

Mar Vista Community Council  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS Meeting**  
**May 10, 2011**  
**Minutes**

7:07 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The following members of the board were present: Kate Anderson, Laura Bodensteiner, Sharon Commins, Geoffrey Forgione, Bill Koontz, Tara Mulski, Babak Nahid, Albert Olson, Maritza Przekop, Chuck Ray, and Alex Thompson.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The April 2011 minutes were approved as presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Alex Thompson commented that it's been a year since the board was seated.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Elizabeth Narvaez, Mar Vista Recreation Center acting director, announced Chivas at the Park on Saturday. She reported that she is trying to introduce lacrosse to Mar Vista and there will be a free lacrosse clinic on Saturday. She reported that the restrooms will be expanded out to create two complete stalls and storage area. Summer camp registration has begun. Tara Mulski asked about the trees that were cut down and trimmed.

**Special Presentation: Department of Rec. and Parks** presentation on proposed new lighting for Mar Vista Rec Center fields. The new lighting levels for the tennis courts, hockey rink and basketball court were described. The averages on the tennis courts will be much higher than the required average. The hockey rink will have 4 new towers. Security lights will be added to the poles. Strobe lights and push button will control lights. Lights will come on for 45 minutes with one push. After 35 minutes, the lights will flash to indicate 10 minutes left. If people want to continue playing, push button again for another 45 minutes. Sherri Akers asked about solar lights. Solar lights are not powerful enough to light sport fields. Jerry Hornoff asked about the existing poles at the hockey field. Those poles will be replaced. He commented positively on behalf of Westdale and neighbor groups. He commented that this project will improve the quality of lighting. Tom Ponton asked if the concrete around the old hockey rink poles would be fixed. They will be resurfaced. Maritza Przekop asked about the height of the poles and if there have been studies about the light coming from poles at that height. The angle of the light will be much more directed to the ground. Babak Nahid asked about the cost of the project. About \$380,000. He commented about the energy efficiency aspect and asked about long-term maintenance of the lights. Tara Mulski asked if the lights will be used more if they are patron-activated. She asked about the cost of the push-button vs. the energy savings. She also asked what stage the project is in. The project was supposed to start last year. Bill Koontz asked about the type of lights that will be used on the tennis courts.

CD11 Bill Rosendahl, represented by Len Nguyen, reported on an issue that was raised about increased fees for room rentals. He reported on El Zacatecas bar and reported that the councilman is opposed.

US 36 Kate Anderson, Deputy Chief-of-Staff, announced May 17 election.

Mayor of Los Angeles Antonio Villaraigosa, represented by [Joseph.Hari@lacity.org](mailto:Joseph.Hari@lacity.org) introduced himself. He covers all of CD11 and most of CD5. He announced Operation Pothole scheduled for this weekend.

**OFFICERS AND LIAISON REPORTS**

Chair: Albert Olson reported on the three MVCC events last month. Education Summit, Candidate Forum, and Green Garden Showcase. He presented a thank you card from Mar Vista Elementary students for the book purchase.

First Vice Chair: No report

Second Vice Chair: No report

Secretary: No report.

Treasurer: Alex Thompson reported that there are some unspent motions and some potential funds to spend.

Director for Animal Welfare: Albert Olson reported that Lola McKnight is moving and the position is vacant.

DWP MOU: Chuck Ray reported that the committee did not meet. There was a DWP advocacy meeting to discuss the rate increase.

LADWP-BOS Recycled Water Advisory Group: No report.

Bi Monthly CD 11/LADOT/MVCC Traffic Committee: Linda Guagliano reported the next meeting is May 18. The meeting has been changed to the third Wednesday of the odd-numbered months.

LANCC Delegate Report Chuck Ray reported that most of the meeting was a presentation by Larry Frank, Deputy Mayor.

OLD BUSINESS: None

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### *Transportation & Infrastructure Committee:*

**Special Presentation:** Mike Bonin (CD11 Chief of Staff) and Joel Roberts presented: ROADMAP TO HOUSING. Mike Bonin discussed the genesis of the program and described a case study of a family living in a van and a veteran. He described the program and three parking lots that have been identified. The councilman identified funding for security and services to help people secure permanent housing. He described the 50 housing vouchers that have been secured for participants in this program. The focus is families, veterans, disabled, seniors. The program is modeled after successful programs in Santa Barbara and Eugene, Oregon.

Joel Roberts reported that this is not “just” a parking program. They are emphasizing on-street outreach workers, get people to permanent housing and manage a parking lot program that is a way station for the people on their way to perm housing. The parking lot is not a destination, but a way station on the way to permanent housing. There are 3 lots with 8 spaces each. The people who qualify and participate are guaranteed housing if they follow the rules.

*The following questions were asked and answered by Mike Bonin and Joel Roberts:*

a. Will people enrolled in this program be required to accept housing vouchers anywhere in the city as a condition of participation?

Yes

b. Will the CD11 office expedite controlled oversized vehicle parking restrictions if these campers become a problem to local neighborhoods around Penmar?

Yes

c. How will the success of this program be evaluated and at what intervals? Will there be a sunset clause?

The ordinance has a 3-year sunset. The current contract with PATH is 18 months. Monthly revolving community input and 6-month reviews.

d. The Penmar Golf Course lot is smaller than the other lots chosen for the program, and is used to full capacity during Golf Course operating hours. We have been told that the operative times for the program will be 8 PM to 6 AM. Does this mean that the lot will be fully available for patron usage from 6 AM to 8 PM, or will the portion of the lot used by the program need to be cleaned, maintained, etc., during part or all of these hours?

The ordinance has a framework of maximum hours. Penmar will differ during winter/summer.

e. Will program participants be required to not park their vehicles during the day in adjacent residential neighborhoods as a condition of participation in the program?

Yes. They will not be allowed to park nearby.

f. Are there plans for the existence of a three-month trial period to determine existence of negative impacts of this program to adjacent neighborhoods?

There is an on-going review and comment process.

Missy Davis commented in opposition to the program. She asked why the RVs are being pushed east of Lincoln. She asked to look at businesses and church parking lots. She also asked about Dockweiler and the beach lots. She suggested the VA. She is concerned about the golf course hours. She commented that there is non-transparency in the process.

Michael Millman, Mar Vista resident, commented that he believes in due process, transparency, etc. He suggested a conditional use permit to use the parking lot.

David Ewing commented that about 50% of the vehicle residents were Venice residents before becoming homeless. He discussed that the city attorney determined that private lots could not be used without extensive re-zoning. Penmar lot provided greatest distance from residences.

Linda Lucks, Venice NC president, commented that Venice has been deliberating this problem for nearly 3 years.

Booker Pearson, Westchester-Playa NC, reported on their support of the program. He urged the board to support the program.

Don Cunnigan, resident near Penmar, commented on the transient problem in his alley. He opposes the program.

Maritza Przekop expressed disappointment that Mar Vista was forgotten.

Babak Nahid asked how much direct outreach is being done to the residents who live across from the park. Mike Bonin reported that outreach has just begun and nothing is yet final.

Tara Mulski commented that she is in favor of helping the homeless.

Chuck Ray suggested tabling the proposed motion and bring it back to the board at the June meeting.

Sharon Commins commented about the need for this type of program, but she requested more time to deliberate this issue.

Laura Bodensteiner asked how long it takes to transition people to housing. 60-90 days to move to housing.

Alex Thompson asked how people are determined to be eligible for the program. He commented that he is in favor of the experiment.

Kate Anderson requested more time to discuss the issue and thanked Venice NC.

Geoffrey Forgione commented that he is not convinced about the Penmar lot. He suggested making the program length be 1.5 years because that is how long it will take to go through the process to allow private lots to allowable. He suggested sending it back to T&I committee.

Albert Olson commented that this was not brought to MVCC and requested more time to allow it to go through proper channels.

**Motion to send this issue to T&I committee.**

**Motion passed, 1 opposed (Bill Koontz).**

**POLICY MOTION: The Mar Vista Community Council supports the inclusion of the Manchester/Aviation station in the Metro Crenshaw/LAX Line Final Environmental Impact Report.**

Minority Report: Some opposition was voiced that the impact of this issue to Mar Vista is slight.

Ken Alpern described the issue.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

*Executive & Finance Committee:*

**ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION: The MVCC approves the submitted April statement for the US Bank MVCC Purchase Card.**

Alex Thompson explained each line item.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

*Community Outreach Committee:*

**FUNDING MOTION: The MVCC will allocate up to \$300 to the Mar Vista Neighborhood Association (3600 BLOCK OF BARRY AVENUE) to pay for outreach for an annual block party on June 18, 2011. This Funding motion must meet all City of LA funding guidelines and be funded and paid in the fiscal year which it is passed or it will expire. In addition, the MVCC requests that MVCC sponsorship is prominently displayed for outreach purposes.**

Michael Millman said thank you.

Tara Mulski commented in favor of the motion.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**FUNDING MOTION: 3500 block of Veteran Avenue (Kelly Silk) "The MVCC will allocate up to \$450.00 to the 3500 BLOCK OF VETERAN AVENUE to pay for outreach for a Crisis Outreach Event with safety/security theme in July/August. This Funding motion must meet all City of LA funding guidelines and be funded and paid in fiscal year 2011-2012 or it will expire. In addition, the MVCC requests that up to 50 copies of the block party invitation be distributed to neighbors within a two-block radius of Veteran Avenue."**

Jerry Hornoff asked if the block parties are going through city permitting for street closure.

Babak Nahid discussed the event and the need for the event due to safety issues in the area.

Bill Koontz asked about using MVCC tents and tables to save money.

Tara Mulski commented in support of the motion.

Laura Bodensteiner asked about funding a motion for next fiscal year.

Albert Olson commented about NC funding in the coming year. He suggested passing a motion to allocate funds in the next fiscal year depending on what the board recommends.

Motion to table by Tara Mulski. Failed for lack of a second.

Bill Koontz commented that block parties happened before NCs funded them. He offered friendly amendment to reduce to \$300. Declined.

Tara Mulski offered friendly amendment to change the name of this to "Crisis Outreach Event." Accepted.

Alex Thompson offered friendly amendment to change to paid in Fiscal year 2011-2012, or it will expire. Accepted.

Ms. Davis asked about her zone director and commented that she wants a block party for her block.

**Motion 6 for, 2 opposed (Bill Koontz, Alex Thompson), 2 abstentions (Laura Bodensteiner, Chuck Ray)**

*Education, Arts and Culture:*

**POLICY MOTION: Whereas the SLRDP program is of tremendous benefit to the community; and Whereas the program is currently being threatened to be cut;**

**Therefore be it resolved that the Mar Vista Community Council supports the continuation of the SLRDP program.**

Wen-Chia Parker and Mrs. Friedal, a SLRDP teacher from Grand View Elementary, commented in favor of the motion. She commented that this program is vital and increases parent participation.

Alex Thompson asked for examples.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**POLICY MOTION: Whereas proposed cuts in education funding in the state of California would devastate our Mar Vista schools; and**

**Whereas the Mar Vista community has demonstrated it's strong support for our schools; and Whereas a day of action is being organized to oppose cuts in education funding with demonstrations planned throughout the state on May 24, 2011 by Educate Our State, a parent-led organization dedicated to supporting public K-12 education; and**

**Whereas the day of action will issue a call to "Wake Up California" to increase awareness for the crisis facing California public schools and the need for our legislators to take action and pass the revenue extension measures to secure school funding;**

**Be It Resolved that the Mar Vista Community Council supports the planned day of action on May 24, 2011 and its' call for support of school funding.**

Kate Anderson explained the motion.

Geoffrey Forgione asked if this would involve the children or involves the unions.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

*Planning and Land Use Committee:*

**POLICY MOTION: The MVCC supports TRADER JOES CUB OFFSITE ALCOHOL SALES application, ZA 2010-2302-CUB, 3456 South Sepulveda Boulevard.**

Trader Joes representative asked for Board support.  
**Motion passed unanimously.**

*Safety and Security Committee:* No report.

*Election & Bylaws Committee:* No report.

*Recreation Open Space Enhancement:* No report.

*Historic FS 62 Ad Hoc Committee:* No report

*Santa Monica Airport Committee:* No report

#### ZONE DIRECTOR REPORTS

1. No report.
2. Bill Koontz reported on Nwana elections, and he was elected president.
3. Kate Anderson reported that Hilltop had elections.
4. Tara Mulski reported that she will work on local comment regarding the El Zacatecas bar.
5. Concerns about security will be brought to Safety Committee.
6. No report.

NEW BUSINESS: None

GRIEVANCES: None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 PM.

Minutes submitted by Laura Bodensteiner on June 1, 2011.