

## Minutes of the April 7, 2008, MMTC General Meeting

Call To Order - Pledge of Allegiance  
Welcome and Board Officer Introductions

### OFFICIAL REPORTS

Minutes Approval – Minutes were approved.

Tonight's Agenda – Jeff Stevens

- City Council Candidate forum – Bob Ilko dropped out. George George is now running; he will have 10 minutes at tonight's meeting.
- The School Board candidate forum is next month.
- The Taste of Mira Mesa event was very successful.
- Casino Night was successful as well, but more money is needed as it costs \$20,000 for fireworks.
- May 3<sup>rd</sup> is the Volunteer of the Year dinner for Mike Davis; the Mayor will be there from 5:30 to 6 pm.
- The MM Women's Club's Chalk the Walk event will be May 10.
- The Philippine Festival and Faire will be June 7 in the MM Community Park.
- Street Fair committee meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at the Senior Center, starting 4/24 at 6:30 pm.
- The Budget Hearing with the Mayor is on April 24<sup>th</sup>, from 6 to 7 pm at the Scripps Ranch Library.
- The MMTC Board meeting is this Thursday, April 10.
- The Fire Department will present tonight and will show a short video.
- Bruce Brown has been painting out graffiti on walls along Mira Mesa Blvd; he needs another \$1000.
- Planning Update for Mira Mesa – Ted Brengel and Jeff Stevens.
- Relay for Life will present tonight and will show a short video.

**Treasurer's report** – \$176.00 in income came in; \$426.00 in expenditures. The ending balance is \$74,023. The report is posted on the website.

**Police Department** (LT. Rick O'Hanlon/Officer Paul Lennon) – not present. Rick mentioned to Jeff that we had an increase in burglaries in MM.

**SD Fire Department** (Capt. Myers) – HEROES helped paint the fire station; they made a great difference for the fire department. Jason Diaz, Brad DeSalle, and George Andy Cornel from Fire Station 38 are present tonight. San Diego is short 200-300 firefighters, but this community is well covered by the stations in Sorrento Valley, on Black Mountain Road, and in Scripps Ranch. Capt. Myers showed a video presentation about the fire department needing 200 additional firefighters as well as additional trucks, stations, and equipment. San Diego firefighters are not well paid and face many dangers – from on-the-job dangers to heightened risks of cancer and heart attacks. A wellness program has been put in place to support the firefighters and help them remain healthier. Firefighters give a portion of their salaries to charities and give a lot of time to the community through community service programs. Visit [www.SDFire.org](http://www.SDFire.org) for more information. Captain Myers also mentioned the Africanized honey bee risk; these bees are known to be more reactive, sting faster, and actually attack people. This is not life threatening unless the person stung is allergic to bee stings.

**City Councilman** Brian Maienschein (Khoa Nguyen) - The upcoming Budget Town Hall is at 6 pm on 4/24 at the Scripps Ranch library. The Camino Ruiz trail project was approved on 3/5; the earliest possible construction date is 4/10. The City will be receiving \$24 million from FEMA for brush management; the Mayor will match \$2.4 million.

**Office of the Mayor** (Stephen Lew) – not present

**County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price** (Erica Holloway) – The Supervisor is hosting a Seniors Health Fair next Thursday in Escondido. The current Action Report includes communication; media alerts have

changed. During the fires in 2003, 27 media alerts were released; in 2007, 229 were released. 211 is the number people called to get information after evacuation. Reverse 911 includes cell phones; they are working on using that system to let people know they can go home. All shelter locations and communication will be posted on central boards. Fire codes are mandatory only for new homes, not existing ones. Call Erica if needed at 619-531-5758. Question: A lot of the emergency supplies were supposed to go to LA, but remained in San Diego; did any go up to Los Angeles? Answer: FEMA was in charge of it.

**County Supervisor Ron Roberts** (Rebecca Leister) – not present

**State Assemblyman George Plescia** (Liz Saidkhanian) – April 15 is tax day. Home-schooling decision: a parent cannot home school his/her child without proper accreditation. Question: How will the schools keep their teachers and educate children without increasing taxes? Answer: There are options other than raising taxes to manage this issue. Question: What is the solution? Answer: Spending control through the removal of unnecessary programs. If the budget is not passed by 6/25, payments to MediCal patients will be placed on hold.

**State Senator Christine Kehoe** (Andrew Kennerly, Laura Hein) – not present

**State Senator Hollingsworth** (Ellen Malin) – not present

**Congressman Brian Bilbray** (Andrew Lund) – not present

**MCAS Miramar** (Juan Lias) – not present

#### OPEN FORUM

1. Nathan Fletcher – State Assembly candidate/75<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
He is the candidate for George Plescia's seat. He has been in the Marine Corps for ten years. His dad was a police officer, and his mother ran shelters for battered women. He is an active member of the Veterans Committee. In order to level out some of the funding issues related to the budget deficit, we could tie our revenue to a 10-year average of tax income so that the excess can be put aside for harder times. [www.NathanFletcher.com](http://www.NathanFletcher.com). Call him with any questions at 858-547-1393.
2. Kevin Tran for One Step Outreach  
Michael and Kevin are students at UCSD. One Step Outreach is a nonprofit tutoring organization. UCSD students help kids with their homework. They also have a high school internship program in which high school students can intern with the organization. There is an event on Saturday, 4/12 – Math and Science Experiment – 11 am to 1 pm, outside the children's area in the Mira Mesa library (for children 5 and above). Children will be able to participate. Look for the college students in lab coats.

#### OLD BUSINESS

**George George** – City Council Candidate. He has lived in Rancho Bernardo 45 years. He and his wife have been very involved due to raising children and living here for years. He joined the fire department in 1962. He was Assistant Chief in San Diego and fire chief in Solana Beach. We have a lot of fire risks here, and there has been no talk of earthquakes. Our help comes from Northern California only. We don't have enough equipment. We do not have enough resources to stop the small fires from becoming bigger. We need to refinance through the bond markets and stop special-interest spending. Public safety, safe streets, and traffic should be our priorities. He has extensive knowledge of traffic issues and fire management. Question: How do you feel about the FCC filing against five city officials? Answer: They mislead the public as well as the FCC. We need honesty and to open the books to the public. We need to eliminate programs that are no longer needed. Question: What will you do to ensure that Salk Elementary School is built as soon as possible? Answer: I would do everything I could to ensure this would happen fast; education is very important. Bonds should be funding it.

**Bruce Brown** - Request for graffiti paint. The wall on Mira Mesa Blvd from the Presbyterian Church west to Parkdale has been painted. 1763 feet have been painting in the past month. He thought he would be able to get as much paint as they wanted from Frazee, but the goal is to paint all the brick walls on Mira Mesa and Camino Ruiz. Frazee has donated a lot of paint, but due to the volume of paint needed, there is a lot of bureaucracy. He needs \$1000 to continue the painting effort. Jeff Stevens mentioned that this additional

\$1000 will go over the budget, but we have enough in reserves to cover this. The motion was seconded and passed. The painting occurs on Sundays from 8am to 10am. The next wall will be Parkdale west on Mira Mesa on the South side.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**Planning Group** – Ted Brengel and Jeff Stevens. The Planning Group meets the 3rd Monday, at 7pm at the Library.

- Ted Brengel is the chairman of the Planning Group. Mira Mesa has one of 35 separate community plans that detail what should be done and how it should be done in each community. Council Policy 624 governs these community plans; it is available on [www.SanDiego.gov](http://www.SanDiego.gov). The community bylaws are on the Mira Mesa Town Council website. Developers can come to the Planning Group to present their projects. Subcommittees are created to handle larger projects; these report back to the Planning Group. Regular members are individuals who come to more than two meetings. There are 19 seats on the executive committee. Half of these seats are replaced every other year; positions can be maintained for a maximum of 8 years unless no one else runs for the position. The community liaison from MCAS Miramar has a seat but does not vote. Mira Mesa is a complex community and is the largest community in San Diego, with around 85,000 residents. Some of the highest-paying jobs are in the Biotech industry in Mira Mesa. Current projects include Salk Elementary School, the Stone Creek project, the Crescent Heights project (on hold due to fairy shrimp) and Casa MiraView by Best Buy (a new high-density housing project). Bruce Brown, one of the members, is on the Planning Commission. Mira Mesa spreads over 10,500 acres.
- Jeff Stevens, re. future projects. Three areas will have substantial development: 1) Crescent Heights, 2) Casa Mira View, and 3) Stone Creek. Casa Mira View was approved in 1986; it was owned by Pardee, who also built Westview Parkway and Black Mountain Road. Pardee's development agreement is about to expire. Pardee paid to widen Black Mountain Rd. and Westview Pkwy. Casa Mira View will pay for several intersection improvements including Mira Mesa Blvd. and Black Mountain Road, and Mira Mesa Blvd. and Westview Parkway. The Stone Creek project was originally proposed for 10,000 residences; it is now down to 5,500. Mira Mesa has an extensive industrial area because of the Miramar over-flights. Public facilities are population-based. Several projects were not approved: 1) Wal-Mart was not built in Mira Mesa Blvd due to land use incompatibility and potential traffic problems, and 2) some large housing projects near the industrial area were turned down due to potential legal liability because of potential odors and noise. All homeowners and developers pay into the Facilities Benefit Assessment. This is different from Mello Roos; the cost is included in new home prices. Question: A community park on top of a hill north of Mira Mesa Blvd. was purchased for \$14 million; will it ever be built? Answer: The land is owned, but there is not enough money to develop it. Comment: This planning commission is doing an amazing job.

**Relay for Life** – is a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) has a lot of information. Michelle Perry is a volunteer, advocate, and a legislative ambassador for the ACS. A video about Relay for Life ([www.RelayForLife.org](http://www.RelayForLife.org)) was played. 3.5 million people join to battle cancer. A motion for the MMTC to make a \$200 donation to Relay for Life was seconded and passed.

#### COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS

##### MMTC Committees

**Women's Club** – Chalk the Walk: High school volunteers and artists will be there. Tickets are \$15. [www.MMWomensClub.com](http://www.MMWomensClub.com). Town Council and Rec Council will share a booth. The event is on May 10.

**RSVP** – Open house is 4/8 at 8450 Mira Mesa Blvd., Suite A, at the Epicenter.

**Scholarship/Stakeholders Committees** – (Robin Stutsman), Stakeholders is the 4th Wed., every other month, 6 pm, Library. Applications are out for the 2008 Verne Goodman Scholarship - Award in his memory. The reading of applications will be on 5/28; the application is on [www.MiraMesa.org](http://www.MiraMesa.org) and the

MMTC web site. The scholarship fund will award \$3000 this year. The next Stakeholder comm. meeting is in June.

**Street Fair** – (Robin Stutsman), 4th Thursday, Senior Center, 6:45 pm

**Rec. Council** – The meeting is tomorrow night. The main concern is the budget. The park is only open for 48 hours a week; they would like it to be open for 64 hours a week.

**Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens Advisory Committee** – (Pam Stevens) Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. of odd-numbered months at the LP Ranch House. Camino Ruiz park trail construction will start this fall due to nesting season. The next meeting is in May. June 7<sup>th</sup> is Trails Day.

**MM Library** – (Pam Stevens) Banned Book Club: the next meeting will discuss *House of the Spirits* by Isabel Allende. Second Monday in June is *Grapes of Wrath*, by Steinbeck. A library book sale will occur from 4/15 to 4/24 in the small conference room at the library.

**4th of July Committee** –(Pam Stevens) 2nd Wednesday, 6:30pm, Senior Center. The fireworks will cost over \$19,000. They need volunteers and donations.

**Mira Mesa High School Foundation** – (Kathy Madsen) She wants to thank everyone for supporting the Taste of Mira Mesa event. Over \$14,000 was raised. The next fundraiser will involve selling bricks and putting a new brick walkway at Mira Mesa High School to raise funds for the foundation. Mitz Lee is our representative on the School Board. The next School Board meeting is on 4/8 at 3 pm at Normal Street (Board of Education). Mira Mesa High School won the Ultimate Prom Internet contest - \$25,000 prom. The senior class had already raised enough money for the prom, so they will distribute the funds to the other three classes after paying for its after-prom event. The budget cuts are devastating. The budget has been cut \$400,000 a year for the past five years.

**Mira Mesa Theatre Guild** – (Sandy Smith) 3rd Thursday, 6:30 pm. Meeting next Wednesday.

**Community Pride** – (Jim Brown) 3rd Thursday, 6:30 pm, Jim's House at 8605 Pagoda Way. We have a great lack of pride in our community. Sweepers used to come once a month; it is now supposed to be every other month, but the streets are not being swept. Homeowners are responsible for the curb area and must sweep in front of their houses.

**MM Senior Center** – (Chuck Sweet) Verne Goodwin passed away; he was a great man and an outstanding citizen.

**Volunteer Recognition Committee** – (Courtland Young) The Volunteer of the Year Dinner will be on 5/3 starting at 5:30 pm, with dinner and dancing from 7 to 11 pm. It will be at the Mira Mesa Verne Goodwin Senior Center at 8460 Mira Mesa Blvd. Dinner costs \$25 per person; please RSVP by April 12, 2008.