



Mar Vista Community Council



Public Health and Safety Committee

MINUTES

Thursday March 5, 2020

Windward School Conference Room 1030, Building C

11350 Palms Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90066

Chair: Christine Stemar (christine.stemar@marvista.org)

1. Call to order – Meeting called to order at: 6:05PM

In attendance: Christine Stemar, Chair, MVCC Board members Rob Kadota, Mobility Sub-Committee, Chair, Dr. Renee Sabshin, Homeless Issues Sub-Committee, Co-Chair Stakeholders present: Mike Melton, Emergency Logistics Coordinator, Emergency Preparedness and Response Division, L.A.Co. Dept. of Public Health and neighbor, Robert Butler, Kalani Whittington

Guests: Lanaia LMU student, Emily LMU student,

2. Announcements:

-Trainings: 2020 Foresight: Neighborhood Team Program, Westside Village Homeowners Association and Palms Neighborhood Council/PepC organized a four-part preparedness skills training for all residents of our community. Last two events will be April 1st, "Search & Rescue" and May 6th, "Two-Way Radio Communications". Flyers were distributed.

-Two-way radio event/drill March 14th. Monthly Radio Relay training incorporating the entire area. Phil J. in Zone 1 will contact and send out instructions via e-mail

3. Public Comments for Items not on This Agenda: Rob Kadota, This Saturday is the Mar Vista Music and Art Walk from 4-10PM the theme is "Green Dreams"

CicLAvia announced the ride calendar for the year. The next event is April 26th, it's from Midtown all the way to the beach, Venice Beach. That will be particularly impactful, opportune for us in Mar Vista. After that it goes to the valley, on June 14th Glendale meets Atwater, then August 16th the Valley, October 11th is Heart of LA and December 6 is South LA, so it's a really neat way to explore different parts of the city.

Kalani W.: attended the Venice NC meeting, the night they removed, they impeached a NC member named Matt Fisher, who was well known within the homeless community. Last meeting, I discussed how homeless advocates took over our Palms NC meeting. And those same advocates tried to disrupt the Venice NC meeting. So disruptive that additional LAPD officers were called in. They wouldn't let the meeting start they wouldn't allow anything to happen. I think whenever we have a heated topic on agenda that our leadership should plan accordingly, because one of the homeless anarchists decided to pop a balloon thinking it was funny. That could have caused a lot of harm. This is what we are up against with social media,

they don't have to live in the neighborhood, they can hop on a bus, get on their bike and go and disrupt whatever meeting they want. We need to be aware of and maybe develop procedures on how to best handle and keep situations calm. Ira, the president of the Venice NC was calm under the circumstances. Had he not been calm it could have erupted to a very bad situation. Especially with the balloon pop, that was uncalled for. And they laughed, because many have mental health issues. That's what we were up against. I think we should have contingency plans for our meetings because issues like this may arise.

Renee: They had Police officers were there and called more, is that what I heard?

Kalani: Yes, especially after the balloon pop. People were like, what was that? They were just laughing and, they wouldn't let the meeting proceed. They had drums and they were chanting. It was interesting, but Ira let them vent. But after the balloon pop, they called additional backup. So, thank God, 12 LAPD showed up and stayed through most of the meeting and stood and guarded the council because some people were trying to charge the members seated. It was democracy in motion, but it was bordering on anarchy, but the balloon pop was the clincher. I got up and stood in the back. I just thought I'd bring that up so that we can be aware of what we may encounter whenever there's any heated or controversial topics on our agendas.

Question was asked about the COVID-19: Is the city using the councils to get out information? Yes, were receiving information from Mike Bonin, and the Mayor. But their information is nothing new, conclusive, concrete or useful.

Kalani: Basic recommendations are recommendations that you should be following through any cold or flu season. I rarely use other people's pens, ever. I try to wipe things off, I do carry my own wet ones. I'm hardly a germ a fobe, but I do realize that I'm a high-risk person because with my brain injury that diminished my immune system. And plus, I'm getting old, so I could keel over tomorrow, so I take extra precautions, and I think that's the wise thing. I also, no longer shake hands, I do the elbow or the fist bump.

Rob: I did hear an interesting article about Tito's tequila for disinfecting, but its not a good choice because it's only 40%, you need 60% to be effective. There's rubbing alcohol, but you can't drink that.

Christine: All bleaches are not equal; the bottle must have "kills 99% of germs". To be effective.

Rob: Different formulas and concentrations Chloric Acid, depending on the use.

Kalani: If you're having trouble finding hand sanitizer, you can make your own. Buy aloe gel, 1/3 aloe gel and alcohol, rubbing alcohol, and fragrance if you want.

4. Motion to approve recent minutes: Rob moved to approve minutes with Kalani's correction, second: Renee. Motion passed, no objections

5. Standing Reports and Updates from Sub Committees

5.1. Emergency Preparedness Sub-Committee: Rob: Working on doing a Pet First-Aid workshop at the end of the month. Waiting on some final confirmations both on location and time as well as the Vet's availability. We should know tomorrow or Monday.

Christine: Great, so as soon as we do know, we can put something together for Kathryn and she start to let everyone know.

Rob: The goal is for people will show up to take care of and learn about first-aid for their pets much more likely than they are regular first-aid, so this is sort of a sneaky way to get people to think about first-aid and preparedness in a way that maybe more palatable, so hopefully if you're going to attend a first-aid course for your pet, you'll also maybe think about taking care of my six year old too.

Kalani: First-Aid kit for pets? I'm from the country honey, Spot would die.

Rob: I'm the person whos' dog bit my free-range chicken and took it to the vet. I'm a West LA urban farmer who paid \$200...

Kalani: I love meat... if you saw what we did, I used to shoot them in the head. Remove body parts and fry it up for my Daddy to eat. I'm a country girl!

Homeless Issues Sub-Committee Developments:

Renee: We have a motion to discuss tonight that passed our committee, Kalani was there for that. We'll have our second meeting coming up. Trying to add information to our website. We have a motion to support or not support sent to us from Venice on 41.18 so, we'll discuss that at our meeting. We'll see how it goes.

6.1 Update of Neighborhood Watch. Rob: So, were scheduled to meet. At the last Block Captains meeting at Pacific. The schedule got changed, people were expecting it to be on RYLAN, which is Ready Your Neighborhood Los Angeles, it's a map your neighborhood exercise related to emergency preparedness. So, it helps people thing about organizing their block as a community around what happens in a disaster. That didn't happen due to some scheduling issues. So, different information was presented. I talked to the Sargent for community relations officer, myself and Sydney Hench volunteered to worked with the senior lead officers, who are helping to coordinate the Block Captain Program. Help them develop a stronger structure. Both Sydney and I we been worked with Neighborhood Watch for a number of years, and are keenly aware that materials that LAPD has are not particularly consistent, and in fact the newest Senior Leads are given week to talk about what we'd like to see as a good set of basic materials around Neighborhood Watch. The idea of community members knowing each other, looking out for each other, calling the police or reporting suspicious behavior when appropriate. There are all sorts of materials out there, so, we have vetted some of them. We hope to make them more publicly accessible. FEMA has a set of standardized Neighborhood Watch materials that we'll rely on but also there are other formats that maybe helpful. Interestingly Venice have bought their own NW signs, and so we have an inventory and can put them up in communities in blocks where there is an active community watch program. That means the SLO knows the Block Captain and that there has been in recent memory a meeting and an effort to maintain that program and for people to know each other. And with that then we'll put up a sign on that area. Typically, no more than two signs, one at each entrance to that particular block or area. In terms of curriculum, we're wanting to develop a multi-year curriculum for police officers to use that offer a variety of materials and topics, Neighborhood Watch, Apartment Watch. An interesting program that has happened in Westchester is Dog Watch. Dog walkers are phenomenal eyes and ears in community and they get to know other dog walkers. It is a community in and of itself.

They can help be our eyes and ears, when they see things that are out of the ordinary, report that. I have a design for a Dog Watch bandana, if it comes to that. We can print that up with some basic pet first-aid and animal welfare information with NW information. And then there are things that Senior Leads have done like walk neighborhoods, rather than just meet at a house and just talk. They will walk the neighborhood and point out strengths and minuses of a particular features of a house. Lighting, unlocked doors, visible objects in a car that make it more susceptible. How do you harden the target, and what are ways that, the basic concepts are represented by CEPTED, crime prevention through environmental design? It's lighting, bushes, visibility. Many people have video surveillance cameras, if they position them correctly, they may be able to get a wider angle and therefore be able to capture more. Often times Police are surveying, seeing someone enter or which way they left. They may help with license plates.

Kalani: Regarding dog walkers, is there a screening process for dog walkers? I'm suspicious.

Rob: Awareness training for people, it doesn't give them permission to rattle your gate or door knobs.

Kalani, I'm concerned with someone with the MVCC logo, some sort of screening of people who don't live in the area.

Renee: I have a trusted dog walking agency.

Kalani: But he's screened through the agency.

Renee: Yes

7.1 - Motion to Reprioritize LAHSA Homeless Housing Strategy Discussion and possible action to request the City of Los Angeles, Coordinated Entry System (CES) utilizing the Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) to prioritize homeless housing issues (HIC 2/19/2020) Attachment on MVCC PH&S calendar.

Motion to approve as presented: Rob, second: Kalani

Motion passed with one abstention.

8. Future Agenda Items: Rob will give Neighborhood Watch updates regularly, and provide copies of materials after our Wednesday meeting. Mar Vista has four SLO's.

Rob: Seasonal information, articles and trainings.

Mike Melton: Offered Public Health literature and information from the Speakers Bureau group. Yesterday, the Health Officer of L.A. County declared a health emergency, today the Governor declared an emergency related to Corona Virus.

9. Adjournment 7:20PM