

MHNC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Mission Hills Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

April 2, 2012

Mission Area Police Station

Minutes taken by: Doug Stolhand (Secretary)

President – Brad Klimovitch

Vice-President/Treasurer – Fred Ginsburg

Secretary – Doug Stolhand

Senior Outreach Chair – Joyce Sipes

Board Member – David Guzman

Board Member - Randy Kuluva

Board Member - Irma Chaidez

Board Member - Clint Scott

Board Member - John Samuelson

Board Member - Jerrilyn Hayashi

Student Representative - Tuesday Sipes

- Meeting called to order at 6:37pm.
- Pledge of Allegiance by John Samuelsson
- Roll call: Brad Klimovitch, Fred Ginsburg, David Guzman, Doug Stolhand, Randy Kuluva, Joyce Sipes, Jerrilyn Hayashi, Clint Scott, John Samuelsson and Tuesday Sipes are all present. Unexcused is David Guzman.
- Brad Klimovitch announces that Irma Chaidez has resigned.
- Senior Lead Officer Phil Ruiz presents a crime report for January 1st – March 24th of 2012. We are up 19% in part one crimes which are crimes against persons. We are up 22% on other crimes which are property crimes compared to this time a year ago.

- SLO Ruiz offers two examples of people that were victims of crime in Mission Hills and reminds people to lock it, hide it, keep it to help prevent themselves from being a victim.
- Stakeholders ask questions about how effective bars on windows are at deterring crime and how many arrests have cleared crimes. SLO Ruiz says that bars on windows are effective but that they may not be legal due to fire hazards. He also says that they are taking fingerprints at each crime and are getting a lot of information as a result.
- John Samuelsson asks about a 10-year old killed as a result of a school fight off campus and asks for tips on how to prevent this and what the police are doing to help. SLO Ruiz says that there is a campaign to stop bullying and urges people to report kids fighting whether it's on campus or off campus.
- Guest Speaker: City Councilman Richard Alarcon
 - Discusses some of the accomplishments since he took office 18 years ago including Brand Park, Mission Hills Police Station and Community Center.
 - Relocated into Mission Hills in November.
 - John Samuelsson asks about Best Friends who took over the animal shelter in Mission Hills and asks how many stakeholders are "on the payroll" at that facility. Alarcon says that he will look into it and get back to him. Says he voted against it and was only councilmember that did so. Has no beef with Best Friends but that he believes it should be a full service facility and not just an adoption facility.
 - John Samuelsson asks for an ordinance to make people who have trash in front of their home or business responsible to either clean it up within a set amount of time or pay a fine. Alarcon says call 3-1-1 and they will pick up your bulky items for free. Says there are plenty of laws on the books about littering but they are not enforced enough.
 - Brad Klimovitch contacted Best Friends about not flying the American flag at their facility and the flag is now flying. Asks people to let him know if that's not the case in the future.
 - Stakeholder asks if Best Friends have control of the entire facility or if multiple non-profits can use them. Alarcon says they have complete control.
 - Alarcon discusses an App for smartphones that would allow you to file a complaint or request with 3-1-1 directly and to receive notice as to how that issue has been resolved. It's not available but he'd like to have it made. Says it would cost \$700,000.
 - Joyce Sipes asks about the availability of the Community Room for her senior outreach events. Alarcon says that it will cost, he'll get back to her on the

amount. Urges her to embrace the building of a senior center on Van Nuys Blvd. and Plummer that would be accessible to her and the seniors in this community.

- Clint Scott asks about the redevelopment of the Ralph's shopping center at Sepulveda and Devonshire. Alarcon says that the developers are hoping to use public funds to pay for the redevelopment and he suspects that they are trying to drive out the long-time tenants.
- Fred Ginsburg asks why councilmembers don't talk to citizens and/or neighborhood councils to get opinions and thoughts before important votes. Alarcon agrees and says that's exactly what the neighborhood councils are for. Alarcon believes that Los Angeles needs more council districts due to the size of the city and the density of the population. He also cites the fact that neighborhood councils are notified about every single agenda for the city council.
- Urges community to get involved and be active to defend their interests on the Ralph's Shopping Center.
- Brad Klimovitch requests all MHNC Board Members to read and review all meeting minutes distributed via email from our Board of Governors Meetings and submit any corrections at least seven days prior to the next meeting. For MHNC members with limited access or no access to a computer please stay in contact with a fellow MHNC member to obtain a copy of the minutes. Having the minutes corrected prior to review and approval at the next scheduled board meeting will help to speed the course of our regular business and help to reduce disputes.
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- Minutes from March Meeting – Brad Klimovitch motions to approve, Joyce Sipes seconds. Jerrilyn Hayashi and Brad Klimovitch disagree with wording of portion of previous minutes. Brad informs Jerrilyn that she should file a grievance. She agrees to do so. Vote to approve is passed 7-2. Dissenting votes are Clint Scott and Jerrilyn Hayashi. Minutes are approved.
- President's Report along with ZALUC – Ad hoc committee was formed last Thursday and had their first meeting. AHC talked about how they could communicate with Primestor Development (Mission Hills Plaza) and vice versa. Committee would like to talk to each current tenant in Mission Hills Plaza about their current lease and plans for the future.
- Vice President and Treasurer's Report: Fred Ginsburg says he believes that all board members should have the right to speak on issues and be heard and that President should not prevent them from doing so. Says that we have approximately \$20,000 remaining in budget for this fiscal year.
- Senior Outreach Report: May 24th will be the next meet and greet.
- Beautification Committee Report: None due to absence of David Guzman.

- Public Safety Report: None.
- New Business: Brad would like to change the bylaws to add a Corresponding Secretary to the Mission Hills Neighborhood Board of Governors. Fred states that current Board of Governors are not separate seats so he's not sure how we can create a seat that does not exist. Brad states that he's talked to our DONE representative and that the need and ability exists. Jerrilyn states that he should amend the motion to be an at-large member to a board. Fred asks that it be an at-large spot and not a specific Corresponding Secretary. Stakeholder asks if this is adding an elected seat to the board and asks for clarification as to who is on the Executive Board. John Samuelsson provides the bylaws and Jerrilyn points out that the Corresponding Secretary position already exists. Brad revises motion to add an at-large position to the board. Randy asks if there are any open spots on the Board of Governors and is told there are three. Randy suggests we fill the current vacancies before we add any more positions. Stakeholder states that filling the positions available now can be done quickly while adding spots will take at least a year. Motion is withdrawn as is the following motion to add an Emergency Preparedness Chair.
- Break at 8:25 pm.
- Meeting resumes at 8:34pm – Jerrilyn Hayashi not present after break.
- Guest Speaker: Bill Dworin – a former LAPD officer that still works to protect children from sexual predators. He informs the public and the board about the types of predators, their methods and how they can help prevent and/or catch sexual predators. Discusses the “No Secrets” program. Discusses Megan’s Law website as well: MegansLaw.Ca.Gov. Resource for parents and adults to check on sexual predators in their area. Advises you to check Megan’s Law website with your children so that they can identify adults that have contacted them or that they’ve seen.
- Stakeholder talks about the Community Center and that Richard Alarcon originally built it to serve the community needs using public funds. Claims it was not intended to be used as a rental but the parks department has turned it into a rental facility. Claims it is not being used as it was originally intended and urges Neighborhood Council to urge Alarcon to allow the MHNC to use that facility at no cost.
- Stakeholder suggests that MHNC could use storage facilities at local parks for no cost rather than paying for storage facilities. Stakeholder suggests that there’s a precedent at the local libraries that allow neighborhood councils to use their meeting rooms free of charge.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:32pm