

NORTH RICHMOND MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thursday, March 3, 2016

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 5:10 as an unofficial meeting, for lack of a quorum. At 5:20 p.m. a quorum became present. Board members present were: Don Gilmore, LaSaunda Tate, Beverly Scott and Annie King-Meredith. Don states that board member Henry Clark is not ready to come back to the meetings as of yet. He has been out ill.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

The agenda and the minutes were reviewed by the board members. Board member LaShanda motioned to have them approved, board member Beverly seconded and all was in favor.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

The law enforcement report was moved on the agenda, ahead of public comment, while waiting for a quorum to be present at the meeting.

Officer P. Chou/Richmond Police Department: Officer Chou reports for the month of February. There was a decrease in crime during the month of February. Property crime and stolen vehicles are on the up. Officer Chou ask everyone to please lock your vehicles. Crime View is available on the City of Richmond web-site.

Lt. Yates/CCC Sheriff's Department: Lt. Yates reports for the month of February, 2016. Crime has decreased for the month of February. Select crimes went down from eleven to five. Primarily property crime has decreased. There were a couple of shootings in the area. There were (411) calls for service. The CCC Sheriff's Department has been working closely with the Safe Streets Project. Lt. Yates says that the department is there for us if we need anything.

Carlye Slover/Crime Prevention Specialist: Carlye Slover announces that she is working with a neighborhood watch group entitled: Neighborhood Watch with YOUR Sheriff's Office. Neighborhood Watch is a community action and problem solving program. This program focuses on community issues, forming community action groups, getting to resolutions, which entails being aware of suspicious activity and knowing what to do about it. It also develops a friendly, neighborhood communication network. The Neighborhood Watch Program states that neighbors working together in cooperation with law enforcement make one of the best crime fighting teams around.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORTS CONTINUED

Carlye Slover/Crime Prevention Specialist: Ms. Slover stated facts about the program. She said that they prepare meeting agendas and discuss the following: Purpose of neighborhood watch, what it is and what it is not. The program defines law enforcement's role in the program. Specific crime problems in your neighborhood are discussed.

Board chairman Don Gilmore states that there have already been a couple of initiatives started for Neighborhood Watch in the community.

Board member Annie King-Meredith states that North Richmond's local Neighborhood Watch is working closely with Crime Prevention Specialist/Michelle Millan of the RPD. They have been working with Michelle for the last six years. Board Chairman Don Gilmore states that it would be a good idea if Ms. Carlye makes contact with Michelle Millan.

For more information about the program you may contact Carlye Slover/Crime Prevention specialist at (925) 313-2713 or cslov@so.cccounty.us

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bishop Edwina Santiago/REACH Fellowship: The Bishop announces that she will be leaving the Richmond area. She will be leaving in order to pursue her career in other counties. Her assistant Belinda will be in charge of the Richmond CA project. A board member named Maria will be working with Belinda. Bishop's new work will be focused in the Silicon Valley. There will be a REACH Fellowship office located in Berkeley, CA. She will be traveling to Boston and Philadelphia. The NMRMAC board members wish Bishop, prosperity and good luck in all of her new endeavors. The board members are grateful for the influence and positive output that REACH has had in the North Richmond community, and they look forward toward their continuous service in the community.

Cynthia Jordan/Intern, Norther California Asthma Breathmobile Van: Unfortunately Project Director/Mary Frazier is not able to attend tonight's meeting. Intern Cynthia Jordan will be filling in for her tonight. Cynthia reports that the asthma van continues to service the Verde School location in the community. Attendance is up, and service is being provided on a continuous basis. Members and staff of the program is thankful to the North Richmond community for accepting their on-going programs that allows them to provides services to the community. For information on asthma related issues call: (510) 763-1880.

PUBLIC COMMENT CONTINUED

E.J. Shalaby/General Manager of West County Waste Water District on local sewer line work:

Mr. Shalaby announces that work has been completed on the local sewer line located on Market Street in North Richmond. He states that during construction, some residents were unable to access the local bus public transportation. During that time, transportation was provided to the residents to local transportation connections. Presently the streets are being restored and stripping is being done on the streets pavement. Mr. Shalaby request that he be put on future agenda, to bring present updates on the project.

PRESENTATIONS and Proclamations

Jeff Winter and Leonard McNeil/Director West County Waste Water District: Mr. Winter and Mr. McNeil announces the November election for board of directors WCWWD. The district has been serving San Pablo, Tara Hills, El Sobrante, unincorporated Richmond and a portion of Pinole since 1921. In November 2016, the WCWWD will have elections to fill three seats on its board of directors. Two of the seats are four-year terms and one-seat is for a two-year term to complete the term in an appointed position.

The electives will oversee district's mission and vision. They will oversee district's budget/fiscal responsibilities. Benefits include a salary, medical, dental, vision and live insurance.

For more information you may contact the district at www.wc wd.org

Monish Sen of CCC Public Works regarding traffic safety in North Richmond: Mr. Sen explains criteria for speed control, and solicits feedback on problem intersections. He states that traffic is related to safety and getting around. He deals with speed problems every day. When he gets a request for stop signs, it must go thru a warrant process. Stop signs are erected for different factors. He says stop signs are not for traffic control, but for safety. Speed bumps are to slow traffic down. They look for clusters of events to determine when to put in speed bumps or stop signs. It has to be determined by an elevated speed problem, whether to install speed bumps or a stop sign.

Mr. Sen and members of his department have investigated the request for stop sign at York and Alamo Streets. Magnetic counters were installed in the ground and speeds were recorded at 15 to 20 mph. Research was done on previous incidents at that intersection. It was determined that it was not necessary to install and additional stop sign at that intersection.

PRESENTATIONIS and Proclamations Continued

Monish Sen of Public Works regarding traffic safety in North Richmond:

Questions were asked about other intersections and streets in the neighborhood: Board member Annie King-Meredith spoke about the day that she counted (248) cars coming off the Richmond Parkway within an hour, making Hollywood stops. Board member LaShanda inquired about the need of an additional stop sign at the intersection of 5th and Chesley Avenue. Board chairman Don Gilmore asked what determines when a traffic light is necessary at an intersection. Mr. Sen answered when a traffic signal is necessary to control traffic. Residents ask for him to look into: First and York, First and Market, and Fred Jackson Way. Mr. Sen stated that it is possible to bring a radar speed detector/traffic counter to the community.

David Gray of Richmond Mayor Tom Butt's Office on potential North Richmond annexation:

Mr. Gray from the mayor's office reports on release of RFP, and to solicit feedback. Mr. Gray presented a packet entitled: City Of Richmond/Request for Proposals/Service Plan and Fiscal Analysis for the Proposed annexation of Unincorporated North Richmond to the City of Richmond. Mr. Gray states that right now it's an exploratory process a study is being conducted.

Mr. Gray reports that the City of Richmond is paying for part of the study, and there is a request in, that Supervisor John Gioia request of the board of supervisors to pay for part of the study.

Robert Rogers/Supervisor John Gioia's Office provided supporting remarks noting that both governments continue to pledge to make process transparent and inclusive, and that the study funded by both governments will provide invaluable information with which the community can decide ultimate conclusion.

Board member LaShanda Tate asked about the timeline when the study will be completed. Mr. Gray answered is that it is in phases, part one should be completed by March 21, 2016, but actually he is not sure, and hopefully by the end of March he will have a sense of how long it will take.

Board member Beverly Scott asked, when it comes down to decision of annexation, who has the final say so. Robert Rogers says that no annexation can occur without the residents being involved.

Chairman Don Gilmore asked, when do they need the NRMAC'S comments. Answer was that comments were needed by Tuesday.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

Eli Goldman/DISCUSS and make RECOMMENDATION regarding development project

2206 Central Street: Eli Goldman operator of Sunborn Nursery/Goldman Enterprises, wholesale nursery distribution. Presented that he is moving from San Francisco and will employ 30+ people at 2206 Central. This company distributes plants to interior and exterior companies. The company is currently located in the Hunters Point/Bay View District. This location is presently being dismantled.

The proposed company would consist of 72,000 sq. feet. On the site would be open green houses, a single family house, to be used as a care takers quarters and (71) parking spaces. Note that they only have a need for (29) of the parking spaces. The company will be using two box trucks to transport the plants. Utilities will need to be upgraded for the business.

Robert Rogers says that at Supervisor's Gioia's office, they were told that currently the site is an eye-sore. Fertilizer will not be used at the site, and very little water is needed. They will be storing indoor/outdoor plants only, and then distributing them. Water usage is low for storing plants compared to growing them.

Board member LaShanda Tate asked, how this company can be a part of the community. Mr. Goldman answered: That presently they work with the community groups of the Bayview and Hunters Point Community.

There is a motion to make a recommendation that the NRMAC support 2206 Central Street. They will have 50% local hire. The company is to work with the NRMAC, to find out how they can participate in giving back to the community. NRMAC approved the project 4-0 with Goldman's pledge that he will stress local hiring and look for ways to partner with and support CBO's.

DISCUSS and make RECOMMENDATION regarding potential time change for NRMAC meetings:

Board member Beverly Scott motion to move NRMAC meeting from the 1st Thursday of the month to the 1st Tuesday of the month.

After discussion, NRMAC votes 4-0 to change date of monthly meeting from first Thursday of month to first Tuesday of month, effective next month.

OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAM REPORTS

Robert Rogers, Supervisor John Gioia's Office: Robert reports that Earth Day will be held on April 23, 2016 at the Lucky A's Baseball Field. Volunteers are needed for clean-up at the Urban Tilth Farm, 1st Saturday of every month. There is a new ballot measure, it's a city measure entitled: Youth Service Measure. It proposes that 3% of city taxes must be used on youth and youth funding. There is a Measure AA; it proposes a tax fee of \$12.00 per year on parcels in all Bay Area Counties. Supervisor's has passed the creation of a Racial Justice Task Force. 40% to chip in with the study for North Richmond Annexation.

The NRMAC retreat will be held on 5/13/16 at a Chevron Refinery Company site. The board will bring back a full report. For more information contact Robert Rogers at Supervisor's John Gioia's office.

There are new street lights on Fred Jackson Way. Supervisor Gioia was instrumental in securing funding for electrical outings to be located on Fred Jackson Way.

Verde Elm School Black History Week was a wonderful event.

Don Gilmore, Director, Community Housing Development Corporation (CHDC):

Don reports that the corporation continues to offer free income preparation until April 15th. Heritage Point project is getting ready to present application for 7 million to the state on the 16th of this month. Hopefully in April they will be able to submit a full application. The building that was designated for demolition on Fred Jackson Way and Chesley Avenue was demolished. The plans for that block are a project consisting of 42 units of housing, grocery and small retail. A portion of Live able Community Funding was given to North Richmond. They are still fighting with Cap and Trade.

Carla Orozco-Mitigation Fee funded/Neighborhood House of North Richmond : Carla announces on the North Richmond Green Outreach. The North Richmond Green newsletter April Edition is being developed. The planning committee meeting for the 6th Annual North Richmond Green Festival and Earth Day celebration is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at 10:00 a.m., at the Neighborhood House of North Richmond Multicultural Senior and Family Services Center. The committee is organizing a clean-up of the Wildcat Creek and Verde Elm School garden projects for volunteers to participate in before the festival begins from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

NRMAC MINUTES/MARCH 3, 2016

(7)

OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAM REPORTS CONTINUED

Carla Orozco-Mitigation Fee Funded/Neighborhood House of North Richmond: North Richmond Green Team Project Community Program resident workers will attend an Eco field trip at the UC Berkeley Botanical Gardens, on Thursday, March 24, 2016, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The field trip will provide participants with outdoor experience of learning opportunities to contribute to an overall appreciation of the environment.

Neighborhood House of North Richmond participated in a one on one session with the Love Your Block Team to go over the scope of work that the \$1,000 "Love Your block Grant" mini-grant will be utilized for the enhancement at the 6th Annual North Richmond Green festival and Earth Day Celebration. Neighborhood House of North Richmond was one of the three finalists that participated in an interview for the County's On-Cleanup and Outreach Program. This program will be funded for three years.

Luis Chavez/Urban Tilth Garden: Luis works at the garden at Verde Elm School and the Urban Tilth Garden site on Brookside Drive. He would like to report that the Verde site was cut by \$10,000 in funding. The garden is still ongoing. Board member LaShanda Tate asked if they want Supervisor Gioia's to advocate for replacement of funding. Luis stated that when they need help they will surely ask for it.

At the North Richmond Farm, every 4th Saturday is volunteer day. Next month a process will open up to name the farm.

Kiana Ward/Love Your Block: Kiana reports that the grantees were chosen. They met with Carla and Annie. The grants will start at the end of March and the beginning of April. If anyone wants to volunteer at Love Your Block, they are more than welcome to do so.

Annie Meredith-King/NRMAC History Committee: Annie reports that she is waiting to hear from Dr. Clark and Whitney Dotson, before she continues to meet and make plans.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annie Meredith-King announces that the Multicultural Senior Citizen Center will be hosting their annual pre-Easter breakfast. The date is 3/19/2016, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This year's theme is entitled Lunch and Brunch.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m. Next meeting: Thursday, April 5, 2016
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
515 Silver Avenue, Richmond CA 94801

