

NORTH RICHMOND MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

515 Silver Street, North Richmond, CA 94801

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Meetings are being conducted at the Multicultural Center 515 Silver Street, North Richmond, CA, and meetings are accessible (via) Zoom. COVID protocols are still in effect.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. without a quorum. At 5:05 p.m. a quorum was present. Board members present were: Beverly Scott, Lily Rahnema, Don Gilmore, Princess Robinson, Annie King-Meridith. Absent: Dulce Galicia and Dr. Henry Clark.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

After reviewing the agenda and the minutes, Beverly motions to approve. Princess seconds and all are in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cordell Hindler/Richmond Resident: Cardell invites everyone to a special performance at Contra Costa Civic Theatre. The performance is entitled Anton In Showbusiness on Friday, March 4th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale for \$30.00, youth rate \$15.00. You are also required to be fully vaccinated.

You are also invited to attend the Richmond Rotary Club weekly meeting. The date is March the 11th, at 12:30 p.m. The location is the Richmond Country Club. The guest speaker will be Brandon Evans, who will be talking about the Richmond Police Activities League program. Cordell says that there is a new culinary program. He says that he has been to the country club and the food there is excellent.

Marena Brown/N. R. Resident: Marena was going to speak in support of the community's decision to relocate the Castro Homeless site. She realizes that Michele and Lt. Stonebreaker will be speaking on that issue. Would like to have the support of the NRMAC, in having that site relocated.

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PUBLIC COMMENT CONTINUED

Secondly, there is a COVID testing site located at 369 Chesley, and it is free. The site is open Monday thru Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Janie Holland/CHDC: Has a question, she was looking at the agenda and she does not see anything about the CCC Fire Prevention Department.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORTS

Lieutenant Loucas/RPD: Reporting for the month of February 2022. There has been no change in crime. There was a death over the weekend that is being investigated as a homicide. Two roommates got into a physical altercation, and as a result, one of them passed away. This occurred in the 400 block of Alamo Avenue.

Still getting calls about impromptu sideshows in the area. Cars are spinning donuts in the Central area. Getting major calls about the activity. Still trying to figure out how to address the issue.

Michelle Milian-Prevention Manager/RPD - Speaking on the Castro Homeless Encampment: Michelle is aware of the fact that N. R. residents do not want the camp in the neighborhood.

In order to relocate the camp, the city has to identify another location. The City has looked at about five possible relocation sites, located not in N. R. They are looking at Point Molate as a possible site. Around December, there were about (100) residents in the Castro Encampment. Some of the people were offered shelter, and have moved out of the camp.

There have been a couple of fires in the last few weeks, at the camp. The fire department is still trying to get down to the cause of the fires. There is a plan in place to come in and do some cleanup and abatement, at the camp. No open flame is allowed at the camp. About (15) cars were towed away from the camp. There are plans for more cars to be towed away from the camp.

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LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORTS CONTINUED

The good news is, in December the city applied for the State Encampment Resolution Grant, and was awarded 4.8 million dollars. It's a two-year grant. Half will help pay for apartments. And long-term housing. A portion of the grant will help Castro encampment residents with vehicle repair.

The goal is to close down the camp and restore the site back to the way it was. Safety issues are very important. More safety and security are needed at the site. This is a big issue in the neighborhood that needs to be resolved.

Questions: Linda Woodard asks if there is any security at the Castro site now.

Initially Castro had safety guardians there, funded by SOS. It did not work out. Some of the guardians were threatened. The City is coming up with a plan for security.

Don asks Michelle if she is asking the NRMAC to make a stand on security at the camp. She says if the NRMAC would like to write a letter, asking for more security at the site. Don asks Tania to draft a letter, requesting more security at the site.

Lieutenant Mark Rodriguez/CCC Sheriff's Department: Reporting for the month of February 2022. There were 272 calls for service. In January there were (13) select crimes, (12) in November, and (11) in December. Those crimes specifically being property crimes.

Earlier last month deputies did a probation search and were able to identify leads, which turned into suspects that are related to cases, and they are being charged for their crimes.

Still seeing the trend with the theft of catalytic converters. Working with county code enforcement, on the towing of vehicles. The county provided funding to tow vehicles.

PRESENTATIONS and Proclamations

Rod Chiuu, Community Outreach/West Contra Costa County Meals on Wheels:
Located in San Pablo, serves N. Richmond and all of W. Contra Costa County.
Contracted with the Senior Nutrition Program, as home meal providers.

The mission is to provide nutrition to seniors. The meals are designed by the registered dietitian of the CCC Health Service Senior Nutrition Program. The meals consist of

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PRESENTATIONS and Proclamations Continued

nutritious, frozen, or chilled meals. Each meal comes with fruit, fruit juice, or applesauce. Every other week a quart of milk is included. Once a month a loaf of whole wheat bread is included. The meals are delivered to clients at lunchtime on the day of, or according to the clients' schedule.

Client eligibility is age 60 or over. The client must be unable to purchase or prepare meals, or no one is available to assist the client. The client can be homebound and dependent on others for transportation. A spouse or a disabled dependent of a client may qualify. There is no age requirement for a disabled dependent.

Potential clients may apply to receive meals for themselves, a friend, or social worker and health care professionals. If eligible you may apply by phone, at (510)-412-0166.

Meals on Wheels invites people to volunteer, to make a difference. Offers you to take a caravan tour. Get a preview on contactless meal delivering, ask questions, and meet clients (you're socially distanced outside).

You will get to set your own schedule of a day or more weekly - that's 2 hours a week minimum. You will receive training and ongoing support.

As a volunteer, you will increase senior food security and healthier communities. You will be participating in meaningful activities and the satisfaction of helping others.

You may contact: Meals on Wheels/W, Contra Costa County, 2301 Rumrill Blvd, San Pablo, CA 94806. Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., (510) 412-0166.

Questions: What's your relationship with Meals on Wheels, Contra Costa:
Answer: Meals on Wheels W. CCC is a logistic arm for the Senior Nutrition Program.

Cynthia would like to thank Mr. Chiuu for being a devoted participant in the N. R. community. He has attended all of the festivals and events in N. R.

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PRESENTATIONS and Proclamations Continued

Joanna Griffith, Director of Real Estate Development/CHDC - Legacy Court:

The presentation starts out with Joanna stating that this project has been in the making for a long time. It is a joint adventure with Eden Housing and CHDC. They also have a partnership with Behavioral Health Services, which will be providing their support. The project is to be located at 1300-1324-1267, 1329 FJW., Richmond CA.

Joanna introduces the Legacy Court Development Team:

Joanna Griffith, Director of Real Estate Development, CHDC
Norma Thompson, Real Estate Development Consultant, CHDC
Rebecca Kilmartin, Assistant Project Manager, CHDC,
Nanyamka Kibbi Cuylberston, Development Assistant, CHDC
Mike Rogers, Real Estate Development Consultant, Eden Housing Inc.
Steve Kidama, Architect, Kodama Diseno Architects Inc.

The project consists of (42) units: Flats, (13) 1-BR, (4) 2-BR, Townhomes, (16) 2 BR, (9) 3-BR, and one manager's unit. Legacy Court will target very low to low-income family households at or below 60% AMI. Below \$45,700 for a very low-income person and below \$62,500 for a very low-income family of four persons.

Each of the three buildings will include community space. Office for both onsite management and the resident's services coordinator will be located in one of the buildings to accommodate residents in all three buildings.

Other project amenities will include beautifully landscaped open spaces, onsite parking and bicycle storage, and onsite laundry facilities. A computer lab with high-speed internet connections will also be provided in one of the buildings.

The project should be finished by July -2025. You may contact the staff and team members at CHDC.

They are still seeking funding for the project. Joanna is seeking support letters from the community and the NRMAC. Don says the NRMAC has a consensus and is all in favor of the project, Tania will draft a letter and he will execute that draft.

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PRESENTATIONS and Proclamations Continued

Don wants to add that some projects take a long time. Looks like they had a lot of obstacles in this project. They had to remove gas tanks, and had to perfect the underground water. It cost over two million dollars to clean up the Brownfield classified area.

Jeff Valeros, Associate Civil Engineer and Mo Nassar, Staff Engineer/Active Transportation Plan/CCC County Public Works Department and Caltrans: The County received a grant from the CA Department of Transportation, to prepare its First Active Transportation Plan. Caltrans is the administrator of the program. There have been five rounds of grant applications. The timeline for the plan is March 2021 - February 2022.

In this county bicycle and pedestrian routes are far from being completed. The infrastructure for these routes is only 10% completed. Prior Grant Application Submittals: Fred Jackson Way first Mile/Last mile Connection (currently in construction).

Market Avenue Widened Sidewalks (FJW to 7th Street.). Wider sidewalks and opportunities to plant street trees.

The County proposes to resubmit the Market Avenue Widened Sidewalks grant application. In December 2021, the County's ATP document, the consultant had posed the idea of widening just one side of the sidewalks to a 10' multi-use path for bike/pedestrians

This means narrower travel lanes, and in hopes of reducing speeding.

Next Steps: Upon feedback received, County staff will begin scoping the project and preparing preliminary layouts. Community input on the project scope is essential, so County staff would likely return to garner input. Project applications must be submitted by June 15, 2022, deadline.

They come to the meeting tonight asking for a letter of support from the NRMAC.

Questions and Answers: Linda Woodard, N. R. resident, asks do they have something to do with the First Mile/Last Mile Project? The construction of the project is blocking access to her driveway. Yes their division was the one that applied for the grant, five years ago. Transportation and engineering is in charge of the project. Should be completed toward the end of this month.

John Steere, Watershed Planner, has connections to the project. They are working with Urban Tilth on the Rain Garden, with respect to the greening. Trees will be planted

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PRESENTATIONS and Proclamations Continued

in March. Watershed is pursuing a NR Green Streets Corridor, which will connect Parr Blvd, with Bay Trail, Fred Jackson Way, to Rumrill.

You can google the project at the NR Watershed Connections Project.

Public works would probably come back to the NRMAC in May, before the June submission.

OTHER AGENCY REPORTS

Healthy Richmond: Tania says that Donte has left the meeting, but he did write in the chat room some updates. She reads the updates as follows: Have been participating in meetings with City of Richmond and RPD, on the homeless encampments. HR have been a part of the Bay Area Air Quality, Richmond District board meetings. They are planning a meeting with the Housing Authority CCC, and Supervisor Gioia. Healthy Richmond are collecting surveys, and they are targeting youths in the surveys.

Tania Pulido, District Coordinator/Supervisor John Gioia's Office: Tania has been meeting with Luz Gomez, from the County Health Department. They have been discussing the Safe Back to School Initiative. They will have a paint day at the Earth Day Festival, which will be on April 23, 2021. If you have any suggestions or ideas, there is a standing weekly meeting on Tuesdays' an 1:30 p.m., Verde School.

The public works staff mentioned that there are some elevated speed bumps on Chesley, that's designed to slow down traffic. Marena says that they asked for those speed bumps to be much higher. She is glad that the work did get done.

Jeff from Public Works says that the speed bumps are in ADA compliance, and could not be raised any higher.

Urban Tilth asks that Tania announce that every 4th Saturday at 10:00 a.m. The public is welcome to come out and enjoy the farms' activities.

An update on the VEOLIA Grant: We are in a good place to continue with the initiative. We have to expand the panel membership. Some seats are not being filled. The City is going through that legal process now, of expanding the membership.

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OTHER AGENCY REPORTS CONTINUED

In February we had the CCC Fire Prevention speak on the changes in the department. The San Pablo fire station is located on Market and 23rd. The County Fire Prevention department made the decision to provide N. R. with ALS. They did confirm that the train is blocking the entrance to N. R. they will contact the N. R. fire station. John Gioia was made aware of the N.R. residents' concerns of wanting ALS at their local fire station.

Marena wants to be clear as to what she is hearing. She says there were (46) calls alone, from the Castro homeless encampment. What fire station is being called to those calls. The policy is whatever station is closest. Don thinks that the City fire department is the priority call for that area.

Linda Woodard asked if Captain Woodard could respond to the question. Captain Woodard says that the issue is, a minute difference to response time. San Pablo will cover all of the calls up until Chesley Street. When it comes to life or death, they are putting Richmond on a one minute penalty. Now if a train blocks the entrance to N. R. Richmond is called, which puts on another three minutes delay.

Don asks Captain Woodard to give us something in writing, so we can understand more clearly. Marena asks Tania if she has anything in writing on the impacts of the policy change. Tania will request this from the fire department. Don wants data on ALS versus BLS. It appears that funding stops Richmond from being an ALS station.

Janie says that it seems like the decision has already been made, without the community being unaware of it. We should have been informed. She is meeting with Supervisor Gioia, on the problem. Don agrees that we should have actual knowledge on the fire department procedures. Janie says that this needs to be on the calendar every month until we get this resolved.

Don Gilmore, Director/CHDC: Don reports that they are still working on the resource center. They still have down payment assistance for new home buyers.

Janie, CHDC: The committee is coming up with a date, that they want to have the ceremony of the renaming of the Multicultural Senior Center. A possible date will be June the 8th or 9th, the second week in June, the week of Neighbor Works week. We plan on having a really nice occasion on that day.

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OTHER AGENCY REPORTS CONTINUED

Janine Shaheed, Activities Coordinator/Multicultural Senior Center: Reports for mitigation and senior center Senior center activities have increased. In January we had 254 illegal dumping reports, in February 297 reports were put into the database. A clean up is coming up on

April 30th. They are also working on Earth Day. Will give a layout of how this is going to happen. Will be sending out a flier about Earth Day. Working with service providers, like painting the street, on the route to Verde School. Will be giving out gift bags on Earth Day.

Victor Jimenz, Community Service Coordinator/CHDC Mitigation Fee funded:

Announces the N. R. Green Newsletter will be coming out next week.

Princess Robinson, Cooperation Richmond: Announces that they just had their monthly Co-op Café Meeting. It's virtual, it's free, they talk about corporate models for enterprising. Rich City Rides, is a partner of Cooperation Richmond. They are also partnered up with CHDC on the grocery store.

Don comments on Princess, on the wonderful Black History Event. Princess says that they went down to the farm, and talked about stopping the building of warehouses in N. R.

Meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

**Next meeting
April 5, 2022
515 Silver Street, N. Richmond, CA 94801
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**