

Mar Vista Community Council
BOARD OF DIRECTORS Meeting
June 14, 2011
DRAFT 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, Marilyn Marble, Tara Mulski, Albert Olson, Maritza Przekop, Chuck Ray, Bill Scheduling and Alex Thompson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The April 2011 minutes were approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jay Handal commented on a committee to meet with AEG on June 27.

Christopher McKinnon announced June 20 and June 29 meetings.

Rob Kadota reported on the safety event on June 9.

Fiona McGrath, 11-year-old student at Roosevelt Elementary School, commented in favor of banning polystyrene. She discussed the problems of trash and that her generation needs help to clean up the world. She read a poem called "Trash Talking."

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Elizabeth Narvaez, Mar Vista Recreation Center acting director, reported on the new door in auditorium. She reported on the great sports season. Sign-ups for basketball and summer camp are under way. She introduced Jason Kinuhara, new director of the park. July 23 and August 20 movie nights are being planned.

CD 11 Bill Rosendahl, rep. by Len.Nguyen@lacity.org, Field Deputy announced the June 27 town hall about the AEG project.

US 36 Congressional District rep. by Kate Anderson, Deputy Chief-of-Staff, commented about redistricting. The draft maps have many boundary changes.

CA Senate 28 Ted Lieu, rep. by Robert.Pullen-Miles@sen.ca.gov introduced himself and discussed the redistricting issue. He reported on state bills in the works. District28.casen.govoffice.com, click "newsroom" to sign up for email list.

Motion to move item 1a to this point. Motion approved.

Transportation & Infrastructure Committee

POLICY MOTION: Whereas some Mar Vista stakeholders have expressed particular concerns about safety, security health and similar issues relating to the CD11 Roadmap to Homes Program;

The Mar Vista Community Council opposes the use of the PenMar Golf Course parking lot for the Roadmap to Homes Program.

Joel Roberts, PATH, explained the program.

Mike Bonin, chief of staff for Bill Rosendahl, commented about the program. He discussed the program is for families, seniors, people who want help. It's not for the service-resistant. He explained the 50 housing vouchers (rental subsidies) for people who are willing to enroll in the program and follow the rules. He discussed the PenMar parking location.

Jenny Carillo, Venice resident, commented that the neighborhood was not consulted.

Christopher McKinnon, Mar Vista resident, suggested the board table the motion because the board has not suggested an alternative.

Michael DiSanto, Venice resident, commented that the neighborhood was left out of the process. They already deal with the RV problem in the neighborhood. The program will affect the property values. He believes the lots should be placed in industrial areas.

Martin Rubin, West LA resident, commented in favor of the program.

Ty Ellison, Venice resident, discussed the problem of the "anchor" homeless. He commented that the location is the "anchor" for the homeless RV group. He believes this parking lot will become the anchor. He addressed the promises of the program. He urged the board to oppose the program.

Conny Lederer, Venice resident, commented on the increase in RVs in the area. Family park, family neighborhood, and believes this will attract more homeless.

Barbara Gibson, Del Rey resident and owns property in Mar Vista and Venice, commented that this is not the appropriate place for the program.

Marie Hammond, Venice resident, commented that parks are like sanctuaries and opposes the program.

Jay Handal, West LA NC chair, commented that he has worked on homeless issues for 27 years. He commented that these people want to be helped.

Rob Kadota, Mar Vista resident, commented in favor of the program.

Jed Pauker, Venice resident, commented in favor of the program.

Linda Lucks, Venice NC president, commented in favor of the program. She invited Mar Vista to find a location to also help the program.

David Ewing, Venice resident, commented that this has been a difficult process and is in favor of trying the program. He suggested parking RVs at Ocean View Gardens.

Michele Prichard, Venice resident, supports the pilot program on an experimental basis.

Rod Lane, Venice resident, commented in favor of the program.

Booker Pearson, Westchester NC, commented in favor of the program.

Ken Alpern, Mar Vista resident, asked several questions and is concerned about the lack of safeguards.

Maritza Przekop commented in support of the program.

Marilyn Marble commented about golfing at PenMar. She supports the program, but wants to pursue other locations.

Chuck Ray commented that he doesn't have enough information to support the program.

Bill Scheduling commented about why MVCC is voting on this issue.

Laura Bodensteiner asked how many spaces are available at the other lots and questioned why MVCC would oppose the matter.

Bill Koontz commented in favor of the program and spoke to the LAPD support of the program.

Alex Thompson related a personal story and commented that he supports the PenMar location.

Kate Anderson commented that she favors the PenMar location.

Geoff Forgione commented in favor of the motion. He commented that while he salutes Councilman Rosendahl and the great people at PATH for pursuing this worthwhile program and applauds efforts to serve the homeless community, he cannot support the use of the Pen Mar location for two reasons, both of which are undisputed. First, the neighbors around Pen Mar, who are nearly unanimously opposed to the proposal, were not consulted or brought into the decision-making process early enough to have meaningful input, and second, the use of Pen Mar is not necessary for the functioning of the program given PATH's existing locations, its effective outreach efforts to date, and the future use of the two municipal parking lots. The proposed use of Pen Mar, over the objections of ignored neighbors, is more about politics than programmatic necessity.

Albert Olson commented that the program is a terrific program, but questioned if the PenMar parking lot appropriate. He commented that the lot is much smaller than the other two lots. This lot is in use during early morning hours, unlike the other two lots. He suggested amending the motion to add wording in support of the PATH program.

Bill Rosendahl apologized to the PenMar neighbors for the problems with the process. He commented about the Upward Bound program.

Motion failed. 3 for (Chuck Ray, Marilyn Marble, Geoff Forgione), 8 opposed.

Motion to move 3a to this point. Motion approved.

Green Committee:

POLICY MOTION: To do a bee-keeping feasibility study for Mar Vista.

Rob McFarland explained the importance of bees. He described Colony Collapse Disorder.

Maritza Przekop explained how the feasibility study would progress.

Mark Lebovitz commented that food is his medicine and bees are required for that. He commented in favor of the motion.

Tara Mulski thanked the volunteers for taking the time to present the issue.

Marilyn Marble asked if there is any money

Kate Anderson thanked the stakeholders for waiting through the lengthy meeting and offered her backyard as a location.

Bill Scheduling also offered a facility for bees.

Motion passed unanimously.

OFFICERS AND LIAISON REPORTS

Chair: Albert Olson announced July Annual Stakeholder meeting and officer elections. He asked committee chairs to speak about the accomplishments, issues and present them. He suggested an informal gathering before the meeting.

First Vice Chair: Sharon Commins presented a certificate awarded to MVCC from the Board of Public Works.

Second Vice Chair: None.

Secretary: No report.

Treasurer: Alex Thompson reported that he has been busy working to complete the spending motions.

Director for Animal Welfare: None.

DWP MOU: DWP is having open meetings on the rate increase. June 22 6:30 – 9 pm for local meeting.

LADWP-BOS Recycled Water Advisory Group: Christopher McKinnon announced the meeting on June 22 at the Stephen Weiss Temple.

Bi Monthly CD 11/LADOT/MVCC Traffic Committee: Linda Guagliano reported the next meeting is July 20.

LANCC Delegate Report: Maritza Przekop reported the committee discussed the 2012 budget and NC elections.

OLD BUSINESS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive & Finance Committee:

ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION: The MVCC Board approves the submitted May statement for the US Bank MVCC Purchase Card.

Alex Thompson explained each line item.

Motion approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION: The MVCC Board approves the following budget as the operating budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year: (see Appendix Item 1)

Alex Thompson explained the variations from previous years.

Rob Kadota asked if the Block Party category would include Neighborhood Watch meeting support.

Christopher McKinnon suggested putting how funds were spent on the web site.

Tara Mulski asked about line items being specific but the budget being "general." She asked about the staffing line item.

Motion passed. 10 for, 1 abstention (Tara Mulski)

Administrative Motion: The MVCC Board requests that CD11 alter the name of the "Bi Monthly CD 11/LADOT/MVCC Traffic Committee" to eliminate reference to "MVCC" and replace that designation with "Mar Vista"

Linda Guagliano commented that CD11 did not name the committee. LAPD is missing. She pointed out several errors in the motion.

Motion to table and move to T&I committee. Motion tabled.

ADMINISTRATIVE MOTION: The MVCC Board approves the following as the theme for the 2011 Annual Mar Vista Fall Festival: "Our Children, Our Future"

Motion passed unanimously.

Green Committee:

POLICY MOTION: To send the following letter of support to Senator Alan Lowenthal regarding SB 568 Statewide Polystyrene Ban:

The Mar Vista Community Council supports Senate Bill 568. Polystyrene (also known as Styrofoam™) takeout food and beverage containers are used once for a short time before they become waste, and often litter. Senate Bill 568 proposes to reduce litter and waste generated from polystyrene foam takeout food packaging by prohibiting a food vendor from dispensing prepared food to a customer in a polystyrene foam food container.

The MVCC also believes this to be a social justice as well as an environmental issue. Studies demonstrate that polystyrene food containers are harmful to human health. The styrene in food containers leaches into the food when heated, or in contact with acids, or grease and oil. U.S. EPA scientists found Styrene in 100 percent of all human tissue samples in a 1986 study.

As is so often the case, these dangers to the general population are even more acute for the workers who must deal with the substance most directly and most often. Styrene is a possible human carcinogen and a known lab animal carcinogen, and workers exposed to it may suffer increased risk of leukemia and lymphoma and neurological problems such as loss of hearing, balance, and spatial orientation.

Polystyrene packaging is pervasive in the environment, is extremely damaging throughout its lifecycle, and is rarely recycled. Because it is lightweight, floats, and easily breaks into small pieces, polystyrene packaging is easily carried from streets through storm drains to the ocean where it constitutes the second most abundant form of beach debris littering urban California beaches.

At a time when local agencies are facing budget challenges, the costs incurred to deal with polystyrene waste clean-up are significant. This is especially true of Southern California communities with impaired waterways that are required by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reduce litter. Since 2001, Southern California cities have spent in excess of \$1.7 billion removing trash from our storm drain systems leading to the L.A. River and our local watershed, Ballona Creek, in order to comply with EPA stormwater regulations.

The Mar Vista Community Council supports Senate Bill 568 which represents a determined statewide effort to reduce litter, eliminate costly waste, prevent the proliferation of marine debris and protect human health.

Sincerely, Albert Olson, Chair Mar Vista Community Council

Cc: Assembly Member Holly J. Mitchell State Senator Ted Lieu

Andy Shrader commented that the state designated styrene a carcinogen. He presented pictures, a petition, created green jobs.

Motion passed 10 for, 1 abstention (Chuck Ray)

Community Outreach Committee: No report

Education, Arts and Culture: No report

Planning and Land Use Committee:

POLICY MOTION: DOWNTOWN STADIUM RESOLUTION [via WRAC]: With regard to the AEG sports stadium proposed for downtown Los Angeles, the MVCC opposes public funding including interest on infrastructure bonds and

forgiveness of loans; supports market-rate leases of any city land required; supports a full EIR with no exemptions from appeal; and supports maintaining the financial viability of the convention center. Additionally, the MVCC opposes long term indirect commitment of public money and supports City sharing in any and all revenue streams created by the proposed stadium.

A stakeholder commented about bonds and in support of the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

Safety and Security Committee:

FUNDING MOTION: to allocate \$50 for Rose Ave Neighborhood Watch Meeting. Will be paid in fiscal year 2011-2012.

Christopher McKinnon asked about the budget.

Tara Mulski asked about funding refreshments.

Motion passed unanimously.

Election & Bylaws Committee: tabled due to time constraints.

Recreation Open Space Enhancement: No report.

Historic FS 62 Ad Hoc Committee: No report

Santa Monica Airport Committee: No report

ZONE DIRECTOR REPORTS

Tabled.

NEW BUSINESS: None

GRIEVANCES: None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 PM.

Minutes submitted by Laura Bodensteiner on July 6, 2011.