



# Mar Vista Community Council



## MINUTES

### Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

<http://www.marvista.org/minutes-and-agendas.php>

Tuesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at 7:00pm

Mar Vista Recreation Center Auditorium

11430 Woodbine Street, Mar Vista, CA 90066

**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

**2. Presentation of Flag and Pledge of Allegiance**

Elliot Hanna led the board and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Roll Call – Call of the roll and certification of a quorum**

**Attending (11):**

Robin Doyno

Aaron Elster

Elliot Hanna

Mary Hruska

Rob Kadota

Michelle Krupkin

Nanxi Liu

Sara Roos

Stacy Shure

Holly Tilson

*Arrived after roll call:*

Ken Alpern (arrived at 7:20 p.m.)

**Absent:**

Heather Kamins

Susan Klos

**4. Community Memorial Observations**

None.

**5. Announcements**

**Rob Kadota:** Congratulated the MVCC board for completing its term.

**6. Public Comment for Items NOT on This Agenda**

**Beau Avril:** Said he has lived at 3227 Mountainview Ave for two years and he loves his neighborhood but he and his wife recently discovered that almost every other street in their area has been repaved but theirs. Their street has not been repaved in many years and is in terrible condition. He gave the board a report he created, detailing the poor condition of the street including photos of craters on the side of the street and sinkholes. He created a petition to have the street prepared that 36 of his neighbors have signed. He said he suspected the problem was the result of some sort of oversight. He has been communicating with Mary Hruska via email about addressing the issue. He asked the board to prioritize this issue. He is concerned the sinkholes causing driving issues and about the safety of the children who live and play in the area.

**Hanna:** Asked Krupkin to take that information Traffic and Infrastructure Committee meeting.

**Krupkin:** Said she would do so. She also said that the street was in her zone. She said that Avril had submitted a fantastic presentation and she seconded everything he said about the condition of the street. They have been working to try to bring the issue to the Bureau of Street Services and CD 11. She said it was a bizarre oversight especially since other streets in the area have been repaved multiple times. She agreed it was unsafe for the local children and she hoped they could soon resolve the issue.

**Harriet Fisher:** Said she lives near Bau Avril and was at the meeting to support his effort to fix the street. She has lived in the neighborhood for decades and brought the issue to Avril's attention. Many streets in the area have been repaved, but Mountainview has not been repaved in decades and she believed it was time to finally fix it. There is a large sinkhole and she is concerned about cars falling into them.

**7. Ex-Parte Communications and Conflicts-of-Interest - Each board member shall declare any ex-parte communications or conflicts-of-interest pertaining to items on or related to this agenda.**

**Aaron Elster:** Said he had no conflicts to report.

**Robin Doyno:** Said he had discussions about agenda item 12.2 with other board members but had no conflicts of interest to report.

**Stacy Shure:** Said that in her role as a PLUM committee member she had multiple conversations about the Mitchell apartments (Agenda Item 15.1) with the developer, their representatives, the tenants, attorneys for the tenants, Council Member Bonin's office, lawyers, the Department of City Planning, the Department of Housing during her consideration of the permit application and in her role facilitating protecting the current tenants' rights. Regarding the Palms and Sepulveda development (Agenda Item 15.2), she and Alpern have had two meetings, representing PLUM, with the developer's representative.

**Hruska:** Said she'd had discussion with board members about both the Mitchell and Palms developments, the clean energy motion (Agenda Item 15.5) and a few funding motions.

**Kadota:** Said he had discussions about the election newsletter (Agenda Item 12.2) at the executive committee meeting.

**Hanna:** Said he had conversations with board members about agenda items 15.1, 15.2, and 15.5 but was careful never to violate the Brown Act in his communications.

**Sara Roos:** Said she had no conflicts to report.

**Nanxi Liu:** Said she had conversations with board members and stakeholders, including a candidate, about agenda items 12.2 and 12.8.

**Michelle Krupkin:** Said she had conversations with board members, stakeholders and committee members about agenda items 12.1, 12.2 and 12.4.

**Holly Tilson:** Said she has had conversations with board members, stakeholders and committee members about all of the funding motions and the Mitchell apartments.

**Ken Alpern arrived during discussion of Agenda Item 8, at 7:20 pm.**

**8. Adoption of the Agenda**

**Roos** moved to hear agenda items 15.3, 15.4 and 15.5 before Item 11, Special Items. She said the items were time sensitive due to the planning commission meeting scheduled for the next day and she believed they were not difficult issues. There was no second and the motion died.

**Kadota** moved to hear agenda items 15.3, 15.4 and 15.5 before the excluded items on the consent calendar. **Elster** seconded.

**VOTE:**

**YES:** Doyno, Elster, Hanna, Hruska, Kadota, Liu, Roos, Shure, Tilson

**ABSTAIN:** Alpern, Krupkin

*The motion passed with 9 votes*

*Without objection, the agenda as amended was adopted.*

**9. Approval of Minutes – Approval of the minutes from the most recent regular meeting(s) of the Board of Directors.**

**Shure:** Pointed out that a word was missing on page 7. It should read “Said the developer” in Ms. Shure’s comments.

**Hruska:** Said that item 10.3.3 that the spelling of Westside Rack should instead read “WRAC”

**Kadota** moved to approve the minutes as corrected. **Hruska** seconded.

*Without objection the corrected minutes were approved.*

## 10. Reports

### 10.1. Elected Official and City Department Reports

**Hannah Levien, Field Deputy Mar Vista and Del Rey for Councilmember Mike Bonin's office:** She had a few announcements:

- Per the MVCC's request the CM's office has secured LANow shuttles for the upcoming neighborhood council elections for Mar Vista, Del Rey, Palms and Venice. The shuttle will be available from 10am to 6pm. There will be a promotional code that she will send to the MVCC.

**Tilson:** Said that Alec told her that the shuttle service would start at 9:30 am on their election day. **Levien:** Said she was told 10 am but that she would get confirmation on the official start time but that she was sure it stopped at 6 pm.

**Krupkin:** Said, just to clarify, that LANOW has a total of three shuttles that they will be splitting between three neighborhood council areas. **Levien:** Said she thought there were more shuttles, but she would look into it.

**Hanna:** Said that he did not remember MVCC requesting this service and asked who did.

**Levien:** Said the request came from the community and asked if Hanna wanted her to find out who officially requested it. **Hanna:** Said that he did want her to find that out.

- On April 16<sup>th</sup> City Council passed the Clean Money initiative for candidates running for city council. This added an amendment to a prior City Council ethics motion, which lowered the threshold the amount of funds candidates have to raise before they can qualify for the matching funds program.
- The Mayor released his budget back in April. CM Bonin sits on the Budget and Finance Committee and has a pretty big hand in determining what changes were made. One of which was an additional \$2 million allocated to the Bureau of Street Services' pavement restoration program

**Joseph Galloway, Westside Deputy District Director for Councilmember Paul Koretz's office:** He had a few announcements:

- He introduced Elizabeth Garcia, their office's new field representative for Mar Vista. He will be moving to Century City and Cheviot Hills.
- LADWP is doing a construction project on Sepulveda and Venice called the Sepulveda-Venice Water Pipeline Connection. Traffic lanes and parking will be restricted on Sepulveda during the construction. Temporary tow-away "no parking" signs will be posted as needed. Northbound Sepulveda will be reduced to one lane from 9 a.m. To 3 p.m. Two lanes will be open at all other times. Eastbound Venice will be reduced to one lane from 9 a.m. To 3 p.m. Three lanes will be open at all other times and no right turns from Venice Boulevard runs on to Bentley Avenue. Please contact their office if there are any issues.
- The councilman is asking for constituents to reach out regarding SB 50, a bill which would override local jurisdictions for zoning. This could result in high rises in single family neighborhoods. The councilman is against the bill and hoped that local community will let the state assembly and senate know that they do not support this legislation.
- Senator Kamala Harris is working with their office to have a joint town hall around June 27<sup>th</sup> in the Pico-Robertson area.
- Their office is having discussions with the Bureau of street services about repaving Sepulveda Blvd from Venice to Pico.

**Ami Fields-Meyer, West Area Representative for Mayor Eric Garcetti's office:** He had a few announcements:

- At the end of April, the Mayor announced LA's Green New Deal. They are working toward a **Garcettia** announced LA's green new deal. They are working toward a zero-carbon electricity grid. They plan to to

- create a job cabinet to bring City and labor and educational leaders together to create 300,000 in green jobs by 2035. The Green New Deal is a critical piece of the Mayor’s vision for LA’s infrastructure.
- The City has a summer program called the Civic Youth Leadership Academy that they run in coalition with neighborhood councils and DONE to tach and train youth leaders from the age of 14 to their early 20s.
  - The census process is about to begin. Since the census is deeply tied to equity issues the City is working to have a census access kiosk – a location for people to troubleshoot their issues in various parts of the community.

**Hanna** moved to hear item 11 first in order to accommodate City Controller Ron Galperin schedule.

Without objection the item was moved first.

After Agenda Item 11, all the of the consent calendar items were pulled so the board heard items 15.3, 15.4, and 15.5 as approved in item 8.

After 15.5, **Shure** moved to hear item 15.1. **Hruska** seconded.

Without objection the item was moved.

After 15.1 just **Tilson** gave her Treasurer Officer Report to help inform the board’s Consent Calendar votes, after which the first few consent items were heard before the meeting’s hard stop at 9:30 pm.

**\*\*\*FOR FORMATTING PURPOSES, THE MINUTE TAKER HAS LEFT THE ITEMS IN AGENDA IN THEIR ORIGINAL LISTED ORDER\*\*\***

**10.2. Officer Reports**

**10.2.1. Chair – Elliot Hanna**

None.

**10.2.2. 1st Vice-Chair – Rob Kadota**

None.

**10.2.3. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair – Mary Hruska**

None.

**10.2.4. Secretary – Sara Roos**

None.

**10.2.5. Treasurer – Holly Tilson**

Said that in the office category of their budget they had \$3,480 left in routine expenses – they allocated \$11,719 and spent \$7,835. Minus what she anticipated paying in routine expenses for the rest of the year there is about \$400 left for office expenses. But if they need extra money for office expenses, they can put off paying \$1,200 rental for the Farmer’s Market which can wait until the beginning of the fiscal year.

In the elections category they allocated \$7,600, they spent \$736, and \$6,864 is left unspent. The newsletter motion in the Consent Calendar is for up to \$8,000. But she submitted that motion before any quotes were actually obtained for the newsletter. She had since learned that an eight-page black and white newsletter would cost a maximum of \$6,240. With this new quote, if the newsletter is approved that leaves enough money for the motion for \$500 for lawn signs that Doyno requested. In outreach category they allocated almost \$16,000, they spent \$11,000 and \$3150 is left. The categories were \$750 for the homeless brochures, \$500 for town halls, \$500 for data entry, \$400 for miscellaneous, and \$1,000 for bikes. They have a previous motion to use \$2,000 to replace the stolen property they lost. So by her estimates there was about \$1,150 in outreach left. In regards to the Art Walk NPG motion, they already allocated that money as printing and the NPG paperwork is completed and submitted. There is one more block that there has not been a motion for nor has any paperwork been submitted. They could potentially use the other \$1,000 for the Bicycle safety cards

that did not make it onto this agenda. She also had a new motion for \$500 for miscellaneous outreach expenses and they already have a line item for \$400. The Green Tent has requested for some supplies and that \$500 for miscellaneous could cover that.

The NPG category allocated \$6,845, spent \$3,648 and there is about \$3,200 left. Coffee with a cop for \$300, certain refreshments for \$300.

In Education Arts and Culture there is \$1,500 unspent. Great art showcase has \$500 unspent. Homelessness issues has \$750 unspent. The \$500 on this agenda for the graffiti wall could come out of the \$2,000 that is already a line item, but that NPG is not signed and does not have a letter of declaration with it. There is also a proposal to hold kid's activities at the firehouse but an NPG was never submitted. There is another NPG for Movie Madness for \$3,600 but she did not think it was signed, so that needs to be completed. The new motions on the agenda include \$5,320 of items that are not a line item.

**10.3. Zone Director Reports - None**

**10.4. Committee Reports - None**

**11. Special Orders**

***Presentation from City Controller Ron Galperin - Mr. Galperin serves as the elected watchdog for L.A.'s taxpayers. He oversees more than 160 employees conducting independent audits, managing the City's payroll and disbursements, preparing reports on the City's finances, pursuing waste and fraud, providing information about the City's finances and operations online, and focusing on modernization, management and metrics. Galperin launched ControlPanel.LA, an open data portal featuring the City's checkbook, details on the goods and services the City buys, assets and liabilities, employee compensation, operating indicators and more. Under Galperin's leadership, the Controller's office has issued audits focused on improving the efficiency and accountability of City government and on delivering quality City services. Galperin brings more than 20 years of experience as a transactional and litigation attorney and small business owner. He received his J.D. from Loyola Law School in Los Angeles and his undergraduate degree from Washington University in St. Louis.***

**Hanna:** Introduced Mr. Galperin. Hanna said he had been trying to arrange for Mr. Galperin to come speak to the MVCC for several months and was very happy and excited to have him at the meeting. He thanked Galperin for coming.

**Galperin:** Introduced himself. He said his job as City Controller was to be the watchdog for the people's money. He wanted to share a little about the work of the controller's office and the tools they want to make available to everyone, both on the MVCC and the general public, so they can all hold the city accountable. The Controller's office does payroll for the city, distribute checks for all the goods and services the city buys, prepares financial reports, gives advice to departments, financial and performance audits and reports, and financial forecasting in advance of the budget. Galperin came into office 6 years ago. Before that he was a Neighborhood Council Budget Advocate and a chair to two city financial commission.

He led a presentation, with a power point slide show, about his guiding principles as Controller: the "Three Ts" – Transparency, Trust and transformation. His goal is to make LA one of the most transparent cities in the US when it comes to their finances. When he started LA was ranked as one of the least transparent cities, now it is one of the most transparent and has won awards for its transparency. He said that transparency is an important way for the city to build trust with the community so that they can be sure the City is spending the public's money wisely and fairly.

Galperin said that everything was rapidly changing because of technology so it was important for the city government to keep up. His office has been working on technology to help the city keep up with needs of the constituency. He showed their office's website: LAController.org where the public can see exactly how the city spends all of its money. On the site's Control Panel the public can access the city's financial data catalogue including payroll and all of the city's purchases. Citizens can see who has already viewed these data sets and

download and share the data sets themselves as all the information is public. Every payment the city makes is searchable and downloadable from the site's Checkbook LA portal.

The website has datasets on the around 800 Special Funds that the city has. In real time citizens can see all of the accounts with 40 columns of data including the cash balance, available balance and uncommitted balance. Each data set also has the name and contact information for those responsible for each special fund account. There are also links to relevant council files and governing documents regarding each of the special funds. These tools allow the public to hold city officials and representatives accountable and empower the public to influence policy and be a part of the budget process. In this way the controller's office can help turn the public into citizen advocates.

Galperin went over several examples of different audits and reports that his office has put out. They try to cover as many different departments as they can. In addition to their own initiative his office also takes recommendations from Neighborhood Councils on what to study. Several of the audits have allowed them to facilitate identify issues and effect change in many different departments. He also showed the Mayor's Dashboard where the public can track metrics about whether the Mayor, and the city as a whole, is accomplishing their promised goals regular basis. He also showed the mapping feature of the website where one can look up where all key things are located in LA – such as affordable housing units, oil and gas wells, the property the city itself owns, incidents of reported domestic violence, Cannabis businesses that are paying taxes, resources for the LGBTQ community, etc. He also showed an interactive dashboard for the annual financial report from the city.

Galperin went over an example of how he used this data to achieve results. He did a report of Street Damage Restoration Fees – Fees paid by utility companies when they cut into the street to compensate for the damage caused. Previously the city was only receiving about \$7 million a year in those fees. Using this data he worked with the City Council to work on this issue for four year and now they are collecting around \$70 million a year from those fees. They also created new rules for various special funds so that the requirements are not so restrictive that the funds can never actually be spent.

Galperin thanked MVCC and the public for their time and asked if they had any questions.

**Kathryn Wheeler:** Asked about the color labeling on the Mayor's dashboard. She asked it red meant that they had underspent or overspent. **Galperin:** Clarified that this particular dashboard measured the metrics of the City's performance, not its spending – items were in red if the city had not performed as promised.

**Kalani Whittington:** Said that she had been doing some research on affordable housing in the area. She has been told that often affordable units are taken before the building is even officially open. She asked Galperin if the controller's office had any way to enforce that units that are supposed to be affordable are actually being rented at affordable rates. **Galperin:** Said his department does not enforce that but that they have written a number of reports in which they have called into question the variety of ways that the city supports the affordable housing, including an audit of the actual number of affordable units in the city. One huge issue is that there is not a good system in place to make sure "affordable units" are actually being rented at affordable rates. So, that is something his office is studying. They are working on several reports on the subject right now, so he told the public to watch out for those.

**Hruska:** Thanked him for their audit of affordable units created by density bonus ordinance SB 1818, the MVCC referenced it in their initial input document for the Department of City Planning. She highly recommended that everyone in the community read it. The report audited how many units were created as a result of the ordinance – which was only around 329. She said the audit was also like a primer on density bonus ordinances in general. The MVCC would like create a joint initiative between the MVCC, the controller's office and maybe the Council District's to address what special funds that pertain to Mar Vista that they could try to release. **Galperin:** Said this would actually be very easy. In the data base, special funds are organized in relation to subject matter and geographic location. His office could guide the MVCC through searching through both of those categories to find their funds.

**Bau Avril:** Said he was very impressed with the data visualization. He asked, in relation to the additional funds the city now has from the Street Restoration fees, how to keep the city accountable for using that money for street repairs in a timely and fair manner. He also asked if there an effort to innovate the rest of the city in terms visualization. **Galperin:** Said that there is a lot of new software that the city is applying, in particular the Bureau of Street Services. His department is also working with BSS in terms of what can be done to best visualize that process on an ongoing basis

**Shure:** Thanked Galperin for coming. She asked if the city was tracking the number of RSO units being currently removed and the fees that are being paid to remove those units. **Galperin:** Said that a report for tracking those units and the fees paid to remove them is on his list for audits to get done this year.

**Josh Nadel:** Said he was a CPA candidate. He asked what percentage of special funds were complicated and inaccessible because of specific legislative issues. **Galperin:** Said that many special funds have odd, specific rules that can make it difficult to spend those funds. So his office makes recommendations on which funds should be moved, which should remain where they are and which can be added to the general fund.

**Alpern:** Asked if there had been an audit on the Vision Zero funds. **Galperin:** Said they currently working on a report on at traffic related injuries and fatalities, which includes Vision Zero. They have also been looking at how number traffic tickets being issued has significantly dropped in the last few years – which means either everyone is driving really safely or “there are some questions that have to be answered.

**Krupkin:** Asked if there was any effort to restore the emergency management and evacuation and staffing of fire department budgets to pre-financial crisis levels. She also asked about the maintenance of evacuation routes like Venice, which are experiencing gridlock due to road design. **Galperin:** Said that funding for the fire department has improved significantly in the past hew years, which can be tracked on their website. They have also sought out grant money for equipment, but the current presidential administration has not been approving many grants to the City of Los Angeles in general. Finding funding for the department remains a challenge, especially with the need for new technology such as 3D building mapping and fire-predictive analytics. They have also worked on how a fire department can most effectively bill an insurance company to get them to pay for more services, although that remains on ongoing challenge. As for emergency management, they helped developed the new Shake LA app which gives its users a 30 second warning before an earthquake hits. As for the evacuation routes, gridlock is an ongoing issue.

**Doyno:** Asked about the issues with the DROP program. **Galperin:** Explained that the DROP program allows for city employees to semi-retire and work for up to 5 years while still receiving a salary and what you would have gotten from your pension accrues into a bulk payment that they can get when fully retire. This program was an incentive to keep experienced staff working for the city longer. There has been some controversy about the program as some perceive it as “double dipping.” There have been a number of audits of the program. What concerns him, is the number of people in the DROP program who end up being on workers comp for an extended period of time. They are looking into how to more readily prevent and treat workplace injuries.

**Roos:** Asked about the “teeth” of the reports – what power do they have to address the issues raised by the reports. What power does his transformative power does his office really have? She also asked about the breakdown of his staff – are they more programming-focused or is it mostly CPAs?

**Galperin:** Said the nature of the controller’s office is changing. It used to just consist of accountants but now he needs people who understand systems, programming and technology. As for



transformation, the power of his office is in often persuasion and collaboration, and in some cases embarrassment. He uses his information to pressure other departments into making improvements.

**Hanna:** Thanked Galperin for teaching them how to be proper stewards of the City's public funds. He said that Galperin is the first former member of a LA Neighborhood Council to be elected to a city-wide office.

**12. Consent Calendar – The Consent Calendar is reserved for items deemed to be routine and non-controversial. Any board member may pull an item or items for further discussion.**

**Hanna:** Asked if anyone wanted to pull a Consent Calendar item.

**Krupkin:** Pulled items 12.1 and 12.3

**Hanna:** Pulled item 12.2

**Tilson:** Pulled the remaining Consent Calendar items.

**12.1. [FUNDING][ExFin] NPG for "Spring Movie Madness" – Discussion and possible action regarding a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) application in the amount of \$3,600 to fund four movie screenings at Beethoven Elementary School.**

The Item could not be considered because the paperwork was not signed.

**12.2. [FUNDING][Tilson] Election Newsletter - The Mar Vista Community Council approves an amount not to exceed \$8,000 for a "Meet the Candidates" newsletter plus distribution and other costs related to advertising the election.**

**Tilson:** Said this motion came about at the most recent Exfin meeting. She voted for a newsletter and Kadota and Hanna voted against it. So, she submitted a director's motion because she felt it was important that some sort of newsletter go out before the election. Kathy Wheeler volunteered to put together a mock-up presentation of the newsletter and she also got quotes from the distributor and the printing companies. There was a lot of back and forth with the city on whether they were could do it or not. But Tilson said she knew the MVCC has done produced an election newsletter before.

*Tilson moved to approve the item. Roos seconded.*

**Public Comment:**

**Josh Nadel:** Asked who was in charge of distribution and what the distribution plan was in general. The amount of money does not seem large enough to cover enough newsletters for all of the voters in their neighborhood.

**Whittington:** Urged the council to prominently display the newsletter on the website in order to reach everyone in the community.

**Ann Bickerton:** Said that English is not the first language of many stakeholder in the community and she was concerned language access. She asked the board to consider adding a Spanish translation to at least the cover of newsletter to make it more accessible.

**Vanessa Serrano, from DONE:** Said the newsletter was beautifully made and she thought it would be great for it to be out there. But she was concerned because there are some restrictions when in terms of funding any promotion of any political candidates. She wanted to make sure they proceeded with this in such a way that all the candidates were protected from violating those rules. Her advice to Holly

was to talk to the city attorney about what exactly is allowed. Typically NCs are advised to just sent out general election information such as dates, times, location and a link to the City Clerk's website on the candidates allowed. She thought that maybe they could work with city attorney to produce both documents in the hope that at least one of them would be approved. The city has restrictions on mass mailing – anything over 200 is prohibited and hand deliveries count as mass mailers. She said can seek out more clarifications. She suggested tabling this until they talk to the city attorney after which they could address the issue at the special meeting planned for the next week.

**Tyler Laferrier:** Recommended that in addition to physical copies they also send out the newsletter via whatever listserv the council has available.

**Kathryn Wheeler:** Said that after the Exfin meeting she made a template for the newsletter, then contacted the distributor, printer and the city. She asked the city about using the and candidate statements from the Empower LA website. The City recommended contacting the candidates for their permission to the statement and photos. Wheeler said she got permission both via email and in person this past Saturday. She had not had any complaints from the candidates or any other stakeholders. She said she is all in favor of adding Spanish to the newsletter and her understanding was that it would be distributed via all of MVCC's social media in addition to the physical distribution. The distributor has been doing this for 12 years. He was confident he could distribute them to roughly 2,600 homes in the area, so no zone will be excluded. She talked to Holly and they are confident there is enough money in the budget for this. She said the city has approved it and nobody else has complained.

**Mr. Wheeler:** Said already what is on the newsletter is already what is on the website. But, the newsletter would be a great outreach opportunity to reach more community members. It would allow a lot more stakeholders to be aware of the election. The city has encouraged the use of brochures as an outreach tool for NCs in the past.

**Venessa Serrano:** Said that candidates have up to 10 days before the election to request changes to their bios, which is a concern of the city clerk in terms of a mailer of this nature.

**Board Comment:**

**Hanna:** Said \$8,000 is a lot of money, but that is not his problem with this. His problem was that there is no news in this newsletter. He said that this was about using public money to promote candidates, including himself. He felt was inappropriate for the taxpayers to pay to promote his candidacy. He agreed with Serrano's suggestion to have a brochure with the election basics – time, location, date, etc. He feels the inclusion of candidate statements is inappropriate.

**Shure:** Said she was a bit confused, she asked Serrano to clarify if this is something they are not allowed to do or if they just need a decision from the city.

**Serrano:** Recommended contacting the city attorney for a newsletter/mailer because when mass mailers go over 200 because there are some legal issues to be aware of when using the city's money for that purpose. The newsletter would have the city's logo and the MVCC's logo. So she just wanted to make sure the city attorney approved it before they went forward with printing

**Tilson:** Asked if it just had the basic election info would be alright on the mailers.

**Serrano:** Said the issue was the numbers of mailers (over 200) being paid for with public money that was the larger concern.

**Alpern:** Said he respect the large amount of work that clearly went into making the newsletter. But that since he has been on MVCC there have been many times where they have worked very hard on something, such as their bylaws only to have the City Attorney stop them. He has lost a lot of battles

himself on that front. He asked Serrano if the city would have a problem with the newsletter on the website?

**Serrano:** Said that would be allowed. They could also drop some off at the Library. The biggest issue is the number of people it would be distributed to as a mailer.

**Liu:** Thanked Kathryn for putting the newsletter all together so well in such a short amount of time. In her opinion, a lot of this discussion was theory crafting. She thought this was one of the best ways to reach voters. So, she proposed that the board should go ahead and approve the funding, move forward with planning to distribute them and deal with the city as they do so. She said there are plenty of cities in the world where tax payer dollars pay for candidate's campaigns and she thought that may actually be fairer as it could level the playing field if the candidates don't have to pay for their own campaigning.

**Hanna:** Said he understands what she is saying about other cities, but that the MVCC was restricted to spending money on NPGs, outreach, and office expenses. So, the question is, is this an outreach expense or does it cross a line to promoting candidates?

**Roos:** Said she thought this is a fine outreach activity. Stakeholders come out of the woodwork during elections, so she thought it qualified as outreach.

**Kadota:** Said the MVCC has had newsletters like this in the past with candidate information. But he recognized that the concerns may be real with the city as policies and understanding involve. So he felt it was important to clear those hurdles with the city. He said that there would not 100% penetration in the neighborhood even with the distributor because of security door and locked doors. Some areas will get better penetration than other as a result. He said curious about the candidate order in the flyer. He asked if that was just the first people to email their info to DONE. He suggested listing the candidates alphabetically or in some randomize the order.

**Serrano:** Said that the candidates will appear in a different order on the ballot then they do on the website.

**Hruska:** Asked Serrano if the 200 limit applied to their newsletter if it was not actually going through the mail but was rather hand delivered by their distributed.

**Serrano:** Said that hand deliveries counted as mass mailers. **Hruska:** Asked if that applied to any and all MVCC mailings. **Serrano:** Said it did. **Hruska:** Asked if they could distribute over 200 if they got approval from the city. **Serrano:** Said yes they could if they got approval.

**Doyno:** Said he thought the newsletter was a valiant effort but there are too many issues in the way

**Tilson:** Said she did not think they would be able to print the newsletters in time if they need to wait for approval. But they could potentially print a one-page version with the basic election info sans any

candidate information. This would be less expensive; a two-sided version would be \$2,115 and a one-sided would be \$2,000. They could print those while they wait on the city's decision

*Liu moved to approve the item. **Tilson** seconded.*

**VOTE:**

**YES:** Tilson, Hruska, Kadota, Roos, Liu, Shure

**NO:** Doyno, Hanna

**ABSTAIN:** Elster, Alpern, Krupkin

*The motion passed with 6 yes votes.*

- 12.3. [FUNDING][Tilson] Art-Walk Funding – Discussion and possible action regarding a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) application in the amount of \$500 for the Summer, 2019 Mar Vista Art Walk.**

*Alpern moved to approve the item. **Roos** seconded.*

**VOTE:**

**YES:** Tilson, Hruska, Kadota, Roos, Liu, Shure, Doyno, Elster, Alpern

**ABSTAIN:** Hanna, Krupkin

*The motion passed with 9 yes votes.*

- 12.4. [FUNDING][Education, Arts, and Culture] NPG for Mobile Graffiti Yard – Discussion and possible action regarding a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) application in the amount of \$500 to bring Mobile Graffiti Yard to the Mar Vista Kids & Craftz Festival.**
- 12.5. [FUNDING][Tilson] Miscellaneous Outreach Expenses – Approval of an appropriation in the amount of \$500 for miscellaneous outreach expenses.**
- 12.6. [FUNDING][Tilson] Yearly Booth Rental – Approval of an appropriation in the amount of \$1,200 for yearly booth rental at the Mar Vista Farmers' Market.**
- 12.7. [FUNDING][Tilson] Room Rental – Approval of an appropriation in the amount of \$25 for room rental at the Winward School.**
- 12.8. [FUNDING][Doyno] Election Yard Signs – Approval of an appropriation in the amount of \$500 to produce and distribute election yard signs in Spanish.**

There was no time to hear the remaining consent calendar items before the meeting's hard stop at 9:30. It will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

- 13. Excluded Consent Items – Discussion and further action on items excluded from the Consent Calendar.**

There was no time to hear this item before the meeting's hard stop at 9:30. It will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

- 14. Unfinished Business and General Orders –**

- 14.1. [POLICY][Great Streets] Independent Traffic Study – Discussion and possible action regarding an item - requesting a community panel and an independent traffic study of the Venice Boulevard Great Street project - amended at the 11/13/2018 BoD meeting and committed to the Great Streets Subcommittee

There was no time to hear this item before the meeting's hard stop at 9:30. It will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

- 14.2. [POLICY][Great Streets] ADA Evaluation of Venice Blvd. – Discussion and possible action regarding an item requesting an ADA evaluation of the Venice Blvd. project

There was no time to hear this item before the meeting's hard stop at 9:30. It will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

15. **New Business**

- 15.1. [POLICY][Shure] Opposition to the Development at 12757, 12763, and 12767 Mitchell Avenue – Discussion and possible action regarding opposition to the development at Mitchell Avenue that would involve displacement of 27 families from rent-stabilized units.

**Shure:** Said that MVCC through the PLUM committee has received a permit application for an Ellis Act conversion at the site. The current 28 units are extremely affordable RSO rent stabilized housing. She said the current tenants are the most fragile of MVCC's stakeholders. They plan to convert the units into 28 market rate condo unit, for sale for 1.5 million each. The Ellis Act provides that no permit or entitlement for the Ellis Act may be granted by the Los Angeles Department of planning is the vacancy rate in the local planning area is 5% or lower. She confirmed with planning and Councilmember Bonin's office that vacancy rate in the area is currently 3.7%. The councilmember's office requests that they send a CIS as soon as possible to address this issues.

*Shure moved to approve the item. Alpern seconded.*

**Public Comment:**

**Whittington:** Said she was Familiar with the buildings and that the people in them have been living there for a long time. She was in support of this motion and urged the MVCC to support it too.

**Board Comment:**

**Alpern:** Said that this is a no brainer – the MVCC can and should protect these people.

**Hanna:** Thanked Ms. Shure for her work. This sort of work is what the MVCC is about.

*With no objection, the motion was approved.*

- 15.2. [POLICY][PLUM] Opposition to the development at Palms and Sepulveda – Discussion and possible action regarding a PLUM motion opposing the development at Palms and Sepulveda Blvds.

There was no time to hear this item before the meeting's hard stop at 9:30. It will be rescheduled for a future meeting.

- 15.3. [POLICY][Parks & Open Space] Appeal Regarding the Rancho Park Drill Site – Discussion and possible action regarding an appeal regarding inspections at the Rancho Park Drill Site.

**Roos:** There was a leak at the site in November of 2018. Coincidentally, this oil and gas drilling operation had not been scrutinized by the city in a long time. In 2017, 14 city departments had a walk through that resulted in 50 violations on the site which the zoning department has been dealing with ever since. The zoning administrator has since allowed the operation to self-report which the Parks & Open Space Committee disagrees with. She wanted to submit a relevant CIS and this letter to request that the city annually inspect the site to the zoning commission meeting on 5/15/19.

They have issued their findings and they are in agreement with all. The zoning admin has allowed the operations to self report. Had a burner on prop with no permission. Being appealed to zoning commission. Asking for letter to request that city annually inspect the site. Will submit a CIS and will bring letter.

*Roos moved to approve the item. Shure seconded.*

**Board Comment:**

**Hanna:** Said he had no objection to the motion, but in terms of a letter, he did not think he would have to write letter because he was about to go on a trip to Denver in the morning the next day.

**Roos:** Said she would write the letter that night after the MVCC meeting.

*Without objection the motion was approved.*

**15.4. [POLICY][Parks & Open Space] Coordination of Flood Protection and Mitigation – Discussion and possible action regarding a resolution requesting coordination between Los Angeles City, Los Angeles County, and the Army Corps of Engineers regarding flood protection effort.**

**Roos:** Said the request for support was brought to the WRAC's PLUM committee regarding potential flooding from the LA river. A lot of studies indicate considerable amount of construction has been happening in flood plains. This is a request for a council file involving the Army Corps of Engineers working with the city on environmentally smart ways to make the flood plains safer.

*Alpern moved to approve the item. Hruska seconded.*

*Without objection the motion was approved.*

**15.5. 15.5. [POLICY][Roos] Amendment to the Clean-Energy Motion - Discussion and possible action regarding an amendment to a motion passed at the 4/9/2019 Board of Directors' meeting supporting a 100% clean energy goal by 2030.**

**Roos:** Said that they approved this request at the last board meetings. But the council file that is not actually happening, but there is a different council file that will come up to the correct committee meeting. The language of the letter has also been reworded to make the logic of the statement clearer

*Elster moved to approve the item. Doyno seconded.*

**Board Comment:**

**Hanna:** Said that there was a lot of discussion about this motion at the last meeting before the wording was ultimately approved. He sent out the letter as directed by the board passage. Chair rules it out of order. He said passage of this new motion would constitute of flipping the already approved prior motion, so *the chair ruled the new motion out of order*

**Roos:** Said the resolution at the last meeting was requested submitting a letter and the CISs. But the CISs were for the wrong council file, so it needs to be amended to include the proper council file.

*Roos moved to appeal the chair's ruling. Doyno seconded.*

**Public Comment:**

**Whittington:** Said this should have been taken care of in committee and that this was a waste of the public's time.

**Board Comment:**

**Krupkin:** The wording of the letter was originally brought to the committee by Dan Kegel. in terms of language, there was an attempt to send the letter back to committee after it was approved because Roos wanted the wording revisited again. She said she understood that it was grammatically unattractive to Roos, but Krupkin felt it was time to move on from this.

**Doyno:** He said that this was a simple correction for them to move and that they should move forward on it.

**Roos:** Said that Dan Kegel also brought the issue with the wrong council file to their attention.

**Tilson:** Asked if the motion is just to send the letter to the correct council file? Sending it to the correct person. **Kadota:** Said that was correct, in addition to cleaning up some of the language in the letter.

**Krupkin:** Wanted to clarify that this motion does not go back to committee.

**VOTE TO REVERSE THE CHAIR'S RULING:**

*With 7 yes votes, the Chair's ruling was reversed.*

*Kadota moved to call the question.*

*With no objections the question was called.*

**VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT MOTION:**

**YES:** Alpern, Liu, Roos, Kadota, Shure, Elster, Tilson, Doyno, Krupkin

**ABSTAIN:** Hanna, Hruska.

*With 9 yes votes the amendment motion passed.*

**16. Adjournment**

*Hruska moved to adjourn. Alpern seconded. Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.*

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