

NORTH RICHMOND MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thursday, May 7, 2015

515 Silver Avenue – North Richmond, CA 94801

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes/Unofficial for Lack of Quorum

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m. Board members present were: Annie King-Meredith, LaSaunda Tate and Dr. Henry Clark.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

The agenda and minutes were reviewed by the board members. The agenda was approved, there was a correction to the minutes. The minutes stated that board member LaShanda Tate was present at the April 2, 2015 meeting. Correction was made that she was not present at that meeting. Minutes were approved, but not accepted for lack of quorum.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Frazer/Director Asthma Breath Mobile: Ms. Frazier announces that the mobile van continues to come out to the Verde School location on a regular basis. Recently the director of the Oakland office, Dr. Burns, made a presentation at Verde School, honoring the principle of that school, for his participation in the program.

Nurses from Children's Hospital in Oakland, have been donating much needed items to Bishop Santiago of the Reach Fellowship Program.

The Bishop acknowledged the donations, stating that they are very much appreciated.

Lynetta Cooper/North Richmond Resident: Lynetta asked the MAC board, exactly what is the purpose of having the North Richmond Parkway in the community. She has a complaint about the heavy traffic that comes into the North Richmond community and avoid using the Parkway.

Dr. Henry Clark stated that the major purpose of the Richmond Parkway is to divert the traffic out and away from the North Richmond community.

Lt. Watts/CCC Sheriff's Department, stated that he would talk to Officer Jeffers of the CHP about the complaint. He would also ask Officer Jeffers to start monitoring the traffic that comes into the community. Annie King-Meredith stated that if the community continue to keep the pressure on about the ill-legal traffic that comes into the community, it could be stopped. Robert Rogers/District Coordinator, Supervisor John Gioia's Office, have been meeting with Captain Williams/RPD, Lt. Watts, CCC Sheriff's Department, about the traffic problems.

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Terrance Cheung/Chief of Staff, Office of Mayor Tom Butt: Terrance handed out information about the expansion of the West County Detention Center. The City of Richmond would like to be more involved in the planning process. There will be a meeting on May 26th, pertaining to the expansion plans. Everyone is invited to attend.

The expansion plans consist of the CCC Sheriff's Department Booking Center to be moved to the West County facility. It calls for the First Stop Center to be housed at the West County facility.

The feasibility study project, for the annexation of North Richmond will be forming a planning committee. A small committee will review that application. The City Manager is working on the project.

Dr. Henry Clark asks why is the jail being expanded in this area. Terrance did not have an answer for that question. Terrance said that because North Richmond is in an un-incorporated area, it is losing out on the City of Richmond benefits.

April Kennedy/PG&E, Tree Removal Project: Last year PG&E removed some (42) trees in the area across from the North Richmond Baseball Field. The reason for the removal, the vegetation and height of the trees was causing continuous power outage to the area.

As for compensation to the community PG&E has set up an account for \$2,400 for MAC to purchase replacement trees, to go into the community, if wanted. Organizations have been appointed to assist in the planning of the planting of the trees.

Marquita Ealy/Richmond Resident: Ms. Ealy was invited to the MAC meeting by board member Annie King-Meredith. Ms. Ealy has a complaint about harassment by a neighbor that lives in her neighborhood. Ms. Ealy is a registered (290) ex-incarcerated individual. She was released back into society on July 5, 2004. Since her release she has settled in the community and has opened a private business at the Old Paqper Shack located on Ohio Avenue in Richmond.

She continues to be harassed by certain individuals, due to her past. She is on the verge of being evicted from her residence, she is being falsely accused of miss-conduct. She is looking for any type of help and assistance that she can obtain, to rid her of this problem.

Lt. Watts/CCC Sheriff's Department gave her his business card, and asked her to contact him. He would be more than willing to discuss the issue with her.

Luz Gomez/Community Engagement Manager, BAAQD: Luz stopped by the meeting to present her new business cards, pertaining to her new position with the Bay Area Air Quality District.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORTS

Lt. D.J. Watts/CCC Sheriff's Department: Lt. Watts reports that there was two assaults with deadly weapons. The victims did not cooperate with law enforcement agents. There was a fight on Giarameta Street that involved some (30) females. Select crimes are down from fifth teen to nine.

Please see attachments for a report on the criminal statistics for the previous month.

Captain Williams/Richmond Police Department: Captain Williams has been on the RPD force for some (28) years. He has had a meeting with the North Richmond Neighborhood Council, this is his first appearance at the N. R. MAC meeting. At the neighborhood council, their main concerns were about the big rigs that are coming into the community. He stated that as far as the trucks go, we need to know what the restrictions are. There may be complications because the community is zoned for residential and light industrial.

The City of Richmond Police Department/Traffic Division will put together a cheat sheet to go by as far as determining what vehicles are legal and what vehicles are not legal to travel into the community.

New traffic signs will be going up in the neighborhood. More than likely big trucks will be able to continue to travel on the major streets in North Richmond.

There have been noise complaints on the City side of North Richmond . Captain Williams says that when he first came to Richmond there were major complaints. The complaints has decreased over the past years.

Members of the MAC board and the audience, told Captain Williams that there have been studies and guidelines put into effect, pertaining to the traffic in North Richmond and information and data will be supplied to him.

PRESENTATIONS

David Solis and Joseph Villarreal/CCC Housing Authority: Representatives from the CCC Housing Authority report that there is (15 million dollars) in the immediate needs budget. They only have access to (1.5 million dollars) to take care of the projects repairs. The Housing Projects in North Richmond are only 80% occupied. In the entire county (90%) are occupied. The county has a centralized waiting list, it is said that candidates for housing do not want to move to North Richmond. The Las Deltas housing projects, out of (211 units) (109) are empty.

PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

The housing authority is now turning to HUD for help in saving the projects. They are looking into ways of converting public housing into private housing.

In the past the Project Hope was an option, it never happened for North Richmond. The project was a great success in Easter Hills, in South Richmond. Redevelopment had big plans for the North Richmond, that plan is out of the picture.

Now presently the only hope is to get money from the Federal Government. HUD also has a trust on the property.

Another option for saving the North Projects is a Federal Government program called RAD. Rental Assistance Demonstration. The object of this program would be for developers to convert the units. HUD approved space for 60,000 applicants, we are number 127,000 on the list. The good thing is that we were approved for the RAD program. Forty-eight million dollars over the next thirty years, could be made for the Las Deltas Projects under the RAD Program.

Congress as a whole is not funding public housing.

Dr. Henry Clark/Presentation to the Mc Kelvy Family: A presentation of appreciation was presented to the Mc Kelvy Family. This family is a founding family of the North Richmond community. Mr. Joe Mc Kelvy was in the recycling business, and he help many youths in the community to earn money, by buying scrap metal from them. Eural Mc Kelvy a son of Mr. Mc Kelvy was a famous recreation leader of the City of Richmond Recreation Department. The Recreation center on Harbor Way, at Nystrom Scholl, is dedicated to him. Eural was also a famous basketball star of the local entertainment, traveling team The Harlem Clowns.

Bishop Edwina-Perez-Santiago, Reach Fellowship: The Bishop would like to clear up some stuff on some of the work that they have been doing at the Las Deltas Projects.

They have dome a whole lot of yard work in the area. Some of the lots could not be cleaned, because mother hens and baby chickens have occupied the properties. All of the workers are from North Richmond. They cleaned up the lots across for Community Housing Development Corporation Office. The seniors of North Richmond are working with REACH Fellowship on the projects. They will be putting out a flyer, notifying the seniors that limited jobs are available. Trash bags are available to North Residents. The statistics on this clean-up project will be calculated and sent to Supervisor John Gioia's office. Mainly people that live in the projects will be hired to work in this program.

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PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

Sharla Sullivan/EBMUD to discuss drought and water supply: We are in the fourth year of the drought. It is a severe situation. There is a 20% conservation goal. People need to conserve and ration water. There will be a 25% surcharge on your water bill, due to the water use of the Sacramento River.

Water use restrictions have to be put into place. There will be only two consecutive days of watering of lawns and gardens, and three days on not-watering. There will be no watering between nine to six during the day. There will be no watering within forth eight hours of rain. Only use water hoses with shut off nozzles. Water use should be proportioned for business, ten gallons a day per person. For homes thirty eight gallons of water use per day per person.

OTHER AGENCYPROGRAM REPORTS

Robert Rogers/District Coordinator, Supervisor's John Gioia's Office: Mr. Rogers reports that Home smoke detectors are available for North Richmond residents.

Cherene Sandedge/Project Developer, CHDC: Ms. Sandedge is the project developer for the Heritage Point Project. For that site they are looking at a potential WIC Store, retail and office spaces. The project is proceeding as scheduled. More funding is due to come in soon.

Carla Orozco/Community Coordinator-Mitigation Fee-funded, NHNR: The community newsletter for April, 2015 has been released. There is a North Richmond Green Team/Mitigation funded project in process. The first class just ended, they worked with residents of the community, and children from the Project Pride Program. The first class was based on How to Develop Community Gardens. The second class will be focused on Neighborhood Clean-ups, starting Monday. They will be targeting the creek, and working with the Watershed Program.

There is a Green Component and ECO Green Project. The meeting will be held next Wednesday at Sheild's and Reid Park, at 3:45 p.m. and on May 21, same place, same time.

Tania Pulido/Urban Tilth-Farm Up-date: The RSP was sent out to the civil engineer to do the Design plans for the farm. There is a summer apprentice program for five to eight youths. The garden is working on their business plan. June is the month when funding from mitigation ends, making June a big volunteer month. On June 7th, there will be a garden project at the garden located at 1st and Market.

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

On May 23rd, Davis Chapel will be having a flower planting project. For info contact Annie. Meeting ended at 7:20 p.m. Nest meeting. Thursday June 4, 2015, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

