

NORTH RICHMOND MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Wednesday, March 11, 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 called to order at 5:12 p.m. Board members present were: Beverly Scott, Don Gilmore, Dr. Henry Clark, LaSaunda Tate and Annie King-Meredith. (addition) Aaron Morgan came late.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

The agenda and minutes were reviewed by the board members. All was approved, decided upon and accepted.

PUBLIC COMMENT (3 MINUTES/PERSON)

Mary Frazier/Project Director, Asthma Breath Mobile: The asthma van comes out into the community several times a month. Asthma education and treatment of the condition are provided to children in the community. The van provides services located at Verde School , and the Las Deltas Housing Authority area.

Cynthia Jordan works with the project as an intern, and community relations person. Recently Mary and Cynthia went to Project Pride, on a community out-reach assignment. They were able to hold conversation with Marcel/Project Pride and Mrs. Ruth/Las Deltas Pre-School.

The issues of Afro-American children in this community and their related asthma issues were discussed. The lack of participation in the program by Afro-American children of this community was also discussed.

A reminder that the program offers each child a (\$5.00) gift card from Target, upon each visit to the asthma breathe mobile van.

Bishop Edwina Santiago/REACH Fellowship Outreach: Members of the REACH Fellowship Outreach, would like to bring the community up to date on what has been going on within the organization.

Recently they started a program for women/re-entry. People in the community have been asking if they can come by and see how the program is coming along. The answer to that question is not at this time. They want to give the residential women and children, living at the

house a period of time to adjust to their new lives. Great events and happenings are planned for the future.

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LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORTS (5 MINUTES/PERSON)

Lt. D.J. Watts/CCC Sheriff's Department: Lt. Watts is reporting for January and February of this year. Select crimes are down by 15%. The highlight of this reporting period, Deputy Guther of the CCC Sheriff's Department, made a car stop on January 15, 2015, the individual was arrested for intention of marijuana sales and gun procession.

There were 2,897 calls into the Bay Station, in February. Three hundred and seventy two of those calls were from North Richmond. For February seven arrest were made in North Richmond.

There was a drive by shooting at 5th and Market on January 15, 2015. No one was injured in the drive by. No suspects were arrested, several shell casings were recovered at the scene.

Strong arm robberies are taking place in the community. The robberies were taking place in the mornings, now the robberies are taking place in the evening time. Hispanics people that live in the community appear to be the victims of these robberies.

It was suggested that some type of flyer/e-mail get out into the community, to inform the people about these crimes, and to be careful and aware. There are out-reach programs and assistance available to the victims.

Officer Jeffers/California Highway Patrol: Officers Jeffers reports for the month of February. There were three traffic collisions in the community. Two of the three were hit and run incidents. One involved a head on collision with a car and a man on a moped. Unfortunately the moped driver fled the scene. The officers have a good idea as to whom the suspect is. The other person involved in the accident did not want to press charges.

A large number of stops are being made for talking on the cell phone while driving. Illegal parked cars in the area were cited and tagged. There were five stolen car recoveries.

Mrs. Marina Brown has a problem with trucks entering into North Richmond that are not allowed to come into or drive through the community. She states that the traffic signs are not posted properly, or are out dated and worn. In any event she feels that the signs should be replaced, and the weight limit on vehicles, passing through the community should be enforced. The main problem spots are at Gertrude and York/Fred Jackson Way, Kelsey Street and Willard Avenue.

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ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

DISCUSS and MAKE RECOMMENDATION regarding Ghilotti Bros. Permit: A Mr. Permill represents the Ghilotti Bros. this evening. This evening they are presenting a letter to the MAC board, explaining their operations of a concrete recycling company that is located in the community. In this letter they are seeking approval from the MAC board, in order to obtain a permit to continue operations of their business in this community.

Don Gilmore reviewed the letter and would like to see the company, more community focused, and offer more efforts toward the community.

A motions was set forth to approve the permit. This item was seconded, accepted and agreed upon.

NOMINATGE and VOTE new North Richmond MAC officers (chair and vice chair): The board members discussed the issue. After discussion it was voted upon that Don Gilmore would remain chairman, and LaShanda would be vice chairperson. The motion was agreed upon, seconded and accepted in agreement.

DISCUSS and DECIDE time and date of meetings for 2015: It was proposed to change the meetings from second Wednesday of the month to second Tuesdays of the month. After discussion it was agreed upon to hold meetings first Thursday of the month. This action was motioned, seconded and accepted in agreement.

Mrs. Sain/ Director of the Senior Citizen's Center: Ms. Sain states that no one has discussed the meeting date and time with her. The meeting is held at her building, and she has to make sure that the building is open and available for the MAC meeting.

Lloyd Madden/Director NHNR: Mr. Madden states that Ms. Sain's time is not being compensated for. Don Gilmore suggested that when the MAC have their mini retreat, there will be a discussion about providing Ms. Sain with a stipend for her compensation.

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DISCUSS and MAKE RECOMMENDATION regarding Panattoni Development-Tim Schaedler:

The Panattoni Development is formally known as the NOVE Property. The bank is in the process of trying to propose land use re-zoning. Presently the property is zoned for housing. It is being suggested that the property be zoned for light industrial. This light industrial would be warehouse use.

Dr. Clark wants to know what would North Richmond benefit from any project that would be developed on the property.

The County needs to make a decision on the land use permit of the property very soon. The County and developers would like to take into consideration the MAC's opinion, yet they are willing to make a decision without their opinion.

It was suggested that more information from the planner is needed. Luz states that this issue needs to be wrapped up as soon as possible.

Beverly Scott makes a motion that the MAC do not decide upon changing the land use permit at this time. She states that it may also change traffic flow in the area. This action was motioned, second, and accepted and approved.

PRESENTATIONS

Mary Halle of CCC Public Works UPDATE public on progress of Giaramita Street sidewalk developments: The project is entitled/ Giaramita Street Sidewalk Replacement Project. The total proposed amount for this project is (two hundred and eighty thousand dollars). An one hundred thousand dollars grant has been awarded for the sidewalk replacement. The remaining funds will come from local sources. The estimated area of the project is eight hundred fee. The project area starts at Market and Giarameta Streets, and concludes at the Verde Elementary School entrance.

Currently the sidewalk is in ruins and are narrow (three to three and a half feet). The project will remove the old existing sidewalks and gutters, upon completion it will meet the (five feet) standards.

Presently the project is out to bid. Only one side of Giaramita Street will be worked on. The other side of the street is fairly new, and meet regulated standards. This project is proposed to take a month and a half for completion. There is a proposed sidewalk project for Fred Jackson

Way. Luz suggested that the West County School district be notified about the Giaramita Street project.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Future of Las Deltas Committee (Annie King, Don Gilmore): The Las Deltas Housing Project/Development is up in the air/ in limbo. There is not nearly enough money to rebuild the units at this time. There is a challenge to maintain the housing that already exist in the projects.

OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAM REPORTS

Don Gilmore/Community Housing Development Corporation: Funding has been applied for, pertaining to the Filbert Street Townhouses and the Heritage Point Projects. He actually should know tomorrow, if the funding come through.

CHDC is still providing free income tax preparations, in the community.

North Richmond Annexation/Dr. Henry Clark: Dr. Clark would like to talk briefly about the annexation of North Richmond. Mr. Rogers reports that nothing has changed since the last meeting. Five weeks ago there was a meeting with the City of Richmond, CCC County officials and planning experts. The topic of the meeting was (what does annexation of North Richmond mean to the community). The data from this meeting and findings is not available as of now. There was also a meeting with San Pablo officials, they were not interested in annexing North Richmond, because they will not be able to do so. The City of Richmond has priority. North Richmond residents holds all the cards. The City of Richmond Mayor is in favor of annexing North Richmond.

Dr. Clark highly disapproves of this issue of annexation. He is not down for it, he suggest that we let North Richmond go on as it has in the past.

Dr. Clark says that the MAC has been the governing board for North Richmond. He says that he is not going for annexation, and that is plain and clear.

He also says that North Richmond use to have it's own voting power. Why not let things go back to the way they were? He stated that there should not be any meetings held, without the MAC board members or any representatives from North Richmond being present.

Don Gilmore says that we need to see what the issues are, pertaining to this proposed annexation. Henry want to know how do the community get involved in this proposed annexation process. Annie King states that this issue of annexation is (un-heard of).

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Community Service Coordinator/Carla Orozco-Mitigation Fee-funded, NHNR: Carla continues to fight illegal dumping and blight in the area. There is positive progress, residents of the community have been reporting illegal dumping. They have been informing Carla about graffiti and abandoned vehicles as well.

There is a high increase of abandoned vehicles in the area, on private and public property. There is an abandoned vehicle program, entitled (ABAC). It is becoming an issue to get rid of these vehicles. This is also a mitigation matter.

The development of the North Richmond Green Letter is in the process of being composed.

The North Richmond Green Project was recently newly funded. Through this project, six residents of North Richmond were hired. There were three seniors and three adults employed, to fill positions for ECO Ambassadors and ECO Captains. They will receive training from the staff of the Urban Tilth Farm. They will learn how to facilitate workshops, hands on gardening and they may have a chance to enhance their education.

North Richmond Earth Day is in the process of being organized. The day of the event is April 25, 2015. The planning committee meets at 6:30 p.m., next Thursday, at the Richmond Civic Center, in Richmond, CA.

Organizing of and for the Youth Ball Teams will be beginning in the near future.

Luz asked Carla if the North Richmond Green letter will continue to have a page for community events. Carla answered no, not presently. Luz suggested that the MAC may have funding to sponsor this community page in the community letter.

Urban Tilth-Farm Update(Tania Pulido): The farm has hired a new project manager. Presently they are looking for federal funding to build a commercial kitchen. They are also drafting a business plan for the farm stand. The first community workshops, topic the designing of the farm, will be held in June and July. There will be a series of three planned workshops.

Urban Tilth has been meeting monthly, planning for their door to door canvassing project.

Tania states that during the farm development, the history of North Richmond will be preserved.

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CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS/RECOGNITION OF Luz Gomez's years of service:

An award of community service was presented to Luz, by the MAC board. As we all know she will be leaving the MAC and going to work for the Bay Area Air Quality District. Several speeches were made, thanking Luz for her devoted service to the North Richmond Community.

Luz has been such a great positive force and asset to the North Richmond Community. In her years of service, she has provided such an overwhelmingly amount of concern toward the people and their issues. Luz has always been ready to assist the community in all issues that were put forth toward her. In a way we will miss her dearly, we will still will be in contact with her. Through her new job at the BAAQD, she will be reporting back to the MAC meetings.

The MAC board and the North Richmond community, wishes Luz all the good luck Luz on her new and up-coming adventure.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Next Meeting:

April 2, 2014
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
515 Silver Street
Richmond, CA 94801

