

**Mar Vista Community Council Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at 7:00 PM
Mar Vista Recreation Center Auditorium 11430 Woodbine Street, Mar Vista, CA 90066
www.marvista.org**

MINUTES

Call to Order and Welcome – Albert Olson, Chair, 7:04 PM

Present Board Members: Albert Olson; Bill Koontz; Marilyn Marble; Chuck Ray; Maritza Przekop; Geoff Forgione; Alex Thompson; Kate Anderson; Bill Scheduling; Sharon Commins. Absent: Babak Nahid

Presentation of the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance – Bill Scheduling

Approval of Minutes (public comment permitted) (2 min)

Regular meeting October 11, 2011: approved unanimously 9 aye 0 nay; 0 abstentions
November 2, 2011 Special Meeting: approved unanimously 9 aye 0 nay; 0 abstentions

Public Comment & Announcements

- Michael King: 99 cent store update on parking lot appeal on Dec 7th at Henry Medina. Win for the community so far as the store must file for master land use and include landscaping plan, shielding of lighting, etc.
- Beth Brust friends of MV library: requested MVCC reconsider vote to replace coral tree for safety and visibility; easier maintenance drought tolerant plants economical and appropriate height
- Stephanie Wexler friends of library: noted there was less vagrancy and graffiti, however the tree well tree is used as trash can. Nee to build up soil level. Also re visibility: Book sales signs visible and there has been a substantial increase in sale revenues to the Library [request referred by the Chair to the T & I committee where the motion originated]

Elected Officials and City Department Reports

Mar Vista Recreation Center – Jason Kitahara, Director

Harry Potter theme Halloween
Christmas Carols Dec 10
Winter camp Dec 19-Jan 6
Lacrosse registration commencing
Outdoor lighting improvements

CD 11 - Bill Rosendahl, rep. by Len.Nguyen@lacity.org , Field Deputy

Oversize vehicle restrictions on Palms Blvd motion to be introduced; ladot to give pricing and timeline. Funding overnight parking restrictions and tow away zones plus locations were announced

CD 5 – Paul Koretz, rep. by David.Giron@lacity.org , Field Deputy

Zone 1: 7-11 issue regarding a potential off site alcohol sales permit for the commercial space on the southwest corner of Overland and national Place; here to talk to stakeholders present who may be concerned

CA Assembly 53 – Betsy Butler, rep. by Stephanie.Romero@asm.ca.gov

Thanks for the fall festival hospitality. Noted 11 bills 6 signed into law including toxin free infants/toddlers act; increased electric vehicle usage; increased fines for senior abuse/fraud

Officers and Liaison Reports

Chair, Albert Olson

Announcement to the Board: Proposed November 19, 2-4 PM for Officers and Chairs refresher website upload and use tutorial at the library with Webmaster Babak Nahid

a. Administrative Motion: Appointment by Chair to fill the vacant At-Large Director seat, and vote by Board (2/3rds affirmative vote of the current Board needed, or 8 votes) to approve appointment.

Each listed candidate in attendance made a brief statement to the Board. The list of candidates under consideration as presented by the Chair:

1. John Kuchta: Indicated he was not available due to personal circumstances
2. Yvette Molinaro: 1st vote 7 aye; 3 nay; 0 abstaining. 2nd vote 6 aye; 4 nay; 0 abstaining
3. Vida Ash
4. Michael Millman [also qualified for Zone 4 Director vacancy to be filled at the December regular meeting of the Board] 1st 5 aye; 2 nay; 3 abstaining
5. Shane Popp [also qualified for Zone 4 Director vacancy to be filled at the December regular meeting of the Board]
6. Susan Klos-absent due to business trip

7. Chelsea McFarland was added to the list by the Chair who stated he had left her name off the list 'in error'

Ms. Molinaro was proposed; failed approval.
Mr. Millman was proposed; failed approval
Ms. Molinaro was proposed a second time; failed approval

After the second consideration of Ms. Molinari's candidacy failed approval, Chair Albert Olson stated he regarded that vote as a vote of no confidence and resigned immediately from the Board [his email confirming resignation was received on November 9, 2011, the next day].

First Vice Chair Sharon Commins, acting under MVCC bylaws governing the First Vice Chair's duties in the absence or disability of the Chair, continued with the item, and the meeting.

After brief discussion, a motion to table was made and approved: 6 aye; 1 nay; 0 abstaining.

First Vice Chair, Sharon Commins-no report

Second Vice Chair, Bill Koontz-no report

Secretary-vacant

Treasurer, Bill Scheduling

MVCC has \$32,000 and change in the account
Use of p card restricted again

DWP MOU – Chuck Ray

Enabling ordinances being designed

Mar Vista Bi Monthly LADOT/CD11/LAPD Traffic Committee - Linda Guagliano,

Nov 16, 2011; please send items for discussion

LANCC Delegate Report – Maritza Przekop, Chuck Ray

Elections for LANCC officers coming up

Old Business - Action items (Public comment permitted) NONE

Committee Reports - the following time sensitive Committee Report action items were approved with quorum present:

1) Executive & Finance Committee – Sharon Commins, First Vice Chair/Acting Chair

1a. Administrative Motion: The MVCC Board approves the submitted October statement for the US Bank MVCC Purchase Card. Approved Unanimously 7 aye 0 nay; 0 abstentions

The speedy need to call a special BOD meeting in order to appoint a second signatory was emphasized by the Treasurer

2. Community Outreach Committee – Maritza Przekop & Kate Anderson, Co-Chairs

2a. Policy Motion: To Support Urban Beekeeping in Los Angeles (approved unanimously at Special Meeting of Community Outreach, Green, and PLUM Committees)

The Feasibility Study concludes that there is a strong community interest in supporting beekeeping efforts and that doing so would result in positive changes that permit the healthy growth of honey bee colonies and increase the production and quality of fruits, vegetables and flowers in Mar Vista's organic home gardens while providing a community service as a resource for the removal of feral (wild) hives. Research indicates that such a program would be cost neutral to the city of LA.

The MVCC Board therefore recommends the implementation of a Beekeeping Pilot Program in to test safety and develop best practices for future expansion. We urge the City of LA to adopt a policy that includes conditions relating to maintenance, location, registration and notification to assure for the safety of all residents which may result in the continued preservation of quality of life and preservation of single-family residential districts.

The extensive and exemplary outreach efforts of the Study were commended.

Concerns about health and safety related to bee stinging were raised in public comment.

It was noted that the motion is a request to the City for the study of the matter and does not ask for the MVCC to be a trial area.

Motion Approved: 6 aye; 0 nay; 1 abstention

3) Education, Arts and Culture Committee – Amy Lawrence & Babak Nahid, Co-Chairs

3a. Administrative Motion: Mar Vista Community Council proudly salutes Daniel Buccieri, teacher at Mark Twain Middle School, for being honored by the Los Angeles Unified School District as a Teacher of the Year 2011-2010. MVCC

thanks Daniel for his dedication to student success as a teacher of history and for exemplifying our community's strong commitment to supporting excellence in education. Approved unanimously: 7 aye 0 nay; 0 abstentions

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

5b. Policy Motion: Letter to Expo Construction Authority (Gabriela Collins) regarding Indigenous Plantings at Expo Phase Two Stations

Ms. Collins: The Mar Vista Community Council endorses and requests that indigenous plantings be utilized by the Los Angeles MTA for all landscaping for phase two of the Exposition Line light rail project. While we appreciate that drought tolerant plantings are currently planned for these stations, we feel it is imperative that MTA utilize this opportunity to exclusively use plantings native to Southern California to create a habitat that fosters the pollinators needed to support our ecosystem. Not only would indigenous plants be naturally drought tolerant but in that they will not require fertilizers they protect our watershed as well. Such plantings also serve to promote environmental awareness and responsible landscaping choices by others in a highly visible setting. While our motion applies to the entire phase two of the line, this issue is of particular importance to our stakeholders with respect to Palms Station. We believe this request can be accommodated without adding significant costs to the Expo Line project. It is our desire that our wishes in this matter be made known to all who are involved or concerned. Your assistance in this process is appreciated, and if there are others we should contact directly, your help in identifying those parties would also be appreciated. Thank you for your time and consideration. Approved unanimously: 7 aye 0 nay; 0 abstentions

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

6a. Policy Motion: (BARRINGTON CORRIDOR MOTION) The Mar Vista Community Council herein supports Council File 10-1152 and the creating of a permanent Q condition governing height and setbacks including 42 parcels on the east and west sides of Barrington Avenue bounded by Indianapolis Street/Federal Avenue on the south, alleys on the northeast and southwest, and an alley and Navy Street on the north in the Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey Community Plan Area. In order to maintain the current character and scale of the above described neighborhood, the MVCC supports further examination of any and all other measures acceptable to the community including: appropriate transitions, setbacks, parkways, or floor area coverage for these forty two parcels in the Mar Vista area. Approved: 6 aye; 0 Nay; 1 abstention

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

7a. Funding Motion: MVCC will allocate \$2000 in support of the LAPD Pacific Station's Winter Wonderland for the purchase of toys and supplies for the event. Must meet all city and MVCC spending guidelines. Unused funds expire June 1, 2012. Approved unanimously: 7 Aye; 0 Nay; 0 Abstentions

7b. Funding Motion: MVCC will allocate \$50 for paints and supplies to refresh and update the Santa Sleigh Stop signs. All sponsors of Santa Sleigh Stops will outreach to the surrounding community so as many people as possible are aware of the program and can participate. Costs associated with the printing of flyers will be covered by MVCC – Costs are not to exceed \$100.00. Where practical, ½ or ¼ sheets of paper will be used. Must meet all city and MVCC spending guidelines. Unused funds expire June 1, 2012. Total funding request \$50 (paints and supplies) plus \$100 (printing costs for program outreach) total equals \$150. maximum. Approved unanimously: 7 Aye 0 Nay; 0 Abstentions

8) Transportation & Infrastructure Committee - Geoff Forgione & Chuck Ray, Co-Chairs

8a. Policy Motion: The MVCC supports the leveraging of the existing Venice Boulevard Rapid Bus Line to mirror the service frequencies of the Metro Exposition Light Rail Line, with rebranding and promotion to connect Expo Line riders with the community and its recreational and business opportunities, while simultaneously promoting use of the Exposition Light Rail Line to Westside residents." Approved unanimously: 7 Aye 0 Nay; 0 Abstentions

Committee Reports - Motion to put over the following non time sensitive Committee Reports and action items to the next regular monthly meeting of the MVCC Board, December 13, 2011. Approved 7 Aye 0 Nay; 0 Abstentions

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

4a. Policy Motion: MVCC motion regarding NC Elections Process

WHEREAS, the L.A. City Council has failed to allocate funds to enable the City Clerk to conduct the next regularly scheduled spring 2012 Neighborhood Council elections, resulting in a delay of those elections until at least the spring of 2014;

WHEREAS, while the MVCC appreciates the difficult economic conditions prevailing in the City, we find it inconsistent with traditional notions of neighborhood empowerment and democratic ideals that Neighborhood Council elections be postponed until 2014, requiring incumbents to serve a term twice as long as the one to which they were elected and shutting out qualified candidates who wish to come forward and serve; WHEREAS, the MVCC finds it equally unacceptable the proposal being considered in some quarters to divest the City Clerk from responsibility for Neighborhood Council elections in favor of some sort of "selection" or "town hall" process to circumvent the relevant ordinance requiring an actual election run by the City Clerk; and WHEREAS, as noted in our prior motion on the

subject, the entire Neighborhood Council system is enhanced by having its elections run by the same official entity that runs all other City elections and proposals to allow individual councils to choose among various other options, such as "electronic," "town-hall" and/or "incumbent-run" election systems may result in elections marred by the limitations of those procedures, including the loss of transparency, accuracy, and legitimacy, and will lead to a proliferation of disputes. THEREFORE, the MVCC calls upon CD-11 Councilman Rosendahl to introduce a motion to allocate funds sufficient to enable the City Clerk to conduct Neighborhood Council elections no later than the Fall of 2012 or, in the alternative, the Spring of 2013. The MVCC further calls upon Councilman Rosendahl to ensure that if the Council persists in its refusal to fund the City Clerk, that neither the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment or any other City entity be permitted to impose a "one size fits all" approach to elections by requiring that every neighborhood council adopt the same election procedure in the absence of the City Clerk.

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

5a. Policy Motion: Food & Water Watch will be presenting a letter to the Los Angeles City Council this month, asking for their support on a variety of proposals and opposition to spending cuts proposed in the 2012 Farm Bill . These federal funds are distributed to local governments, community organizations and small businesses in the form of project grants and guaranteed loans. We need good food policy to drive the change we want in our food system, so that everyone has access to healthy food and to support small farmers in our local region. The support of local food also has far reaching environmental impact. The Mar Vista Community Council is very supportive of local agriculture and local sellers of that agriculture, and feel that federal policies should reflect support for those entities. While understanding the current need for budget restraint in the Federal legislative process, the MVCC urges Councilman Bill Rosendahl and the Los Angeles City Council to carefully review the proposed cuts and their impact on our local food policy.

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

7c. Policy Motion: The Mar Vista Community Council supports the concept and implementation of a Neighborhood Team Program (NTP), an emergency support program organized through the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) of the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) and the Los Angeles Police Departments Block Captain Program. Under the Neighborhood Team Program community members who have taken the CERT training and LAPD Block Captain program can volunteer as NTP Team Leaders, organizing and providing direction to other neighborhood residents in preparing for and responding to public safety issues, proactively plan for emergencies and led aid following disasters such as an earthquake or major fire

7b. Policy Motion: The MVCC requests that the CD-11 Office immediately provide funds to LADOT so that any neighborhood in Mar Vista that so desires them may secure posted signs prohibiting the overnight parking of oversized vehicles."

9) Historic FS 62 Ad Hoc Committee – Sharon Commins & Rachel Swanger, Co-Chairs-No report

10) Recreation Open Space Enhancement Committee – Jerry Hornof & Tom Ponton, Co- Chairs-No report

11) Santa Monica Airport Committee – Bill Koontz & John Kuchta, Co- Chairs-No report

Zone Director Reports-None

New Business - None

Grievances-None

Future agenda items-None

Adjournment: 9:30 PM