

MMTC GENERAL MEETING
September 14, 2009
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Troop 1212 Presents Colors

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

MINUTES APPROVAL

- Minutes Corrections:
 - Addition: None
 - Alteration: None
- Jeff Stevens makes approves the minutes as written.

BOARD REPORTS

- President:
 - Street Fair is coming up 9/26.

OFFICIAL'S REPORTS

- Police Department (Officer Susan Steffen)
 - EWatch website
 - <http://apps.sandiego.gov/ewatch/>
 - Question – How will the SDPD prepare itself for the release of the incarcerated felons?
 - The 290 Register – sex offender and narcotic monitoring.
 - The city website has link to Megan Law.
 - Question – 16,000 criminals will be released; how will they be released?
 - The number of officers out in the field has decreased; community's help is needed.
 - Question – any update on gang activity?
 - SDPD and CHP in Chula Vista worked with DragNet to stop drag racing when the Fast and Furious movie came out which resulted in 19 arrests.
 - The most recent arrest was responsible for 48 cases of burglaries in the general Mira Mesa area – mostly Asian restaurants.
 - Small series of arson within a week. She was caught as well. She was a juvenile who will not be released into the custody of her parents.
- City Councilman Carl DeMaio (John Ly)

- The San Diego County Water Authority is proposing to change their pension benefits retroactively from 2% of salary per year worked to 2.5% of salary per year worked.
- The vote for the Salk Elementary School will be on the docket on 10/6.
- There will be a notice in the water bill regarding the pass through. The increase will be less than \$5 per bill.
- City Council is meeting in the evening to allow for constituents to be present at the meetings. The topic tonight is the Winter Homeless Shelter. It houses 220 men and women. Nobody wants it in their backyard. The proposed locations are 725 13th Street or Balboa Park, Presidents Way parking lot.
- See Carl's website for when he will be having coffee next.
- Carl opposed the Prop 215 taskforce.
- Question: Will the night meeting be reoccurring?
Answer: They will have at least four per year.
- Mitzi Lee wants to thank Carl for nominating her to be on the Commission on Human Relations.

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

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher
 - First year of public office has been a humbling and frustrating experience.
 - Legislative had a 14% approval rating – that's 14% too many.
 - He wants to put reforms in place – i.e. open primary.
 - We've added government job as we've lost private sector jobs – we need these.
 - Budget Reform is a topic he wants to focus on.
 - Public Office is public service.
 - He is not going to stop working because the issues are too important – schools, public works, the community.
 - Call us with any problems. Oscar is located in San Diego and is here to help.
 - Question: Will the Democrats and Republicans need to get along.
Answer: I agree. He ran for public service. It takes 41 votes to pass something through the assembly; every one of his legislations passed because he knows how to get along with the other side. "Let's find an issue we agree on. It takes the extra effort to solve problems."
 - Question: Three Strikes needs to be reformed; do you agree?
Answer: I agree that corrections need to be reformed; it takes over \$40,000 to reform an inmate - \$17K a year for inmate healthcare at the state level while the federal government only pays \$4K a year. Prison administrator positions have increased by 33% while number of inmates has remained constant. He disagrees on Three Strikes. Violent crime in CA has declined; it has a good impact on crime. At three felonies, the felon should take 25 to life.
 - Question: States Park System funding is a problem; they want to close Yosemite?
Answer: Volunteers and non-profit groups must be able to help; we must make this easier. There will be many proposals to save the parks. Some parks make money and some lose money; we can swift funds from one to the other to try to save them. We are still waiting for the list of 100 to be closed.
 - Question: How is the money spent on education being accounted for?
Answer: Obama is right on on Education. We must go back and implement the changes he has talked about. State government should do education, public

safety, and critical infrastructure, but he trusts local school boards, parents, teachers, and principals to make some of these decisions. Legislators in Sacramento don't know what the local schools need. He wants to see 85/90 cents of every dollar to go directly to the local schools; right now it's only about 50 cents. The local school boards are directly accountable to the community; they would be held accountable at the end of the day. We must be able to track students – not only the number of students, but grades, finance, etc. The technology is out there; we must use it.

- Question: Are some state parks working on saving endangered animals? Won't they go extinct if the parks close?

Answer: The state faces tremendous liability. That's part of the decision process and it's something that will be taken into account. The great white shark is very threatened right now due to fining. I worked on saving the great white with the Scripps Aquarium. This affects everything – from the health of our ocean to what we eat.

- Question: What kind of tools is being used to increase communication?

Answer: We used YouTube to announce the candidacy victory. It was awful, but he was the first California candidate ever to announce the candidacy on YouTube. We update the following every week – Capital update video, podcasts, facebook, twitter, email, newspaper, TV news – we use all mediums to communicate out to the community.

- Question: Where do you stand on water conversation?

Answer: Water has started wars and has ended wars. Pat Brown started the State Wide Water Project, which was never completed. We have a water transportation and a water storage problem. (1) We must restore the health of the Beta Delta. (2) We must address the issues with the Bay Delta. (3) We must increase our capacity for storage. In wet years, we must store water; we must do above-ground storage. (4) We must conserve water. People in the North don't want to send the water down to the South even though it can be transported in a responsible environmentally safe way.

- Mitz Lee – Alliance for Quality Education

- Mitz Lee co-funded this organization to make sure kids and parents will have a voice.
- Californian for Quality Education is to bring parents across the states together to start talking about the budget crisis and how to monitor how money would be spent.
- The San Diego Superintendent is leaving.
- Fewer than 50% of 2-12 grade children are proficient in reading or math.
- Public schooling has a “No Warranty, No Refund, No return” policy.
- Parents need support. Informed and involved parents are the key.
- As a parent, work with your community and your neighborhoods.
- No text books will be purchased until 2016.
- Kids first!

- Mira Mesa High School/ASB – Mark Benavides

- We want to get the students be more involved in the community. Anyone who would need students for projects should contact him at BMark321@gmail.com or call him at 858-561-1202.
- Mira Mesa has a 75 hours community service recommendation as it takes at least 25- hours to get into a UC college.
- Jennifer will put out all the bulletins; Mark will post the bulletins on the ASB board.
- It's a pool of 2,300 kids.

OPEN FORUM

- 17th Annual Band Review & Field Show (Marlon Austria)
 - They need volunteers
 - Tournament will be 11/7/09
- Community Pride (Jim Brown)
 - Trash. Due to the large number of evictions and people moving out, yards are being trashed. The law states the new owners have to clean it up; if it's a bank, it won't happen. Call Environmental Services if the trash is in the street or sidewalks (not if in yards) call 858-492-5055.
 - Water. When can I water my yard? Odd number houses – Sun/Tue/Thu. Even number houses – Sat/Mon/Wed before 10am and after 6pm for 10 minutes. Call 619-515-3500 to report violations.
- Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens Advisory Committee (Pam Stevens)
 - Will have a booth at Street Fair
- Mira Mesa Library (Pam Stevens)
 - Book Group will be meeting 9/29 to choose books that will be discussed.
- Mira Mesa Theatre Guild (Alex Nyugen and Courtland Young)
 - Monster Manor needs volunteers
 - Auditions are this Wednesday at 6PM.
 - Community booths will be located outside the manor; speak to Alex or Court about it.
 - Fund Raising – Court – Share the Wealth has changed slightly: to facilitate crediting, tickets will be pre-sold at a great discount to 501c(3) organizations; organizations can then resell the tickets for the full price and keep the difference.
 - Question: Will the Theatre Guild be putting on a play?
 - Answer: Yes. Auditions will be announced at the next meeting. The play will be at the Epicenter; it will be a children's play done by adults.

ADJOURNMENT

Next Board Meeting: **Monday, October 12, 2009 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, October 5, 2009** at the Mira Mesa Library.