

MMTC GENERAL MEETING
October 5, 2009
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Troop 1203 Presents Colors

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Welcome and Introduction of Board Members
 - President Jeff Stevens
 - First Vice President (program chair) Pam O'Donohoe
 - Second Vice President (membership) Ted Brengel
 - Treasurer Alan Philpott
 - Recording Secretary Albertine Feurer-Young
 - Newsletter Editor Maria Pankau
 - Parliamentarian Debbie Vincent
 - Member at Large Marlon Austria
 - Member at Large Jon Labaw
 - Member at Large Robin Stutsman
 - Member at Large John Daley

MINUTES APPROVAL

- Minutes Corrections:
 - Addition: none
 - Alteration: none
- Minutes are approved as written.

BOARD REPORTS

- President:
 - Mira Mesa Street Fair went very well. Thank you to all who helped.
- Parliamentarian:
 - Nominating Committee has met.
 - Contact Debbie Vincent if interested in running.
- Treasurer:
 - Beginning balance \$87,401; Income \$7,763; Expenses \$5,783; Net cash flow \$1,979; Ending balance \$89,381.
 - Checks: None

OFFICIAL'S REPORTS

- Police Department (Officer Susan Steffen)
 - Nothing major to report
 - Street Fair was successful for SDPD as well; the two booths were very popular.
 - There have been a lot of false alarms as well as many businesses set off alarms when they open.
 - Question: Why was the incident on Hillery where an officer was run down not mentioned on EWatch?
Answer: EWatch can only cover 5 locations and can't cover citywide and only covers one square mile. It covers citations through major crimes. The website is located on the City's website at <http://apps.sandiego.gov/ewatch/>.
 - Question: Has the young arsonist off the streets yet?

Answer: She is off the streets. She might either be released to a "board and care" or back to her mother. She will be kept under supervision. She is considered to be a menace to society and hence is in a permanent lockdown facility.

- City Councilman Carl DeMaio (John Ly)
 - Salk MOU went to council.
 - The vote was 6/0/0 with no discussion.
 - We're one step closer to having the Salk Elementary School.
Question: Will there be any more hurdles?
Answer: There are still litigations, but we are actively working on resolving all this.
 - \$180 - \$200 million deficit.
 - Carl's will meet up with the community to discuss the budget cuts and get the community's feedback.
 - The Mayor has mentioned potential cuts to Police and Fire.
- County Supervisor Ron Robert (Lauren Prescott)
 - Get the flu shot and the swine flu shot.
 - Community Enhancement Funding
 - Neighborhood Reinvestment Program. The county website will have more information and the application.
 - Ron was at the Adams Avenue Street Fair and at the Aids Walk.
 - <http://www.sdcountry.ca.gov/cnty/bos/sup4>
 - ACORN Investigation
 - Will partner with the state instead of doing independent investigation
- County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price (Erica Holloway)
 - Follow Pam on twitter - <http://twitter.com/PamSlaterPrice>
 - Fire preparedness packets are available.
- State Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher (Oscar Urteaga)
 - Tax Commission
 - Current tax code is volatile and drives jobs out of California.
 - He will take a close look at the Commission's recommendation.
 - Waiting period prior to passing any bills
 - He will take a close look at the Commission's recommendation.
 - Community Coffee
 - October 7 at Carmel Community Coffee.
 - Water Policy Crisis
 - This has been an issue for 40 years and needs to be resolved.
 - H1N1 (Swine Flu)
 - Wash your hands, stay home if you're sick, get the vaccine and make sure children get vaccinated as well as soon as the vaccine is available.
- Senator Hollingsworth (Ellen Malin)
 - Special Sessions in Sacramento
 - Tax Commission Report – he supports tax reform.
 - Water – there might be a closed session regarding the state water park system and above ground storage.
 - Education – Race the Top education money is available, but we can't apply for it. The special session is to review the language to become eligible to these funds.
 - Question: Was the high speed rail passed?
 - Answer: Yes, it has. The project is moving forward.

COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS (not all groups will present at every meeting)

- NEC (Jennifer Kvalvik)

- Thank You Reception for volunteers - Mira Mesa High School Auditorium 10/29 at 6PM. Councilmember Carl DeMaio will be the featured speaker. Please RSVP by 10/8 with your name and organization to Jennifer Kvalvik, Mira Mesa High School/Employer Outreach Specialist. 858-566-2262 x2161 or email jkvalvik@sandi.net
- Mira Mesa Community Planning Group (Bari Vaz)
 - Onramp to the 15 on Hillery – gathering feedback from the people of Mira Mesa to support in-depth traffic studies that were deemed too expensive as this ramp will create more traffic.
 - October 13th at 6pm in the meeting room at The Woods Mobile Park on the west side of Black Mountain Road.

NEW BUSINESS

- Introduction of School Principals
 - Scott Guisti, Mira Mesa High School – 2nd year. Test score rose, advanced placement and daily average attendance rose. Expulsions decreased. Enrollment is down by 60 students this year. Budget cuts will hit soon. Farmer's Market has been really successful. Come to MMHS on Monday at 4:30 to speak with John Evans.
 - Deidre Hardson, Mason – Test score rose as well, attendance is doing well, kids want to come to school. The school was painted.
 - Jennifer Wroeleski, Hickman – API is up. The campus is fantastic. Students are wonderful and the teaching staff is great. 10/29 – Halloween Bash.
 - Sheelagh Moran-Robleski, Challenger Middle School – Test scores and attendance are up, enrollment is down by about 60 kids as well.
 - Lark Mayeski, Christ the Cornerstone Academy – 3 and 4 years old. Outstanding faith-based pre-school. K-6 is also available. Wonderful music, computer, and PE programs. Longer instructional days than public schools. Summer programs are also available – academics and musical. The numbers are always outstanding.
- John Lee Evans – School Board Representative
 - Overall in the SD District, test scores have gone up.
 - The people who are working the trenches, the teachers and principals, are the ones that are bringing in these results.
 - Superintendent left for Houston. Before finding a new superintendent, we should have a clear vision, goals, and a plan for what we want for San Diego. Then we can find a new superintendent who will support this vision.
 - San Diego pays \$269,000 for the position compared to Houston that pays more than \$400,000.
 - Technology – Prop S passed. We are installing smart board and laptops in all 3rd and 6th grade classes as well as some high school classes. This will drastically change how students are taught.
 - We were able to keep our teaching staff in place despite the budget cuts through early retirement. \$30 million was cut from the central budget. We did have to give up class sizes of 20 to 24.
 - They are reviewing numbers representing what percentage of students in a specific neighborhood actually attends the local school.
 - School Improvement Officers – there should not be several per community. One should cover all elementary schools, another the high schools, etc.
 - The high school new football school is ready.
 - Year of the School Volunteer – a lot more people can volunteer in the schools. Volunteering does not require lots of training. There is a volunteer screening process that includes TB tests.

- Salk Elementary School: 9/8 Memorandum of Understanding was approved by the city council. This has to do with the transfer of the property. There is one other big step – the US Fish and Wildlife Service. This process can take up to 18 months. A district person will be dedicated to work with them to hopefully reduce this period to 10-12 months. Then the project will be put up for bid and construction will begin. Construction should take about 18 months.
- Community Advisory Group – Created to improve the schools in the community and to advocate before the school board. Meeting will be 10/12 at 4:30 PM at the Media Center in the high school.
- Question: What is your take on splitting the districts?
Answer: Philosophically, I agree there should be more local control, but the SD District is huge. We could take one very very large district and make it into two very large districts, which won't help. I prefer a federation where the schools have more decision-making power.
- Question: We are creating a UCSD Students Tutoring Program at the Epicenter and the Library and would like to input on how to let everyone know about it.
Answer: Give me the information.
- Question: Does Mira Mesa have any school that could be Blue Ribbon?
Answer: Erickson is a Blue Ribbon school, one of three in the district.
- Question: Why can't Boy Scouts recruit, but youth groups can?
Answer: I'm not sure.
- Question: Have you considered promoting someone within the district to Superintendent?
Answer: Yes, we want to make the process more open. It's highly likely the person will be from San Diego as we will not do the 'secret process' which out of district individuals would prefer as to keep their current position safe.
- http://old.sandi.net/board/boe_members.htm
- Tom Derr – Vote of Approval for the MMMAD low water landscaping plan
 - Chair of the Mira Mesa Maintenance Assessment District.
 - We would like to change the medians to a drought tolerant landscaping as one third of their expense is water.
 - One median is next to Black Mountain Road on Mira Mesa Blvd.
 - The theme will be desert with new plants and new sprinkler system.
 - It will be more expensive to set up, but will save money in the long term.
 - Question: Will you consider native plants? Succulents will use a lot more water than native plants.
Answer: Yes. Michael Cook, our representative from the city, is deciding on the plants.
 - Comment: I am more concerned about the aesthetic reputation of Mira Mesa; these plants might not be attractive.
Answer: It will look very appealing.
 - Jeff Stevens recommends that we approve this pilot project.
 - **Pam Stevens makes the motion "We recommend the pilot program of low water use vegetation on Mira Mesa BLVD." Motion seconded by Pam O'Donohoe. Motion Unanimously passed.**
- Neighborhood Project Plan – Hang (Lisa) Chau
 - Block Party San Diego is a platform for neighbors to get to know each other.
 - Needs help to get the City on board to not charge fees for the block parties.
 - The website will be up in a month.

OPEN FORUM

- Newsletter (Maria Pankau)

- Articles are due by 10/17
- High School Band Competition (Maria Pankau)
 - Volunteers are greatly needed

ADJOURNMENT

Next Board Meeting: **Monday, October 12 at 6:45 PM** at a location to be determined since the Senior Center is closed for Columbus Day. Unless otherwise scheduled, Board meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Senior Center at 6:45 PM.

FOLLOWING MEETING

The following regularly scheduled general meeting will be **on November 2, 2009** at the Mira Mesa Library.