

MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2008
MINUTES

7:00 P.M.
MAR VISTA PARK AUDITORIUM

CALL TO ORDER

The following members of the board were present or arrived shortly thereafter: Ken Alpern, Laura Bodensteiner, Stephen Boskin, Sharon Commins, Bob Fitzpatrick, Colin Hatton, JD Gaydowski, Rob Kadota, Keith Lambert, Albert Olson, Bill Scheduling, and Curt Steindler.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT (I)

Linda Guagliano announced an event on Feb. 20 at the Mar Vista Library 6pm History of MV Fire Station 62.

Whitney Blumenfeld introduced herself as planning deputy for the council office.

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

DONE – Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Barry Stone, Project Coordinator asked all Board members to please fill out the Budget survey. He announced that there would be a Region 3 election meeting will be on Mar. 26.

CA Assembly 47 – Assemblymember Karen Bass represented by Estee Sepulveda reported that they marched in the MLK parade down Crenshaw Blvd. She discussed the Holocaust survivor program that matches high school students with survivors who write essays, then honor the survivors in Sacramento. If you know a survivor 323-937-4747

CD 11 Councilman Rosendahl represented by Len Nguyen reported on the Charnock Library event. Needs assessment for rec and parks. Upcoming open house for West L.A. Animal Care center.

OFFICERS AND LIAISON REPORTS

Chair: Rob Kadota handed out the NC self assessment. He explained the budget worksheets that are attached to the agenda. He also acknowledged the Charnock School event.

First Vice Chair: No report.

Second Vice Chair: No report.

Secretary: No report.

Treasurer: Curt Steindler reported that DONE misplaced some demand warrants he submitted.

LANCC Delegate: No report.

NCRC: No report.

Mayor's Budget Planning: Curt Steindler reported that the Budget Survey is available online.

Director for Animal Awareness: Lola McKnight reported on the L.A. Spay and Neuter ordinance. West L.A. Animal Shelter is having a Grand Opening on Feb. 23. Also, she mentioned the Seniors for Seniors program that gives free adoptions of dogs and cats over 8 years old to seniors. She announced that she wants to have Animal Awareness meetings at the Vineyard. lolamck@gmail. 310-439-5219.

DWP MOU: They are going to consider the rate increases at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive & Finance Committee

Spending motion to close out project expenditures related to the MVCC Board motion on August 9th, 2005 allotting \$5,000 for Mar Vista Park Soccer Field bicycle racks, boulders, and related costs, with a balance remaining unspent, and approve spending up to \$1,500 on fencing and netting materials for the park's hockey rink (as part of the Community Day of Service project).

Jerry Hornof commented on the spending motion.

Curt Steindler offered a friendly amendment to strike the actual dollar amount of the unspent motion. Accepted.

Sharon commented that the fence is in very poor condition.

Bill Scheduling commented on not having to spend all allotted monies.

The motion passed.

Administrative Motion: Grant permission by the MVCC Board of Directors for a 2nd MVCC charge card (US Bank Card) be issued to MVCC Chair, Rob Kadota as stipulated in City of LA DONE Info. Bulletin 2008-01.

The motion passed.

Rob Kadota requested that the Treasurer submit outstanding quarterly reconciliations (Q1, Q2, Q3).

Albert Olson reported on the upcoming Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting on March 11. The meeting will address the anti-mansionization ordinance, digital billboards, new NC election procedures, NCRC recommendations. Bob Fitzpatrick asked to add the Clean Money issue, space permitting.

Newsletter article submission deadline Friday, Feb. 22 2008 – Distribution date early March 1-8.

Rob Kadota reported that the Community Service Day is rescheduled to Saturday March 15.

Community Outreach Committee

Administrative motion: The MVCC Treasurer should consider using paid bookkeeping support to get up to date.

Curt Steindler commented that it would take just as much time to train someone and review the work.

Albert Olson commented on the value of having a training.

JD Gaydowski commented

The motion passed. 7 for, 1 against.

Spending motion: to support neighborhood newsletters to the amount of \$6,000 (same as last year).

Albert Olson clarified that the money that was not spent previously will not be spent.

Keith Lambert commented that VenMar has not been paid for previous ads.

Motion to table motion. Motion was tabled.

Colin Hatton reported on the analysis of past Outreach Committee budget items with a view to deciding whether to retain or drop them. This analysis has been sent to board members for review. He also reported on the Mar Vista web site redesign. Stephen Boskin commented on the recent cleanup.

Education, Arts and Culture

Curt Steindler, reported that there will be a meeting on the third Thursday at the Vineyard.

Election & Bylaws Committee

Bob Fitzpatrick presented the First Reading of Proposed Bylaw Changes:

1) Article III - Stakeholders: Adopt the current "Stakeholders" definition to include the addition of: " And also to those who declare a stake in the neighborhood and affirm the factual basis for it."

2) Article IV - Board of Directors: Change Par. E to read: "Election of the Directors. Election of the seven (7) "At-Large" Directors and election of the six (6) "Zone Directors", shall occur every two (2) years and the elections will be conducted by the City of Los Angeles and comply with all the requirements of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment."

3) Article IV - Board of Directors: Delete the balance of Paragraph E and Paragraph G (Election Schedule of the Board of Directors.)

Bill Scheduling commented on the change in stakeholder definition. There was discussion about limiting the expanded stakeholder definition to one at-large position.

Motion: For the 2008 election, use previous narrow stakeholder definition for voters to elect the 6 zone directors, and adopt the expanded definition for the 2010 election for 1 at-large director only, and if required, move one at-large director to 2008 with expanded definition.

The motion passed. 7 for, 3 opposed.

Motion to strike grievance committee from article VIII, combine executive and budget committee.

Motion passed.

Clean Money Initiative: Dennis Hathaway gave a summary of the clean money initiative.

Election Procedures – Rob Kadota

Standing Rules and Procedures – Albert O.

Green Committee

Laura Bodensteiner reported that Bill Latka is interested in being co-chair.

Laurel reported that the meetings will be the second Sunday at 9 am at the Mar Vista Farmers Market.

Recreation Open Space Enhancement Committee

Feb. 24 at the Farmers Market at 12 pm.

Safety and Security Committee

Bill Koontz reported that LAPD did a sting with fruit vendors. They are also getting more aggressive with RVs.

Santa Monica Airport Committee

Albert Olson reported on the FAA meeting about SMO, focusing on runway safety.

Motion to approve survey regarding SMO. See Santa Monica Airport Committee Motions and Report attachment A.

Motion passed.

SMC Bundy Campus Ad Hoc Committee

No report.

Transportation & Infrastructure Committee

Cell Phone Tower Installations: Whitney Blumenfeld reported that the landscape plan has been submitted to T-Mobile. They are going to re-plant the area and plant an additional area and add palm trees to mitigate the pole.

Motion: Whereas egress from the office building planned at 12402 Washington Place is only 96 feet south of northbound S. Centinela Avenue's approach to the Washington Place, and

Whereas, during commute periods, by the time southbound Centinela Avenue traffic has cleared the egress point after a stop signal on Centinela at Washington Place, the queue of waiting northbound Centinela Avenue traffic has already backed up to a point south of the egress point, and

Whereas, during commute periods, traffic exiting the office building and attempting to turn left onto northbound Centinela Avenue will most often will not be able to enter the northbound Centinela Avenue flow or waiting queue by the time southbound Centinela traffic is released at Washington Place and will therefore block that southbound Centinela Avenue flow, further increasing congestion on this already over-capacity highway, and

Whereas traffic exiting the planned office building would need to cross two southbound Centinela Avenue lanes to turn left onto northbound Centinela thereby increasing the likelihood of accidents, especially with eastbound Washington Place traffic turning southbound around the blind corner to be created by the planned office building only 100 feet from its egress point, and

Whereas traffic congestion increases on southbound Centinela Avenue will increase the propensity for commuters to divert from Centinela Avenue and cut through Mar Vista Community Council residential neighborhood streets,

The Mar Vista Community Council therefore requests the City of Culver City to restrict egress from the office building planned for 12402 Washington Place to right-turns only.

Bill Pope commented on the safety and congestion issues that this motion addresses.

Motion passed.

Motion: Whereas the Mar Vista Community Council recognizes the need to protect residential neighborhoods from the encroachment of commercial corridor spillover parking onto residential streets, and

Whereas the MVCC recognizes the need to support local businesses, and strongly supports creation of sufficient parking structures along commercial corridor streets to handle all parking needs for those corridors,

The Mar Vista Community Council Board Therefore strongly affirms the necessity of the current Preferential Parking Districts program to protect residential streets located in close proximity to commercial corridors from encroachment by nonresident traffic and parking. The MVCC believes that allowing and/or encouraging such encroachment would be a violation of both the Los Angeles General Plan's "Street Designation and Usages" sections and the "Neighborhood Protection Plans" sections of our Community Plans.

Bill Pope commented that this motion addresses a trend in Los Angeles.

Ken Alpern commented that parking structures and mass transit are not mutually exclusive.

Motion passed.

Motion: The Mar Vista Community Council urges LADOT to reconsider its Pico-Olympic Pilot Project. Specifically we urge LADOT and the Los Angeles City Council to bypass Phase 1 (the addition of "peak period lanes" which are created by removing on-street parking) of it's Pico/Olympic traffic flow plan, and implement only Phase 2 (directional signal operation to increase traffic flow). The MVCC

believes that additional on-street parking restrictions for these, or any other arterial streets, must not be implemented until sufficient off-street parking structures have been created.

Furthermore, The MVCC wishes to express its opposition to any current or future City plan or proposal that would push curb-side parking from commercial districts on major or secondary highways into residential neighborhoods in attempts to create more transportation capacity on the existing major and secondary highways.

Bill Pope commented in favor of the motion.

Phil Brown commented on the flow boulevard and he wants to coordinate the NCs.

Bill Scheduling commented that 50% of the parking will be removed.

Ken Alpern commented on the need to emphasize the need to replace the parking.

Motion passed.

Albert Olson reported on the working group regarding Venice Blvd.

Urban Planning Committee

Policy Motion: Whereas digital billboards pose a unique traffic safety risk on our streets and freeways by distracting drivers, and

Whereas state and city regulations as to the placement of billboards have been designed to reduce the traffic safety hazard caused by billboards, and

Whereas large billboards are a visual blight on our city, and

Whereas allowing these digital billboards to be installed near a busy freeway will create a precedent for other distracting billboards to be installed near other freeways and streets throughout the city, including Mar Vista, and

Whereas Mar Vista stakeholders have particular difficulties with digital billboards, especially those near busy intersections such as the digital billboards near the intersections of Venice and Sawtelle and Sawtelle and Pico) and freeways,

The Mar Vista Community Council opposes the creation of a supplemental use district that would allow billboards to be placed near to a busy freeway, distracting drivers and increasing the visual blight in our city.

Further, the Mar Vista Community Council is disturbed that this supplemental use district has been tied to the creation of a much-needed park.

Dennis Hathaway commented on 30 permit applications currently, and that they do not require environmental reviews.

The motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Spending Motion: Increase Community Day of Service budget by \$3,000 (up to \$6,000) to consider new projects as a result of the rescheduling of the event to March 15, 2008, and “no more than \$250 for trees, stakes and materials for the Mar. 29, 2008 tree maintenance/planting on Palms Blvd.”

Motion passed.

Policy Motion: The MVCC Board supports Councilman Rosendahl's efforts to oppose the sale of City property at the previous site of Fire Station 62

Motion passed.

Administrative Motion: The MVCC Board supports formation of an ad hoc committee to combine transportation and urban planning innovations, and which work with local and governmental groups, to establish the planned Metro Rapid Bus on Venice Blvd. that addresses transit, parking, business and beautification efforts on Venice Blvd. between Lincoln Blvd. and the 405 freeway.

Albert Olson commented that this is something that the Transportation committee should do.

Motion to table. Motion tabled.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT (II)

There will be a Mar. 12 bi-monthly traffic meeting at CD 11 office at 10 am.

Phil Brown commented on the subway and the high cost. He expressed his interest in working with NCs.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 PM.

Minutes submitted by Laura Bodensteiner on Feb 13, 2008.

ATTACHMENT A

Santa Monica Airport Committee – Motions and Report to MVCC Board of Directors

- 1) Report on recent developments regarding Airport ordinance and meeting in Washington D.C. attended by Charles Oberstar, Henry Waxman, Jane Harman, FAA officials, and Santa Monica city officials concerning this issue.
- 2) Motion to approve MVCC survey designed to acquire information concerning health and quality-of-life issues in neighborhoods surrounding the Santa Monica Airport.

Proposed survey regarding neighborhood impacts

Introduction: The Mar Vista Community Council is collecting information regarding the impact of various aspects of Santa Monica Airport air traffic on the surrounding neighborhoods. The information provided will be used only for the purpose of this survey, but the respondent's address is necessary in order to correlate the various responses to their proximity to the Airport. Only one survey will be recorded for each

address.

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____
PHONE # _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

1) Propeller Aircraft: Which of the following statements best describes your attitude concerning the noise created by aircraft taking off and landing at the Santa Monica Airport:

- a. ___ At times, the noise is overwhelming. I can hear nothing else when certain planes are passing overhead or revving their engines just prior to take-off.
- b. ___ I find the noise extremely intrusive.
- c. ___ I find the noise to be a nuisance.
- d. ___ I do not notice any such noise.
- e. ___

Comments _____

2) Approximately how many times a day do you notice this noise? _____

3) Jet Aircraft: Which of the following statements best describes your attitude concerning the noise created by aircraft taking off and landing at the Santa Monica Airport:

- a. ___ At times, the noise is overwhelming. I can hear nothing else when certain planes are passing overhead or revving their engines just prior to take-off.
- b. ___ I find the noise extremely intrusive.
- c. ___ I find the noise to be a nuisance.
- d. ___ I do not notice any such noise.
- e. ___

Comments _____

4) Approximately how many times a day do you notice this noise? _____

5) Which of the following statements best describes your attitude concerning fumes that seem to be related to jet fuel emissions created by aircraft taking off and landing at the Santa Monica Airport:

- a. ___ At times, the fumes are overwhelming. My family and I cannot be out-doors or have open windows in our house when these fumes are present.
- b. ___ I have physical reactions to the fumes.
- c. ___ I find the fumes to be a nuisance.
- d. ___ I do not smell anything.
- e. ___

Comments _____

6) How often do you notice these fumes?

- a. ___ Many times per day
- b. ___ Daily
- c. ___ A few times per week

- d. ___ Never
- e. ___ Comments

7) Have you had any experience with objects outside your residence being covered with any type of residue, or any layer of very fine particles or soot?

- a. ___ Yes
- b. ___ No
- c. ___

Comments _____

8) Please comment on any other health, safety, or quality-of-life concerns.