
MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Amy Aldana, Frank Bernard, Taffi Brandriff, Paul Davis, Susie Doss, Norm Gritton, Erin Snyder, Cindy Jensen, Gurumantra Khalsa, Jeff Kraus, Justin Scott-Coe, Ed Jones, Robin Treen, Karin Roberts, Damien O'Farrell, Mickey Lawler, and Cecile Johnson

Members Absent: Scott Andrews, Aurora Chavez, Albert Figueroa, and Bill Scherer

Guests: Rusty Bailey and Andy Melendrez City Council, Tom Donahue, Nancy Sturmer, and Burma Lee Manus

Staff: Eva Yakutis, Don Smith, and Hilda Gonzalez Housing and Neighborhoods Division; Brenda Flowers, Mayor's Office; PSR Nancy Castillo and Sgt. Rene Ramirez, RPD

1. **Call to Order/Introductions** - Meeting called to order at 6:34 pm by Co-Chair Amy Aldana

2. **Approval of Minutes of March 1, 2010** - Correction: Erin Snyder in charge of presentation (Snyder/Brandriff/Carried)

3. **Mayor and Council Updates -**

Andy Melendrez (Ward 2):

TELACU senior's complex on 11th Street had a concern with water quality, neighboring apartments, and safety at the local shopping center. The property manager for the shopping center attended the meeting and listened to the residents concerns. The apartment managers for the neighboring apartment complex will be asked to attend the next meeting.

The 5th Street Neighborhood Group continues to have its challenge with the Riverside Recycling Center Scrap Iron located on 5th and Commerce. The residents have concerns over the air quality and dust created by the center. A study conducted 4 years at the site showed contamination and the City is continuing to test the location.

The Lincoln Park Community Group came together for an Easter Egg Hunt.

Riverside Film festival will begin on April 16.

The Riverside Lyric opera and City held a free swing orchestra performance at Bobby Bonds Park with over 200 in attendees.

Rusty Bailey (Ward 3):

The Riverside Airshow was held on March 27 fewer in attendance due to windy conditions, but the event went very well and folks really enjoyed themselves.

Council Member Bailey welcomed Mickey Lawler as the new RNP member representing the Ramona Neighborhood.

Magnolia Center area will host an old country fair and classic bike race the weekend of October 16-17.

Construction at the new Marcy library will begin in July.

Paul Davis (Ward 4):

Health Fair on April 8 at Orange Terrace Park at 6:30p.m.

Asian Pacific Festival is forming a committee to organize the festival to be held in January 2011.

RNP vacancies – Councilmember Davis has a few Ward 4 individuals interested on joining the RNP to fill in the current vacancy.

Mayor's Office:

Riverside Film Festival - Brenda Flowers from the Mayor's Office provided information on the Riverside Film Festival beginning on April 16.

Mayor's Night Out will not take place in April. Gurumantra was complimented for doing a great job as moderator at the MNO held in March. Jeff Kraus from UCR also attended MNO and was complimented for his ability to answer the questions and concerns from the residents. Walk with the Mayor will be on April 24 at Cal Baptist University. La Sierra University will host the Walk with the Mayor on Sunday, July 25.

4. **Introduction of Mickey Lawler** – Amy welcomed Mickey to the group. Mickey shared a few words about herself and her Willow Avenue Neighborhood Group.

5. **RPD** – Sgt. Rene Ramirez reported on crime within the North Policing Area. Nancy Castillo spoke on the success of the Senior Conference held in March. She also distributed a policing area map and a who to call list. National Night Out is going to be on Tuesday, August 3, 2010.

6. **Housing and Neighborhoods Report** –
Council/Agency reports

- Green Team Neighborhood Success Story - Justin gave a great presentation at council.
- Neighborhood Governance Initiative going to the Governmental Affairs Committee – Committee meets on May 5, 2010.
- Snowberry Senior Housing Project – Project going to City Council. The building has 224 affordable senior housing units and it is located in Ward 5.
- CDBG funds will be allocated for netting at Bobby Bonds to prevent soccer balls from going into neighbors' yards.

7. **Subcommittee Reports**

Membership Subcommittee – Consideration of AlvordUSD Representative

- Membership committee received Cecile Johnson's application prior to April meeting. Cecile Johnson is the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Dr. Wendel Tucker. She will serve as a direct link to the district. Damien motioned to move Cecile's name forward. (O'Farrell/Brandriff/carried)
- Discussion on how to get groups out in the city and connected with neighborhood groups.

Conference/Caucus – tentative caucus date October 23, 2010

- Eva handed out a draft of tentative workshops
- Each board member asked to get a door prize of a minimum \$25 value for the conference. Next conference planning meeting April 26, 2010 at 6 p.m. at Coffee Depot.

Marketing Subcommittee – Neighborhood Success Stories

- Lincoln Park group as a success story on April 27, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Bylaws – Sign amended bylaws and distribute
- Amended Bylaws distributed to board members.

8. **RNP Monthly Announcements**

- Norm - MANA will be hosting tree planting near Magnolia and Brockton. Next meeting April 14, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Janet Goeske Center. Guest speakers will be Ralph Nunez, Park & Recreation and Carl Carey, Development Department. MANA now has Facebook page.
- Taffi - LANA recently formed bylaws. The group will meeting on the first Thursdays of month at La Sierra Park in the multi purpose room at 7:00p.m. The meeting will be open to public in July.
- Cindy - Wood Streets quarterly meeting at the Alumni House on April 17 at 10 a.m.
- Justin - Wood Streets Green Team will host a workshop *How to Garden Tour* on April 25, 2010 from 1-5 p.m.
- Karin - April 24, 2010 Earth Day at White Park and May 15 Backyard Bash in which seven local nonprofits have joined for the event.

- Erin - Flower Show and Garden Tour

9. Concerns from Visiting Neighborhoods –

- Burma Lee spoke on “Spring Into History” with the Heritage consortium on Inland So Cal. April 18, 2010
- DANA has a new project at White Park. The group will be adding a butterfly garden. This project is in partnership with Park & Recreation. RCC Culinary Academy is a useful community resource in which Chef Emily Hotp and the students can help coordinate community events as part of their learning.

10. Future agenda items –

- Neighborhood Governance update
- Chili Booth at Annual Chili Cook-off.

11. Meeting Adjourned 7:47