

Mira Mesa Town Council

Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2014

7:00 p.m.

- I. Call to order (7:00 p.m.)**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Approval of minutes from last meeting (March, 2014) – approved**
- IV. Fill Board Position – Pam Stevens nominated. – approved 27-0-0**
- V. Recognition of First Responders (SDPD/SDFD)**
 - a) SDPD Northeastern Division - Officer Shannah Kanoa, Community Relations Officer. Officer Jose Olivarez (Shannah's husband) made the report. Citizen came home, heard sounds, saw that the house was ransacked. Called police. Caught suspect. Auto break-ins are common, especially near the theater. Windows and garage open are a risk. Also doggie doors. Ladders left in patio can be used by criminals to access the second floor. Make property list. Email Shannah Olivarez for more info.
- VI. Operation Samahan – Kirin A. Macapugay, MSW, Director of Marketing and Business Development. Samahan is a Filipino word meaning “working together”. They arranged clinics for health care, and have served Mira Mesa for 40 years. Their office is behind the mall. Approved for office next to Armstrong Gardens in Penasquitos. Services open to all with or without insurance. 6 clinics in San Diego. Pediatric and adolescent care. Rise in cancer recently. Dental services. Behavioral health. Integrative health and wellness. Active in community events. Medical, Medicare, Covered California and grants provide funding.**
- VII. Candidates for Office – Group 1 (approx. 7:40 pm). 3 minutes + 2 questions each.** Bari – last month had City Council candidates, but there are many other offices.

Superior Court Judge Office 9:

Ronald S. Prager – Judge for 26 years. First time in a contested election. Was prosecutor for 18 years. Was deputy attorney general for State of California. Appointed to bench by Deukmejian. 5 years of criminal cases. Reputation of being fair and impartial. Went four or five times without challenge. This time was challenged by a disgruntled lawyer. Judges are sworn to follow the law even if they disagree with it.

Superior Court Judge Office 19:

Paul Ware – Former Marine. Went to law school at the U of San Diego. Prosecuted over 200 military cases. Presided over 600 trials all over the world. Presided over first military trial since Vietnam. Marine, dedicated family man, man of faith. Perceptions of truth vary. Examination/cross-examination to get to the truth. Q: what is difference between military and public justice? Rules of evidence are almost the same. 2/3 for conviction, no mistrials. Jury votes on and announces the sentence.

Michael J. Popkins – current judge appointed by Governor last May. Extensive clearing process by Governor and Bar. Many questionnaires sent. Being challenged for seat. Lawyer in public defender’s office for 35 years. Many endorsements. San Diego County Bar did evaluations, got highest rating of well-qualified. Endorsed by San Diego County Lincoln Club and San Diego Democratic Party.

District Attorney, County of San Diego:

Terri Wyatt – Countywide race. Want to give voters a chance to elect career prosecutor instead of politician. Worked in DA’s office for 27 years. Division chief. Truth, justice, fairness, integrity. Spent entire career in public service. USD Law School. Served as deputy DA since 1987. Will create countywide elder abuse task force.

Bonnie Dumanis – DA for 12 years. Crime is at historic lows. Second lowest rate for violent crime in 30 years. 94% conviction rate. Need to continue what we are doing because it is working. Law school, deputy DA, superior court judge. Created drug court. DA in 2003. Worked with every law enforcement agency up and down state. Have support of leaders of all law enforcement agencies.

Bob Brewer – 4 years in Army, infantry officer in Vietnam. Law school at USD in 1975. Deputy DA in Los Angeles. Came back to San Diego in 1982. Married to Judge Irma Gonzalez, first Latina federal court judge. Important to have new leadership in San Diego. 98% have endorsed me. Endorsed by two former state attorney generals. Many other endorsements. Agree with Terri Wyatt on Elder Abuse. Will assign 5 deputy DA’s and 10 investigators. Strong independent leader. Veteran’s Treatment Court treats PTSD.

Superior Court Judge Office 20:

Carla Keehn – There is a 40% chance you will come before a superior court judge. Spent teenage years in San Diego doing marathon training. ROTC scholarship to Princeton. Military in Europe. Deputy public defender. Federal prosecutor for last 18 years. Opponent has been convicted of a crime and has 3 admonishments.

SD County Assessor/Recorder:

Susan Guinn - Qualified lawyer. Consumer rights attorney. Hundreds of property valuation cases. When assessors can’t figure that out they come to me. Chair of environmental and sustainability for San Diego schools. Oversees \$4 billion. Would be first Asian elected to office. Assessor was required by law to issue marriage licenses. Unilaterally hired guy who put forward Prop 8. Not a “clarification” issue. Millions of documents still on microfiche. Need to modernize office.

Ernest J. “Ernie” Dronenburg, Jr. – Current Assessor/Recorder for last 3 years. “Overqualified tax geek.” 22 years of running the Board of Equalization. None of opponents have this experience. Endorsed by many people. Opponent is well qualified to be a trial lawyer, but not assessor/recorder. About 8% of tax money paid comes back to community. Goes to City’s general budget. Last year was responsible for marriages in San Diego. Asked the court for clarification of gay marriage issue.

VIII. **Nextdoor** – Ryan Trabuco, Field Organizer, Mira Mesa area (south of 56). President of Clairemont Town Council. Fantastic community service tool. Have 20 neighborhoods in Mira Mesa, trying to get 50 people in each.

IX. Candidates for Office – Group 2

Superior Court Judge Office 25:

Brad A. Weinreb – Joseph Branigan spoke for Mr. Weinreb, who is in Sacramento representing state on a death penalty appeal. Bar association lists Brad Weinreb as the only candidate rated qualified. Endorsed by 50 judges. Known for 20 years. Has been deputy attorney general for over 20 years.

Michele Hagan – started event. Proud grad of USCD. Former deputy district attorney. Judge pro-tem. Certified fraud examiner. 25 years as a lawyer. Involved because looked at qualifications of opponents and thought better. Responsibility to speak up when there is injustice. Judges are nominated county-wide. ~130 judges. Governor appoints when seat is vacated. 6 year terms. No contribution limit for judges. Need to respect the integrity of the court. Q: Mandatory sentencing laws – as judge candidates cannot state opinions. Must be impartial.

Ken Gosselin – Joe Long representing. Personal friend. Judge pro-tem, handling thousands of cases. Employed by FBI. Represents parents with autistic children. Endorsed by numerous organizations – California Bar, San Diego Bar, many others.

Superior Court Judge Office 44:

Jacqueline M. Stern - Superior Court Judge for 16 years now. Appointed by Gov. Wilson. Heard many classes of cases. Now carry 700 cases. State agencies have lost a lot of money, so case load has been growing. Abbreviated hours. North County Bar is now offering ½ hour of free consulting. She was a school teacher in Detroit. Worked for insurance agency. Court is pretty good at giving people the assignments they want. Many endorsements. Hopefully can get your case into court within a year.

Joseph Adelizzi – Practicing for 30 years, dedicated to real people with real problems. Want to change so that the court serves people better. All of the judges are either former government or big business lawyers. Backlog is terrible. Used to be easier. Opponent was not found to be well-qualified. Need to break stranglehold that career judges have. Why no term limits? Have diversity of background.

U.S. Representative District 52:

Fred J. Simon, Jr. – Most important thing is for people to be engaged. Look at this race in depth. 61 years old with 40 years of experience in finance and health. Run the most cost effective trauma center in US. Biggest problem is 17 trillion debt going up. Have a \$trillion default in education. Never going to democratize Syria or Afghanistan. Running because have three children, wants problems fixed, debt reduced.

Kirk Jorgensen – 43 years old. Coronado to Wild Animal Park. Marine Corps officer, former CIA. Need someone to understand fiscal policy, national defense. Everything else is noise. Campaign as 350 volunteers. Politics has become too divisive. Conservative Republican, but treats opponents and President with respect. Will not serve more than 6 years. Q: How long should Congress continue to investigate Benghazi? Mistakes were made 6 months prior when staff reduced. Q: What issue do both sides agree on? Regulations. Have 175,000 of them. Govt should not choose light bulbs. Should regulate environment and safety. Everything else is noise.

State Assembly District 77:

Brian Maienschein - Rob will speak in elected officials section.

City Council District 6:

Mitz Lee – very proud to have done this. Mira Mesa home for 30 years. Mira Mesa is a melting pot, feels like home. Important election. Roots matter. Elected easily for school board. Independent.

Jane L. Glasson - Torrey Pines high school, BS in child development from SDSU. Phi Beta Kappa. Degree in foreign languages. Coaches tennis. Works for YMCA. Staff at Mira Mesa High School. Lower cost of living if possible. Help San Diego businesses create jobs.

Chris Cate – Care about making government work. Has experience to hit the ground running on day 1. Started business in Kearny Mesa. Policy director for Kevin Faulconer. VP of San Diego County Taxpayers Assn. Supports managed competition, opposed sales tax increase. Control budgets so there is more money for parks. Make things easier for businesses. Many endorsements.

Carol Kim – New to politics. Public school teacher in inner city schools. HIV support. Past 7 years worked for education non-profit developing programs for school district. 8 year old and 4 year old in public school. Put down roots here. Want to build healthy, strong community. Speed unsafe on Hillery. Example of neighborhood issues that need attention.

DA's office – advisory board for Mira Mesa, Lincoln High School, Scripps Ranch. May 29th at Epicentre kids will be ready to present. Powerful message. Need to get some people there.

X. Recognition of Elected Officials and their representatives

- a) Councilmember Lorie Zapf, District 6 (Ken Nakayama) – stepping down as community rep. Ernie Navarro and Conrad Wear will be taking over. Will be working until Friday. Will be working for Harmonium at Epicentre.
- b) Mayor Kevin Faulkner (John Ly) – jly@sandiego.gov. Mayor released his budget. Balanced budget focused on public safety and libraries. 4 extra library hours/week. Increase to park and rec.
- c) Congressman Scott Peters (Anthony Nguyen) – HR 4486 to reduce VA backlog. 416-1 passed. Immigration reform important. Women's economic forum. Taking a break from Mira Mesa this summer. Jason to substitute in summer.
- d) Assemblyman Brian Maienschein, District 77 (Rob Knudsen) – AB 1791 human trafficking. Will increase penalties.

XI. MMTC Committee Reports and Announcements

- a) Treasurer's Report – deferred for time
- b) MMTC Paint Fund – Request for \$1,000 – Approved unanimously.
- b) Fourth of July– deferred for time
- c) Street Fair– deferred for time

XII. Recognition of Community Groups in attendance

(2 minutes allotted to each group. One speaker per group.
Group must sign up at Membership Table to be recognized)

Doug Rees – Harmonium will present next month. Happy to have Ken.

Pam – MM Got Talent May 31, auditions tomorrow. See MMTG website.

Tom Derr – Rattlesnake season. Tom will remove them. Lots of Rattlesnake babies. Charges \$50 for removal. MMMAD tomorrow.

Martha Pritchard – MM Women's club. Saturday is Chalk the Walk.

Maria – Relay for Life May 17th . Misses will be there until 1 PM on Saturday. Need more MMTC people to sign up. Sign up online for Saturday or Sunday.

XIII. Adjournment (9:15 p.m.)