



Mar Vista Community Council



MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
GREAT STREETS AD HOC COMMITTEE
Wednesday January 11 2017 6:30 to 8:00 pm
Mar Vista Library
12006 Venice Blvd., Mar Vista, CA 90066
(SW corner of Venice and Inglewood Blvds.)

Co-Chair: Michelle Krupkin
Co-Chair: Greg Castelnuovo-Tedesco

MINUTES

1. Call To Order and Welcome – Chair (1 min.) acting chair: Michelle Krupkin began at 6:33 pm.
2. Introductions and Public Comments (for items not on the agenda) (2 minutes)
3. Motion to approve October and November 2016 Great Streets minutes (2 minutes) Sarah Auerswald made the motion, Lenore French seconded. Minutes passed unanimously.
4. Reports (15 Minutes)
 - a. Great Streets Program brief definition-Michelle Krupkin, MV Community Council.
 - b. Report from Mar Vista Chamber of Commerce President Sarah Auerswald. Great Streets is like Urban Acupuncture. One small change can affect/improve a street and the corresponding neighborhood. Sarah gave an overview of the recent Nov 26 2016 event Make It Mar Vista/Small Business Saturday. Most people attending lived in the area but were able to discover businesses that were new to them. The event rained out later and ended early. Retail update: The Mar Vista Restaurant is now open. The District Skate shop is closing.
5. New Business (30-65 minutes)
 - a. Rachel Burk, CicLAvia Community Resource Manager, gave a preview of plans for the upcoming Sunday March 26 2017 CicLAvia event: Culver City meets Venice, presented by Metro which is coming to Mar Vista, Venice and Culver City. CicLAvia is returning to the CicLAvia route from August 2015. There will be a large hub in Mar Vista on Venice and table space for the Mar Vista Community Council. CicLAvia is starting outreach the week of Jan 16 2017 with a second round of outreach including a leave behind flyer. They are working with Diana Rogers from the Mar Vista Farmer's Market. There will be adding bike marketing and a bike valet. Greg Castelnuovo-Tedesco suggested having a bike corral. Rachel said that CicLAvia will have a pedestrian zone on Venice from Grand View to Centinela. There will be K rails on Grand View. CicLAvia is trying to secure the Bolero parking lot for Mar Vista Farmer's Market customer parking as people will not be able to get to the Grand View Elementary lot or meter parking on Grand View. There will be two community meetings and outreach. CicLAvia will also have a presentation to the MVCC Board of Directors meeting on February 14 2017. Rachel also shared that there will be Ride Angels helping people during the ride with bike repairs as well as services at the four (4) hubs on this route. Greg Castelnuovo-Tedesco shared that the new Mar Vista Bicycle Committee will be having pre-CicLAvia bike tune-ups at the MV Farmer's Market. Sherri Akers suggested to Sarah Auerswald that she communicate with realtors from the Mar Vista Chamber of Commerce and advise them to avoid conflicts with open houses along the CicLAvia route. Sarah Auerswald suggested that CicLAvia do outreach to restaurants along the route so that they can be prepared for a large turnout and having

a big business day. Rachel also shared that LACBC and Bike Culver City will be participating at the event.

- b. Jessie Holzer, CD11 Mobility Deputy, gave an overview of the upcoming CD11 Pilot Program Mid-Block Crosswalk installation as well as other Great Streets projects. This February, as part of the ongoing Great Streets project, construction will begin on four pedestrian midblock crossings on Venice Boulevard to improve pedestrian safety and help unify the north and south sides of the street. The intersections on Venice Blvd. will be located at Mountain View, Ocean View, Boise and Meier. The agencies involved in the mid-block crossing include: Bureau of Engineering, DOT, Street Services and urban Forestry. In order to build the midblock crossings, six trees will have to be removed. Tree removal is only considered when there are no other options. Michelle Krupkin mentions that she reached out to the City of Santa Monica to offer the trees for the Airport2Park project, but their Urban Landscaper said that the six trees were too large to accept for transplantation. Due to the LA City 2 for 1 policy, there will be a minimum of 12 replacement trees to be planted on Venice Blvd. and surrounding side streets. Jessie said that LA City is open to suggestions as to tree placement. There was a discussion of several possible tree options by all attendees that included the following varieties: African Fern Pine, Pink Trumpet Tree, Palo Verde Tree, Bay Laurel Tree as well as Black and Gray Bark Acacia Trees.

Also discussed were trees used in Larchmont Village, such as the Indian Laurel Fig tree and the Jacaranda, both of which were not welcomed by attendees due to the mess of figs and sticky jacaranda flowers. Jessie said that she would reach out to Urban Forestry and ask their opinion regarding the trees discussed at this meeting. Urban Forestry also has to complete a study on tree placement.

Michelle Krupkin asked about the use of tree wells for the new trash bins from Street Services. Jessie said that she would inquire about this. There is a chance that there will be space for some new trash bins since trees have to be spaced a certain way according to Urban Forestry.

There was discussion of other Great Streets elements such as the mosaic hopscotch placement. CD11 is scouting possible locations such as near the Mar Vista Library or near 826LA. Tracey Corinne, who is involved in planning/designing 10 squares for this project, felt that the Mar Vista Library has some possibilities for placement in front of the vs. the library plaza. Jessie shared that they are investigating using the Adopt A Media program for funding the mosaic project as the program applies to sidewalks as well as medians.

Jessie shared that Street Services will be redoing four block faces along Great Street Venice and that Street services is open to where the community wants the block faces to be done. Greg Castelnovo-Tedesco commented that he would like to see the worst areas fixed in a strategic and thoughtful manner. Sarah asked if LA City could fix all sidewalks on Great Street Venice Blvd. Michelle asked if there are possibly any grants for sidewalk fixes as part of Great Streets or other possibilities. Jessie answered that she will look into it.

- c. Lenore French, GCI Communications, gave a report on the recent December 1 2016 Mar Vista Art Walk. Having themes for each art walk is working very well and gives a new feel to each event as well as encouraging attendance with new demographics. Lenore said that outreach through NextDoor with the Mar Vista Council worked well to get a new demographic of attendees. New items were activated for the December 1 2016 Art Walk, such as Venice High School's acapella group caroling during the event. The Light Theme was quite successful. There were two winners for the Holiday Light contest: 1) CAMP and 2) Vintage on Venice. There were articles written about them. The passport game worked well during the event as 75 respondents played and 72 walked all three clusters with data being collected. The Mar Vista Art Walk has applied for grants and will also be instituting a silent auction of artwork from Mar Vista and other local artists.

Lenore also discussed a preview of plans for the upcoming March 2 2017 Art Walk. The theme will be Voices and will include poetry, music such as hip hop, folklore and opera. The March and

September walks will have Music themes. There is a new GCI Board member, Rebecca Vest along with her husband, Michael Vest. Rebecca and Michael will be curating along with Shane from Timewarp and Van who will curate the Grand View Market. In all there will be four venues at least.

Greg Castelnuovo-Tedesco commented that he was very impressed with the turnout for the recent December 1 2016 Mar Vista Art Walk as well as the variety of music performed. He also wondered if artwork such as a sculpture garden similar to that in West Hollywood might be a project to consider in the future in order to expand public art in Mar Vista.

Lenore also stated that she is working on other projects such as the Pavement Murals and Apron Murals. She also shared that Beautify Earth is planning to do five murals within Mar Vista. Lenore stated that there is a crowd funding campaign called Razoo for the MV Art Walk going on which closes January 15 2017.

- d. Public Comment. Francois Nion from Outfront/JC Decaux shared that the new bus stop at the southwest corner of Venice Blvd. and Centinela was installed in November. The solar board, Wi-Fi hotspot and USB port were installed with the arrival board to be installed in the future. Francois is working with NTA to get that happening. More bus shelters are possible and are being looked into. He has data from Metro that he will be sharing. Jessie said that she will be sharing bus stop info from Culver City and Santa Monica Big Blue Bus.
- e. Future Agenda Items
- f. Adjournment at 7:59 pm

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