



# Mar Vista Community Council



**MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at 7:00 P.M.  
Mar Vista Recreation Center Auditorium  
11430 Woodbine Street, Mar Vista, CA  
90066

## MINUTES

1. **Call to order and Welcome** – Chair (1 min)

Meeting called to order at 7:07 P.M.

Quorum present: Bill Koontz (chair), Bill Scheduling (treasurer), Melissa Stoller (Secretary), Sherri Akers, Valerie Davidson, Robin Doyno, Michelle Krupkin, Michael Millman, Brad Wilhite, Ken Alpern,

2. **Presentation of flag and Pledge of Allegiance** (1 min)

3. **Approval of September 8, 2015 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes** (public comment permitted; 1min per speaker)

Motion to approve by Bill Scheduling, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Melissa Stoller. Minutes approved as amended (change to members present): 7 ayes, 1 abstention (Melissa Stoller).

4. **Public Comment & Announcements** - for items not on the agenda (max 1 min each unless waived by the Chair)

Lenore French: Art Walk.

Will be 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of month beginning December 3<sup>rd</sup>. 6 – 9 pm. Spearheaded as means to encourage walkability of our community. Walk will include all of the arts, not just visual. There are already 4-5 galleries west of Centinela and music venues east of Centinela. Many businesses with artistic bent will stay open late. Businesses will be allowed to put their wares out on sidewalk. Mike Bonin planning to attend.

Bill Koontz: Discuss providing some Art Walk funding in EACC.

Robin Doyno: This is FABULOUS.

Martin Rubin: North Westdale Neighborhood Association talent show was very successful. Two guest speakers at NRNA meeting on October 28 at St. Andrew Church: SoCal Gas Public Affairs Manager will address meter upgrades; Terra Bella about drought.

Bill Scheduling: Beekeeping is now legal in Los Angeles

5. **Elected Officials and City Department Reports** (max 1 min. each unless waived by the Chair)

Joel Jacinto, Dept. of Public Works.

Council District 11, 5 & 2 representative to board. Oversees department of Engineering.

Does above-ground hearings. Interested in arts & culture. Wants to partner with us to make our city more beautiful. Lives in Council District 11 at Braddock & Purdue.

Bill Scheduling: pile of junk near canal; Len Nguyen: it's in 2 week window for clean-up by County.

Sherri Akers: cell tower concerns. Need major campaign to give public balanced view of them.

a. CD 11 – CM Mike Bonin, rep. by Field Deputy Len Nguyen [Len.Nguyen@lacity.org](mailto:Len.Nguyen@lacity.org)

Assembly Bill 810 by Sebastian Ridley Thomas passed & governor signed it. Relinquishes sections of Venice Blvd. to city of LA.

Mike will be at Fall Festival 1:00-3:00.

Public Art: 3 boxes ID'd for first phase. Can divvy up however want (1, 2 or 3 artists). Each artist can get \$1000 (not \$1000 per box).

Daniel Osztreicher is leaving soon; not new head as yet for Great Street Art Committee.

- i. Presentation: Traffic Box Painting Initiative - Daniel Osztreicher  
([Daniel.Osztreicher@LACity.Org](mailto:Daniel.Osztreicher@LACity.Org), 310-575-8461) (5 min)
  - b. Mar Vista Recreation Center – Lizka Mendoza, Director
  - c. CD 5 – Paul Koretz, rep by Joseph Galloway [joejdg92@gmail.com](mailto:joejdg92@gmail.com)
  - d. US 36 – Janice Hahn
  - e. US 37 – Karen Bass, rep by District Director Maral V. Karaccusian [maral@mail.house.gov](mailto:maral@mail.house.gov)
  - f. CA Assembly 54-Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, rep by Scott Malsin  
[scott.malsin@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:scott.malsin@assembly.ca.gov)
  - g. Congressman – Ted Lieu, rep. by Robert Pullen-Miles [Robert.Pullen-Miles@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Robert.Pullen-Miles@sen.ca.gov)
  - h. CA Assembly 47
  - i. CA Assembly 62
  - j. 2nd Dist. L. A. County Board Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas, rep. by Karly Katona,  
[Karly.Katona@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:Karly.Katona@bos.lacounty.gov)
  - k. Mayor of Los Angeles – Eric Garcetti, rep. by Daniel Tamm [Daniel.tamm@lacity.org](mailto:Daniel.tamm@lacity.org)
6. **Officers and Liaison Reports** (Action items included with public comment permitted; 1min per speaker)
- a. Chair-Bill Koontz  
**Robin Doyno and Sherri Akers need to send course completion info to Empower.**
  - i. Update on training/ethics/committee assignments. (possible motions to follow)
  - b. First Vice Chair – Mitchell Rishe
  - c. Second Vice Chair – John Kuchta
  - d. Secretary –Melissa Stoller
  - e. Treasurer-William Scheduling: NOTE: All funding motions must conform to all Empower funding guidelines and must be funded and paid in fiscal year 2014-15 or they will expire. All NPG and CIG grants approved by the Mar Vista Community Council are restricted funds according to Department of Neighborhood Empowerment regulations and must be used for the exact purpose approved by the MVCC. All Neighborhood Council Funding reports are available online at <http://done.lacity.org/onlinefunding/ncfunding.aspx>.

Funding Update:

The next quarterly replenishment is being processed for October 1st. NCs will receive an additional \$9,250.00 deposited into their checking account so long as they have funds available. Pursuant to Council File 15-0974, City Council authorized an additional \$5,000 for each NC to be used for discretionary purposes as a supplement to their existing operating budget. The Department will account for this additional \$5,000 by disbursing it throughout the next 3 quarterly replenishments as additional funds in increments of (\$2,000 - 2nd quarter), (\$2,000 - 3rd quarter), and (\$1,000 - 4th quarter). As such the final amount to be processed for NCs will be \$11,250 on October 1st. The funds should become available by October 5, allowing for transfer and deposit times. As always, if additional funds are required for particular events, operation costs, or NPG's, you may complete a Cash Request Form at any time.

**Motion to take all on consent by Bill Scheduling, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Michelle Krupkin. Motion carried unanimously.**

- i. **APPROVAL** of September Monthly Expense Report (MER)
- ii. **FUNDING MOTION: MVCC budget addition** (submitted by ExFin Committee)  
Whereas, the City has approved an additional \$5,000 for each neighborhood council, and  
Whereas, MVCC has chosen to add this new allocation to the Neighborhood Purpose Grant portion of its 2015-2016 annual budget,  
Therefore, be it resolved, to add \$5,000 to the MVCC Budget and allocate it to the Neighborhood Purpose Grant portion of the MVCC 2015-2016 Budget, with other adjustments to be approved by the Council as necessary.
- iii. **FUNDING MOTION: Newsletter layout and editing** (submitted by ExFin Committee)  
MVCC approves the payment of \$350 to Laura Bodensteiner for newsletter layout and editing.

- f. Mar Vista Bi Monthly LADOT/CD11/LAPD Traffic Committee Liaison: Linda Guagliano [lindaguag@netzero.net](mailto:lindaguag@netzero.net)  
 Next meeting is November 18. Farmers' Market signs are all up.  
 Valerie Davidson: Officer Martin Baracio missed two meetings in a row.  
 Linda Guagliano: Martin assigned to special detail in July, needed to be in traffic court for September meeting. Linda sent email requesting better support.
- g. DWP MOU Liaison: Myra Boime
- h. LANCC Liaison: Open (Bill Koontz reporting)
- i. DWP Recycled Water Liaison: Christopher McKinnon [www.ladwp.com/recycledwater](http://www.ladwp.com/recycledwater)
- j. Fall Festival Liaison: Albert Olson  
 Sherri Akers: Heroes theme successful 55+ heroes. 53 booths—largest since Albert Olsen became involved. Need volunteers throughout day.  
 LAPD color guard opens Festival at 10:15 A.M.
- k. City Budget: John Kuchta
- l. Recode LA: Sharon Commins  
 Next meeting is October 28.
- m. Mar Vista Chamber of Commerce: Sarah Auerswald  
 Officially one year old. 67 members.  
 Next Coffee Time meeting is Thursday, October 14, 9:00 A.M. at Coffee Connection. Jean Roth will speak about the importance of branding a business.  
 Small Business Saturday: 36 stores signed up for Make It Mar Vista. CalTrans agreed to 1-day takeover by City. Will have 1-lane closed, 2 lanes open between Centinela & Grandview; there'll be parklets and some parking between bikes & street.
- n. Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance: Sherri Akers
8. **New Business** - Action items, which may include motions to refer items to the appropriate MVCC committee where desirable (public comment permitted, 1 min per speaker unless waived by the Chair); items may be received and filed by consent if no discussion or public comment.
- a. **ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION: Committee on Homelessness**  
 MVCC establishes a new Homeless Issues Committee and appoints Robin Doyno as the chair.  
 Motion to approve by Bill Scheduling, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Michelle Krupkin. Motion carried with one abstention (Robin Doyno).  
 Request for November BOD: Transition AIP from ad hoc to standing committee.
- b. **POLICY MOTION: Co-host Public School Education Event** (submitted by ExFin Committee)  
 MVCC will co-host, with the Westchester/Playa Neighborhood Council, a meeting "Westside Public School Education Event featuring Elected Officials and Education Representatives."  
 Motion to approve by Brad Wilhite, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Michelle Krupkin.  
 Discussion:
  - Sara Roos: Event is October 26. Communities involved are significantly different; Westchester is very charter friendly. No funding request; MVCC will do outreach
 Motion carried unanimously.
- c. **POLICY MOTION: 12249 Venice Blvd** (submitted by PLUM Committee)  
 Motion to approve application for a liquor license as proposed  
 Motion to approve by Michael, Millman 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sherri Akers.  
 Discussion:
  - Michael Millman: upscale restaurant with liquor (full spirits—old license just beer & wine). Space used to be Good Hurt. They have only 9 parking spaces and no commitment for valet. Grandfathered in under old business permit; otherwise would need more parking.
  - Bill Koontz: they say they plan to have valet; asking for hours until 12:00 A.M., could change to be open until 2:00.
  - Robin Doyno: Owner apparently has good reputation.

- Sara Roos: Bowlero said “we’re not a nightclub, but just wait – one will be opening down the street.”
- Sarah Auerswald: we’re just commenting; state approves liquor license.
- Michael Millman: willing to have owner do BOD presentation.
- Ken Apem: pass on to Demetrious concerns about parking.

Motion carried: 6 ayes, 3 nays.

d. **POLICY MOTION: Access to Grading Documents** (submitted by PLUM Committee)

Whereas, increasing number of grading operations in commercial, residential and hillside areas have the potential of undercutting and damaging adjacent properties.

Whereas, the owners of these adjacent properties, and the general public, have the right to have access to grading plans, geology reports and soils engineering reports that are submitted to the City for the purpose of development.

Whereas, access to these public records must occur before grading plans are approved to give the public the ability to review the plans and/or allow an independent expert to examine the plans to assure themselves that the proposed grading and development will not have an adverse affect on his or her own property or the environment.

Whereas, currently, adjacent property owners are not given timely notification that would allow them to inspect the plans submitted to the City.

Whereas, access to public records is a fundamental right of every California resident.

Whereas, "[i]nterim grading documents, including geology reports, compaction reports, and soils reports, submitted by a property owner to a city’s building department in conjunction with an application for a building permit are subject to public inspection and copying under the California Public Records Act at the time the documents are first received by the building department," per the published opinion of the California Office of the Attorney General No. 05-1004 dated February 28, 2006 (See Attachment A).

Therefore, the Mar Vista Community Council supports all efforts to increase public access to submitted plans and requests that the Department of Building and Safety devise a protocol that would give timely access for public inspection, and provides notice to adjacent property owners, Neighborhood Councils, [and Community Councils] as soon as such plans are submitted to the City.

Motion to approve by Michael Millman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sherri Akers.

Discussion:

- Michael Millman: example of MVCC being hijacked; Michael didn’t thoroughly vet the motion.
- Bill Koontz: WRAC motion. Bill knows that Sharon Cummins did her homework.

Motion carried: 9 ayes, 1 nay.

e. **POLICY MOTION: Verizon Wireless, 3590 Grand View Boulevard (St. Bede’s Church)** (submitted by PLUM Committee)

Whereas, Verizon Wireless proposes to construct a new stealth unmanned wireless telecommunications facility (“Facility”) at 3590 Grand View Boulevard, commonly known as St. Bede’s Episcopal Church. The Facility is described as a “40-foot tall RF transparent tower with stucco finish and painted to match the existing subject building [and] will contain twelve panel antennas, one microwave dish and twelve remote radio units” (See Attachment B).

Be it resolved, that the Mar Vista Community Council opposes location of the proposed Facility at St. Bede’s Episcopal Church.

Motion to approve by Michael Millman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ken Alpern.

Discussion:

- Michael Millman: St. Bede’s reverend supported community view that this is not appropriate location.
- Already been decided by Zoning Administration: tower not going up there.

Motion carried: 10 ayes, 1 nay.

9. **Zone Director Reports** – (may include motions to refer action items to the appropriate MVCC committee where desirable; public comment permitted)

- a. Zone 1 – Ken Alpern  
Emergency Preparedness meeting was very successful & well done.
  - b. Zone 2 – Brad Wilhite  
All quiet. Mega garage sale on October 24.
  - c. Zone 3 – Bill Scheduling  
Hilltop & Westdale block parties were big success.
  - d. Zone 4 - Michael Millman  
Hosting October 20 workshop with Pacific division LAPD.  
Getting rid of transient encampment on Palms; will put up fence if necessary.  
Zoning Administration knows how neighbors feel, frustrations with Bow.lero
  - e. Zone 5 – Michelle Krupkin  
Rumor that Robinson Beautilities might leave Mar Vista.
  - f. Zone 6 – Valerie Davidson  
Pretty quiet. West Mar Vista Neighborhood Association meeting this weekend.
10. **Committee Reports** - (may include motions to refer action items to the appropriate MVCC committee where desirable; public comment permitted)
- a. **Executive & Finance Committee** - Bill Koontz, Chair
  - b. **Recreation Open Space Enhancement Committee** – Jerry Hornof & Tom Ponton, Co-Chairs
  - c. **Green Committee** – Melissa Stoller, Jeanne Kuntz & Sherri Akers, Co-Chairs
    - i. **Green Garden Showcase** – Sherri Akers & Melissa Stoller  
Sherri Akers: See statement (Attachment A).  
Melissa: It would be great to have spring event that involves community; be creative, don't limit ideas to gardens.
  - d. **Transportation & Infrastructure Committee** – Ken Alpern & Michelle Krupkin, Co-Chairs
  - e. **Planning and Land Use Management Committee** - Steve Wallace & Mitchell Rishe, Co-Chairs; Michael Millman, Vice-Chair  
Michae Millman: gets asks about MVCC position on care facilities, short term rentals, apartment earthquake upgrades. Need a sign at library informing people that PLUM meeting isn't there.  
Property owner has applied for permit for five 3-story buildings (small lot subdivision) at 3277 Barrington Ave. (NW corner of Barrington & Indianapolis).
  - f. **Education, Arts and Culture Committee** – Brad Wilhite, Robin Doyno & Sara Roos, Co-Chairs  
Received thank you (Attachment B) from Mar Vista Elementary School.
  - g. **Santa Monica Airport Committee** – Valerie Davidson & Martin Rubin, Co-Chairs  
Next meeting is October 15, 7:00–8:00 P.M. behind Laundromat on National at Bundy (enter via back door).
  - h. **Safety and Security Committee** – Rob Kadota, Chair  
Collaborating with Mar Vista Chamber of Commerce on Safety & Security Expo January 17 at Farmers' Market.
  - i. **Historic FS 62 Ad Hoc Committee** – Rachel Swanger & Roy Persinko, Co-Chairs
  - j. **Community Outreach Committee** – Sarah Auerswald & John Kuchta, Co-Chairs  
Library needs to borrow projector to show a movie.
  - k. **Elections and By-laws-** Bill Scheduling, chair  
Chair needs to be someone not running for reelection. Bill Koontz volunteers; need to put on next month's BOD agenda.  
Valerie Davidson: wants to change by-laws to split Zone 6 into two zones.  
Bill Scheduling: DONE not allowing any by-laws changes until after election.
  - l. **Great Streets Ad Hoc Committee** – Michelle Krupkin, chair  
Other Great Streets are getting smart bus benches; working to facilitate best bench location for our Great Street.

m. **Aging in Place Ad Hoc**- Sherri Akers & ~~Robin Doyne~~, Co-Chairs

11. **Discussion Calendar**

12. **Unfinished Business** - Action items held over from previous meeting (Public comment permitted)

13. **Grievances**, if any, received

Potential grievance by Rick Selan is being handled.

MVCC received subpoena in mail requesting documentation about a PLUM committee action. Subpoena not delivered correctly.

14. **Future agenda items**

15. **Public Comment**

16. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 P.M.

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\* *In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at <http://www.marvista.org> or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact [secretary@marvista.org](mailto:secretary@marvista.org).*

\*\* *As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or any auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting [chair@marvista.org](mailto:chair@marvista.org).*

## ATTACHMENT A: Mar Vista Green Garden Showcase Statement



### Mar Vista Green Garden Showcase

It's exciting to see what we've achieved – sustainable gardens are now plentiful and most Mar Vistans have quite a few on their own street. The irony is that this makes garden selection for the tour even more demanding – for the tour to be meaningful, the gardens need to stand out beyond what we all see around us. This makes the workload to organize the tour even more demanding – hugely dependent on the very labor intensive aspect of searching out, recruiting and curating gardens with the balance of the work crammed into a very short time frame.

Jeanne, Melissa and Sherri are each dealing with caregiving needs that make it impossible for us to be the organizers. After Christy and Shelley became involved, they both found it to be far more demanding than they expected and are not able to continue recruiting and curating. In order to continue the tour in the current format, we would need to recruit new organizers. We've all 5 tried to find more partners to work on organizing the tour, but without success.

If new leadership can't be found, perhaps we could explore partnering with the Mar Vista Chamber of Commerce or the Mar Vista Farmers' Market on a spring event? If not, we may need to take a sabbatical on the tour this year, allowing time to explore a spring event that celebrates our community and involves a collaboration by more than our small group of tired Garden Showcase organizers.

We think it is accurate to say that the Garden Showcase is the equivalent of a part time job for at least 4 months – easily demanding 20 hours a week or more each from several people. Here is an of what it takes to produce the tour as a stand-alone event.

- We should already be looking for gardens. To get any media coverage in print, October is the due date to submit. For the last two years, it has been challenging to find 'wow' gardens. Last year, Lisa Boone of the LA Times promoted our tour in a piece she wrote about a garden elsewhere.
- Sadly, people seldom submit gardens – we have to go out and look for them. This means walking, driving or biking every street in Mar Vista. Once identified, it's a huge task to vet the gardens, identify and connect with the owner, convince them to be on the tour, get them to complete the paper work in a timely manner, and take photos. Cutoff date for garden submissions for consideration -- if we're to have any sanity in the posting and mapping process – is February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- After the cutoff date, the mad scramble begins to ensure that we have walkable clusters as well as a diverse cross section of gardens that minimizes duplication of styles while showcasing all important sustainability issues. We must check and recheck the Google map before turning it over by March 13<sup>th</sup> – along with the newsletter articles we've been busy writing – for graphics and layout. The Garden Showcase issue of the newsletter needs to be at the printer by April 1<sup>st</sup> for distribution the weekend of April 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Publicity is an on going effort and includes meeting media representatives at selected gardens, which requires coordinating with the garden owners. We also have to recruit and place organizations to guest at appropriate gardens and Showcase Central.
- The weeks before and day of includes flag distribution and collection, placing and picking up A frame signs, drafting volunteers and organizing day-of activities for Showcase Central. This is the one area where we've been able to get other volunteers to help.

ATTACHMENT B: Mar Vista Elementary School Thank You

