

Mar Vista Community Council

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August 9, 2011

MINUTES

7:05

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The July 2011 minutes were approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

James Brennan spoke in support of Ocean Charter School at the Walgrove School location. According to Mr. Brennan Ocean Charter may have to leave as a result of an announcement made by LAUSD of its intent to issue an RFP to offer bids to other school charter organizations for a new ground lease at this location. Mr. Brennan asked how to gain MVCC support.

Jefferson Schierbeek also wanted to express his support for Ocean Charter School to remain at Walgrove and expressed concern over the students and where would they go if Ocean Charter loses the lease.

Board members Anderson and Nahid Co-Chairs for the Arts and Education committee explained procedures for committee's presentations and future MVCC Board action. Board member Mulski stated for the record that she supports a transparent selection process by LAUSD.

Elected Officials and City Department Reports

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

Mar Vista Recreation Center - Jason Kitahara, Director announced upcoming events at the Mar Vista Recreation Center including "The Goonies" an outdoor film presentation on August 20, 2011; and team registration for the girl's basketball league.

CD 11 - Bill Rosendahl. Field Deputy Len Nguyen provided an update on the Stadium vote at City Council.

CD 5 - Paul Koretz. Field Deputy David Giron commented on the Stadium MOU and will stay to provide additional comments on Item 4b of tonight's agenda.

Mayor of the City of Los Angeles - Antonio Villaraigosa. Joe Hari Field Deputy for the Westside region thanked Bill Koontz and Rob Kadota for their participation at their previous meeting and invited everyone to a Town Hall Meeting scheduled for Monday, September 12, 2011 at 6:30 PM at the West Los Angeles Municipal Building. He also, asked Albert Olson to help schedule a small group meeting with 6 members of the Board preceding the Town Hall meeting. He will be meeting with other neighborhood councils including Palms NC, Del Rey NC and Venice. He intended to create a small working group to learn from their experiences on different issues such as budget, outreach and bylaws. He would like to invite the Chair, First Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Outreach Chair, Budget Advocate, and another member that has been involved in community service day. Board member Nahid asked to include other members of the Board. Mr. Hari agreed to have a second round of meetings.

Officers and Liaison Reports

Chair, Albert Olson

a. Administration Motion: Albert Olson made the nomination of MVCC Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs, and additional MVCC representatives and liaisons as follow:

- 1.) **Community Outreach Committee**- Maritza Przekop and Kate Anderson, Co-Chairs
- 2.) **Education, Arts and Culture** - Babak Nahid and Amy Lawrence, Co-Chairs
- 3.) **Elections and Bylaws Committee** - Bob Fitzpatrick and Geoff Forgione, Co-Chairs
- 4.) **Green Committee**- Laura Bordensteiner and Sherri Akers, Co-Chairs
- 5.) **Historic FS 62 Ad Hoc Committee** - Sharon Commins and Rachel Swanger, Co-Chairs
- 6.) **PLUM Committee**-Sharon Commins and Steve Wallace, Co-Chairs
- 7.) **Recreation Open Space Enhancement (ROSE) Committee**-Tom Ponton and Jerry Hornof, Co-Chairs
- 8.) **Transportation and Infrastructure Committee**-Geoff Forgione and Chuck Ray, Co-

Chairs

9.) Safety and Security Committee-Bill Koontz and Rob Kadota, Co-Chairs

10.) Santa Monica Airport Committee-Bill Koontz and John Kutcha, Co-Chairs

11.) Mar Vista Bi-monthly LADOT/CD11/LAPD Traffic Committee Liaison: Linda Guagliano

12.) LANCC Liaisons: Chuck Ray and Maritza Przekop

14.) DWP MOU Liaison: Chuck Ray

15.) DWP/BOS Recycled Water Advisory Group Liaison: Christopher McKinnon

Kate Anderson expressed her enthusiasm about creating a new volunteer program in the Outreach Committee.

Babak Nahid thanked Kate Anderson for her outstanding work as co-chair of the Arts and Education Committee.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. Administrative Motion: Albert Olson nominated Curt Steindler to be the new MVCC liaison to Animal Welfare agencies and Organizations.

Curt Steindler accepted the nomination and expressed the importance and differences between the Animal Welfare Liaison position and Director for Animal Welfare liaison position. Alex Thompson asked about the relationship to DAW position. Bill Koontz congratulated Curt for his service and knowledge.

Motion passed unanimously.

Chair, Albert Olson, reminded everyone about Ethics Training requirements for Board members

First Vice Chair, Sharon Commins, No report.

Second Vice Chair, Bill Koontz, No Report

Secretary, Laura Bodensteiner, on vacation

Treasurer, Alex Thompson, follow up report under Agenda Item 1.

DWP MOU – Chuck Ray, reported on recent LA Times report about delayed selection of an independent ratepayer advocate position, and noted DWP bill to include Bureau of Sanitation Charges. BOS continued 6 and 7% regular annual increases may be subject of future discussion by the DWP MOU group.

DWP/BOS Recycled Water Advisory Group Christopher McKinnon reported that the Advisory Group did not meet last month, therefore no report was presented.

Mar Vista Bi Monthly LADOT/CD11/LAPD Traffic Committee - Linda Guagliano reported that the last meeting took place on July 20, 2011 and discussion included reduced speed limits on residential streets from 35 MPH to 30 MPH, street stripping issues along Walgrove, and safety issues along Warner Avenue.

LANCC Delegate Report – Chuck Ray reported on a presentation by Assistant Director of Bureau of Street Services Nazario Saucedo and comments on service cuts as a result of City's budget allocated to that department and presentation by Paula Daniels explaining future rate increase for Bureau of Sanitation.

Old Business - No comments

Committee reports - Action items included with public comment permitted

1) Executive & Finance Committee - Albert Olson, Chair

a. Administrative Motion:

The MVCC Board approves the submitted June statement for the US Bank MVCC Purchase Card. Albert Olson made a correction, the motion should read "July".

Motion passed unanimously.

b. Funding Motion:

Allocation of up to \$200 to assist in paying for rentals, expenses, and supplies for the Hilltop Neighbors Block Party event, which is taking place on September 11, , contingent on the following conditions: 1. Publicity for the event must include a reference to MVCC sponsorship; 2. The MVCC shall be allowed to host a booth or table where promotional materials may be distributed; and 3. This funding motion must meet all funding guidelines promulgated by the City of Los Angeles and DONE--Empower LA And be paid in the fiscal year in which it is passed, or it expires June 30, 2012.

Kate Anderson described the event. Tara Mulski asked if Ocean View Farms were participating.

Motion passed unanimously.

c. Funding Motion: Allocation of up to \$600 for purchase of new awnings for MVCC FM booth

No action. The motion was tabled to next month's meeting.

d. Funding Motion: Allocation of up to \$100 for supplies for MVCC Farmers Market booth

Motion passed unanimously.

2) Community Outreach Committee—Maritza Przekop, Chair

a. Funding Motion: *Motion OC-01-2011/2012*

The MVCC will allocate up to \$200.00 to the Westdale Homeowners Association Annual Block Party to be held on October 12, 2011, contingent on the following conditions: 1. Some publicity for the event must include a reference to MVCC sponsorship; 2. The MVCC shall be allowed to host a booth or table where promotional materials may be distributed; and 3. This funding motion must meet all funding guidelines promulgated by the City of Los Angeles and DONE--Empower LA And be paid in the fiscal year in which it is passed, or it expires June 30, 2012.

Motion passed unanimously

b. Funding Motion: *Motion OC-02-2011/2012*

The MVCC allocates up to \$1,000 for the Mar Vista Park to support an evening movie program to be held on August 20, 2011, contingent on the following conditions: 1. Some publicity for the event must include a reference to MVCC sponsorship; 2. The MVCC shall be allowed to host a booth or table where promotional materials may be distributed; and 3. This funding motion must meet all funding guidelines promulgated by the City of Los Angeles and DONE--Empower LA and be paid in the fiscal year in which it is passed, or it expires June 30, 2012.

Jason Kitahara representing the park spoke in favor of the program and the importance about the financial support from MVCC. Board member Bill Koontz recognized Mar Vista Park's staff for creating this type of program open to families in Mar Vista and asked that given the council's reduced yearly budget, Could the amount be adjusted. Tara Mulski indicated her full support if the amount was reduced to \$500. Kate Anderson thanked the Park staff for promoting a family event. A friendly amendment to the original motion was accepted for \$500 in lieu of \$1,000.

Motion passed with 9 in favor and two abstentions (Commins and Ray).

c. Funding Motion: *Motion OC-03-2011/2012*

MVCC to approve up to \$200 for the North Oval Neighborhood Association for their 100 year anniversary celebration of "Palm Place" aka the Mar Vista Oval to be held on December 8th 2011, contingent on the following conditions: i) All publicity for the event must include a reference to MVCC sponsorship ii) The organization or group putting on the block party must provide a forum for public introduction of the MVCC to the attendees at the celebration. In addition, the MVCC shall be allowed to host a booth or table where promotional materials can be distributed. This funding motion must meet all MVCC (including public recognition for its support) and City of LA funding guidelines and be funded and paid in the fiscal year, which it is passed or it expires on June 30, 2012.

Christopher McKinnon spoke in favor of the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

d. Funding Motion: *Motion OC-04-2011/2012*

MVCC to approve an allocation of up to \$300 to the South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association as payment for ads in at least three separate editions of their newsletter and/or website published during the 2011--2012 fiscal year. This funding motion must meet all MVCC (including public recognition for its support) and City of LA funding guidelines and be funded and paid in the fiscal year, which it is passed or it expires on June 30, 2012.

Christopher McKinnon spoke in favor of the Motion. Board member Tara Mulski asked if the Board would receive a sample of the advertisement and if the newsletter was only "on-line" or if printed copies will be distributed to So Mar residents.

Motion passed unanimously.

3) Green Committee - Laura Bodensteiner & Sherri Akers, Co-Chairs

a. Administrative Motion: The MVCC approves the use of the following survey for the MVCC beekeeping pilot feasibility study:

The Mar Vista Community Council is considering conducting an Urban Beekeeping Pilot Program to help support honey bees within the Mar Vista community.

1. How do you feel about legalizing beekeeping in residential (R1) areas?

- a. support
- b. do not support
- c. no opinion

2. Mar Vista is considering a beekeeping pilot project.

- a. I would like to participate in the project as a beekeeper
- b. I would like to participate in other ways (monetary, volunteer, etc)
- c. I support the project, but do not want to participate.
- d. I do not want this pilot project in Mar Vista

3. Please share your thoughts:

Concern(s) about the project: _____

Reason(s) for participation/interest: _____

4. I am a Mar Vista Community Council stakeholder: yes/no

5. I am a resident of the City of Los Angeles: yes/no

Co-Chair Sherri Akers described the Survey and how it could be a tool to determine stakeholder's interests. Board member Tara Mulski expressed a need to provide an introductory paragraph. Board member Alex Thompson agrees that adding a summary was also important. Board member Babak Nahid noted that the survey needed to clarify stakeholder status per definition. Board Chair Albert Olson noted that the survey needed a reference to a physical address and assurance that survey limited to one per stakeholder. Board member Kate Anderson asked if a friendly amendment was accepted to include all of the changes. Sherri agreed with all changes.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. Administrative Motion: *Create a quarterly Mar Vista Volunteers event rotating through the MVCC committees and create a volunteer coordinator position to run the program.*

Board member Kate Anderson spoke about the genesis of the idea as she had volunteered with her daughters at the VA property and how much sense it would make to have a Quarterly Volunteer Coordinator as part of the MVCC that could support each and every committee and involve our community in so many projects. She agreed with Albert that the logical place to review this program was at the Outreach Committee which after tonight's appointment she will also be chairing.

The Motion was tabled and no action was taken.

4) Transportation & Infrastructure Committee - Ken Alpern & Chuck Ray, Co-Chairs

a. Policy Motion: LAX OPERATIONS

LAX enhances tourism and economic growth in the entire region. Any revised LAX Master Plan Elements should:

(1) Retain the existing LAX footprint and forego runway modifications which increase runway protection zone impacts on surrounding neighborhoods, or result in wholesale removal of local businesses/tax base. Improve placement of taxiways to handle the new larger aircraft, and incorporate safety enhancements that do not require movement of runways

(2) Reduce freeway traffic and discourage traffic flow into local neighborhoods while avoiding any new Lincoln Boulevard connection tunnels. Improve Central Terminal Area accessibility, including signage, physical roadway, multi modal passenger drop off and pick up, a consolidated Rental Car Facility, and rail connection

(3) Hold LAX capacity to its current theoretical threshold of 78.9 Million Annual Passengers and preclude easily added passenger gates or cargo facilities after the 2020 prohibition ends.

Encourage development and maintenance of capacity at other regional airports, such as Palmdale and Ontario, which can act as a back up to LAX and which both have available capacity

In conclusion, MVCC supports the improvement of safety, security and convenience at LAX but has concerns which should be addressed by the LAX Master Plan update process, including appropriate EIR scrutiny.

Denny Schneider long time community activist on LAX issues spoke about the airport issues, mainly safety and deferred maintenance. Board member Sharon Commins spoke about the importance of safety concerns as a regional issue that affect us all. Resident Sal Gramatico spoke about airport safety issues.

The motion passed with 10 in favor, 0 against and 1 abstention (Nahid).

b. Policy Motion: *The Mar Vista Community Council requests that Councilman Bill Rosendahl put on the agenda of the Los Angeles City Council Transportation Committee as soon as possible for a vote on the passage of the following amendment (in **bold**) to the Los Angeles Municipal Code - Chapter VIII Traffic Section 80.00 Division "N" Parking Prohibited or Limited SEC. 80.53. STANDING IN PARKWAYS PROHIBITED. No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle within any parkway, **except homeowner authorized vehicles in a permitted driveway apron whose length is such that the vehicle stopped, standing or parked does not encroach on the sidewalk or the street including the convenience strip.***

The MVCC also requests a suspension of enforcement of the ordinance pending a legislative solution.

(Definitions (h) "Parkway" shall mean that portion of a street other than a roadway or a sidewalk.)

Resident Christopher McKinnon described the motion and provided photographs showing the length of the apron. Resident Sal Gramatico spoke in favor of this motion, noting that residents had a right to park in this area without needing to pay for a \$50 ticket. Resident Jane Brown spoke in favor of amending the code since it would make it easier to park in front of her house, there is no street parking available any more. Residents Michael Moore, Agnes Anderson, Curt Steindler and Stan Hoffman spoke in favor of the motion since it would provide a convenient place to park.

Board member Maritza Przekop expressed concerns over life and safety issues of having a car blocking access to a residence in an emergency situation and how would a resident prevent others from parking at said apron area. Board member Kate Anderson supported the motion since it would add convenience for residents. Board member Koontz noted that if there was an emergency one could call a towing service. Board members Babak Nahid and Alex Thompson discussed the easement provisions on the public right-of-way.

The motion was passed by a vote of 8 in favor, 0 against and 3 abstentions (Przekop, Mulski, Nahid)

c. Policy Motion: *The Mar Vista Community Council supports stakeholders request that the Mar Vista Branch Library and the Los Angeles Public Library in conjunction with the Department of Recreation and Parks replace the Coral tree which was recently cut down in front of the Mar Vista Branch Library at 12006 Venice Boulevard Los Angeles, 90066 at Inglewood Boulevard with a suitable and large tree replacement as well as renovate and maintain the irrigation that currently exists in the concrete tree well.*

Resident Christopher McKinnon presented photographs of the missing tree.

This motion passed by a vote of 12 for, 0 against and 1 abstention (Mulski).

d. Policy Motion: (approved at June T & I meeting)

WHEREAS, an alarming trend within the boundaries of the MVCC is the practice of people rummaging through rubbish and/or recycling containers without the permission of the user of the container;

WHEREAS, this practice of "Scavenging" is expressly prohibited by Los Angeles Municipal Code section 66.28 and the City of Los Angeles, already in dire economic straits, actually loses significant revenue to provide essential services from scavenged recycling;

WHEREAS, Scavenging may result in the inadvertent disclosure of sensitive personal information to the individual conducting the scavenging and increase the risk of identity theft;

WHEREAS, identity theft is a devastating crime, requiring by some estimates 330 hours of the victim's time to manage and repair the crime;

WHEREAS, the MVCC recognizes that many of the individuals conducting Scavenging present no danger and do so only to provide themselves and their families with supplemental income; and

WHEREAS, nonetheless, individuals conducting Scavenging, generally doing so between sundown and sunrise, tend to (i) create unacceptable levels of noise, (ii) alarm unsuspecting and elderly residents, (iii) disrupt sleeping patterns, and (iv) generally interrupt the quiet enjoyment of residents.

THEREFORE, the MVCC calls upon the LAPD, the CD-11 office, and any other agency of the L.A. city government with jurisdiction, to:

1. Undertake reasonable and compassionate efforts to enforce the existing ordinance to

the extent permitted by available resources for the purposes of disrupting or dissuading individuals from conducting Scavenging on our local streets; and

2. Develop, implement, and communicate a plan to educate homeowners on how best to manage the illegal practice of Scavenging, including how to interact with Scavengers and how to effectively dispose of confidential personal information.

Board member Geoff Forgione presented the motion. Board member Chuck Ray had shared the motion with Bureau of Sanitation director after TI committee voted and received positive feedback. Board members Babak Nahid, Tara Mulski and Alex Thompson expressed their concern about the unintended effects as a result of the interpretation of the motion. Tara Mulski expressed her own concerns about criminalization of poverty.

Motion passed with 9 in favor, 1 opposed (Thompson), 1 abstention (Mulski).

5) Election & Bylaws Committee – Bob Fitzpatrick & Geoff Forgione, Co- Chairs

Geoff Forgione noted the results of final re-districting maps completed for our area. Mar Vista was kept together for the new districting.

6) PLUM Committee – Sharon Commins & Steve Wallace, Co-Chairs.

a. Policy Motion: *Whereas the developer of Bundy Village, 2007-1486-GPA-ZC-CU-DB-SPR, VTT-66743-CN-GB-1A, ENV-2006-3125-EIR, has made scant effort to address regional concerns regarding the size, scale, and impacts of the project as originally proposed, and*

Whereas as the developer has failed to meet with the community to address these concerns, and

Whereas the developer has further stated under oath in bankruptcy court an intent to build a completely different project than that which was previously approved by the City Planning Commission thus greatly increasing the scope and impact of any project on the property, and triggering the requirement of a supplemental EIR,

The Mar Vista Community Council respectfully requests the CC PLUM schedule a hearing prior to August 11, 2011 in order to address the changes in the project. City Council support in total the PLUM Committee's approved recommendations: Re Agenda Item #10 (VTT-66732-CN-DB; GB-1A); Deny Applicant's request to receive and file Grant the appeals Deny the Tentative Tract Map If the Applicant submits for a modified project, then this body (PLUM) can recommend the applicant meet with the community first to vet the new project, before the Applicant proceeds to the Planning Commission

Re Agenda Item #11 (CPC 2007-1486; GPA; ZC; CU; ZV; ZAA; DB; SPR)

Deny Applicant's request to receive and file

Deny Applicant's request to remand

Deny CPC, GPA, et al

Grant the appeals

Sharon Commins Co-chair of the PLUM committee explained the significance of the actions voted by city council

and consequently there was no need to make the Motion or for the Board to take a vote.

7) Safety and Security Committee – Bill Koontz & Rob Kadota, Co-Chairs

Bill Koontz Co-Chair of the committee explained a new CERT training program available to residents to start on October 30, 2011 ending approximately on December 1, 2011.

8) Education, Arts and Culture - Babak Nahid & Kate Anderson, Co-Chairs

9) Historic FS 62 Ad Hoc Committee – Sharon Commins & Rachel Swanger, Co-Chairs

10) Santa Monica Airport Committee - Bill Koontz & John Kuchta, Co- Chairs

11) Recreation Open Space Enhancement Committee - Tom Ponton & Jerry Hornof, Co- Chairs

Zone Director Reports

Zone 1, Zone Director Babak Nahid explained a new feature at the MVCC website that will be available for listing

events and information for each zone.

Zone 2, No Report

Zone 3, Zone Director Kate Anderson spoke about the upcoming block party.

Zone 4, *Zone Director Tara Mulski spoke about the pending status of the El Zacatecas.*

Board 5, *No Report.*

Zone 6, *Zone Director Marilyn Marble announced upcoming Neighborhood Watch meeting.*

New Business - none

Adjournment (9:30 PM)