

**MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**Tuesday, December 13, 2011, at 7:00 PM**  
**Mar Vista Recreation Center Auditorium**  
**11430 Woodbine Street, Mar Vista, CA 90066**  
[www.marvista.org](http://www.marvista.org)

The audience is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any item of the Agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that are within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the public comment period. Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. Mar Vista Community Council meetings will follow Rosenberg's Rules of Order, the latest edition. For more information, please visit the MVCC web site.

**MINUTES**

- 1. Call to Order and Welcome** – Acting Chair Sharon Commins 7:04 PM
  - a. Board members in attendance:** Bill Koontz; Marilyn Marble; Chuck Ray; Maritza Przekop Geoff Forgione; Alex Thompson; Kate Anderson; Babak Nahid; Sharon Commins. Absent: Bill Scheduling
- 2. Presentation of the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance-** 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Bill Koontz
- 3. Approval of Minutes** (public comment permitted)
  - a. Minutes of November 8, 2011 and Special Meeting November 14, 2011 approved unanimously
- 4. Acting Chair Report**
  - a. Officer election to fill the vacant position of the Chair of the MVCC, conducted by the Elections & Bylaws Committee (as required by the Bylaws).
    - i. Sharon Commins was nominated and elected Chair
  - b. Nomination by the Chair to fill the Zone 4 vacancy
    - i. Joy Murao and Michael Millman presented candidates' statements [Shane Popp was not present, and Charles Rosenberg withdrew his application].
    - ii. Michael Millman was nominated by the Chair; approved by the Board by a 2/3 majority
  - c. Nomination by the Chair of a stakeholder to fill the at-large vacancy
    - i. Candidates statement was presented by Susan Klos, who was unavailable in November
    - ii. Yvette Molinaro was nominated by the Chair; approved by the Board by 2/3 majority
  - d. Officer election of the Secretary of the MVCC
    - i. Michael Millman indicated he was willing to serve for a period of time and was nominated and elected Secretary
  - e. Officer elections to fill Executive Committee vacancies caused by the election of existing officers to the positions of Chair or Secretary
    - i. Bill Koontz was nominated and elected 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair
    - ii. Chuck Ray was nominated and elected 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair
  - f. Formal announcement (as required by the Bylaws) by the Chair of a vacancy caused by the resignation of former at-large director Albert Olson and the official opening of the 40 day candidates submission period.
- 5. Public Comment & Announcements** for items not on the agenda
  - a.** Michael Hochman, family owner of the 99 Cent Store located on Washington Boulevard, Culver City and Mar Vista, spoke about the challenges and issues faced by his family in configuring the parking lot used by the store, and requested intervention and assistance to resolve the dispute by the Board. The Chair referred the gentleman to the PLUM Committee to consider the issue.
  - b.** Alex Thompson, articulated that he felt that Councilperson Bill Rosendahl lacked true leadership insofar as the Council Office had originally supported the legitimate protests being initiated at City Hall by Occupy L.A.; and thereafter, when it was determined that the protesters, campers and others would be removed, Mr. Rosendahl's Office was inconsistent in their message and leadership. Simply stated, he felt disappointed in the Council's Office on this matter.
  - c.** Rashad Rukers is an outreach representative for the Los Angeles Municipal Redistricting Commission; and invited the community to come to the Iman Cultural Center, 3373 Motor Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90034; Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. At that time, the general purpose of the Commission would be discussed, also with some of the special rules, and members of the community will have an opportunity to ask questions
- 6. Elected Officials and City Department Reports**

- a. Mar Vista Recreation Center – Jason Kitahara, Director, reported on the ADA bathroom improvements to take place in March 2012

## 7. Officers and Liaison Reports

- a. Chair-no report
- b. First Vice Chair-no report
- c. Second Vice Chair-no report
- d. Secretary-no report
- e. Treasurer-No change from the November status report
- f. Animal Welfare Agencies and Organizations – Curt Steindler-not present
- g. DWP MOU – Chuck Ray
  - i. There will be a potential or likely increase on the sewer charges because the sewer system is ancient and he anticipates the increase; however, the Director of DWP suggests that no increase will occur until the ratepayer advocate is elected and installed.
- h. DWP/BOS Recycled Water Advisory Group-Christopher McKinnon
  - i. Reports essentially the same as Chuck Ray, and indicates that he has been involved in a special workshop over the past two years. Additionally, he confirms that until the rate payer advocate is installed, there will be little or no chance for an increase; however, due to the deteriorating sewage system, we can anticipate an increase.
- i. Mar Vista Bi Monthly LADOT/CD11/LAPD Traffic Committee - Linda Guagliano,
  - i. She reports that the next meeting will be January 18, 2012 at Councilperson Bill Rosendahl's Office. 1645 Corinth, at 10:00 A.M. She notes that a traffic engineer will be present. Apparently, the traffic engineer had failed to appear at a previous scheduled meeting.
- j. LANCC Delegate Report – Maritza Przekop, Chuck Ray
  - i. Chuck Ray was nominated and selected to participate as MVCC’s voting member at the LANCC officer elections

## 8. Old Business - Action items (Public comment permitted)none

## 9. Committee reports - Action items included (public comment permitted)

### a. Executive & Finance Committee

- i. Administrative Motion: *The MVCC Board approves the submitted November statement for the US Bank MVCC Purchase Card. **Approved unanimously***
    - 1. Regular monthly charges for RIMU and Storquest should appear in December statement as the statement is posted after the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month by US Bank
  - ii. Announce 2012 NC Election issues and City Clerk Election Alternatives online surveys for NC boards and stakeholders; deadline for comment: Friday, January 6, 2012[http://cityclerk.lacity.org/election/ncdocs/NC\\_Board\\_Election\\_Alternatives\\_Survey\\_10.26.pdf](http://cityclerk.lacity.org/election/ncdocs/NC_Board_Election_Alternatives_Survey_10.26.pdf)
  - iii. Reschedule web training for Board members—possible dates
    - 1. Avoid the January 14, 2012, weekend
    - 2. A proposed date of January 28, 2012, circulated via email
- b. **Community Outreach Committee** – Maritza Przekop & Kate Anderson, Co-Chairs—no report
- c. **Education, Arts and Culture Committee** – Amy Lawrence & Babak Nahid, Co-Chairs
- i. Brief discussion by Babak Nahid on how to handle online grants.
- d. **Election & Bylaws Committee** – Bob Fitzpatrick & Geoff Forgione, Co-Chairs
- i. Policy Motion: Proposed 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.

**Approved Unanimously**

e. **Green Committee** – Sherri Akers & Laura Bodensteiner, Co-Chairs

- i. Funding Motion: *The MVCC Green Committee requests \$1,000 funding for additional pennants at gardens, posters, flyers and street signage for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Mar Vista Green Garden Showcase to be held on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012. **Approved Unanimously***
- ii. Policy Motion: *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.*

**Put over to January BOD**

- iii. Policy Motion: City Hall lawn replacement from damage of Occupy LA:
- iv. To: Jon Kirk Mukri, General Manager of the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks  
RE: Sustainable Landscaping at Los Angeles City Hall.

*The Mar Vista Community Council endorses and requests that the lawn at City Hall be replaced with sustainable landscaping using plants indigenous to Southern California and following the guidelines of the Low Impact Development Ordinance to address storm water diversion and water capture. While keeping with the guidelines of Project Restore, this civic open space should utilize permeable hardscape and indigenous plants that are naturally drought tolerant. Plants indigenous to Southern California will not require fertilizers, which will protect our watershed as well. Further, the MVCC requests that the plan fully address the primary function of this space at City Hall for public enjoyment, civic gatherings, and peaceful assembly.*

*While the City is urging homeowners and businesses to replace turf lawn with sustainable alternatives, it is imperative that the City utilize this opportunity to set an example by re-landscaping to conserve water and create a habitat that fosters the pollinators needed to support our ecosystem. Such landscaping will serve to promote environmental awareness and responsible landscaping choices by others in a highly visible setting and will ultimately save the city money in both water usage and maintenance. As well, an appropriate landscaping plan will preserve the capacity of City Hall to host gatherings such as the weekly Farmer's Market and CicLAvia.*

*Please make our wishes in this matter known to all who are involved or concerned. Your assistance in this process is appreciated. 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***

f. **PLUM Committee** – Sharon Commins & Steve Wallace, Co-Chairs.

- i. Stakeholders appeal of the Centinela Loft case decision by the WLA APC was upheld by the City Council
- g. **Safety and Security Committee** – Rob Kadota & Bill Koontz, Co-Chairs
  - i. 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. **Approved Unanimously***
- h. **Transportation & Infrastructure Committee** - Geoff Forgione & Chuck Ray, Co-Chairs
  - i. 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."*
    - 1. Chuck Ray reported that he wanted the Board to approve a policy motion wherein staff at Councilperson Rosendahl's Office would immediately arrange to locate, identify and find appropriate funding for the oversized motor vehicle signage required on certain streets within Mar Vista. There was an animated and lengthy discussion about the general philosophy associated with permitting homeless people to sleep within their motor vehicles and the application of LAMC 85.02 which prohibits lodging in a motor vehicle from time to time or overnight. The Board revisited the history of this dispute, and was reminded that approximately a year ago the Board passed a comprehensive resolution wherein the Council Office, municipal authorities and others were to strictly enforce LAMC 85.02 and at the same time promote alternative areas or solutions for those individuals who remain homeless within their car. The signs have been promised; and it appears that the Council Office has failed to locate discretionary money to underwrite the creation, fabrication, delivery and posting of the signs. The Council was reminded that the Windward School had agreed in connection with its Expansion to underwrite any costs associated with the dozen or more signs necessary to be posted in order to immediately remove the problem or associated with habitual illegal parking by Campers and RVs on Palms, Sawtelle, Charnock, and McLaughlin.  
**Approved 6 aye, 4 nay**
- i. **Historic FS 62 Ad Hoc Committee** – Sharon Commins & Rachel Swanger, Co-Chairs
  - i. Rachel Swanger presented an update on the fundraising for the station noting that 25% of the funds to digitize the plans [AutoCAD] had been committed without widespread publicity
- j. **Recreation Open Space Enhancement Committee** – Jerry Hornof & Tom Ponton, Co-Chairs
  - i. Tom Ponton indicated there will be discussion in the new year of the possibility of keeping the MV Rec Center pool open year 'round and how this would be funded
- k. **Santa Monica Airport Committee** – Bill Koontz & John Kuchta, Co-Chairs—no report

**10. Zone Director Reports--none**

11. **New Business** —none

12. **Grievances, if any received**--none

13. **Future agenda items** --none

14. **Adjournment:** 9:00 PM