

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 6 MEETING

I. Opening

- A. Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Brad Buffett, president.
- B. Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Introduction to agenda.
- D. Treasurer's Report: Checking: \$5,501.01; Savings: \$2853.65; CD: \$11,002.62; Street Fair: \$24,001.72. The MMTC financial books are back from review.
- E. Minutes of the May 2 meeting approved unanimously.

II. Scholarship Presentations (Robin Stutsman): Scholarship awards were given out at MM High School in past week. Five scholarships of \$500 each were awarded at the MMTC meeting. (The MM Senior Center gave additional scholarships to 7 entrants who didn't win MMTC scholarships.) Winners Afshan Usman, Dararoth Rath, and Edward Delos Reyes gave summaries of their volunteer work and what it meant to them. (Winners Sabrina Robinette and Hong Tran were unable to attend.)

III. Reports from Government Representatives

- A. County Supervisor Ron Roberts (Lisa Hom): The hearing on locating sexually violent predators has been postponed to July 14. There is a proposal to put them on State-owned land near Donovan State Prison.
- B. State Assemblyman George Plescia (Aaron Pottischen):
 1. George authored amendments based on Florida's "Jessica's Law," which would increase penalties for child molesters, including [summarized] electric monitoring as a condition of probation or parole; increased penalties for lewd acts on a child; increased penalties for continuous sexual abuse of a child; and life-parole terms for those who commit sexual acts on a child. The amendments were not passed.
 2. Assemblymen Plescia and Bogh amended Assembly Bill 522, calling on the Governor to "take immediate action . . . to end taxpayer-funded purchasing of sexual enhancing drugs for convicted sex offenders." The bill is scheduled to be heard by the CA Senate Health Committee on June 15.
 3. Educational Town Hall to be held June 17, 6:30 to 8, at Mt. Carmel High School.
- C. S.D. Police Department (Captain Chris Ball and Officer Steve Higuera):
 1. State of the Police Dept.: It's in good shape. Chief Lansdowne is doing a great job. Our councilman, Brian Maienschein, supports the SDPD. The S.D. Region is one of 31 cities in the U.S. with a population over 500,000 and is the 4th safest city in the U.S. (property crime and violent crime). Attributed not just to the PD but also to parents, volunteers, etc. who have a sense of ownership in the community. Crime is down in the Northeastern Division, city, and region, but there were 0 homicides in Mira Mesa in the first quarter of last year and 4 this year.
 2. Introduction to Cpt. Ball: Born in England, was policeman in London for 6 years, came to the U.S. in 1972, and attended the academy at the same time as Steve Higuera. Has been in SDPD for 25 years. Was on patrol, then ran

Internal Affairs unit, spent 3 years with Vice unit, and was in Criminal Intelligence Dept. investigating organized crime, where he worked with the Mexican Police. Now Captain of the Northeastern Division (from Hwy. 52 north, including San Pasquale).

3. Questions and Answers:

- a. Q: What changes in the SDPD since the October fires? A: The PD has an excellent working relationship with the SD Fire Dept. Migrant camps are a fire hazard. Working with other city depts. to address that issue.
- b. Q: Will the MM Police Storefront be closed? A: Status quo as of now.
- c. Q: What about Paddy's job (community service officer)? A: 23/24 may be cut, based on seniority, but may lose 3 who have been with city for 18 years or more.
- d. Q: What about the migrant camp at the n. end of Camino Ruiz? A: Officer Boris Martinez and his team and some Federal people cleaned it out. There are smaller camps elsewhere in the canyon. The challenge is that when a camp is closed down, they set up another one. Some are crawl-in holes below ground, in brush. In one, they'd poured a concrete slab. Migrants are working in our backyards, some for construction companies and some for homeowners.
- e. Q: Any opportunity for individuals to participate in PD programs? A: Have a ride-along program. Must be 16+ for special school projects and 18+ for regular program. You see a different side of life, a different perspective. Talk to Officer Dave Chaney at the substation on Salmon River Road.
- f. Q: What about dangers to kids? A: Too many parents have too much going on in their lives and don't know where their kids are and whom they're with. They don't even know about their babysitters. The PD keeps tabs on registered sex offenders and looks for ones who don't register. Statistically, incidents are low.
- g. Q: How can police help Neighborhood Watch? A: The only time people tend to get involved is when they're victims, then they let it slip afterward. Call the Storefront to set up a neighborhood meeting to explain the program. If you see something suspicious, call the police. Don't think you're "bothering" us. If your instinct is to call, do it.
- h. Comment: Thank you for your prompt action on the migrant camps.
- i. Q. What about calling 911 from cell phones? A: As of 2 weeks ago, it now goes to the police rather than the CHP. Non-emergency numbers are 858-484-3154 or 619-531-2000—to communications center downtown.

- j. Q: What can we do to help you? A: Don't treat your neighborhood like strangers. Know who lives across the street. Develop a sense of ownership of your area. That's what makes a difference. And call the police. Police work is based on information from the public.

D. State Senator Christine Kehoe's Newsletter:

1. A city-wide election for mayor will be held July 26. If you would like more information on voter processes and registration, contact the SD County Registrar of Voters at 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite 1, SD, CA 92123; (858) 565-5800, www.sdvote.com.
 2. Christine has authored a bill (SB 757) to promote gas conservation and cost-effective fuel alternatives. Contrary to what the oil companies and refiners who are opposed to the bill are saying, it will not cause a raise in taxes. The bill would institute conservation measures for state agencies to follow in lowering their gasoline consumption by 2010. It also would require private and public vehicle fleet changes in the future to include more alternative fuel vehicles (e.g., hybrids) and the use of compressed natural gas and propane, bio-diesel, and other advanced fuel technologies. For more information, go to www.leginfo.ca.gov.
 3. The Senator's district office has moved to 2445 5th Avenue, Suite 200, SD, CA 92101, (619) 645-3133.
- E. Mayor Dick Murphy (Press Release): No San Diego military bases were on the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure list. It also appears that SD will be home to new ships, Marine Corps units, and Navy and Marine Corps activities. This success was due to the outstanding teamwork of the Mayor and City Council, the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation, San Diego military leaders, and San Diego's congressional delegation: Duncan Hunter, Randy "Duke" Cunningham, Susan Davis, Bob Filner, and Darrell Issa.

IV. Main Program: San Diego County Regional Airport Authority (Xema Jacobson):

- A. Background: The SD County Regional Airport Authority took over from the SD Airport Authority on January 1, 2003. Members include the Mayor or designee, another from the city, and representatives from other areas of the county, including unincorporated areas. Its mandate is to 1) operate and develop San Diego International Airport, 2) serve as a land-use commission for all airports within SD County (a function taken over from SANDAG), and 3) recommend solutions to the area's air transportation needs (including making sure that areas around airports are safe).
- B. SD International Airport is the nation's 29th busiest and is the busiest single-runway commercial-service airport. The runway is 9,400 feet long. The airport served a record 16.4 million passengers in 2004. It has 20 scheduled passenger air carriers and 7 all-cargo carriers. Southwest Airlines is the largest carrier, accounting for about 1/3 of all passengers. The airport has 240 scheduled departures daily, most between 7-9 a.m. and 4-7 p.m. Takeoffs are 24 hours per day; landings are after 7 a.m. and before 11 p.m. Planes that break curfew (mostly private jets) are fined. The airport is open 24 hours per day, with mechanics, etc., working overnight.
- C. The airport is on 614 acres; in comparison, Chicago O'Hare has 7,280 acres, New York's John F. Kennedy has 5,200 acres, Los Angeles has 3,500 acres, Denver has 33,422 acres, and Dallas/Ft. Worth has 18,076 acres. Chicago and Dallas are "hub" airports; SD is an "origin and destination" airport.

- D. Passengers want nonstop flights, so airport got new carriers Jet Blue and Independence Air (with nonstop flights to Washington, DC). West Jet (Canadian) came in last week and flies seasonally. Looking into more nonstop flights to Boston.
- E. The airport is an economic engine for the region. Visitors who arrive by air spend \$2 billion in SD. This increased by 7.6% in 2004. The airport and related businesses generate 5,000 jobs, and every airport-related job generates 15 additional jobs in the region. The airport contributes \$4.5 billion annually to the regional economy—4% of the region's total economic output. This includes landing fees, rent to airlines, concession fees, parking, and passenger facility charges on tickets. No airport revenue is derived from local taxpayer dollars.
- F. Bonds for construction are paid for by airlines paying the airport. Challenges include declining passenger volumes, longer wait times, the “drive vs. fly” mentality, financially struggling airlines (the airport is dependent on the airlines' stability), changes in route systems, and increased security measures and security costs (the airport has spend \$100 million on security since 9/11). The cost of fuel keeps going up; airlines are using smaller planes so they don't have empty seats. Forecasts say that within 15 years, discount carriers will control the market.
- G. Forecasts also say that 27,000-32,000 passengers will use the airport by 2030, exceeding the present airport's capacity. The Regional Airport Authority must decide what to do at Lindbergh Field to maximize capacity now. It will add 9 more gates in Terminal 2 and increase the taxiway on land formerly owned by Teledyne Ryan. This is a short-term plan; the long-term plan includes the airport site-selection program. Need two runways, each 2,500 feet long.
- H. The master plan includes meeting requirements for aviation demand, supporting regional economic goals, addressing airport stakeholders and community concerns, and being financially realistic. It will take 20-30 years to build a new airport on a different site and will cost \$2-4 billion for the airport and infrastructure. The site-selection process currently includes an in-depth analysis of FAA guidelines, market demand, site planning, etc. Passengers probably will not travel more than 45 minutes to use an airport, so the loss of passengers to other local airports (e.g., Palomar, John Wayne) is an issue. The authority will have done an evaluation by March of next year and is mandated to develop a plan to send to the voters in November of 2006. Now that SD military bases will not be closed under the current BRAC, they (March, Miramar, Pendleton, and North Island) are not being considered, but the BRAC process is not finished. Other sites being considered are in the desert in Imperial County and Anza Borrego, the current airport, and one in Campo.
- I. Questions and Answers:
 - 1. Q: Why is Southwest not going to San Francisco? A: Southwest has a 30-minute turnaround time on planes. Fog in S.F. would delay flights and back up all the way down the line. So it goes to Oakland.
 - 2. Q: Has rapid transit to the airport been considered? A: Yes, need to get people in and out, so buses, trolleys, with a station near Old Town all are being considered.
 - 3. Q: Why is it called an “international” airport? A: Have flights to Canada and Mexico. Planning flights to Manila and Japan.
 - 4. Q: Is there a study on jet-fuel disbursements on the environment? A: Can get the information.
 - 5. Q: What about a site near the border? A: Took a site near Brown Field off the list. The air space is too complicated because of North Island; Rodriguez airport has different protocols, and it's too long a drive from North County.
 - 6. Q: Would you keep Lindbergh open? A: Can't overbuild Lindbergh, so the FAA would let us leave. The Port Authority originally owned L. field, not the Airport Authority. The Port probably would develop the area. It would be hard on the airlines to maintain two sites.

7. Q: What about traffic problem in design? A: Would reconfigure terminals so there are different levels to come in, drop off, park, etc., so traffic is not so confused.
8. Q: Is there room to expand at current airport? A: Don't want to overbuild it if it is decided that it can't accommodate usage in 40 years. Some on the authority think that it can be expanded to suit and some don't. Weighing alternatives against expansion.
9. Q: What about NTC and MCRD? A: The city dropped the ball on using NTC. MCRD has been approached for a v-shaped runway. One issue is purchase price; also, they want a 2-story brick wall to separate, and it might affect instrument landings.

V. New Business

- A. Presentation of flag to MM Library: Chuck Sweet, MMTTC Treasurer, personally purchased and donated a new U. S. flag to the MM Library. Laurie Macrae, head librarian, accepted the donation. She also noted that one of the first things Police Chief Lansdowne did was institute a course in dealing with the mentally ill, which was very helpful to librarians.
- B. Renovation of Taco Bell (Tommy Michaels): Franchisee owns 17 Taco Bells in SD. To renew MM lease, TB wants them to update the inside and outside of the building and give it the new TB look. Outside will have brick around the bottom, canopies, and new paint scheme. Putting lighting in parking lot, landscaping, and adding entrance in front as well as from parking lot. Bringing restrooms up to ADA standards, redoing plumbing and grease trap. Inside will be redecorated with pendant lights and rich colors. Operations also will be enhanced.

VI. Community Group Reports

- A. Community Planning Group (Ted Brengel):
 1. Stone Creek development is in Carroll Canyon Master Plan. Will come to P.G. Under plan, Carroll Canyon and Canyon Creek will be restored and 9,888 homes will be built. Plan out for review. Will be at least 7 years before construction.
 2. Current construction of Carroll Canyon Business Park, on old Ruth Lane estate off of Camino Ruiz, is different. Will complete part of Carroll Canyon Road.
- B. 4th of July Committee (Debbie Vincent):
 1. City budget cuts affect 4th of July events: have to pay for stages, traffic controllers, security, etc., and city fees are up). Will cost \$25,000-\$28,000 this year, all through tax-deductible donations.
 2. Used to have joint-use agreement with MM High School. Now the school district's risk management dept. is not signing off on fireworks being on school site. Send e-mails to SD City School Board. We have insurance and have had no accidents in 30 years, and we have volunteers cleaning up afterward.
 3. MMTTC will not hold voters' forum prior to the 1st mayoral election. Watching to see if there is a runoff election.
 4. MMTTC is investigating installing street banners on MM Blvd. Steve Barrera did research. Estimate is \$13,000-15,000 to get started.

VII. Special Report on City Budget (Jeff Stevens):

- A. Library: For first 10 years, was open to 8 p.m. Two years ago, was cut to 48 hours per week. (The city kept the RB library open on Sundays.) The newest proposal is to reduce library hours to 40 hours per week. Would keep MMTC from having meetings on Monday nights. Libraries that have received private funding (Pt. Loma, La Jolla) will not have their hours cut.
- B. City manager's plan also would eliminate the Six-to-Six Program, cut the Parks and Recreation budget, and cut Community Service Centers. Only thing not cut would be public safety. Reducing trash pickup in parks. Our Recreation Council pays to keep the Rec. Center open on Sundays. It has the only restrooms in the community park. Parks and Rec. Dept. director was promoted to Asst. City Manager, so there was nobody to defend the Parks and Rec. Dept. at budget hearings. Increased fees cut down on use of facilities. Closing Six to Six Program and parks and libraries will require more police when kids are on the streets. Six to Six and libraries also provide tutoring.
- C. Background: Not in a recession. General Fund Budget up 5% from last year and 15% from 2 years ago. \$3.5 billion budget (incl. general fund). Public safety budget increased. Costs are up, although salaries are down. Fringe benefits (health care, pension repayments) are up. Have more parks and libraries now. Developers build facilities but taxes maintain and staff them. There are more facilities to staff with fewer people. City is thinking about charging for trash collection. City pensions underfunded for past decade, and investments were down since 2000 but doing okay this year. City employees with 30 years of service get 80% of salary. But investments don't pay at the return this was based on. Bonds issued to cover deficit.
- D. Need to tell elected representatives what is important. City Manager wanted to make drastic cuts. No way to affect City Manager except through Mayor and City Council. Brian Maienschein helped defend Parks and Rec. City Council put library hours on a wish list, avoided changes in parks. Don't know about Six to Six Program yet.
- E. Questions and Comments:
 - 1. Increase parking fees, start beach-use fees, look for other sources of revenue.
 - 2. How will cuts affect Mira Mesa? A: 4th of July and Street Fair committees will get less/no help from Parks and Rec. Dept., and Rec. Center will be closed on those days.
 - 3. MMTC can meet at the MM Senior Center if need be.
 - 4. Khoa: Need you to come to budget hearings and convince other council members, to help Brian preserve services. He is also opposed to increases in fees (for pools, etc.).
 - 5. Q: Are there equivalent cuts in behind-the-scenes departments? A: Yes (Developmental Services, Planning Dept., etc.).
 - 6. Four schools in MM would be affected by cuts in Six to Six: Ericson, Hague, Sandberg, and Hickman). Harmonium might be licensed to take over Six to Six or alternative program.
 - 7. Q: Do we need to do a chain with e-mails to city council members? A: That's good, but coming to hearings is better. Schedule on city website. Final budget date is June 23.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Arlette C. Ballew