

NORTH RICHMOND MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thursday, November 12, 2015

515 Silver Avenue – North Richmond, CA 94801

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

The meeting was unofficially called to order for lack of a quorum at 5:06 p.m. Board members present were: Annie King-Meredith, Don Gilmore and Andrea Bailey. At 5:37 p.m. board member Beverly Scott arrived, and the meeting became an official meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

The agenda and minutes were reviewed by the board members. Upon making an adjustment to the November 12, 2015 minutes, page two, Law Enforcement Agency Reports, second paragraph: (Board member Annie had received a call from senior citizen concerning traffickers ignoring stops signs only, not the stop lights). After correction was made, Beverly Scott motioned that the agenda and minutes be approved. The agenda and minutes were agreed upon and approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

In the Absence of Mary Frazier/Northern California Breathmobile, intern, Cynthia Jordan announces Free Flu Shots, Saturday - November 14, 2015, Maple Hall at San Pablo City Hall, 13831 San Pablo Ave, San Pablo, CA 94806. From 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. This event is being sponsored by the Medical Reserve Corps and the Northern California Breathmobile. For more information call 510-763-1880.

Rev. W. F. Lewis of the North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church 1427 Fred Jackson Way, Richmond, CA. The church will be holding a shredding of documents event. For more information you may call: 510-912-8076.

Princess Robinson of the Urban Tilth Garden Project announces that it is volunteer day every 1st Sunday of the month. The event is held at the garden located at the dead end of Second and Market Streets in North Richmond.

Pam Saucer/Bilbo of Men and Women of Valor announces a career fair was held November 11, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. 1350 Kelsey Street, Richmond CA. She also announces that there will be a toy giveaway at the same address on December 21, 2015. The toy giveaway event will start at 10:00 a.m.

Dr. Sally Williams of the Davis Chapel C.M.E. announces a Senior Information and Senior Day Event. This event will be held at St. Peters. For more information, she may be contacted at: sallydwilliams@gmail.com

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORTS

Lt. Sean Yates/CCC Sheriff's Department: Reporting for the month of October 2015.

There was one homicide, four hundred and ninety five calls into the sheriff's department. Nineteen arrest were made. Forty three reports were filled. There was one assault with a deadly weapon. Thirty rounds of ammunition was fired at the location of the Sunset Market in North Richmond.

The Sheriff's department will holding their annual Christmas event: Shop With A Cop. They will be hosting thirty students from the North Richmond and Rodeo area. On that day a Xmas party will be given, Xmas trees will be given away, arts and crafts projects are included in this celebration.

More detailed statistics for the month of October 2015, may be obtained by contacting the CCC Sheriff's Department. The information is entitled: Monthly Calls for Service-Public Report/North Richmond October 1-31, 2015/Investigation Division Crime Analysis Unit, CCC Sheriff's Department. Lt Yates may be contacted at (510) 262-4206 OR syate@sccccounty.us

Board member Annie King asked Lt. Yates about an incident that she reported last month. This involved a senior citizen having concerns about the traffic coming off the Richmond Parkway, refusing to obey traffic stop signs. Annie says she took the liberty to sit for one hour and document the traffic at this particular intersection. In that short length of time, she recorded (248) cars running thru the stop sign without obeying the stop sign.

Lt. Yates replied that he has to figure out something, and get the problem resolved. At the moment the department is short of staff. Yet is still the problem is destined to get resolved.

NRMAC Chairperson Don Gilmore would like to have a call put in to the RPD and the CHP, to have a representative present at the meetings, and present monthly reports.

PRESENTATIONS

Elizabeth Mercado/California Charter School Association: Elizabeth works here in West County, with Charter Schools 101/CCSA Families. CCSA Families is an organization of parents and community members who advocate for all California children to have access to great public schools of their choosing. They do this by educating and engaging parents. They also empower parents to take action and influence decision-makers. CCSA is part of California Charter Schools Association, a nonprofit organization that helps empower charter school leaders, teachers, and parents to make their voices heard.

Elizabeth's focus is here in Richmond because of its charter schools. North Richmond does not have a charter school. Elizabeth announces that her job is to work with families and parents and community, in an effort to get them engaged in the charter school program. Currently they are working with the Richmond Promise Program. The City of Richmond would like to include charter students in the Promise Program. Currently in North Richmond they are doing an assessment of students that may qualify for the charter school program.

Don Gilmore asked Elizabeth to leave her contact information with the NRMAC board, and they will be in touch with her in the future.

Alexandra McCroskey / Marin Clean Energy/City of Richmond, nearby solar farm:

Mr. McCroskey announces about a project entitled the Solar One Project/At Chevron. It is proposed to be the largest solar field in the Bay Area. The location is at a former (brown field) which consist of (60 acres).

MCE is a public power agency here in Richmond. Solar Field/MCE and City of Richmond are partners on this project, and they are eager to see this (10 ½) acre solar project evolve. The Stein Company will be building the tracking panels.

Richmond was the first city in the bay area , other than Marin to join the program. Other cities are following their lead. This program is designed to give the people new renewable energy options. This project will take approximately a year to build. Three thousand plus homes could obtain power from this energy source.

There will be local hiring of jobs within the project. The employees must be residents of North Richmond, City of Richmond or San Pablo. While constructing the project, there will be an estimated (80) construction jobs. The project is scheduled to start January, 2016.

PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

Alexander McCroskey/Marin Clean Energy/City of Richmond, nearby solar farm:

MCE is a partner and a competitor with the local energy company Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Their rates are slightly lower than PG&E. The rates are one to three percent lower for residential customers and ten percent lower for commercial customers.

During the first (60) days of service, if a customer chooses to opt out- there will be no service charge for opting out. After (60) days if a customer choose to opt out a flat rate of five dollars will be charged to the customer, for discontinuance of service.

NRMAC Chairperson, Don Gilmore asked about local hiring, (First Source Hiring). He asked will North Richmond residents obtain jobs through this program, during and after construction of the project.

Justine Blanchet of GRID, on Solar Tech in North Richmond: Justine Blanchet announces that Richmond homeowners can now qualify for a free solar system funded by the City of Richmond and State of California. The program require that you own and live in your Richmond/North Richmond home. Your income must meet the required limits.

The program installs solar for low income home owners. The program has a triple of helping for the family with energy cost. They have installed over (6,000) systems nationwide. Three homes in the North Richmond area have benefited from the program.

Board member Andrea Bailey of Chevron USA highly endorses the project.

Luz Gomez of BAAQD asked a question, who owns the solar panels? The answer was that the systems are generally owned by the home owners or leased.

NR MAC board chairperson, Don Gilmore asked if a family owned home has a damaged roof, and cannot afford to repair it, what are the consequences. The answer was unfortunately in that case, the home owner would not be able to have the solar panels installed.

Don went on to say that perhaps CHDC would/could be able to help with the repairing of roofs, for low income home owners. If GRID is open to this idea, CHDC would be happy to help out.

For more information, contact GRID Alternatives at baoutreach@gridaltgernatives.org. or you may call (510) 731-1333.

PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

Luz Gomez/Bay Area Air Quality District on proposed refinery emissions rules: Luz announces that new air quality rules are being drafted. A board meeting, open to the public will be held on November 11, 2015, at 9:45 a.m. – 939 Ellis Street, San Francisco, CA. Community members will be allowed to make presentations.

Six different rules are being drafted that impacts the operation and emission output of the local refineries. Air monitoring at the fence will be required at each local refinery. An inventory will be required of each refinery, in order to monitor how many cases of cancer are in excess of the normal rate. Refineries will be required to tell the public exactly what they are doing to conserve energy. Twenty percent of refinery emission should be reduced by 2020. Significant energy reduction should be achieved. The reduction of greenhouse gases should be achieved. This will not interfere with Cap and Trade. The refineries will have to notify the public about any changes in the way that they process crude oil. Phase One and Phase Two will be taking place at the Richmond Chevron Refinery.

Don Gilmore received a call from Dr. Henry Clark, and he states that Henry is pleased with the new proposals pertaining to the refineries.

E. J. Shalaby of WCWWD on local sewer line work: Mr. Shalaby announces that work is being done on the sewer line in North Richmond on Market Street. This is a big project, old sewer lines are being replaced with new ones. The contractor will make sure to mitigate the impacts of homeowner's access to their property as much as possible. The contractor will also have signs located near the construction site notifying residents of the work. The time frame for this project, all work should be completed by February 2016. There are other scheduled projects, to be conducted in the future, which are five year plans.

Board member Annie King asked if they were going to do pressure testing, and will customer service be disrupted? Her answer was that the individual sewer lines will not be affected.

Annie ask about the diameter of the new piping. It was stated that the original pipes were installed in the 1940s. The sewer line on 1st Street was worked on five years ago.

Lynetta Cooper asked if the project has to do anything with waste. That answer was no.

A question was asked about local hiring. Mr. Shalaby stated that he would get back to the NRMAC board with the answer. He says that it is required in the contract. Don Gilmore states that he would like to see First Source Hiring come into existence and be utilized on this project.

PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

John Steere of CCC Watershed Program: Mr. Steere reports that in an effort to reduce litter levels, they will be shifting existing budgets to fund community based on land cleanup teams. They are in the process of issuing request for proposals to establish a community based on land cleanup program. Copies of the proposals for these funding request will be located at public places throughout the c communities.

This is in conjunction with the North Richmond Cleaning and Greening Program Prospectus. The North Richmond Cleaning and Greening Program is a two part community-based initiative to: 1) clean North Richmond's sidewalks, creeks, and other public spaces; 2) to green the streets of this disadvantaged community. It is a project of the CCC Watershed Program, in collaboration with the Office of CCC Supervisor, John Gioia.

Currently \$300,000 in funding is currently available for implementing the Cleaning and Greening program's cleaning component over a three year period, and the CWP and Supervisor Gioia's Office are seeking funds to enable implementation of a complementary "Greening" component to help make the cleaning effort sustainable long term. Pairing a community-based cleaning program with the greening program in North Richmond would have numerous advantages.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION and Proclamations

Mary Halle Civil Engineer/Contra Costa County , DISCUSS and make RECOMMENDATION regarding County Area of Benefit priorities; Ms. Halle and Jon Surmnick presents to the NRMAC an update on the North Richmond Area of Benefit Program. They stated that AOB funds are used to fund projects that improve the mobility and safety of the existing transportation network. AOB funds are used to fund projects that are listed on an AOB project list, which is updated periodically. The North Richmond area has not been updated since 1989.

Currently on the AOB Project list for this community, as defined in 1994. 1) Widen road from Richmond Parkway to AT&SF railroad tracks, by providing a middle turning lane and 8' shoulders. 2) On Brookside Drive proposed to widen roadway to 32' interim pavement width; acquire ultimate R/W of 68' at some locations; ultimate road and R/W widths (48/68 ft). 3) On Pittsburg Avenue widen existing road to 32', interim pavement width & extend easterly to Fred Jackson Way along property lines; ultimate road and R/W widths = (48/68)ft.) 4) On Fred Jackson Way widen existing road to 48' & realign road to either (a) meet Parr Boulevard or Goodrick (bridge over San Pablo Creek); or (b) intersect Goodrick north of Parr; Ultimate R/W-68'.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION CONTINUED

Mary Halle County Civil Engineer/DISCUSS and make RECOMMENDATION regarding County Area of Benefit priorities; The projects to be carried over from the above list are: On Parr Boulevard from Richmond Parkway to AT&SF railroad tracks, Brookside Drive from Central Avenue to AT&SF railroad tracks, and Pittsburg Avenue on Richmond Parkway to Fred Jackson Way, proposed to widen these roads to standard roadway widths for vehicles, bikes and pedestrians.

The potential projects for Updated List are the Richmond Parkway at Pittsburg Avenue northerly to the Richmond city limits, to add one additional NB lane. Market Avenue between Fred Jackson Way and AOB boundary to construct bicycle lane, and sidewalk improvements. Fred Jackson Way, between Grove Avenue and Brookside Drive, widen sidewalks and add bike lanes.

MAC Board Members/DISCUSS NRMAC budget passed on October 1, 2015: Board member Annie asks for an amendment to the budget, directing as to how Ms. Sain should get compensated for her time spent at the building during the time of the NRMAC meetings. Annie states that it should be specified as to how the money should be allotted to Ms. Sain.

Don Gilmore is open for recommendations: Annie motion to give Ms. Sain a stipend of \$75.00 per session, and \$25.00 per session should go NHNR for the use of the facility.

The motion was voted upon, seconded and all was in favor of the amendment.

Ms. Corrine made a speech, saying that whenever they wanted to use the building, that they were welcome at any given time. She also stated that she was not looking or expecting to get compensated for her time spent at the building during NRMAC meetings.

OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAM REPORTS

Robert Rogers/Supervisor John Gioia's Office: Robert announces the Annual Verde School Hoodie & Book Drive. For the past 17 years they have sponsored the Verde Elementary Toy & Coat Drive. Instead of toys, books will be provided to every students this year, courtesy of West County READS. They need to raise \$7,000 to cover 320 hoodies. Your tax deductible cash or check donation will help them to reach their goal. All donations must be received by Friday December 12, 2015. Checks should be made payable to Neighborhood House of North Richmond c/o Verde Hoodie Drive. Donations and checks can be dropped off or mailed to the office, 11780 San Pablo Avenue, Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530. If you have any questions please contact Robert Rogers at (510) 231-8688 or robert.rogers@bos.cccounty.us.

The party will be held a Supervisor's John Gioia's office November 9, 2015.
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OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAM REPORTS CONTINUED

Carla Orozco/Community Service Coordinator-Mitigation Fee-funded, NHNR: Carla reports about the North Richmond Green Outreach. She states that there are two banners falling off the street light poles in North Richmond. She is looking into whether it is possible to remove and replace them.

A flyer has been created for the north Richmond Green Youth Twilight Basketball League Program to recruit boys and girls ages 7-14, whom are residents to participate in the program. Players are expected to participate in eco workshops and beautification projects in North Richmond on a volunteer basis in exchange for sponsorship and free registration.

The annual Willie Spears Clean-up Event on November 31, 2015 was a success. Fourteen volunteers, and twelve resident workers participated. Twenty four dumpsters were loaded. Fifty two tons of debris, and 3.5 tons of metal was recovered. The City of Richmond's CE/A Collected truckloads of hazardous materials, including tires. There were two hundred and sixty nine vehicle participants- not including those who walked their items to the dumpsters.

The North Richmond Green Team Project Community Program had an orientation session Organized at the Young Adult Empowerment Center on November 4, 2015. Six resident workers participated, and have been hired on a stipend basis to fill either the position of Eco Ambassador, Eco Cadet, or Eco Captain.

A training session will be led by Urban Tilth for the first cohort to acquire skill sets associated with community garden development urban agriculture, which has been scheduled for November 12, 2015, at the Senior Heritage building. An eco workshop about Air Quality/Health & Illegal Dumping Prevention is scheduled for November 19, 2015 at the Sheild's and Reid Co9mmunity Center from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Princess Robinson/Urban Tilth Farms: Ms. Robinson announces that they are looking for an outreach manager. Tania Pulido is no longer with them, she moved on to another career opportunity. The farm is moving forward. There is an architect on board. There is a soil management meeting planned. They must bring back life to the soil. The community out-reach that was hosted at the North Richmond Baptist Church was a big success. Urban Tilth have been meeting with a number of county agencies, discussing the design and plan of the garden project. Urban Tilth staff will be out on site at the garden, every Wednesday, located at the corner of Fred Jackson Way and Brookside Drive.

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OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAM REPORTS CONTINUED

Annie King-Meredith/NR MAC Subcommittee-report on Historical Assets in North Richmond:
Dr. Henry Clark and Annie King are members of this committee. Dr. Clark is absent, and Annie will present the report. She states that they are working on the sub-committee. Nine potential participants have been contacted. She is waiting to hear back from them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson Don Gilmore announces the NR MAC will convene to meet at the regular scheduled date and time next month, (December 2015).

**Next Meeting
Thursday, December 3, 2015
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
515 Silver Avenue – Richmond, CA**

