MOTION: The MVCC allocates \$350 for the MVNA Block Party to be held on June 19, 2010, contingent on the following conditions:

- i) All publicity for the event must include a reference to MVCC sponsorship
- ii) The organization or group putting on the block party must provide a forum for public introduction of the MVCC to the attendees at the party. In addition, the MVCC shall be allowed to host a booth or table where promotional materials can be distributed.

Geoffrey Forgione asked why this motion is under a different committee heading.

Motion passed.

Education, Arts & Culture: No report.

Green Committee: No report

Historic FS 62 Ad Hoc Committee: No report.

Planning and Land Use Management Committee:

ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION: The MVCC requests the CD11 office and the Dept of City Planning provide a status and funding update on the Livable Blvds project.

Motion passed. 1 abstention (Maritza Przekop)

ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION: The MVCC recommends the proposed City Planning Commission June 10, 2010 study session on the Code Simplification Work Program with corresponding ordinances and the following schedule of July, August and September be delayed 90 days to perform Charter mandated outreach and exchange of feedback with all Neighborhood and Community Councils.

Sharon Commins commented on the motion and the handout she passed out.

Motion passed. 1 opposed (Maritza Przekop)

Recreation Open Space Enhancement Committee

FUNDING MOTION: To allocate up to \$5,000 to the October 16, 2010, MVCC Fall Festival to underwrite rental of canopies; tables; chairs; stage; materials and supplies to be spent in the following categories:

\$2200-booths; canopies, tables, and chairs

\$1200-stage/equipment

\$1300 bouncers

\$300 support-materials and supplies

This funding motion shall meet all City of LA, DONE/EMPOWER guidelines and shall expire at the end of the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

Christopher McKinnon commented on the addition of wording "if needed".

Tara Mulski asked if the budget is flexible.

Motion passed.

Safety and Security Committee: Bill Koontz reported on upcoming Pacific Division events.

Santa Monica Airport Committee:

ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION: The MVCC approves the following resolution to be sent to Assemblyman Ted Lieu:

Whereas: Santa Monica Airport is surrounded more closely by densely populated residential neighborhoods than any other comparable airport in the country, and

Whereas: Santa Monica Airport is the busiest single runway airport in the nation with total annual jet operations growing from approximately 1,000 in 1983 to over 18,000 in 2007, and

Whereas: West Los Angeles, Mar Vista, Venice, and Santa Monica are heavily impacted by the emissions and noise from Santa Monica Airport jet operations, and

Whereas: A recently published study of air quality downwind from Santa Monica Airport using a state-of-the-art California Air Resources Board mobile monitoring unit showed very high levels of particulates well into the Los Angeles community of North Westdale, and

Whereas: A February, 2010 Health Impact Assessment report by a team of UCLA resident pediatricians analyzed the impacts of a lack of a buffer zone, noise, and air quality. One of their recommendations was "to adopt the precautionary

principal given the evidence of the potential harm from the byproducts of airport pollution on animal and human health.”

Be it resolved that

- 1) The Mar Vista Community Council strongly supports this resolution AJR 41, and
- 2) The Board of the Mar Vista Community Council shall send this official letter of support to California State Assemblyman Ted Lieu.

Gwen Reinhart and John Kuchta commented in favor of the motion.

Maritza Przekop asked if other neighborhoods are affected.

Motion passed.

Transportation & Infrastructure Committee

POLICY MOTION: Whereas, the Department of Water and Power has had, since at least August 2003, the voluntary Green Power Program which directs additional revenue exclusively to the development of “green” power resources, and Whereas, there has been no reporting, to date, on this program, Therefore, the Mar Vista Community Council requests that the Department of Water and Power disclose all revenue collected through the Green Power Program and all expenditures made using this revenue. And the MVCC also expresses thanks to the LADWP for placing on their web site on June 8, 2010 the annual reports of the Green Power Program.

Motion passed.

POLICY MOTION: The Mar Vista Community Council concurs with the proposal by the Venice Mobility Action Committee (VMAC), supported and approved by the Venice NC and Del Rey NC boards, that the City of Los Angeles and the State of California jointly fund the upgrade of the of Palms and Lincoln intersection to a full traffic signal intersection, including a crosswalk cycle that allows time for all pedestrians to cross both streets.

John Kuchta commented in favor of the motion.

Ken Alpern commented on people living just east of Lincoln needing to take a car to the beach because it was too dangerous to cross the street.

Motion passed.

POLICY MOTION: Whereas, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is seeking a series of increases in electricity rates to achieve a total increase of 2.7 cents per kilowatt hour and Whereas, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has not provided for timely and appropriate engagement in stakeholder review regarding the rate increases, nor has the LADWP demonstrated transparency in its rate requests to any of its customers at this time of extreme financial hardship, and Whereas the Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils Coalition (LANCC) at its meeting on May 1, 2010 voted unanimously to support six of the eight motions presented to the Los Angeles City Council by Councilmember Smith of Council District 12 on April 7, 2010,

Be it resolved that, The Mar Vista Community Council supports the enactment of the following City Council Motions:

1. Council File 10-0851 – Pension Vesting after five years
2. Council File 10-0852 – Removal of the LADWP General Manager with a 2/3’s vote of the City
3. Council File 10-0853 – Removal of a Commissioner with a 2/3’s vote of the City Council
4. Council File 10-0855 – Rate Increases and Pass Throughs Approved by the City Council
5. Council File 10-0856 – Change the Composition of the Board of Commissioners to Include two Appointed by the Mayor, two Appointed by the City Council and one Elected by the Neighborhood Councils
6. Council File 10-0857 – Approval of the DWP Annual Budget by the City Council

John Kuchta commented in favor of the motion.

Tara Mulski asked about the implications of point 6.

Motion passed.

ZONE REPORTS

- 1: No report
- 2: Bill Koontz reported on NRNA elections.
- 3: No report.
- 4: Tara Mulski announced the June 19 block party from 12-3.
- 5: Maritza Przekop reported that she is learning about the area.
- 6: No report.

NEW BUSINESS: None

GRIEVANCES: None

FUTURE AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Albert Olson reported that there is a party tonight at Rob Kadota's house.

Gwen Rinehart thanked the council for posting the candidate forum on line.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Minutes submitted by Laura Bodensteiner on June 18, 2010.