

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2, 2006 MMTC MEETING

I. OPENING

- A. President Arlette Ballew called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Welcome and Board Officer Introductions with a special welcome to students from Mira Mesa High School.

II. BOARD REPORTS

- A. The minutes for the September 11, 2006 MMTC meeting were approved. (Jeff/David)
- B. Treasurer's Report (Jeff Stevens): Checking \$14,023.43; Savings \$29,682.56; CD \$11,509.57; St. Fair \$22,892,30. A \$5,000 grant from Supervisor Pam Slater-Price towards next years Street Fair was received. A \$200 check was issued to Chuck Sweet for the Halloween Carnival. Special fundraising flyers for the Monster Manor were available.

III. OFFICIALS' REPORTS

- A. Police Department (Officer Paul Lennon)
 - A Vons employee bought donuts for the employee lounge and another employee put over two dozen needles in them. An employee bit down on one of the donuts and received injuries to his mouth and jaw. This was apparently done as a prank. Officer Lennon advised parents to be very watchful over their children's Halloween candy and to throw out any candy that is not sealed.
 - On Sept. 10, a car was stopped on Camino Ruiz. Guns and shell casings were found inside. The driver and passenger had just been involved in a shooting in Lemon Grove.
 - On Sept. 16, people in a car on Flanders were robbed at gunpoint. The police have some leads.
 - A question was raised about having occasional police presence at some of the new parks that have opened. If you see suspicious activity you can call the police so they can formant a case. Although the police are stretched quite thin, they will do what they can.
 - Another question was asked about what can be done about the panhandlers who stand on the median of Mira Mesa Blvd. Officer Lennon stated that they are not violating any laws. The best deterrent would be to not contribute to them. The vast majority of them are heroin addicts.
- B. City Councilman Brian Maienschein (Khoa Nguyen)
 - The opening of Mira Sorrento Pl at Scranton Rd and Vista Sorrento Parkway is helping to divert traffic from both Scranton and Mira Mesa Blvd.
 - A community cleanup at McAuliffe Park is scheduled for Sat., Oct. 14. Edco Waste Disposal Co. has agreed to donate a large trash bin for the event.

- Due to the large number of complaints about abandoned shopping carts, a community forum has been scheduled for Mon., Nov. 13 at 6:00 PM at the library. The retail stores in the area have been invited to attend. Right now, all options are on the table.
- C. County Supervisor Ron Roberts (Rebecca Leister): Rebecca brought a variety of brochures and handouts to the meeting. These included: duck and cover drill information on earthquakes; information on flu season and who should get the shot vs. mist; what to do and who to contact regarding identity theft; tire gauges from the Air Pollution Control District; information on the new MTS Green Line; emergency supply kit information magnets; calendars; and information on Afternoon at the County for high schools and non-profit organizations.
- D. Office of the Mayor, Community Outreach Rep. (Stephen Lew)
- Since Stephen has four districts to cover, he will come to our meetings on a quarterly basis.
 - The mayor's five-year budget proposal will be rolled out. It will include some cuts out of necessity. They are trying to find better methods to cut waste and expedite procedures but have to go through every department to see where they can make cuts and reduce staff.
 - Propositions B & C address managed competition. Each department will first be given the opportunity to refine their methods to compete before outsourcing.
 - Mayor Sanders does not endorse the airport proposal because of the ballot language.
 - San Diego is ranked 6th in the U.S. for worst streets so money will be put in the budget proposal for maintenance.
 - While it is possible there could be tax increases in the future, well-documented plans would need to be formulated first.
- E. State Assemblyman George Plescia (Aaron Pottichen): Aaron was not able to attend the meeting so Arlette will post his written report on the MMTC website.
- F. Retired Seniors Volunteer Patrol/RSVP (Jim Brown): The RSVP will be present on Halloween.

IV. MAIN PROGRAM

A. Congressional Candidate Francine Busby - This is Ms. Busby's third year running for this office. She firmly believes that government should be serving the people and sees our country going in a dangerous direction. Our system of checks and balances needs to be restored to bring back accountability and open dialogue. Ms. Busby took questions from the membership:

- Would she support the current leadership cover-up of pedophiles? This is unconscionable and the protection of our children is uppermost.
- What are her views on the border/immigration problem? She supports the Senate bill as real reform. While she agrees on the need for reform, she disagrees on how to stop the influx of illegal immigrants. So far, the methods we've used haven't worked.

- What are some of her priorities if elected? She would like to work on a plan to resolve the Iraq situation and come up with a transition plan. Ms. Busby is very concerned about energy independence and would like to reform the energy bill to provide clean, renewable energy sources. She would also like to see the No Child Left Behind law reformed and funded.

B. San Diego Teen Court Executive Director Nicole Brown: This is a non-profit organization funded primarily by grants and donations. It is a juvenile diversion program with youth working with youth on intervention for first time offenders. Teen Court teaches youth about restorative justice and allows them to provide consequences through a binding sentence. Local high school students are trained to serve as attorneys and jurors. Offenders must admit guilt. They handle a variety of offenses such as petty theft, graffiti, school fights, drug and alcohol offenses and have a variety of sentencing options such as community service, letters of apology, research papers, and counseling. Teen Court has been very successful with only a 7.7% recidivism rate. There will be a mock hearing at the City Council Chambers so the community can observe the process.

C. Taxpayers for Responsible Planning (Jack Batzler): Mr. Batzler is a retired naval aviator. T4RP has joined with Save Our Marines to form the “No on Prop. A” organization. We are strongly urged to tell our neighbors and friends to vote no. It is a poorly written proposition and is not an advisory vote. MCAS is more than just an airbase – it covers the entire infrastructure. Respected economists have challenged the economic forecast by the Airport Authority. The “No on Prop. A” group wants to see the Airport Authority reformed to look at what we can do with what we have.

D. School Board Candidate Michael McSweeney: Mr. McSweeney is a parent, a general contractor business owner, and a past president of Developmental Services Continuum for the developmentally disabled. With only 40% of our students performing at the proficiency level and almost \$10,000 spent per child, Mr. McSweeney sees the issue as not how much money you spend but how you spend that money. The bottom line is what will actually help what’s happening in the classroom. He wants to bring accountability and common sense practices back to the school board and feels that his business experiences will help in that regard. For more information go to: www.mcsweeney4schoolboard.com.

V. OPEN FORUM

A. Terry Forshey spoke about the shopping cart problem. Taking the carts without authorization and without the intent to return them amounts to theft. The Police Dept. can’t do anything because the stores refuse to be complaining witnesses. In May of 2001 a meeting with the retailers was held. The RSVP had volunteered to locate the carts and let the retrieval company know their locations but business owners said they wouldn’t pursue it. Mr. Forshey is proposing the city pass an ordinance, similar to what some other cities have enacted, regarding control of shopping carts throughout San Diego. The retrieval number to call will be on the MMTTC website and in the monthly newsletter.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Arlette read the bylaws pertaining to opening the nominations for board offices and then turned the first call over to Jeff who opened the floor to nominations. There were no nominations from the floor. Pam Stevens volunteered to serve on the nominating committee. Elections will be held next month.

VII. COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS

A. Recreation Council (Joe Frichtel): The Halloween Carnival will be held on Oct. 31 at the Rec. Center Park. The new center director is Claudia Enriquez. The Rec. Council is sponsoring the Miramar Air Show on Oct. 13-15.

B. Planning Group (Ted Brengel): There is supposedly a deal between the Park and Recreation Dept. and the School District regarding the Salk school site. The planning for Carroll Canyon is going forward slowly. This "Stone Creek Project" will have around 6500 units of homes and businesses. The Casa Mira View/Pardee project near Best Buy will have about 1300 apartments. They need to make the necessary infrastructure improvements to match the density. The Community Project Meeting will be on Oct. 23 at 6:00 PM.

C. Halloween Carnival (Chuck Sweet): The carnival will be from 4:00PM until 8:00PM with games, prizes, and jumpers. They have received a \$200 donation from the Town Council. Flyers have been sent to local schools. In the event of rain, the carnival will be moved inside the Rec. Center.

D. Street Fair (Pat Brown): This was our most successful year to date with up to 25,000 people attending and an expected profit of close to \$20,000.

E. Banner District (Steve Barrera): We have the needed money for the banners and Steve has driven the route for pole locations. Several designs have been received. This committee needs someone to chair it next year.

F. Banned Book Club (Pam Stevens): The club met at the end of Sept. and selected the books for the coming year. They will meet on the last Monday of each month at 7:00PM at the library.

G. Mira Mesa Presbyterian Church will hold its annual bazaar to benefit the community on Nov. 18.

H. Theatre Guild (Sandy Smith): The Monster Manor opens on Friday, Oct. 13 and Lite Fright on Oct. 21.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10PM

Respectfully submitted by Beth Davis

