

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7 MEETING

I. Opening

- A. Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Brad Buffett, president.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance led by Boy Scout and Girl Scout color guard.
- C. Introduction of board members.

II. Board Reports

- A. Secretary (Arlette Ballew): Motion to approve minutes of January 3 meeting (Daley/Sweet). Minutes approved unanimously.
- B. Treasurer's Report (Chuck Sweet):
 1. Checking account: \$4,624.40; Savings account: \$2,850.84; Certif. of Dep.: \$10,948.15; Street Fair: \$24,817.72. Community Pride account closed.
 2. MMTB Budget for 2005 presented (see separate article).
 3. Motion to approve 2005 budget (Sweet/Stevens). Approved unanimously.

III. Reports from Government Representatives

- A. Assemblyman George Plescia (Janelle Riella):
 1. Introduced amendment to protect Prop. 42 (gas tax fund) monies, to keep state from taking the money for other purposes.
 2. Secretary of State Kevin Shelley resigned. Governor will appoint replacement.
 3. State budget: Education funds increased \$3 billion but do not reach Prop. 98 standards. Most other funds cut.
 4. Co-authored redistricting bill.
 5. Opposed to term limits.
- B. Mira Mesa Police Storefront (Officer Steve Higuera):
 1. Has now been at storefront 10 years. Storefront number is 858-538-8120. Most calls are about traffic. General police communications number is 858-484-3154.
 2. Car thefts are a problem all over city. Keep cars locked, with nothing of value visible.
 3. Reports of aggressive door-to-door salesmen. If you don't know them, don't answer the door. City requires solicitation permits, with photo, for door-to-door sales.
 4. Captain Nancy Goodrich retired. New captain is Chris Ball, who was in criminal intelligence previously.
 5. Police are at 62-65% of staffing. Hope to get 1 or 2 new recruits for MM from academy graduates.
 6. Speed-monitoring devices are available. Call RSVP at 858-538-8156 to request one for a particular location.
 7. There were a couple of house break-ins in the SW part of MM recently. Sporadic, not a series. MM burglary rate has gone down in the last 6 months and is below city average.

8. Confrontation of teenagers progressing from MMHS to library to Rec. Center was broken up by Juvenile Service Team.
9. Steve is visiting moped/scooter dealers to tell them about laws (e.g., riders must be 16, other restrictions). Fewer complaints about them now.

IV. Main Program

The City of San Diego Water Department's "Water Reuse Study 2005" (Mike Wallace):
[See separate article.]

V. Open Forum

- A. The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life is May 21 and 22. Kickoff is Feb. 17 at the MM Rec. Center. Contact Fiona at 858-344-2213 for more information.
- B. Petition for "Save Our Licenses" (Marv Miles): See him re. petition against illegal immigrants receiving driver's licenses.
- C. Question re. overgrown lot. Complaint phone numbers supplied.
- D. Oil recycling (Joe Frichtel): Feb. 26 at Sierra High School.
- E. Charity bicycle race (Brad Buffett): The Cyclo-Vet Club's Annual Criterium Race will be held Sunday, June 27, on the Huennekens and Waples .7-mile-circuit bicycle course. Contact Sherry Newsham at 760-753-9014 for more information.
- F. HEROES program (Mike Davis and Doug Dillard): Will help MM people and organizations that need fix-up/repair support, through team of volunteers. Will work 4 hours on a Saturday, once each month. First effort will commence March 28 at 8 a.m. To volunteer, or for more information, contact Mike Davis at 858-549-0392 (davismh@san.rr.com) or Doug Dillard at 858-547-9221 (doug@miramesa.com).

VI. New Business

MMTC Bylaws Review (John Daley, Parliamentarian): The bylaws of the MMTC and its standing committees are to be reviewed every two years. A committee is being formed to do this, and members are invited to volunteer or give input.

VII. Investment of New Board Officers (S.D. City Councilman Brian Maienschein):

- A. Swearing-in of MMTC Board for 2005.
- B. Commendations to outgoing board members (Robin Stutsman, Steve Stutsman, Brahma Derr, Tom Derr).
- C. Presentation of plaque of appreciation to outgoing president, Robin Stutsman.

VIII. Report by Councilman Brian Maienschein

- A. Thanks to those who attended groundbreaking ceremony for Camino Ruiz Park.
- B. Obtained private funding for 16 pedestrian-countdown devices, which will cover 4 intersections: Westview Pkwy. & MM Blvd. (done), Black Mtn. Rd. & MM Blvd. (to be done soon), Camino Ruiz & MM Blvd. (future), and Scranton Rd. & MM Blvd. (future).
- C. Holding a community "Open House" on Wednesday, March 2, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the MM Library.
- D. Ribbon-cutting ceremony at the MM Senior Center parking lot, March 16 at 4 p.m.

- E. Supporting the MM HEROES program. Each month, will pick one individual or organization whose property is in need of sprucing up.
- F. Testified in support of keeping MCAS Miramar for the military Base Support and Retention Council.
- G. Held press conference to propose solution to city pension-system problems. Need investigation and accountability and also need solution. Solution is to change from defined benefit plan to defined contribution plan, so city wouldn't be guaranteeing the rate of return (currently 8 %). Governor has proposed similar ballot initiative for the state for '07. Will be meeting with city-employee unions. Points can be negotiated. Needs to be done, as city is starting labor negotiations now.
- H. Questions and Answers:
 - 1. Why doesn't county get insurance companies to help in fire protection? A: Difficult; county doesn't regulate insurers.
 - 2. Is proposal a 2-tiered system? How does it affect the DROP program? A: City manager's report recommends keeping the DROP program, as it saves the city money. Seems counter-intuitive. Asked the retirement system for a report. Hope to get DROP program eliminated this year (no new entrants).
 - 3. What about Aguirre's plan to go back to certain percentages for time served? A: Most attorneys say that you can't change vested benefits.
 - 4. Is City Council trying to curb Aguirre? A: Things that get headlines don't necessarily solve problems. Difficult to talk about serious issues in 10-second sound bites.
 - 5. How did pension system get out of control? A: Retirement board set the 8 % interest rate. The county's is 8.25 %. It is challenging to achieve that now and it gets harder every year. Many reasons (historic) for problems. Proposition on ballot changed the composition of board. Were many members with, at least, an appearance of conflict of interest. As of April 1, the majority will be people who don't work for the city. It is fixable.

IX. Community Group Reports

- A. MMTTC Volunteer of the Year Dinner (Barbara Peluso): Event is February 26 at PRIME Hotel (formerly Wyndham). Accepting reservations.
- B. MM Maintenance Advisory District (Tom Derr):
 - 1. Bylaws changed and approved.
 - 2. Meeting on budget. Need input from the community. The increased assessment will yield \$270,000 more per year. Can enhance as well as do maintenance. Serves as advisory to city within liability range. Some talk of doing our own maintenance, but very costly and time consuming.
 - 3. Pine tree trimming on MM Blvd. and Black Mtn. Rd. begins Feb. 14. Lanes will be closed. Cost is \$43.5 thousand this year.
 - 4. Trees on Black Mtn. Rd. that died will be replaced with sycamores.
 - 5. Doubling up maintenance in three aspects of Zone 1.
 - 6. Future: Want to upgrade median on Camino Ruiz between Capricorn and Aquarius at entrance to Camino Ruiz Park. Need ideas for wish list. Later will be asked to take on Camino Santa Fe. No changes on Black Mtn. and Camino

Ruiz south until light rail is installed and Carroll Canyon Rd. is built across Camino Ruiz.

7. The monument at the west end of MM will be replaced.
8. Median east of intersection of MM Blvd. and Pacific Heights is privately owned but needs to be fixed.
9. Checking into possibility of MM banner district.
10. Talk of having banks of mailboxes to reduce vandalism. Will discuss.
11. NW corner of Montongo and MM Blvd. needs maintenance.
12. Question of including Camino Santa Fe (or just between Flanders and Trade) or creating another district. Need businesses there to pitch in. Boyle Engineering will look into it.

C. MM Community Planning Group (Ted Brengel):

1. Nominations at Feb. meeting; elections at March meeting. Half of members' seats are up for replacement.
2. A number of condo conversions coming up, both commercial and residential.
3. PETCO headquarters to be built in western MM.
4. Will consider co-use "Sorrento Heights" apartment and condo complex in western MM. Industrial business group is opposed. Infrastructure needs to be there.

D. Community Pride Committee (Jim Brown):

1. Many light and sign posts have garage sale signs and tape on them. Okay to remove these after Sunday evening if those who post them don't.
2. Have 4 members in training.

E. Stakeholders/Community Fund Committee (Robin Stutsman): Exploring options.

F. 4th of July Committee (Robin Stutsman): Casino Night is Saturday, March 19, from 6 to 10 p.m., at Good Shepherd Parish Hall. Fundraiser for 4th of July.

G. Street Fair Committee: First 2005 meeting is March 24, 6 p.m., at Lopez Ridge.

H. Los Penasquitos Canyon Park Citizens Advisory Committee (Pam Stevens): Park closed because of erosion from rain.

X. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Arlette C. Ballew