

Mar Vista Community Council
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Tuesday, November 8, at 7:00 PM
Mar Vista Recreation Center Auditorium
11430 Woodbine Street, Mar Vista, CA 90066
www.marvista.org

Agenda

The audience is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any item of the Agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that are within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the public comment period. Public comment is limited to two minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. Mar Vista Community Council meetings will follow Rosenberg's Rules of Order, the latest edition. For more information, please visit the MVCC web site.

Call to Order and Welcome – Albert Olson, Chair (2 min.)
Presentation of the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance – Bill Scheduling
Approval of Minutes (public comment permitted) (2 min)
Public Comment & Announcements

Elected Officials and City Department Reports

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

DWP – Victoria Cross, DWP Neighborhood Council Liaison Victoria.Cross@WATER.LADWP.com

Mar Vista Recreation Center – Jason Kitahara, Director

CD 11 - Bill Rosendahl, rep. by Len.Nguyen@lacity.org , Field Deputy

CD 5 – Paul Koretz, rep. by David.Giron@lacity.org , Field Deputy

US 36 – Janice Hahn

CA Senate 28 – Ted Lieu, rep. by Robert.Pullen-Miles@sen.ca.gov

CA Assembly 47 – Holly Mitchell

CA Assembly 53 – Betsy Butler, rep. by Stephanie.Romero@asm.ca.gov

2nd Dist. L. A. County Board Super.– Mark Ridley Thomas, rep. by Karly.Katona@bos.lacounty.gov,

Mayor of Los Angeles – Antonio Villaraigosa, rep. by Joseph.Hari@lacity.org

Officers and Liaison Reports

Chair, Albert Olson

a. Administrative Motion: Appointment by Chair to fill At-Large Director seat, and vote by Board (2/3rds affirmative vote of the current Board needed) to approve appointment.

The list of candidates under consideration for appointment is as follows:

1. John Kuchta
2. Yvette Molinaro
3. Vida Ash
4. Michael Millman
5. Shane Popp
6. Susan Klos

The bylaws require that each listed candidate make a brief statement to the Board.

First Vice Chair, Sharon Commins

Second Vice Chair, Bill Koontz

Secretary

Treasurer, Bill Scheduling

Animal Welfare Agencies and Organizations – Curt Steindler
DWP MOU – Chuck Ray
DWP/BOS Recycled Water Advisory Group Christopher McKinnon
Mar Vista Bi Monthly LADOT/CD11/LAPD Traffic Committee - Linda Guagliano,
LANCC Delegate Report – Maritza Przekop, Chuck Ray

Old Business - Action items (Public comment permitted)

Committee reports - Action items included with public comment permitted

1) Executive & Finance Committee – Albert Olson, Chair

a. Administrative Motion: *The MVCC Board approves the submitted October statement for the US Bank MVCC Purchase Card.*

2. Community Outreach Committee – Maritza Przekop & Kate Anderson, Co-Chairs

a. Policy Motion: To Support Urban Beekeeping in Los Angeles (approved unanimously at Special Meeting of Community Outreach, Green, and PLUM Committees)

The Mar Vista Community Council at its regular meeting on June 14, 2011 voted to approve the preparation of a Feasibility Study to evaluate the applicability of a recently adopted beekeeping ordinance by the City of Santa Monica to Mar Vista; and if the adoption of this policy supported the Green Committee's goal of creating a more sustainable community.

During the four month process –

- *Presentations were made to three standing MVCC committees (Green Committee, Community Outreach and PLUM) with a combined attendance of approximately 62 stake holders.*
- *Outreach was conducted at the Mar Vista Farmer's Market resulting in 511 signatures in support of legalizing beekeeping in Mar Vista in one day.*
- *An on-line survey was made available at the MVCC website. 228 responses were tabulated from July 24, 2011 to October 2011 with 81% in favor of urban beekeeping.*
- *Information was published in the MVCC Quarterly Newsletter and hand delivered to 15,000 households resulting in 22 mail in responses*
- *An online petition was set up in Change.org which also drew 1,767 responses in support of urban beekeeping*
- *Monthly community outreach events included a free-screening of the film "the Vanishing of the Bees", two green tent demonstrations at the Mar Vista Farmer's Market in July and September, a Honey Tasting event at a local coffee shop in South Mar Vista in August, and a booth at the Fall Festival an MVCC sponsored event at Mar Vista Park which resulted on the direct interaction with stakeholders and 600 additional signatures.*
- *Outreach was also done in numerous Mar Vista schools.*

The committee reviewed over 150 articles on beekeeping, best practices, planning articles on Urban Agriculture, State, County and city beekeeping regulations to help in the evaluation of the recommendations and conclusions of the Beekeeping Feasibility Study. The committee also spoke to program directors in numerous cities where programs are in place.

The Feasibility Study concludes that there is a strong community interest in supporting beekeeping efforts and that doing so would result in positive changes that permit the healthy growth of honey bee colonies and increase the production and quality of fruits, vegetables and flowers in Mar Vista's organic home gardens while providing a community service as a resource for the removal of feral (wild) hives. Research indicates that such a program would be cost neutral to the city of LA.

The MVCC Board therefore recommends the implementation of a Beekeeping Pilot Program in to test safety and develop best practices for future expansion. We urge the City of LA to adopt a policy that includes conditions

relating to maintenance, location, registration and notification to assure for the safety of all residents which may result in the continued preservation of quality of life and preservation of single-family residential districts.

3) Education, Arts and Culture Committee – Amy Lawrence & Babak Nahid, Co-Chairs

a. Administrative Motion: *Mar Vista Community Council proudly salutes Daniel Buccieri, teacher at Mark Twain Middle School, for being honored by the Los Angeles Unified School District as a Teacher of the Year 2011-2010. MVCC thanks Daniel for his dedication to student success as a teacher of history and for exemplifying our community's strong commitment to supporting excellence in education.*

4) Election & Bylaws Committee – Bob Fitzpatrick & Geoff Forgione, Co-Chairs

a. Policy Motion: MVCC motion regarding NC Elections Process

WHEREAS, the L.A. City Council has failed to allocate funds to enable the City Clerk to conduct the next regularly scheduled spring 2012 Neighborhood Council elections, resulting in a delay of those elections until at least the spring of 2014;

WHEREAS, while the MVCC appreciates the difficult economic conditions prevailing in the City, we find it inconsistent with traditional notions of neighborhood empowerment and democratic ideals that Neighborhood Council elections be postponed until 2014, requiring incumbents to serve a term twice as long as the one to which they were elected and shutting out qualified candidates who wish to come forward and serve;

WHEREAS, the MVCC finds it equally unacceptable the proposal being considered in some quarters to divest the City Clerk from responsibility for Neighborhood Council elections in favor of some sort of "selection" or "town hall" process to circumvent the relevant ordinance requiring an actual election run by the City Clerk; and

WHEREAS, as noted in our prior motion on the subject, the entire Neighborhood Council system is enhanced by having its elections run by the same official entity that runs all other City elections and proposals to allow individual councils to choose among various other options, such as "electronic," "town-hall" and/or "incumbent-run" election systems may result in elections marred by the limitations of those procedures, including the loss of transparency, accuracy, and legitimacy, and will lead to a proliferation of disputes.

THEREFORE, the MVCC calls upon CD-11 Councilman Rosendahl to introduce a motion to allocate funds sufficient to enable the City Clerk to conduct Neighborhood Council elections no later than the Fall of 2012 or, in the alternative, the Spring of 2013. The MVCC further calls upon Councilman Rosendahl to ensure that if the Council persists in its refusal to fund the City Clerk, that neither the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment or any other City entity be permitted to impose a "one size fits all" approach to elections by requiring that every neighborhood council adopt the same election procedure in the absence of the City Clerk.

5) Green Committee – Sherri Akers & Laura Bodensteiner, Co-Chairs

a. Policy Motion: *Food & Water Watch will be presenting a letter to the Los Angeles City Council this month, asking for their support on a variety of proposals and opposition to spending cuts proposed in the 2012 Farm Bill. These federal funds are distributed to local governments, community organizations and small businesses in the form of project grants and guaranteed loans. We need good food policy to drive the change we want in our food system, so that everyone has access to healthy food and to support small farmers in our local region. The support of local food also has far reaching environmental impact. The Mar Vista Community Council is very supportive of local agriculture and local sellers of that agriculture, and feel that federal policies should reflect support for those entities. While understanding the current need for budget restraint in the Federal legislative process, the MVCC urges Councilman Bill Rosendahl and the Los Angeles City Council to carefully review the proposed cuts and their impact on our local food policy.*

b. Policy Motion: Letter to Expo Construction Authority (Gabriela Collins) regarding Indigenous Plantings at Expo Phase Two Stations

Ms. Collins:

The Mar Vista Community Council endorses and requests that indigenous plantings be utilized by the Los Angeles MTA for all landscaping for phase two of the Exposition Line light rail project. While we appreciate that drought-tolerant plantings are currently planned for these stations, we feel it is imperative that MTA utilize this opportunity to exclusively use plantings native to Southern California to create a habitat that fosters the pollinators needed to support our ecosystem. Not only would indigenous plants be naturally drought tolerant but in that they will not require fertilizers they protect our watershed as well. Such plantings also serve to promote environmental awareness and responsible landscaping choices by others in a highly visible setting. While our motion applies to the entire phase two of the line, this issue is of particular importance to our stakeholders with respect to Palms Station. We believe this request can be accommodated without adding significant costs to the Expo Line project.

It is our desire that our wishes in this matter be made known to all who are involved or concerned. Your assistance in this process is appreciated, and if there are others we should contact directly, your help in identifying those parties would also be appreciated. Thank you for your time and consideration

6) PLUM Committee – Sharon Commins & Steve Wallace, Co-Chairs.

a. Policy Motion: (BARRINGTON CORRIDOR MOTION) *The Mar Vista Community Council herein supports Council File 10-1152 and the creating of a permanent Q condition governing height and setbacks including 42 parcels on the east and west sides of Barrington Avenue bounded by Indianapolis Street/Federal Avenue on the south, alleys on the northeast and southwest, and an alley and Navy Street on the north in the Palms-Mar Vista-Del Rey Community Plan Area. In order to maintain the current character and scale of the above described neighborhood, the MVCC supports further examination of any and all other measures acceptable to the community including: appropriate transitions, setbacks, parkways, or floor area coverage for these forty two parcels in the Mar Vista area.*

7) Safety and Security Committee – Rob Kadota & Bill Koontz, Co-Chairs

a. Funding Motion: *MVCC will allocate \$2000 in support of the LAPD Pacific Station's Winter Wonderland for the purchase of toys and supplies for the event. Must meet all city and MVCC spending guidelines. Unused funds expire June 1, 2012.*

b. Funding Motion: *MVCC will allocate \$50 for paints and supplies to refresh and update the Santa Sleigh Stop signs. All sponsors of Santa Sleigh Stops will outreach to the surrounding community so as many people as possible are aware of the program and can participate. Costs associated with the printing of flyers will be covered by MVCC – Costs are not to exceed \$100.00. Where practical, ½ or ¼ sheets of paper will be used. Must meet all city and MVCC spending guidelines. Unused funds expire June 1, 2012. Total funding request \$50 (paints and supplies) plus \$100 (printing costs for program outreach) total equals \$150. maximum.*

c. Policy Motion: *The Mar Vista Community Council supports the concept and implementation of a Neighborhood Team Program (NTP), an emergency support program organized through the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) of the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) and the Los Angeles Police Departments Block Captain Program. Under the Neighborhood Team Program community members who have taken the CERT training and LAPD Block Captain program can volunteer as NTP Team Leaders, organizing and providing direction to other neighborhood residents in preparing for and responding to public safety issues, proactively plan for emergencies and led aid following disasters such as an earthquake or major fire*

8) Transportation & Infrastructure Committee - Geoff Forgione & Chuck Ray, Co-Chairs

a. Policy Motion: *The MVCC supports the leveraging of the existing Venice Boulevard Rapid Bus Line to mirror the service frequencies of the Metro Exposition Light Rail Line, with rebranding and promotion to connect Expo Line riders with the community and its recreational and business opportunities, while simultaneously promoting use of the Exposition Light Rail Line to Westside residents."*

b. Policy Motion: *The MVCC requests that the CD-11 Office immediately provide funds to LADOT so that any neighborhood in Mar Vista that so desires them may secure posted signs prohibiting the overnight parking of oversized vehicles."*

9) Historic FS 62 Ad Hoc Committee – Sharon Commins & Rachel Swanger, Co-Chairs

10) Recreation Open Space Enhancement Committee – Jerry Hornof & Tom Ponton, Co-Chairs

11) Santa Monica Airport Committee – Bill Koontz & John Kuchta, Co-Chairs

Zone Director Reports

New Business - (Public comment permitted)

Grievances – Secretary

Future agenda items

Adjournment (9:30 PM)

*Translators, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices for the hard of hearing and/or other auxiliary aids/services are available upon request. To ensure the availability of services, please make your request at least three (3) working days before the date. If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call (213) 485-1360.