



February 1, 2010 - 6:30 pm
City Hall - Mayor's Ceremonial Room

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Amy Aldana, Scott Andrews, Frank Bernard, Susie Doss, Damien O'Farrell, Albert Figueroa, Norm Gritton, Erin Snyder, Cindy Jensen, Gurumantra Khalsa, Jeff Kraus, Justin Scott-Coe, Ed Jones, Robin Treen, Bill Scherer, Paul Davis, Taffi Brandriff

Members Excused: Karin Roberts

Members Unexcused:

Guests: Burma Lee Manns, Martha Rivas, Marisa Mendoza, Dr. David Stewart
Blake Inman, Judy Cunningham

Staff: Eva Yakutis, Hilda Gonzalez, Don Smith, Housing & Neighborhoods Division; Brenda Flowers, Mayor's Office, Nancy Castillo, Police Service Representative

1. Call to Order/Introductions – Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm

2. Approval of Minutes of January 4, 2010
(Treen/Doss/carried)

3. Mayor's Office /Councilmembers' Update

Mayor's Office:

- Brenda Flowers announced that the March MNO was moving to March 31 in the University Neighborhood. February Walk with the Mayor will be at UCR on campus. Free parking, meet at the flag pole by Hinderaker Hall, 7:30 a.m.

Council Member Andy Melendrez, Ward 2:

- Attended UCR basketball game last week which was nationally televised.
- Search warrants served last week. Meeting taking place on Thursday with RPD to discuss the search warrant sweep. Parolee home in Eastside put in application to move into Eastside; however, over 70 people in close proximity objected. Neighbors called a meeting in the neighborhood to discuss. All invited to attend this meeting, Eastside Forum, on Thursday.
- Fifth St. Neighbors still working on issues with the scrap iron business there, particularly with air quality.
- University Neighborhood Association looking at all angles for creating park
- Sycamore Canyon Group meeting every other month with the focus on social events to connect people and provide an opportunity to share information.

Council Member Paul Davis, Ward 4:

- First meeting of Healthy Communities last week. Working with Eileen Bowers. Will be bringing it to RNP possibly in May. Community meeting at Orange Terrace Community Park February 11, 2010, 6:30 pm. Discussion of parking issues as well. Orange Terrace Parkway resurface begins next week.
- Kudos to Scott Andrews re: presentation at Council re: RNP

Blake Inman, on behalf of Council Member Bailey, Ward 3:

Grade separation starting soon. Everyone should find alternate roads. Beatty Drive widening first. Traffic will be open but limited to one way in each direction ultimately.

4. Presentation by Dr. David Stewart – *Seizing our Destiny*

- Dr. David Stewart, Dean, A. Gary Anderson School of Management, UCR
Introduction of Dr. Stewart. Dr. Stewart presented a condensed version of the “Seizing our Destiny” initiative, hard copy distributed.
 - Good to set audacious goals in difficult economic times
 - Seizing our Destiny isn’t a strategic plan but a strategic vision
 - Project began year ago. WAP CETA group developed statements leading into a larger planning process.
 - Overview of Riverside assets
 - Time to think about the future
 - Past has focused on cheap dirt, logistics, blue collar/new focus on knowledge workers and move toward new notions of economic development with higher paying jobs and amenities/quality of life
 - Council adopted set of far-reaching statements to guide the process for the City of Arts and Innovation – the “aspirations”
 - The aspirations set the bar and create a community vision
 - Steering committee, many focus group meetings, survey, and these presentations part of the process
 - Premise of the plan is that economic future should grow from focus on quality of life catalyzing innovation, attracts good jobs, etc.
 - Overview of 4 destination points
 - Overview of 11 routes to get us there
 - Q and A – RNP asked to read the document and see how it fits into its mission or how to alter the RNP mission to incorporate what is there.

5. Presentation by U.S. Census Bureau – 2010 Census

- Marissa Mendoza, Partnership Specialist
 - Gave overview promoting the importance of the census to the community and removing negative myths about it.
 - Review of economic, political, and demographic power of the census
 - Data provided as to how the census will benefit the community
 - Review of data re: response rate by region from the 2000 census
 - Census will be working with the City to get hardest to reach areas and request support in getting the word out.
 - Provided bags with information to share with others in neighborhoods
 - Q and A
 - Provided contact information: Marisa Mendoza, 909 771-5814, mmendoza@mvusd.net

6. Neighborhood Watch Report

- Nancy Castillo, Police Service Representative
 - Passed out flyer for 7th Annual Senior Conference
 - Business Watch training taking place on February 4 at Riverside Adult School
 - Q and A

7. Housing and Neighborhoods Report –

- a) Council/Redevelopment Agency Reports
 - Neighborhood Success Story, January 27, 2010
 - i. Marketing Committee to meet to discuss February presentation
- b) Annual Caucus, tentative date October 23, 2010

8. Committee Reports –

b) Bylaws Subcommittee – recommendation on amendments

- Chair asked that the amendments come before the new committee. Taffi Brandriff gave background on why the bylaws committee had met at suggestion of Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee. Changes being proposed that the Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee be removed from the process. Also there was an email that if anyone was denied by the RNP board, there would be an appeal process to the Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee. Taffi would prefer an appeal to the board rather than the Mayor's Nominating and Screening Committee. Scott added that RNP would look at geographic diversity. Scott is okay with meeting with new bylaws subcommittee to discuss at chair's pleasure. Taffi reported that new Membership Subcommittee would be formed. Discussion of appeal process.
- Q and A
- Motion for both old committee and new committee to meet and table until next month (Aldana/Brandriff/carried)
- Scott announced who is on the membership sub-committee
- Applicants will be considered next month for membership to Area 4

c) 2010 committee assignments-no other reports

- Set date for Conference Committee meeting – Gurumantra nominated by Cindy for chair and he accepted. Eva to email the committee and set meeting date.
- Set date for Membership Committee meeting – Gurumantra resigned from this committee. Erin nominates Taffi as chair.

9. RNP Monthly Announcements

- Cindy Jensen – what are the dates for the year? Black out date is August. July 5 is a holiday, September 6 holiday as well.
- Taffi – started-up new LANA group in La Sierra/Arlanza. Second meeting next Thursday, just organizational at this point. Norm assisting by sharing bylaws from DANA
- Norm – MANA meets next week at Goeske on the 10th of February.
- Gurumantra – church has new pastor, and he is very excited about neighborhood plant bank to plant on hillside as a drought tolerant garden
- Justin – Water 101 on Jan 24, at RCC, very well attended. Annual report given. Next is worm composting and then next one is garden tour of drought tolerant gardens
- Erin – Area 1 Grand Avenue Neighborhood Alliance meeting Thursday night, 5105 Jurupa; meeting four times a year.
- Don Smith congratulated Nancy Castillo as honoree for RDP Annual Awards dinner.
- Judy - Happy Birthday to Robin Treen

10. Concerns from Visiting Neighborhoods – no report

11. Future agenda items –

- Cindy, the activity report being taken over by a volunteer
- Staff to email the activity report template to new members
- Justin nominates the membership committee to take over tracking activities.
- Don suggests marketing committee
- Chair would like to share number of meetings, etc., at City Council
- Marketing subcommittee to take over the activity report compilation
- Put consideration of new applicants on the agenda for next month
- Conference and caucus subcommittees merged (Justin/Amy/carried)

12. Meeting Adjourned 7:45