

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 1 MEETING

I. Opening

- A. Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Brad Buffett, president.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Introduction of board members.

II. Board Reports

- A. Chuck Sweet (Treasurer):
 1. Treasurer's Report: Checking: \$1884.58; Savings: \$2856.50; CD: \$11,061.11; Street Fair: \$24,601.72.
 2. Halloween Committee: The Halloween Carnival is Friday, October 29 this year because Halloween is on a Monday (school night). It will be at the Rec. Center, with an increased number of prizes and a tumble jump for kids. Need donations.
- B. Steve Barrera (Newsletter Editor): Would like committee chairs to contribute articles about what the committees do and why it's a good idea to belong to them, for the October edition of the *Newsletter*, which will be distributed at the Mira Mesa Street Fair.
- C. Arlette Ballew (Secretary): Requested approval of minutes of June 6 meeting. Motion to approve (Sweet/Stevens) carried unanimously.
- D. Brad Buffett (President): Announced agenda for meeting.

III. Reports from Government Representatives

- A. City Councilman Brian Maienschein (Khoa Nguyen):
 1. The last two sets of pedestrian countdown timers have arrived and will be installed on Mira Mesa Blvd. at Scranton Road and at Camino Ruiz. Brian partnered with a private donor to purchase the timers. Others already have been installed at Westview Parkway and Black Mountain Road.
 2. The SDPD has received reports of seniors being scammed. See page 4 of the August *Newsletter* for details.
 3. Six 10' K-rails have been placed at the lot on the former Carroll School site (across from the Rec. Center) to slow down cars.
 4. Breen Park is in the final evaluation stage. The grass is growing, and the opening will be in October.
 5. The SD Fire Dept. will get fifty new fire trucks over the next 7 years: 8 now, more later.
 6. The city has declared August 1 to be Bruce Brown Day in honor of his civic service.
 7. The ribbon-cutting ceremony for Mesa Viking Park will be August 10 at 4:30. Brian will be there.
- B. County Supervisor Ron Roberts (Natalie Clark):
 1. The new Community Health and Disaster Service line is 211. This is a non-emergency number. From cell phones, the number is 858-300-1211.
 2. On August 13 at 8 a.m., the 2005 Lawnmower Trading Program will be held at the County Service Building, on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 619-531-5544 for information.

C. Retired Seniors Volunteer Patrol (RSVP) (Larry Brady):

1. Need new recruits. Three just graduated, so now have 40. Call 538-8120.
2. Need to put speed monitors out by schools.

IV. Main Program: Fire Station 38 (Captain Carl Godden, Engineer Glen Mackie, Firefighter Andy Cornell, and Firefighter Jeff Oliver)

A. Distributed a flyer on disaster preparedness (general, outdoor cooking, children in hot weather, and hotel/motel). [See article in August *Newsletter*.]

1. Staffing: Station 38 is at 8441 New Salem Street. It has a 6-person team: the captain, an engineer, 2 firefighters, and a 2-person ambulance crew. All staff members are EMTs, and one has a paramedic license. They are all on a 24-hours-on, 24-hours-off schedule. All units are tracked by GPS. The station's telephone number is 858-538-8138.
2. Maintenance and updates needed: The ambulance crew was added 9 years ago and they are still housed in a "temporary" trailer. The station house was built in the 1980s and needs repairs (including a kitchen remodel and removal of mold in the cabinets). The crews maintain the inside, and the city is responsible for outside maintenance. Corners of the outside fascia are falling off. Nothing has been touched in 9 years.
3. Questions and Answers:
 - a. Q: What type of call is most common? A: 85% of calls are for medical aid.
 - b. Q: Why wouldn't the city let the Scouts plant trees when the station opened? Can volunteers do things now? A: Ask Larry Gleason, SDFD Chief Frasier, and Brian Maienschein. We need to have some dying trees taken out now.
 - c. Q: Is yours the oldest station in District 5? A: Probably.
 - d. Q: We've heard two different stories re. Brush Rig 38. What's true? A: It is a vehicle designed to fight wild land fires offroad, to come in from the bottom. It is a secondary tool, not a quick-attack vehicle. Fire engines are the first-response vehicles; they attack a fire from the top, through yards, to save structures at the top of the canyon--where the fire is going. That's why we want to be uphill, on a mesa; so in Mira Mesa, we would send an engine. We can't man an engine and a brush rig at the same time. A brush rig may come from another area later (like Station 37 in Poway-Scripps Ranch or Station 40 in Rancho Penasquitos) but is not the first line of attack. Our brush rig is a 1978 model that is about to be phased out of the Fire Department and would most likely be dispatched to another district, like Camp Pendleton. It hasn't been used around here since I can remember. Also, it requires a different uniform, as it is an open-cab vehicle. We have one uniform for medical aid, one for fighting structural fires from a fire engine, and another for the brush rig. There are 7 or 8 brush rigs in the County and 47 or 48 engines. We are mainly a structural-response fire department.
 - e. Q: What about response time? A: The city tries for a 6-minute response time. We meet it most of the time.
 - f. Q: I heard there was a fire at the 4th of July. A: The fireworks caught some brush, and it was put out right away. Not a big problem.
3. Q: Thank you for all you do. We want to help you fix up the station. Please make a task list, so we can see what the city will let us do. A: Thank you.

V. Open Forum

A. Care Packages for U.S. Troops (Steve Barrera and Ben Cabarloc):

1. Many of our neighbors work with the Armed Forces and many of them are deployed. In wondering how he could help, Steve found information on the Web (see August *Newsletter*). We can work with Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton to show that Mira

Mesa cares. Ben is a Chief Hospital Corpsman, U.S. Navy, Camp Pendleton, is now with the 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion, and is Steve's neighbor in Mira Mesa. He'll send out whatever we put together. AT&T phone cards are great (\$15 minimum). Contact Steve to make donations.

2. Motion (Peluso/Sweet) that the MMTC donate \$100 worth of phone cards for care packages for our troops. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Tim Allen suggested that we add a place for donations for the troops at the MMTC booth at the MM Street Fair.

B. Aguinaldo Foundation (Zeny Ravelo):

1. The Aguinaldo Foundation is a nonprofit, 501 (c) 3, corporation. Its mission is to build a historical and cultural museum and performing-arts center in San Diego in honor of General Emilio Aguinaldo, the first President of the Republic of the Philippines. He gave his country independence from Spain and created its flag and national anthem. The center would serve as a legacy for younger generations. As part of fund-raising efforts, the foundation hosts the Philippine Independence Grand Ball the 1st Saturday in June and presents leadership awards to individuals (of diverse nationalities) and organizations that provide services and contributions to the Filipino-American community. The foundation also will apply for grants and corporate donations and is working with County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price. It desires a location in Mission Valley or (preferably) Mira Mesa.

2. The foundation wants to have a Philippine Independence Celebration in MM Community Park in June, 2006, behind the Rec. Center. It would include cultural presentations, displays, and food booths. Such cultural celebrations have been held in National City; it is time to have one in Mira Mesa.

3. Response: Sandy Smith invited the foundation to participate in the MM Street Fair and provided information. The group was referred to the MM Recreation Council regarding use of the park. A motion was made (Stevens/Sweet) that the MMTC support the concept of this event. Motion was carried unanimously.

VI. New Business

A. Possibility of Establishing Mira Mesa Banner District (Greg Heer, San Diego Banner Guys/The Décor Plan):

1. Distributed handout. Got in the banner business in 1988 because of the Super Bowl in San Diego and did 1,500 for the last Super Bowl. Have set up many banner districts since then.

2. Benefits: Banners capture the public's attention as they are on public roads and are effective ways to achieve high visibility for a community and increase public awareness of special events. The poles can be rented to others on a temporary basis to publicize their events.

3. Information: A banner district has to be approved by the City Council (it requires a resolution), and the design of the banners has to be approved by the city. Some community's banners have the logos of business sponsors on the bottom—limited to 5% of the total space on a banner.

4. Costs: There are 100 poles available on MM Blvd. With with 60 banners (two per pole) @ \$100 each, 60 brackets @ \$100 each, first installation @ \$40 per banner, a city banner permit @ \$177, and coordination of the banner district with the city @ \$900, the total would be \$15,000 to \$20,000. **[What does "banners--\$5,400 mean? Have sent e-mail to Steve asking him to help numbers tally.]** City insurance and liability insurance also are required.

5. Maintenance: Brackets guaranteed for 5 years; banners last 2 or 3 years. It would cost \$20 per pole to have Greg's company check the poles every 6 months.
 6. Funding: Most sponsors are business contacts within the community. Pam Stevens said that P.B. charges \$175-200 per year to businesses for individual banners. La Jolla has a generic banner unless another program banner is up. It charges \$500 for 66 banners.
 7. Questions and Answers:
 - a. Q: What if the banners had different sponsors? A: In P.B., placards are tied with wires to the bottoms of banners. Or you can put stickers on the banners.
 - b. Q: How long to brackets and banners last? A: Brackets last about 10 years. Banners about 5 years. So in ten years, you'd buy 2 sets of banners and replace the brackets.
 - c. Q: This has been brought up before; need a committee to handle it. A: The board is the committee. The question is: at this point, do we want to move ahead?
 - d. Q: Who and what puts up the banners and maintains them? A: It's a 2-piece system: a shoe banded on the pole, and the bracket fits on it. It takes a truck with 2 people to maintain them. That would cost \$1,000 per year.
 8. Motion made (Bowman/Sweet) to approve concept of standing committee studying the feasibility, with report to board. Carried unanimously.
- B. MMMAD Membership (John Daley, Parliamentarian): The MMMAD Committee presented a full slate of 9 candidates (the number currently required by its bylaws) for 2005, to be voted on: Tom Derr (chairman), Brad Buffett, Joe Frichtel, Chuck Sweet, Bob Mixon, George Robbins, Lloyd Fox, Steve Barrera, Scott Dykstra. Discussion. Vote taken. Slate approved (26 for, 1 opposed).
- C. Possibility of Sponsoring Voter's Forum (Brad Buffett):
1. Voter's Forum would be about mayoral race, with other possible ballot issues considered. Miramar College is possibly interested in collaborating. Question of who might be interested in working on it. Volunteers: Jeff and Pam Stevens, Brad Buffett, Mike Davis, Doug Dillard, Steve Barrera, Chuck Sweet.
 2. Discussion: Jeff said MMTC has a history of doing candidate forums at regular meetings, so that's what he suggests. Barbara suggested the September meeting. Brenda suggested that we get PTAs (which have newsletters) and scouting groups involved to draw in rest of public. Brahma asked if we would combine with Scripps Ranch. Pam said Scripps Ranch and Penasquitos are possibilities, but doing it at our own meeting is better. Street Fair proposed as good advertising vehicle. Question of whether the library meeting room is large enough. Committee will bring back options.
- D. Bylaws Review and Adoption (John Daley, Parliamentarian):
1. Started process at April meeting. Thanks to Jeff Stevens for putting proposed bylaws changes on MMTC website. Minor changes to existing bylaws and MMMAD and new bylaws (including missions and purposes) to cover standing

committees: Street Fair, Volunteer of the Year, and Scholarship. (See MMTC website.)

2. Changes read (including: 1st VP rather than 2nd VP to co-sign MMTC checks, “Stakeholders Committee” rather than Community Fund Committee, 2/3 majority of members of any standing committee can remove any member, insurance to be maintained by MMTC, position of treasurer eliminated from Community Pride Committee). MMMAD (changes approved by committee membership): no less than 5 members and no more than 13; minimum of 4 (quarterly) meetings per year. Scholarship Committee: award 4 \$500 scholarships, 5 members to be appointed by the executive board, specifications of what committee does. Street Fair Committee: held first Saturday in October, specification of treasurer’s and secretary’s responsibilities, MMTC president and officers responsible for oversight, MMTC has booth at S.Fair, starts meeting in March, subcommittees listed. Volunteer of Year Committee: one each year, 3 or more people on committee, monetary approval by board, where money is sent, sponsorships, money to be used for scholarships, committee creates nominations, publicizes, etc. Glossary added, including definition of “bylaws.”

3. Standing rules to be reviewed every 2 years.

4. Jeff pointed out 2 places where MMTC and Stakeholders Committee were referred to as 501 (c) 3 nonprofits. Debbie explained that we’re 501 (c) 4 because we filed a long time ago, and only educational organizations could be (c) 3 at that time. No difference in donations or tax write offs. Will be corrected to 501 (c).

5. Jeff questioned 5-13 membership requirement for MMMAD. Brad answered that it was to enable the committee to continue with fewer members but to be more inclusive if more people wanted to be involved. Brenda asked if an even number was allowed. Brad said “Yes, in the event of a tie, the president can vote to break the tie.”

6. Motion (Stevens/Davis) to approve changes to bylaws. Motion carried (26 for, 1 opposed).

VII. Community Group Reports

A. Recreation Council (Joe Frichtel):

1. Movie in the Park, Saturday, August 27, at 7 p.m. Showing *The Little Princess*.
2. Jonas Salk School site: Fairy shrimp found on site. Construction delayed by Fish and Wildlife people.
3. Next meeting is Tuesday, August 9, at Lopez Ridge.
4. Motion (Frichtel/Derr) that MMTC write letter to get Fish and Wildlife representative to a meeting to explain actions. Motion carried unanimously. Jeff Stevens to write letter.

B. Planning Group (Jeff Stevens):

1. School District to report on problem at Salk Elementary School site at next Planning Group meeting. They knew about it when they wrote the EIR. Set aside 4 acres. U.S. Fish and Wildlife wants more preserved. Would require redesign of school, which will set back opening by about a year. Article in *Union Tribune* and on t.v. news.

2. Planning Group will vote at next meeting on whether residential development will be allowed in Western Mira Mesa. Business groups are opposed to it. (Carroll Canyon development being planned as mixed use.)

3. Questions and Answers:

a. Q: Reps. from different companies there, explaining their need for expansion as argument against residential development. How involved are Qualcomm and bioscience companies in the Mira Mesa community? A: Businesses from W. MM represented on Planning Group for the first time because of this issue.

b. Q: What about the Camino Ruiz Village Project? A: There's a subcommittee looking into it.

c. There were red flags from the Camino Ruiz Park walkthrough. What about that? A: The plan approved had noise berms around edges, and the construction engineer didn't know about them. City engineer is looking into it.

d. Re. Salk School site; the city hasn't cleaned up the site. Water has been leaking for years, so it's slippery, and trash piles up. A: Contact Mitz Lee, our representative on the School Board.

C. Community Pride (Jim Brown):

1. Graffiti related to Blood Gang popping up on houses, Miramar College, etc. Call 911 if you see anything.

2. Rider's group the worst offenders with political signs. Took down illegal ones, called them and told them about it, and they put up more.

3. Committee meets the 3rd Thursday of the month, 4:30 p.m., at the library.

D. 4th of July (Debbie Vincent):

1. Thanks for the 4th of July volunteers, especially John Daley, who handled the stage for the first time.

2. Committee will have a concession stand at Movie in the Park on August 27 (hot dogs and popcorn). The Teen Center will be selling pizza.

3. Committee meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Senior Center.

D. Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens Advisory Committee (Pam Stevens):

1. Noted in Camino Ruiz Park tour that there's no mention of a trail to the preserve. Will contact Tina Huang (spelling?) to try to set up trail connection.

2. Committee meets every other month (odd-numbered months), 3rd Thursdays, 7 p.m., at the LPCP Ranch House.

E. Orlando: Concern about traffic on Hillery, Greenford, and Westonhill, especially 9 to 12. Muffler noise, racing engines, and going through stop sign. Larry said RSVP doesn't go out at night. Jim said it is kids on cell phones playing tag with cars. Chuck said kids in 3 cars were identified as gang members who live on Flanders; they were cited. Police aware of problem.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Arlette C. Ballew