

Mira Mesa Town Council Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2014
7:00 p.m.

I. Called to order by President Ted Brengel (7:02 p.m.)

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting (May, 2014) – approved by acclamation

IV. Presentation – County Supervisor Dave Roberts

MMTC's 40th anniversary, MM's 45th – supervisors declared June 2, 2014 as Mira Mesa Town Council day. This is Dave's favorite community to come and visit. All work together here for the good of Mira Mesa and San Diego. (Note: MMTC was incorporated on September 24, 1972, so this is actually 42 years for MMTC).

V. Presentation – Winners of Verne Goodwin/Mira Mesa Town Council Scholarships, Jon Labaw

Jeff, Pam, Lanie, Jon were committee members. We had a very good set of applicants. We added two \$250 scholarships to three \$1000 scholarships originally planned. Four of the scholarships were present and were introduced by Jon. Spencer Shortill (SDSU, mechanical engineering. Eagle project installed flagpole and benches at assisted living facility). Fyezah Nazir (Volunteering at various organizations and school activities. UC Irvine, nursing major. Probably home health nurse). Tiffany Luu (UCSD, marine biology. Teen advisory group). Lauren Cernik-Price (SDSU, vocal major. Choir, theatre, band). Estela Huang (not present) was the 5th scholarship recipient.

VI. Recognition of First Responders (SDPD/SDFD)

a) SDPD Northeastern Division - Officer Shannah Kanoa, Community Relations Officer (not present, report given by Northwestern Division)

b) SDPD Northwestern Division – Officer Tracey Williams, Community Relations Officer.

A suspect is in custody for recent homicide. If you have a home that backs up to a canyon, clear out dry brush. Fire danger is high. Don't leave anything visible in your car. Q: some neighbors are being canvassed by white supremacist group that meets on Capricorn. A: Will inquire with Northeastern Division. Recommend that everyone use NextDoor (nextdoor.com), which is like an online neighborhood watch. Dave Roberts said there was a burglary in his neighborhood and it was reported immediately on NextDoor. He presented certificate of recognition to the police department.

VII. Presentation – Congressman Scott Peters, Q&A

Scott has one week per month home in San Diego. Tomorrow is the primary election. Please vote. College affordability is an important issue. Scott cleaned pigeon cages to pay for college. Cost of college education has gone up 300% more than inflation over the last 30 years. Need to make sure loans are affordable. Government gets loans at 3.5%; should give student loans at comparable rate. Largest homeless veteran population in San Diego. Worked with Ronnie Froman on veteran's issues, including a military transition support project to assist veterans in finding out what assistance is available. VA processing is better in San Diego than other areas. VA employees have been manipulating records to make it look like veterans are being served when

they are not. This is a cultural issue that needs resolution. Health care – had scare about cuts to Medicare. Agree with Dave this is tremendous community. Scott's office can help with issues with federal government. Gave a personal donation to Fireworks. Q: why do college presidents and administrators make so much money? A: Yes, out of scale. Rising cost of college due to a lot of things. Technology will make more options available. Q: Funding cuts to VA have caused part of problem. A: With Middle East drawdown a lot more Vets will come home. Q: Read in Voice that a lot of money for your campaign is coming from outside. What do you think of money in campaigns? A: Want disclosure of all campaign contributions. This is one of ~75 competitive races, which means more money is spent on it and more time raising money needs to be spent than is desirable. Q: Net neutrality. A: Support. Tried twice to get rules. Some people think should be regulated like utility. Does not want to do that. Will be an administrative decision. Q: Gun laws. A: California has some of the best gun laws in country. In recent case parents were trying to inform authorities and could get no response prior to tragedy. No movement in Congress on gun control. Q: Are alumni associations part of college cost solution? Other sources of money are sometimes used to game the system. A: Haven't heard that particular complaint, but many problems. Supports Common Core. Computer science should be part of Common Core. Only 30,000 kids took AP computer science test last year. MMHS is on top of it. Scholarship winners very impressive.

VIII. County Supervisor Dave Roberts –

Bari will serve as grant reviewer. Proposals will be reviewed next week.

New program for mental health. Can detain people until treatment takes effect.

Found out that County does not help small business, while neighboring counties try to steal business. Trying to change this.

New park downtown next to County Supervisor's building is great. Idea is to transform bayfront.

Oldest son is going to Lackland in US Air Force.

IX. Government and Community Resources

a) Mira Mesa Community Planning Group – John Horst, Chairman. Will be hearing in June as information item with vote in August on four or five medical marijuana consumer cooperatives proposed in Mira Mesa.

b) Mira Mesa Recreation Council – Joe Frichtel, Chairman. Meeting next week. Here tonight to support the teen center.

X. Presentation – Harmonium, Ian Diazchavez, Outreach and Enrollment Specialist.

Nonprofit organization based in Mira Mesa providing a variety of community services. Special enrollment period for Covered California began April 1st, ends November when open enrollment starts again. Need to have life qualifying event to enroll. Newly married, number of people in household increases or decreases, new resident, loss of health coverage, possibly increase or decrease in income are qualifying events. There can be a short gap in coverage after initial enrollment. Individuals can opt out of COBRA and choose Covered California. Q: Can a person compare employer provided with Covered California? Yes.

XI. Presentation – Harmonium, Rosa Ana Lozada.

Epicenter is operated by Harmonium. Harmonium has been in Mira Mesa since 1975. Serve children 0-25. Prevention/intervention. Youth (entrepreneurial program and Epicentre), before and after school care (Prime Time and Klassic Kids). Community Behavioral Health. Epicenter established in 1998. 6428 square feet. Intended to be regional teen center. Designed to offer variety of services with leadership and community service opportunities. Have had a number of programs over the years. Currently recording studio, blues lovers summer camp, eco-eventerprise, all about music, San Diegan's for health coverage. Have had a number of partnerships. Challenges: competing locations – MMHS, parks, shopping centers and malls; changing social climate - evolving interests of youth, community service requirements, technological advancements; lease requirements – can rent space, but not to for-profit incorporated entities. Responsible for all maintenance and utilities costs for Epicentre and RSVP; Infrastructure and repairs. Got CDBG funds for roof and plumbing. Jeremy has worked for 13 years, but has a better opportunity. Will move forward and hire new staff. Used to get some larger grants. No large grants now. Have \$1.3 million deficit. \$4.6 million expenses, \$3.2 million income 2002-2014. Mira Mesa is not low income and is low crime, so grants are harder to come by. Next steps: 1) revisit the support for a San Diego Regional Teen Center; 2) Engage the City in strategies to increase use; 3) Develop a plan of action to improve facility conditions; 4) Explore partnerships/consortium in the field of Arts and Music; 5) Make responsible fiscal decisions. Always need to add “for youth”. Opportunities: Work with District 6 Councilmember to explore new opportunities; Participate in Harmonium’s fundraising efforts for the Epicentre; Set a goal for facilitating actual meetings with youth organizations and businesses for potential partnerships; contact Harmonium directly with idea. Introduced Kenny Nakayama, Agency Development Coordinator. 858 603 9316 knakayama@harmoniumsd.org. Have the lease for 5 years, entering 3rd year. Want to revitalize it and be asset to community and region. Q: Rental fees have been too high. A: Don't think they are too high. \$35/hour. Recreation center charges \$5/hour. Board used to have MMTC and Theatre Guild members. Q: Prime Time has waiting list. A: Decided by SDUSD. Q: Problems with roof and plumbing have been solved? A: Yes. Q: Need to have a draw for the kids. Had computers. Now they go to the library. Need to come up with a business model compliant with lease. Originally had Starbucks concept rather than Twister Café. Q: Sabrina – come to PTA and/or Foundation meeting. Q: Are there models in other parts of City or County that work? A: Have done a lot of research. Q: Did you reach out to Cox or Time-Warner. A: Good idea. Q: Business model may have a problem because kids have so many activities already.

XII. Recognition of Elected Officials and their representatives

Dave Roberts and Scott Peters spoke earlier. Other representatives were not present at this meeting.

XIII. MMTC Committee Reports and Announcements

a) Treasurer's Report – Checking: \$36,069.15; Savings: \$15,888.16; Scholarship: 12,404.37. Total 64,361.68.

b) Fourth of July – Bari Vaz - parade and fun day are rolling along. Just a few spaces left. SMF – Marv Miles - just got \$5,000 today. We are \$6,000 short of what we need for Fireworks.

c) Street Fair – Jeff Stevens. Meetings are 4th Thursday of each month at the Community Office. Plans are proceeding well for the 16th annual Mira Mesa Street Fair which will be held on September 20th. About 25 vendors are signed up already. There will be a beer garden again, placed closer to the food.

XIV. Recognition of Community Groups in attendance

Moose Lodge (Mike Vincent) – the Moose Lodge has two primary objectives. Moose Heart – city and school for children. Adult supervision. 6000 acres 50 miles west of Chicago. Sponsored two

young girls two years ago who had lost their parents. Moose Haven – retirement community in Florida. Any Moose member can go there. Also provide lots of community support such as dinners at Senior Center at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Mira Mesa Theatre Guild (Alex Nguyen). Mira Mesa's Got Talent went very well. Joe Little, Miss Mira Mesa, DJ Happee were judges; Melissa Mecija and Robert Santos were hosts. 90% of acts were from Mira Mesa. Have been working on getting a theatre built at site next to epicenter. Have plan to do it for \$500,000. Request stakeholder's meeting.

Maria Pankau - Relay for Life rescheduled for June 21. Misses will be there from 8-10 AM. Need team members for other parts of day. Red Shoe day is June 26, corner of Miramar Road and Camino Ruiz collecting money for Children's hospital. June 12 organizational meeting for parade.

Adjournment (9 p.m.)