

NORTH RICHMOND MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

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 5:07 p.m. Board members present were: Don Gilmore, Annie King Meredith, Aaron Morgan, Andrea Bailey and Dr. Henry Clark. La Saunda Tate and Beverly Scott were absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

The minutes and agenda were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Frazier, Director/Northern California Asthma Program: Mary says the program is hiring in the neighborhood, with Chevron funding, to provide services in North Richmond.

The breathmobile continues to service clients/children in the Richmond area. Verde school is the targeted school for the NR community. At Verde school the clientele consists primarily of Hispanic Students. With the program expanding thru Richmond, the van will be making a visit at Monterey Pines, recruiting clients, on April 24th.

Tom Sumner/NR Resident: Tom says that heavy trucks plague NR. Also, animal control is not working well in neighborhood. Road racing and loud music is increasing on Fred Jackson Way. After living in the neighborhood for nine years, the same problems still exist, such as: Blight, cars making too much noise, overweight trucks constantly coming thru the neighborhood. Problem with barking dogs. He will be going to Richmond City Hall to file a report, pertaining to his complaints.

Andrea Bailey/Chevron Refinery: Andrea Bailey says she has accepted a new job within Chevron and will no longer be able to serve on the NRMAC, her replacement will be able to occupy her seat. Don Gilmore says Andrea has been a special leader and will be missed. A certificate will be presented to her from the NRMAC, for her commitment and dedication. Dr. Clark echoes this, and is glad that she will be properly honored with a certificate of appreciation. Andrea's service to the community is more than appreciated.

Annie Meredith-King: Annie states that there is a serious problem on Fred Jackson Way. The noise level is extremely high, she agrees with resident Tom Sumner and as concerned citizens, she is looking forward to working with him on resolving neighborhood issues. She states that Andrea has been both a great leader and a great friend.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORTS

Officer Duran and Officer Johnson/CCC Sheriff's Department: Reporting for the month of March 2018: There were no shootings in March. However, warmer temps could fuel crime, so be vigilant. Question was asked does the Sheriff's Department have a mentoring program at Verde School. The answer was Verde does not have a Sheriff that works with the children; they are in the process of setting up a program. Dr. Clark says that we are trying to keep a close relationship with the law enforcement agency.

Aaron Morgan says he is concerned about traffic stops, and is displeased with the sheriff officers. Sheriff Deputy says that residents shouldn't be disrespectful to police. Several residents in the audience say the sheriff's has been confrontational.

Don Gilmore asks Robert to ask Sheriff's to participate in another community outreach meeting for people to air their concerns. Dr. Clark notes that NR has was a birthplace of Black Panther activism due to poor relations with law enforcement.

Annie King-Meredith says we need another meeting with the Sheriff's Department to share community concerns. She says Verde School has historically had programs, and that the older young people also need engagement and understanding as well; this is in response to sheriff's deputies noting that they are participating in positive programs at Verde School.

Princess Robinson says that the officers have the wrong attitude and that is what has inflamed the problem. Carry yourself better and you can get a better reaction, she advises.

Resident LeDemian Flowers says that the relationship is bad, and the sheriffs have responsibilities and obligations to the community. Need to work on implicit bias and community relations.

Officer Abernethy and Officer Brunno/CHP: Reporting for the month of March 2018: The officers have been working and giving warnings, to reduce illegal vehicle parking. There were eighteen stolen vehicle recoveries. While establishing their expectation, fifty-two verbal warnings were given. Two stolen vehicle reports, eight abandoned vehicles, fifth-teen enforced citations, twenty-five vehicles were tagged, and two parking tickets were issued.

Officer Munguia/RPD: Reporting for the month of March 2018: there were (258) calls, Sixty-nine of the calls were vehicle involved. Eleven stolen vehicle reports and only one recovery. There were two fire-arms arrest.

PRESENTATIONS and PROCLAMATIONS

Dr. Clark presents award to East Bay Center for the Performing Arts. He notes that they have been a great partner in North Richmond. EBCPA recipients say Dr. Clark and others have been inspirational. EBCPA will host a 50th anniversary/party on 5/12. The audience is invited to attend as free guest, to say thank you to North Richmond. They are offering free scholarships to NR children to learn music, art and dance. EBCPA did a map of beautiful places in July, and they will be doing a massive march for peace and healing.

Stephanie Ny and Erica Itto/Richmond Love Your Block: Presenting on mural development, funded by art grant. Trying to respect and pay homage to the community's power and history. Workers trying extremely hard to do as well as possible.

Annie King-Meredith says the mural example is too childish. Cynthia Jordan says they aren't taking in any feedback. Cynthia states that she has been submitting ideas and pictures, prior to the funding of the mural project. Nothing seems to have been taken into consideration. The idea/pictures that were presented to the NRMAC in her opinion are depicting (thug life) a picture of a gangster 4x4 truck at Project Pride. What type of message does that relate to the community? Should be a picture of children playing sport activities at Project Pride. The mural is all out of character, for the community. A waste of tax payers money, the mural of Fred Jackson, tucked away in the garden is a fine example of money wasted. If you did not know the mural existed, you sure would not be able to see it.

Le Demian Flowers says there are great points to be considered about the mural, like the Black Cowboys of NR, the evolution of the blues/gospel music from NR, and he does not like the depiction of Chevron Oil Refinery, with the toxic plum of flare up smoke emerging for one of it's smoke stacks. Dr. Clark and other audience members also noted objection to the depiction of the refinery. Dr. Connie Portero says it isn't reflective and isn't good for the owner of the store, who is from Africa. Stephanie Ny says that portraits are against the policy from the beginning, but icons and outlines are indicative of the rich history of the neighborhood. Notes that this is a community mural, not a professional one, so complex artwork like portrait is beyond scope of the work.

LaShonda White and Jazmine Jones/City of Richmond – Incorporation Outreach:

LaShonda states that they have analyzed cost and benefits in the feasibility study. Now they are getting ready to send out the unofficial ballot and FAQs, will go out in late April. Also will have at least two community meetings in May. Late April through May is information and feedback period, with Richmond City Council deciding the issue in June. Princess Robinson says what about undocumented residents, and will you hear both sides at the meeting? LaShonda says yes to both, and surveys can be anonymous. Dr. Clark says there needs to be more pros and cons format in the meetings.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

DISCUSS/RECOMMENDATION – David Latham/Fleetpark :LLC - Proposed development of truck maintenance facility and remodel of existing office building at 320 Pittsburg Avenue.

They did not show up to discuss their development

DISCUSS/RECOMMENDATION – Eric Zell Proposed development of three warehouse buildings at - 0 Fred Jackson Way by Centerpoint Properties: Eric Zell says cutting edge project, has worked with variety of stakeholders, including the principal of Verde School and Supervisor John Gioia. William Lu of Centerpoint, national distribution and warehouse company. Site plan is near the school. Sat down with the Supervisor's office to ensure mitigation of school impact, including truck traffic facing opposite way of school, as far as possible from school. Improved infrastructure around project, including sidewalks and roads. Truck traffic on Fred J. Way will be minimized by physical barriers that limit traffic from residential areas. No heavy manufacturing, just sustainable transportation of goods. Solar roof panels ready. Conduit on site for charging, cheaply implement emission reduction features. Also environmental benefits inside building to protect workers. They plan to build really nice class A buildings and be a good partner in the community.

Dr. Connie Portero says what are you doing to benefit this community while you're making millions of dollars? Jobs aren't enough, she said. William says Brookside will be widened and improved.

After presentation by Eric Zell and William Lu of Centerpoint Properties, NRMAC unanimously approves development of (3) warehouse buildings totaling 552,646 square feet at 0 Fred Jackson Way, with the conditions that applicant provide occasional updates via Supervisor Gioia's office to the NRMAC on project progress, new tenants and opportunities for employment in development and subsequent uses. Applicant also pledges to NRMAC to be a responsible member of the North Richmond community, and be open to requests for charitable contributions and/or investments into community-based projects benefitting North Richmond. Applicant notes that project will mitigate impacts on nearby school and include street enhancements, as well as capability for solar panels and low emission, electric charging infrastructure. Vote is 5-0, with members Andrea Bailey, Don Gilmore, Aaron Morgan, Dr. Henry Clark and Annie King-Meredith voting aye. Meredith moved motion, with second from Dr. Clark. No nays. Members LaSaunda Tate and Beverly Scott absent.

Bacilia Macias and Jinotega: Want to occupy developed two story house with extended family member of Jinotega owner. Will improve a blighted vacant lot at Silver and Second. Filling lot will benefit community. Adds to housing stock in the area. This particular home will fit into the style of the community. It's on a relatively small lot, 25 foot. The house will face the Silver side. Aaron Morgan makes motion to approve. Andrea Bailey seconds. All ayes.

*Motion to extend meeting by Annie Meredith-King, Dr. Clark second, for 15 minutes.

OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAM REPORTS

Robert Rogers, District Coordinator/Supervisor John Gioia's Office: Robert cedes his time due to being far over time with previous items, and thanks NRMAC for its great work on behalf of Supervisor Gioia.

Don Gilmore, Director/CHDC: The groundbreaking for Heritage will be on May 3rd, at 11 a.m.

Tania Pulido/Community Coordinator-Mitigation Fee Funded-CHDC: Tania has been working hard on upswing of illegal dumping. Annie King-Meredith points out sites and Tania promises swift follow up. Community news letters are out. A street sweep of the following streets will be conducted in the near future: Streets include, Battery, Vernon and Duboce.

Andrea Bailey, Community Engagement Manager/Chevron Richmond Refinery:
Andrea asks for Board Retreat to be on next meeting.

Cynthia Jordan: Asks for Las Deltas presentation on next meeting.

Belinda Thomas, RN/REACH International Fellowship: Says exciting work being done by REACH. Students from Spellman and Morehouse will come and visit North Richmond soon. Expecting students to visit from all over the world this summer.

Stephanie Ny/Love Your Block: Reports that they've hired three North Richmond residents to serve as leaders to organize beautification projects between now and June. Also introduces new Mobile Tool Library manager, Jessica Walden.

Dr. Clark closes the meeting in memory of the great freedom fighter and anti-apartheid leader Winnie Mandela. May she rest in peace, and her memory lives on.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Next Meeting
Tuesday, May 1, 2018
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
515 Silver Avenue – Richmond, CA

