



# Mar Vista Community Council



## Mar Vista Community Council Executive and Finance Committee Minutes

Tuesday Sept 3, 2019  
The Coffee Connection (Station Room)  
3838 S. Centinela Ave  
Los Angeles, CA 90066  
Chair: Elliot Hanna ([elliott.hanna@marvista.org](mailto:elliott.hanna@marvista.org))

1. **Call to order**-Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM. In attendance: Elliot Hanna, Martin Rubin, Holly Tilson, Mary Hruska. Also in attendance were members of the Venice High School Alumni Association.
2. **Announcements-**  
Adrianna De La Cruz mentioned that Grease night at Venice High School is coming up on Sept 28. Asked if the event could be posted to the MVCC Website. Elliot responded that it could, pending BOD approval.
3. **Public Comment for Items NOT on This Agenda-None**
4. **Ex-Parte Communications and Conflicts-of-Interest –**  
Holly mentioned that she's spoken to members of the Grease Committee. Elliot mentioned that he's spoken to Holly about the content of the agenda.
5. **Adoption of the Agenda-**  
Adopted without objection
6. **Reading and Approval of Minutes –**  
Some corrections mentioned and submitted to Secretary. Motion to approve (Hruska/Rubin). Minutes approved without objection
7. **Reports-**
  - 7.1 Chair- Elliot: None
  - 7.2 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair- Martin: None
  - 7.3 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair- Michelle Krupkin: Absent
  - 7.4 Secretary- Mary: None
  - 7.5 Treasurer-

Holly: reviewed MER. Didn't spend a whole lot this months. Just routine expenses. Still waiting to hear back about the outstanding check for \$500 from last year's Arts/Ed/Cult NPG to fund the Graffiti Wall. Check was made out to the incorrect entity. City is still deciding what to do about it. Same for our insurance payment on the storage facility burglary. Still haven't been credited with the money. Still working with the city on that as well. Advocated that committees/groups that desire funding need to approach ExFin about amending the budget (i.e. creating a line item) prior to BOD meetings. MER should be available after Sept 5. Should be available by the next BOD meeting.

Elliot: if I make any credit card purchases in the next few days, can I scan the receipts to you for uploading?

Holly: Yes, you have 10 days.

Michelle Krupkin arrived at 7:25

8. **Consent Calendar –**

10.1 [FUNDING] Monthly Expense Report (MER)

10.3 [ADMIN] Authorization to Submit Community Impact Statements. Approval for the following to submit Community Impact Statements regarding actions previously taken by the Board: Chair, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer. This authorization shall exist until modified or revoked by the Board

Motion to approve consent calendar (Hruska/Tilson). Approved without objection.

Mary: will contact DONE on 10.3 after BOD votes. Should verify if we can simply state that the positions are who can submit positions rather than specific names. Holly: there's a form. Mary: need to first determine if I am approved to submit these positions/names.

13.1 [ADMIN]MVCC Tents at the Mar Vista Farmer's Market-

Elliot: please see the email in the packet from Diana Rodgers. There are a lot of moving parts to this. Maybe we should discuss them one at a time. The reduction in the size of the tents is probably the first issue to discuss. Letter seem to imply she will do a smaller, branded tent.

The second issue, which may be more controversial, is question of the Green tent. Diana called me about this a few weeks ago. Basically she wants the Green tent to come under the auspices of the Farmer's Market. This is largely because Jeannie Kuntz is uncomfortable with MVCC rules. I informed her that I cannot approve relinquishing it. It will, at a minimum, have to go through ExFin and the BOD and it might require more than that. The good news is that we get a lower fee for the smaller tents.

Michelle: Last Sunday, the tents were moved.

Adriana: Only the FM Information booth has been moved. Because of the homeless situation on the East side of Grand View the FM Information tent was moved to the West side of Grand View, next to the MVCC tents.

Michelle: The bike tent is there too.

Adriana: That's under the auspices of the FM. He's their paid employee. He's also a friend of Robs and so he (Rob) has some input on that in terms of his Mobility committee, so that's something that they'll keep on

Michelle: So he'll be kept on?

Elliot : That's unknown

Michelle: I just want to be clear about what we have and what we want to do. I believe we started the white tent as part of the Mobility Committee.

Adriana: But we haven't been invoiced for it

Holly: We bought all 3 tents and we own the bike repair tools and bike stand.

Elliot: I've always ben uncomfortable with us being in the bicycle business, and I'd be glad to relinquish it to the FM, but the devil's in the details because we are dealing with city property.

Mary: would the FM buy the equipment?

Holly: No. I asked the city if there's a way for the FM to write an NPG for equipment vs money. That way the FM would be responsible for it. I think we spent close to \$2,000 on it.

Elliot: Are we covered if a bicycle is repaired there and then the owner is injured in a bike failure?

Mary: The FM must have insurance?

Elliot/Holly: Yes

Holly: There was never a Board vote to be doing this.

Elliot: Yes, though it's not necessarily a bad thing for MVCC to be doing, it was done outside the process. I can see 2 or 3 motions coming out of this agenda item.

Michelle: I have concerns for-profit vendors in the MVCC tent. It's an ethics violation. I've been talking about it for a long time. The Chamber is an example.

Elliot: I've talked to Diana about this and the weeks that the Chamber is there (once a month) it will not be under an MVCC-branded tent. We're receiving the tents for well below market rate, so I don't have a problem with the Chamber not contributing anything. I think that arrangement solves that problem.

Michelle: Going forward, do we want to have half a tent? do we want to cede the green tent and or the bike tent? It's sad that we no longer have a Green Committee but we should be able to find a nonprofit to run the tent to make it viable for MVCC. Isn't there anyone in MV that wants to step up and do it?

Adriana: That's kind of what I've been doing for the last 5-6 months. I don't book Jeannie's tent. I know there were issues with the solar company that she had there. She wasn't there that day. At our July Outreach meeting. Nobody volunteered, so I did. Rob has helped try to change this and improve the relationship with the FM. The issues that have come up, like the homeless, they've been accommodating. Sometimes they don't have volunteers to staff them.

Michelle: I've been on the Council for 6 years and, back in 2013, the model was 13 members would each be required to do 1 shift per month (there were 2 shifts each week). The folks on ExFin wouldn't share how they booked it. Shouldn't this be Outreach?

Adriana: Right now, the Friends of Historic fire Station 62 have had the first month, but they sometimes need to switch days.

Michelle: I've always thought staffing should be event-driven. Do we want to offer the tent to Neighborhood Associations rather than for-profit Chamber? I'd rather have organizations that are doing outreach

Elliot: I would too. You need a standard. The easiest standard would be to say you must be a 501.c.3 to be eligible to use the tent.

Adriana: I like what you're saying, but in my interactions with these organizations, it's a sensitive topic. They were almost dictating the days they're there. You have these long-standing accounts. I've been avoiding land mines so far, but I'm to the point where I'm not the tent person.

Martin: what exactly is the cost of these? And is there a possibility that we ask for the tent on an as needed basis?

Mary: who's doing the scheduling of the tents now?

Adriana: I guess it's been me. I was put on it. At the July meeting I was tasked with it. The other committee members have verified this. The players there have been corresponding with me. Diana doesn't actually have any involvement, except to verify that the tents are filled. I have asked her to send that info to Katherine, Elliot and Holly. That has happened for the last 2 months.

Michelle: What I'd like to see is for Kathryn to come up with ideas for staffing and I've only received queries on what the last schedule was.

Elliot: you were able to come up with some sort of schedule, Adriana?

Adriana: Yes

Michelle: I want to see city agencies there, like LADOT.

Holly: That's what Rob's always wanted to do. It would be useful.

Adriana: I have LADOT sheet. I'm here. And I have a motion from the July Outreach meeting that says that I'm under that tent. That hasn't been taken away from me. There have been some communication issues with regard to my relationship with the Outreach Committee, and I'm doing my best to get along with the chair and so far there haven't been any complaints. There's no reason that I can see that there would be no one in the tent. With coordination, it's easily done. Am I given leave to proceed?

Elliot: It sounds like the committee decided you would handle it (the chair only gets one vote). I think it's reasonable that you should develop a schedule and send it the entire Board, and if anyone gives you any flack about it, let me know.

Adriana: I have just one comment on that. In terms of scheduling, the majority of the people on my waiting list want the first and the last of the month. I've asked people to be flexible. The second is available for the Friends and the fourth for the Chamber. This will be locked in for them, and they can schedule for a year. If they can't make it, they can just let me know and, with some notice, I can fill it. But the Friends want the first. I know they can staff it. Is it unreasonable to ask this of them?

Elliot: The answer is maybe. I'm okay with the Friends. As far as the Chamber goes, I think they should get it when we don't have anyone else.

Mary: So the Chamber is penciled in for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, but if you need it you can bump them?

Elliot: Well, we should be reasonable.

Adriana: I think we should give them month to month, but they don't get to fill it if they can't make it.

Elliot: The Chamber is a filler.

Michelle: I would rather the tent be used for more outreach-type groups.

Adriana: I would suggest, if we want to make drastic changes, we do it starting next year.

Mary: I definitely think we should get city agencies here like LADOT, DCP, DWP, BSS.

Elliot: I think we should continue as is until October, but give them an idea that changes are coming in the near future.

Holly: it seems like Diana is trying to squeeze the MVCC out of the FM in favor of the Chamber.

Adriana: I don't think she'd be unreasonable. I don't think Diana would try to tell you who to staff in your booth.

Holly: we're paying for 2 spots basically (green and blue). We didn't ask to be downsized.

Elliot: I can see several motions coming out of this: does anyone have a motion to accept the FM's offer to provide a 5x 10 branded blue tent for \$300/year? Motion: Hruska/Rubin. Motion approved without objection

Adriana: do I need a motion to continue as I have been?

Elliot: No. I see no reason why you can't.

Michelle: I'm giving you a vote of confidence.

Elliot: does anyone want to make a motion to investigate turning over the Green tent to the FM? Motion: Hruska/Rubin

Elliot: I think that Jeannie regards the Green tent as her's, and perhaps justifiably so, so since she started it and has put a lot of work into it, but the fact remains that it's the property of MVCC. We need to decide if we want to relinquish the brand. Personally, I'm not ready to do that, but I'm just one vote.

Holly: if we're investigating it, we're not relinquishing it. I don't think we have enough information to relinquish it

Elliot: Diana's letter on this reads as more of an order.

Mary: we're paying for the green tent, it's only reasonable to keep it if we can foresee having a Green Committee again. Right?

Elliot: The compromise I reached with Jeannie last year was that she could run it out of Outreach and it would take care of the bureaucratic stuff and she could just do what she likes to do. I think turning it over to the FM is a mistake because it is an Outreach opportunity.

Mary: So, that's a reason for keeping it.

Holly: I like the idea that if the green is downsized, then downsize both and we'll have a smaller footprint.

Adriana: I've had several talks with Jeannie about recreating the Green Committee. I've volunteered to help her. I don't know if it's her dislike of the bureaucratic obligations or her relationship with the MVCC.

Martin: I think having the 2 downsized tents is a better option than what exists now.

Holly: putting 2 people in 5 feet will be tight. Maybe we could alternate when they are staffed.

Mary: I think we've established that the green tent is useful in that it brings people in, and there's a possibility that it might come back, so ...

Adriana: I'm really grateful that I've been given the opportunity to direct-deal, because now, with your backing I can ask her these things. The motion is to investigate and I can do that. Jeannine has asked me to present twice in October

Elliot: We didn't give you the opportunity, Outreach did.

Adriana: Jeannine has asked me to present twice in October

Mary: Who/present what?

Adriana: We present things like new initiatives that the city is presenting. We do a mini-presentation.

Mary: I should tell you that, despite the many times I've visited the Green tent, I've never realized it was a part of MVCC. So, if we decide to keep it, we have to fix that. The crux of the matter seems to be Jeannie's distaste for bureaucracy.

Holly: it's also political.

Martin: If she doesn't want to be a part of the MVCC, then she won't be part of it. It would be a big loss.

Elliot: Yes

Elliot: Lets' vote on investigating turning over the green tent to the FM.

Vote: 0 Y/5N Motion Not approved.

Elliot: let's discuss the motion of turning over the bike repair equipment to the FM. This is one (Rubin/Hruska).

Holly : I'm already investigating it. I think it would be a great service, and I'd be fine with relinquishing the equipment, but we have to find a way to do it.

Michelle: So the equipment is stored in the MVCC StorQuest locker but the tents are stored by the FM?

Holly/Elliot: Yes

Holly: We own the tents and the equipment. Nobody wants to move the tents around every week but Rob does the tools because it's his passion.

Elliot: I think we can't make any plans until we get confirmation from the city that we can relinquish them.

Holly: I asked if we could do it as an equipment donation.

Elliot: is there any objection to Holly continuing her investigation? No objections were raised.

### **13.2 [ADMIN] use of the MVCC Seal-**

Elliot: the seal is something that the Council decides when to use, not any one individual.

Mary: so merely a donation from the MVCC does not qualify an organization from using the Seal on promotional materials?

Elliot: this requires a motion that goes to the Board, but I think that what we should be doing is specifically including the use of the seal in specific funding motions. It should be explicit.

Holly: this is something DONE should be telling NCs.

Elliot: so what I can do, if this committee approves, is write a policy which says as much and advance it to the Board. I don't think it encumbers anyone, it merely clarifies when it can be used.

Martin: would it be a standing rule policy?

Elliot: it wouldn't be a Standing Rule, but a policy, like the tent or media policy. Is there a motion to write a policy regarding the use of the seal? (Martin/Hruska)

Motion approved without objection

**13.3- [FUNDING] NPG for Venice High School Alumni Association Grease Night-** discussion and possible action regarding an NPG in the amount of \$1000 to support the Venice High School Alumni Association Grease Night.

Elliot: I believe this amount is more than what we've done in the past.

Adriana: We have a revised one. We went from ExFin to Arts & Education, who authorized it and amended it. Are now requesting only the rental of the screen and permit/insurance/utility fees. I'd like to point out that this event is a coalition of groups, but the entity that is applying for it, because of the 501.c.3 requirement, is the VHS Alumni Association. The VHS Grease Committee is a standalone committee. It's also open to the public.

Martin: Does VHS have insurance to cover it?

Adriana: The groups coordinating it have to arrange for that themselves.

Elliot: What are your other sources of funding?

Adriana: They'll probably get a few hundred dollars from the VHS Alumni Association

Michelle: I was there when Del Rey (NC) approved \$1,000 for it.

Adriana: we haven't gotten official word on that, but it's possible that another committee member has reached out to them and we haven't gotten notice of it yet. We'll have to look into that.

Elliot: That presents a problem. What is Del Rey paying for?

Adriana: We'll have to look into it. It's possible that other costs are being covered by that. We're only asking for these 3 items from this organization.

Elliot: Which 3, I count 4.

Adriana: The rental of the screen, the insurance and the permit fees.

Elliot: That's \$600. The remainder is \$400 for utility service fees. So what are you requesting from us?

Adriana: We haven't asked anyone else for the screen rental, the insurance or the permit fees

Elliot: What about Utilities?

Adriana: We're going to remove that.

Elliot: So, that brings the amount down to \$600?

Adriana: They also have the cost of the rental for the Grease Car. That's \$400.

Elliot: where do the proceeds go?

Adriana (and VHS Alumni Association Members): We usually break even.

Elliot : I thought this was a fund raiser for the VHS Alumni Association.

Adriana: No. we donate to the event but we do not profit from it.

Elliot: I'd heard the proceeds go back to the school, but this is the first I'd heard about breaking even

Mary: I remember hearing that, during the event, student groups do fund raising.

VHS Alumni: Those are school Clubs.

Adriana: So, these clubs just show up. We have to make sure they have room for each of them.

Elliot: is there a motion to approve? (Rubin/Hruska)

Elliot: I think we'll have to decide if we want to amend the amount of the NPG.

Martin: I think the car company should donate the car, and we should do \$600.

Michelle: It's not essential to the event

Holly: I think it's probably a big feature.

VHS Alumni: The fee is actually for the towing not the car.

Elliot: is there a motion to amend to \$600? (Rubin/Tilson)

Holly: in the past this was treated as Outreach, It was originally \$500 and then it was reduced to \$300. The city now frowns on this because we were buying food etc. The city considers this type of donation a co-sponsored event. This seems like a valuable event, but as treasurer I'm thinking is this how taxpayers want their money spent. I can go with \$600 but not \$1000 which just seems like we're paying for a fund raiser for an organization.

VHS Alumni: the school permit just went up to \$3,000.



Elliot: Is there any objection to the amendment? No objection was raised, and the amendment was approved.

Adriana: Arts & Ed authorized \$1,000 and the justification was that this is a good way to bring attention to schools and free advertising for MVCC. You can have a table to promote MVCC at the event. There will be thousands.

Holly: We've done that every year.

Adriana: We are gracious enough to accept any amount that is given, but let's go with all the nuances as well. If you're going to give money, the maximize your dollars.

Mary: Have you always paid the full cost of the towing?

Adriana: Yes

Mary: so how is paying for the towing any different than paying for the insurance and permit fees? Why would we pay the \$00 and not the \$400?

Holly: We're just reducing the amount

Elliot: For parity's sake, going forward, I think a \$500-600 contribution is a lot more reasonable than \$1,000, if we're going to start contributing to other such events.

Holly: It would be outreach to schools, and I'd like it to be partnerships as opposed to a simple donation.

Elliot: One of the requirements for an NPG, that I wanted to mention is that there is an after report requirement and are you prepared to do such a report?

Adriana and VHS Alums: Yes

Holly: Last year Clover Elementary asked for \$1500 for their end of year fund raiser. It never made it to the Board, but I would ask: they already raise \$500,000, do they need additional tax dollars?

Adriana: We obviously have to raise funds elsewhere for the rest.

Vote: Motion approved without objection

Adriana: would you like the Logo to appear at the event?

Holly: We can, as we've discussed, add it to the motion.

**13.4 [FUNDING] Street closure Permit for Globe/Sawtelle Cleanup/Block Party-** Discussion and possible action regarding an expenditure of up to \$400 to fund the street closure permit for the Globe/Sawtelle cleanup/block party.

Elliot: this is an alley that runs parallel to Sawtelle. The residents have been very frustrated, and LAPD has offered very little relief and so they've decided to get together and have a party and do a cleanup, set up a neighborhood watch, and protect one another. They are not a 501.c.3 but I've spoken to Holly about this and we can transfer the money for the permit.

Holly: It's my understanding that if we're paying outright for this the we're co-sponsoring it.

Elliot: We'll they'll have to do the paperwork.

Holly: Bonin didn't come through?

Elliot: Radio silence. The neighbors are doing it themselves

Martin: Who's the lead on this?

Elliot: Diana Sieker, Grace Baud. Just plain old neighbors trying to keep their neighborhood safe.

Mary: I don't even have to discuss it. However we can do it, we should.

Holly: Somebody has to do the paperwork.

Elliot: I don't think that's too much to ask.

Holly: If that falls through, we could do regular Outreach funding.

Motion to approve: (Hruska/Rubin) Motion approved without objection

Adriana: There are people you can call to do these things.

Holly: The city should be providing the bins. Saeed says the city does this all the time.

Elliot: If you have a Council Office that responds, I'm sure it does.

Holly: Can we contact Sanitation about bins? Anybody have a contact there?

Elliot: Nanette does

Elliot: I don't think we have to address item 13.5. I don't think we have any budget revisions

Mary: I wanted to mention one thing. I've tried to work with both of the Zone 3 residents' associations on Outreach. Westdale is working with Kathryn, but Hilltop is dragging their feet.

Martin: I believe the president of Hilltops is a former MVCC Chair.

Elliot: I'm not going to chase them to give them our money.

Mary: It is a nice opportunity for outreach. The Neighborhood associations are my main way of reaching Zone 3

Michelle: Del Rey uses NPGs to do spelling bees and art contests with the local schools. I'd like to see NCS reaching out to young people more (PTAs etc).

### **13.6 [ADMIN] Status of items from prior Board of Directors' [BoD] meetings-**

Elliot: I'm in the process of getting the letters out. Still waiting for a few from T&I. Committees should submit a draft letter. People have also been sloppy with email addresses.

**Adjournment-** meeting adjourned at 9:03PM

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