

Mira Mesa Town Council Meeting  
December 3, 2007  
Minutes

The National Anthem was performed by the MMHS Madrigal Singers, directed by Mr. Robert Wuertz.  
Meeting was called to order by President Jeff Stevens

Board Members Present

Jeff Stevens – President  
Kathy Madsen – Vice President (Programs)  
Ted Brengel – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (Membership)  
Alan Philpott – Treasurer  
John Daley – Parliamentarian  
Maria Pankau – Newsletter Editor  
Courtland Young - Member at Large

Minutes of November meeting were approved as written.

BOARD REPORTS:

- President: Volunteer of the Year nominations need to be turned in tonight. Mike Davis and Ted Brengel were nominated from the floor. Brian Maienschein will our guest speaker at the January meeting. Those running for city council and school board will be addressing us in the coming months. Watch Friday's Union Tribune for an article on the shopping cart problem. It will be in the "fix it" column.
- Treasurer: Beginning balance for November 1, 2007 = \$80,755.51. Ending balance = \$73,488.83. Money was spent on banners this month.

OFFICIALS REPORTS

- City Councilman Brian Maienschein (Khoa Nguyen) Camino Ruiz Trail has been delayed 30 days because of the fires. Work should begin right after the first of the year. Jonas Salk school update: Fish and Wildlife and the school district have met and agree in principal to several items. They are moving forward on a schedule. Jim Madaffer was elected President Pro Tem of the City Council and Scott Peters is the President. Brian is heading the committee on public services, specifically fire prevention and recovery.
- County Supervisor Ron Roberts (Rebecca Leister) Ron is taking the lead on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the county. Fire cleanup is moving forward. If you need assistance, mental health, food, etc., or know someone who does, call Ron's office. Ron's office is partnering with others to provide 500 bikes and helmets, and 800 new stuffed animals to the children who were victims of the wildfires. Ron reports that he has reached 98% of his goals in office this year. The county is filling volunteer positions. If you want to be involved in policies and procedures in the county, contact Ron's office. Ron is planning to get the state, city, and county together in a few months to review the fires.
- State Assemblyman George Plescia (Liz Saidkhanian). Deadline for voter registration is January 21. FEEMA has extended their departure date to January 29. Cal-Fires still has not responded to questions regarding aircraft assistance during the fires. George has not taking a stand on the new proposal for term limits, essentially allowing state senators and assemblymen to serve up to 12 years.

OPEN FORUM

- I have NO problems with the Front Line Fire Fighters(our Boots on the ground) and their heroic actions in Saving Property and Lives in the recent County fires! I DO have problems with CalFire's Management of the available resources! To some degree ALL Fire Fighting Schools (Military & Civilian) have the same motto, "Learn or Burn". Also, the Prim Rule for ALL Fires is to hit the fire EARLY and HEAVY! Well, the Cities and the County of San Diego DID learn and while our actions were not perfect we learned

from the Cedar Fire. It appears the ONLY thing the State learned to do was to change the name of CDF to CalFire. As we all know by now the Cedar Fire and the Witch Creek Fire were Twins-the weather conditions were the same-the flash point location was the same-Early Air resources were NOT USED! Let us set the stage for the FIRST DAY OF the Witch Creek Fire. City and County A/C's were in the AIR; as well as TV choppers. State A/C's were on the GROUND. 3 or 5 FF C-130's were in Northern Cal., but NOT FOR USE in California-CalFire had not Certified them for use. They could be used for 'OUT of State' Fires. C-130's were on the way from OUT of State BEFORE CalFire requested them. There were 19 Military FF A/C's in Southern California-waiting for CalFire Riders. There were 38 CalFire Safety Riders in the State-6 here IN THE S.D AREA. These are FF Battalion Chiefs who direct the 'Boots on the Ground' and if they are in the air there is no one on the ground. NONE WERE CALLED!!!!!! None of the 'Heavy' A/C's in the L.A. Area were called in until LATE in the Fire Event. Military A/C's sat on the ground for DAYS WAITING FOR CalFIRE! CalFire does not appear to understand the dynamics of OUR Mountain/Canyon Santa Anna fires. Calfire does not appear to understand Military Capabilities. Calfire appears to be protecting their Civilian A/C Contracts. The Head of CalFire is a 33 year Veteran in fighting fires, but he appears not to have the ability to LEAD!!! The tone of the Senate investigation here is that we in San Diego did not give the Fire Fighters enough money. I agree the need more people-more pay-more equipment, BUT if they had all this; as heroic as they are; without the Air Resources they would not have been able to do more than was done.

- Bob Ilko, local candidate for school board introduced himself.
- Chuck Sweet: Los Penasquitos Canyon is wet all year around, on the bottom, as it is a riverbed. A saltwater sprinkler system installed on the floor of the canyon will preserve the canyon on both sides. Rancho Sante Fe has a similar sprinkler system that should be investigated.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- ByLaw Change. It was proposed and passed (Daley/Sweet) that the bylaws under Article II – Membership be changed to reflect that owners of member businesses be allowed only one vote, either for their business or individually, on the Mira Mesa Town Council.
- Election of 2007 Board of Directors. With no new nominations for the floor it was moved and passed (Sweet/Bailey) that we elect the slate of officers as nominated. John Daley nominated the following officers and they were elected:  
President – Jeff Stevens  
Vice President – Programs: Pam O'Donahoe  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Membership: John Daley  
Secretary: Albertine Feura-Young  
Treasurer: Alan Philpott  
Parliamentarian: Courtland Young  
Member at Large: Marlon Austria  
Member at Large: Steven Slyter  
Member at Large: John Daley
- Board Meeting for new and old board will be January 3, 2007. Next general meeting will be January 7, 2007, and January Board meeting for new board will be January 17.

#### COMMUNITY REPORTS

- Banner District. The banners look good. The word Welcome is hard for some to read.
- RSVP: The new administrator is John Sunde. They need new members. Call 858-538-8156 if you can help. Leave your name and phone number and you will be contacted.

- Community Pride: There is new graffiti on houses down by Arby's. It is disappointing that the local television stations did an article on graffiti and essentially gave free publicity to the taggers. If you see graffiti in action, call 911. It is a crime in progress.
- Planning Group: No meeting in December. Traffic issues regarding access to I-15 from Hillary were discussed. These issues have not been brought before the planning group; they are in study by the city right now. The planning group will report back after they receive the results of the studies. They will invite the traffic engineers to come to the Town Council with their proposals.
- Recreation Council: December 11 is an oil and car battery recycle event at the high school.
- PQ Canyon Preserve: Group meets the third Thursday of each month. Recent rain closed the trails over the weekend. Saturday, December 8, noon – 4 open house at the preserve.
- Library: Banned/challenged book club meets the fourth Monday of January. *Forever Amber* is being discussed this month and *Huck Fin* will be discussed in February.
- Fourth of July Committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at the Senior Center. They need volunteers now to begin preparations for next year's celebration. For December, they will have a Holiday Party at Karen Burger's home.
- Halloween Committee meets at the Recreation Center at noon, every other month. They are planning a pizza party for January.
- Senior Center is waiting for the lettering for the building. As soon as it gets here a dedication will be planned.
- Theatre Guild: \$5000 from Monster Manner was donated to the July 4 Committee. \$2100 in Shared Wealth was divided among various community groups. They would like to do a production in the spring, perhaps at the Epicenter.
- Jr. Women's Club is sponsoring a Chalk the Walk on May 10.
- MMHS Foundation: Taste of Mira Mesa will be April 1, 2008 at Gen-Probe. It will be outside on their patio, between the two buildings – a beautiful setting.
- HEROES:- 17 November we finished painting Challenger middle school (except for the Tables) - we will finish the tables this next Saturday, the 8th, with the help of their "dad's club"
- - Met with Carl DeMaio - he is interested in supporting HEROES and starting a regional virtual volunteer initiative for the 5th district... I said I'd help with him with both.

Respectively Submitted

Kathy Madsen