

MMTC GENERAL MEETING
August 3, 2009
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Troop 1212 Presents Colors

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Welcome and Introduction of Board Members
 - o President Jeff Stevens
 - o First Vice President (program chair) Pam O'Donohoe
 - o Second Vice President (membership) Ted Brengel
 - o Treasurer Alan Philpott
 - o Recording Secretary Albertine Feurer-Young
 - o Newsletter Editor Maria Pankau
 - o Parliamentarian Debbie Vincent
 - o Member at Large Marlon Austria
 - o Member at Large Jon Labaw
 - o Member at Large Robin Stutsman
 - o Member at Large John Daley

MINUTES APPROVAL

- o Minutes Corrections:
 - o Addition: none
 - o Corrections: none
- o Jeff Stevens makes a motion to approve the minutes.
- o Albertine Feurer seconds the motion
- o Minutes are approved as written.

BOARD REPORTS

- o President:
 - o Salk Elementary School – Environmental issues. Money might be diverted to other projects. There is a real danger we could lose this school.
 - o Banner District – the City will be renting the banner districts for the next two months for \$4,000 for water preservation campaign.
 - o Art work for the electric boxes is being planned.
 - o Carl DeMaio has been here a lot in the past few months.
- o Treasurer:
 - o June: Beginning balance \$78,604.75; Income \$2,449.44; Expenses \$8,431.90; Net cash flow (\$5,982.46); Ending balance \$72,622.29.
 - o

OFFICIAL'S REPORTS

- o Police Department (Officer Jeff Carter)
 - o Summer has been rather uneventful.
 - o 7/10 – Peeping Tom on Camino Ruiz.
 - o 7/10 – 9300 block of Hillary Dr. Strong arm robbery of a 60 year old female; a man stole her lunchbox. He has not been apprehended
 - o 8/2 – Copper wire was stolen from a construction site. Someone was arrested.
 - o Movie Theater – break-ins and fights.
 - o Tickets are being issued for using cell phones while driving.
 - o Crime stats are available on the police website – eWatch page.

- Crime stats are doing much better for San Diego.
- City Councilman Carl DeMaio (John Ly)
 - Thank you for the 4th of July parade – best parade!
 - Camino Ruiz Trail is open.
 - Shopping carts – he is looking for funding to fix this problem. Vehicle abatement has money; if shopping carts could be considered abandoned vehicles, the funds could come from there.
 - Salk Elementary – City Attorney’s office is working with the School District.
 - Ethics Commission – Board of people appointed by City Council to investigate complaints filed by residents regarding unethical use of funds. Frye and DeMaio want to change the way nominees are elected.
 - Prop C passed 1000 days ago and the city has done nothing but 1,100 hours of negotiation and \$124,000.
- County Supervisor Ron Robert (Lauren Prescott)
 - County website now has a veteran services section.
 - New public defender.
 - Swine Flu – continue taking precautions
 - State Budget will remove funds from local governments.
- State Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher (Oscar Urteaga)
 - \$26 billion deficit has been reconciled with the most recent compromise.
 - \$15 billion in cuts from government spending
 - Modernize the enrollment process to reform Medi-Cal and imposes tough anti-fraud standards to reform In Home Supportive Services
 - No new taxes
 - Keeps the community safe – no early release of prisoners or devastating cuts to local law enforcement.
 - Question: How are vital services are defined? Wasn’t healthcare for children and elderly greatly reduced? Will fewer people have healthcare due to this? Answer: Health and Human Services were cut dramatically, but those were increases from prior years that were cut. Nothing was eliminated. There are stricter guidelines for applying for welfare and health care.
 - Comment: UT on July 21st indicated that the most hit were the poor, the children, the elderly, and the disabled.
 - Fletcher will be at this meeting next month.
- Senator Dennis Hollingsworth (Ellen Malin)
 - Prop 1A was supported by local governments
 - K-12 is fully funded
 - California lost another 66,500 jobs in June; unemployment stands at 11.6 percent
 - Community College classes fees were increased
 - Common-sense proposal to reform California: www.RestoreCalifornia.com

COMMUNITY GROUP REPORTS (not all groups will present at every meeting)

- Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens Advisory Committee (Pam Stevens)
 - Grand Opening of Camino Ruiz trail is 8/8 at 10 AM.
 - Please help with the booth at the Street Fair on 9/26. Contact Pam Stevens.
- Mira Mesa 4th of July (Sandy Smith)
 - Plaques:
 - Land Innovations
 - MM ROTC (Best Marching Team)
 - MMHS Sapphire Sound (Best Marching Band)
 - Car Club – Model A Restorers
 - MM Presbyterian Church (Best Decorated Float)
 - Scripps Mesa Fireworks (Best Decorated Vehicle)

- Stranglehold (Best Comic Entry)
 - Boy Scouts of America (Judges' Choice)
- Maintenance Advisory District (Tom Derr)
 - We were going to spend the \$529,000 on the Camino Ruiz medians. We have now decided we would stop this and change the median to conserve more water as 1/3 of the money we spend is in water. Grey water still costs money; it's not cheap and it has to come from some place as well as potable water.
 - Come to the meeting with solutions on how to become more water conservative. Comment – City College has great desert landscaping.
 - There are vacancies on the committee and would love some volunteers.
- Mira Mesa Library (Pam Stevens)
 - Summer Reading Program – read 10 books, get prizes.
 - Friends of the MM Library – Book sale during Street Fair until 2:30 in the library's meeting room.
 - Banned book club will meet at the end of September – last Monday of September will be the meeting to choose the books for next year.
- Mira Mesa Theatre Guild (Alex Nguyen)
 - Monster Manor won 4th place in the best Family Attraction in San Diego, beating the Wild Animal Park and Lego Land.
 - Share the Wealth information will be posted on the website: www.monstermanor.org.
 - Audition for Christmas Carol will be coming up soon.
 - Construction for Monster Manor will begin 9/25. Please volunteer!
 - Next meeting is on 8/20 at 7 PM; location to be announced on website.
 - Booths are available for \$50.
- Street Fair Committee (Jeff Stevens)
 - Get your applications in.
- Recreation Council (Joe Fichtel)
 - Trail is opening
 - Movies in the Park have begun

NEW BUSINESS

- Brian Bilbray – US Congressman
 - Fourth of July Parade was a great event; thank you for inviting me.
 - Why I vote the way I do:
 - I was mayor and on the board of the County Supervisors; this is my background and the local government experience I draw from when I vote.
 - This budget scares me because the local government people are being cut out due to the lack of local government experience up in Washington.
 - Ethanol pollutes more than anything; we should be using algae energy. Every California supported my bill in the 90s to remove ethanol from gas. A new bill subsidizing coal is a terrible mistake. Don't make a fortune polluting the environment when you claim you are cleaning it up. It is better to burn regular gas than ethanol for the environment. Please look into the Waxman-Marquey Bill. Stop signs create more pollution than yield signs; cops prefer stop signs because it's easier to give tickets. Wind, hydro, and nuclear energy are the cheapest.
 - Government must change the way it does things. The government creates the box the businesses must remain in.
 - The greatest threat to the environment comes from the smoke coming out of the backroom deals.
 - Comment: World Health Organization rates the US' healthcare 37th in the world.

Response: Insurance companies need to be reined in. Lawyers must be controlled. Patients should be allowed to cross state lines to create competition. The Veterans Program will be the standard for America. Canada has 30 million people – 10% of America’s population. Medicare does not offer as many tests and preventive medicine as the private insurance companies do.

- o Question: Non-Profit co-ops with an inter-state regulatory body is a great idea. Has anyone considered marrying the credit union concept to the exchange concept?

Answer: Yes, but it would create a monopoly.

- o Comment: Healthcare should be separated from employment.

Response: Washington doesn’t admit its mistakes nor learns from them.

- o Question: Why would socializing healthcare doom the system? It’s working in France. Is it because it would hurt the insurance companies?

Answer: 80% of medical breakthroughs happen in the US.

- o Question: Do you intent to vote for the Affordable Heath Choices Act (HR 3200) - <http://www.opencongress.org/bill/111-h3200/show?>

Answer: I have not read it yet. It will cost over a trillion dollars over 10 years. There is not one word about tort reform. Let’s put the squeeze on the insurance companies and the lawyers.

- o Question: Where do you stand on off-shore drilling; have you voted pro-taxing oil?

Answer: No. We are not being aggressive enough to find true alternatives. We have enough money, but we are sending it to the wrong groups. The scientists at Scripps have developed algae energy, but they cannot get a permit in California and are considering moving to New Mexico.

- o Question: What is your perspective about the Obama Administration?

Answer: You are not elected as a democrat or a republican. You have to use your own brain. I was attacked and told I was not a true Republican because I don’t always side with Republicans. You have to work with the other side of the aisle to do right when it’s needed.

- o Comment: I want to personally thank you for my healthcare. Medicare has replaced two hips and two cataracts. Medicare is a wonderful system. HR 3200 is a worthless attempted compromise. HR 676 has been there for years and will grant Medicare to everybody. I urge you to have it sent to CDO. Will you support it?

I will not commit to support it. The physicians that are the main stay in this country are retiring within this decade. The next big crisis coming down is where we will get the doctors.

- o Comment: Rx drugs are much too expensive and pharmaceutical companies must be controlled.

Response: San Diego is the place where miracles are created. Eliminating advertisement for Rx drugs and controlling litigation will lower the prices and not scare away the investors.

OPEN FORUM

- o Mira Mesa Resident: BlockParty San Diego to get neighbors to meet each other.
 - Hang Chau – hang@blockpartysd.org for more information

ADJOURNMENT

Next Board Meeting: **Monday, 08/10/09 at 6:45 PM** at the Senior Center. Unless otherwise scheduled, Board meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Senior Center at 6:45 PM.

FOLLOWING MEETING

The following regularly scheduled general meeting will be **on September 14, 2009** at the Mira Mesa Library.