



Mar Vista Community Council

Agenda and Meeting Packet Online at MarVista.org



DRAFT MINUTES for the REVISED AGENDA Joint Meeting of the Ad-Hoc COVID-19 Community Response Committee & the MVCC Board of Directors

Saturday, April 18, 2020 - 10:00 to 11:30 am

Meeting Link: Zoom Electronic Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82897146648>

Meeting ID: 828 9714 6648 | One tap mobile: +16699009128,,82897146648# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location: +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose) | Find your local number:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82897146648> | Instructions on how to join a Zoom meeting: <https://bit.ly/2yhhvGS>

Co-Chairs: Andrea Ambriz, Christine Stemar and Selena Inouye

1. **Call to Order**—Andrea Ambriz, Christine Stemar and Selena Inouye presiding
2. **Introductions and Public Comment for Items Not On the Agenda** (5 min)
3. **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings**
4. **Special Orders**
5. **Old Business**
6. **New Business** (75 minutes)
 - a. Discussion and creation of a Mar Vista Community Council Community Response Plan to the COVID-19 outbreak.
 - b. Discussion and action regarding the creation of a mission statement and committee webpage for the Ad Hoc COVID-19 Community Response Committee.
 - c. Discussion and creation of an action plan to conduct telephone and eblast outreach to the senior citizens in Mar Vista regarding the COVID-19 outbreak using the CD 5 and CD 11 Voter/Election files (aka Voter Rolls) and/or other resources.
 - d. Discussion and possible action regarding establishing formal working relationships with Westside COVID-19 support projects like Westside Friends (WestsideFriends.com) and the Senior Support Coalition (thewpv.org.)
7. **Future Agenda Items** (5 minutes)
 - a. Set date and time for the next meeting
 - b. Solicit input from committee members regarding future agenda items
8. **Public Comment and Announcements** (5 minutes)
9. **Adjournment**

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order—Andrea Ambriz, Christine Stemar and Selena Inouye presiding

Introductions conducted verbally over Zoom call.

2. Introductions and Public Comment for Items Not On the Agenda (5 min)

Joel Arquillos, 826LA: Families are in need and 826LA is currently seeking to serve families and students through remote means. New services are being made available at no cost to families and youth, including digital learning, school supplies, zoom calls, homework help, and summer programs.

Deborah Groening, Well Baby Center: The Center is providing remote support group wellness sessions and virtual sessions for families in need with children. Their storefront is fully staffed and they are engaged with any clients who seek support for clinical services and/or supportive services. They offered to serve as a distribution location and consider ways to provide free counseling and wellness services to community members.

Damien Newton, Community Member and California Streets Blog: He is supporting organized efforts at St. Andrew's Church, which is serving as a pick-up/drop-off site for donated goods and items for individuals in need.

TJ Hill, Disability Community Resource Center: The Center had to close down its in-person office support, as it had been designated a high-risk site because of the populations served. They are in highest need of food supply and support, since most of their clients are unable to leave their homes and have suffered financial losses. Toilet paper and bathing essentials, as well as distilled water for medical equipment are also sought. They are also conducting outreach to all of their clients regularly, as well as for seniors.

Kathryn Wheeler: Information on resources available are on the MVCC website and also on the Committee webpage. Emails have been shared with this information also.

Gabriel Hill, MVCC Board Member: Renters are in high need of informational resources and support and the MVCC should consider efforts to outreach to them.

Ruben Vicente, St. Joseph Center: They have seen an incredible increase in need from all communities, and their food bank has seen a significant increase in need; they have been working to provide mothers diapers and wipes; efforting to provide for seniors; and working to support families with internet access and mobile devices. They are also conducting outreach in both English and Spanish and translating and advertising among other languages.

Dr. Marsha Epstein, Community Member: An overwhelming number of individuals will continue to suffer the health impact of COVID 19. 25-50% have no symptoms, but may be carriers of the virus affecting high risk individuals. Seniors and the vulnerable need food and groceries, as they risk becoming infected by others.

Dr. Robert Watkins, MVCC Board Member: Social distancing has proven to be an effective method to flatten the curve. Proud of LA's effort to control this health crisis, the health care community is trying to manage increasing outbreaks in nursing homes or in homeless communities. The community will continue to need services over the next months and foreseeable future.

Nick Sunback, Councilman Bonin's Office: Shared information from Councilman Bonin's efforts to support the community. Offered to be a liaison for any city or county inquiries or challenges.

Vanessa Diaz, Community Member: Expressed the opportunity to connect businesses with resources at the city level, and also with other organizations that can support them.

Pat Stetzer, Community Member: Shared information about pet food supply assistance at Centinela Feed and other locations.

Diana Rogers, Mar Vista Farmers Market: Shared information that the Farmers Market is continuing to operate through practiced, safe social distancing, and that they are exploring ways to work with neighborhood organizations to serve those in need.

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

None

4. Special Orders

None

5. Old Business

None

6. New Business (75 minutes)

a. Discussion and creation of a Mar Vista Community Council Community Response Plan to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Selena Inouye reviewed the supporting document and shared a proposed outline of potential efforts from the committee and any interested parties. She referenced COVID 19 support groups and ongoing work done by various Neighborhood Councils to support seniors and share valuable information with their respective constituents. Asked the Committee to consider how to respond to COVID 19.

Andrea Ambriz, MVCC Board Member: Expressed the concern of various vulnerable communities within the MVCC district and the need for urgency to respond to the public health crisis. She recognized various groups on the call who were serving these communities, and highlighted opportunities for the MVCC. These included proposals to support food and supply distributions, physical and mental health and wellness, and personal protective equipment; economic recovery for the community through community take-out day or drive up ordering; offering aid for services for low-income families; sharing school or learning supplies; assistance to renter; and working with volunteers in the community.

Christine Stemar: MVCC Board Member: Spoke of the need to support families who cannot afford food and supplies during this crisis.

b. Discussion and action regarding the creation of a mission statement and committee webpage for the Ad Hoc COVID-19 Community Response Committee.

Tabled for the next meeting.

c. Discussion and creation of an action plan to conduct telephone and eblast outreach to the senior citizens in Mar Vista regarding the COVID-19 outbreak using the CD 5 and CD 11 Voter/Election files (aka Voter Rolls) and/or other resources.

Selena Inouye mentioned efforts from other Neighborhood Councils which are engaging their Board members to contact seniors using voter registration and history records. Selena indicated she developed a contact in the

County Registrar's office to receive the voter rolls, and also checked in with City officials to confirm that the use of the rolls was approved by MVCC. Selena would follow up on this in future meetings.

d. Discussion and possible action regarding establishing formal working relationships with Westside COVID-19 support projects like Westside Friends (WestsideFriends.com) and the Senior Support Coalition (thewpv.org.)

Annie Bickerton and Cristin Lim, Founders of Westside Friends, a neighborhood volunteer association, shared an update of their current work to support and contact those in need within the West Los Angeles community. With over 700 unpaid volunteers, they have created the capacity to reach out to countless neighborhoods and share resources and flyers (in English and Spanish), including food and information. They offered to engage their volunteers for any efforts the MVCC manages, and seeks to help the community. They have a matching program which connects local neighbors together, facilitated through support from UCLA medical students. Their volunteers in Palms have already contacted seniors in their community, by Board members dividing the list amongst themselves. They also shared that the Palms NC called an emergency committee to purchase lawn signs, providing financial support for organizations in need.

7. Future Agenda Items (5 minutes)

a. Set date and time for the next meeting

The Committee decided upon Tuesday, April 21 at 7PM via Zoom.

b. Solicit input from committee members regarding future agenda items

Selena suggested exploring outreach methods, including paid advertising for inform community members.

Andrea suggested prioritizing efforts and identifying specific ways in which the committee could recommend to the MVCC Board proposals to serve the community.

8. Public Comment and Announcements (5 minutes)

None

9. Adjournment