

Mira Mesa Town Council – Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.

- 1) Call to order (7:02 p.m.) – Ted Brengel, MMTC president**
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance – Congressman Scott Peters**
- 3) Recognition of First Responders (SDPD/SDFD):**
 - a) *SDPD Northeastern Division - Officer Shannah Oliveras, Community Relations Officer, and Jennifer Duffy, communications dispatcher. 8 burglaries, 30 car break-ins. Don't leave anything of value in car. 10 stolen vehicles. 11 residential burglaries. One in fumigated home. Unsecured rear window. Home remodeled, window open. One forced entry, all others open doors or windows. Don't leave windows open. Two flyers – graffiti, neighborhood watch. 48 MM neighborhood watch signs from Chris Cate.
 - b) Jennifer Duffy 911 dispatcher. Many 911 calls coming from cell phones. Wait times – please only call with emergencies. Don't hang up. Number of dispatchers is 31% below state average, and they are the lowest paid, so it is hard to get quality people. Takes 1-1.5 years of training. Beginning salary \$17-21/hr. No pension and limited raises because of prop B. Pocket dials – can let them go now. Dispatchers have four 10 hour shifts. Have 41 dispatchers, budgeted for 60. One problem is that marijuana is so socially acceptable that many potential dispatchers cannot be hired because they have used marijuana. Dispatchers talk to about 100 people/day. Belong to MEA. For nonemergencies use online reporting so as not to tie up dispatchers.
 - c) SDFD – Dan Frohlich, battalion chief in Mira Mesa. Fire safety - grass is turning brown, more of it this year so more fire danger.
- 4) Featured Program: U.S. Congressman Scott Peters, “Report from Congress”**
 - a) Appreciates chance to come out. Passed older Americans act, providing serving seniors, meals on wheels, other programs. Preventing crimes against veterans act. Education – repayment loan assistance plan. More student debt than credit card debt now. Want everyone to be able to refinance to no more than 4%. Graduates are delaying careers and family due to student debt. Disaster planning: Preparation saves \$4 for every \$1 spent. Train station relocation – supportive, needs to be part of SANDAG plan. Maybe reduce 1 mile change to ½ mile. Priorities: Innovation economy, tourism, military, biotechnology. Q: increase in COLA? Supports regular increase. Wants to see campaign financing reform – is too much money. Might do matching of small donations. Probably will not be able to get a budget this year – will work off of

Obama/Boehner agreement from last year. Supports no budget/no pay. Student loans cannot be dismissed through bankruptcy.

- 5) **Special Announcement:** Mira Mesa Library Branch Manager Barbara Schwartz – Invitation to Community Conversation on sex trafficking awareness, intervention and prevention, MM Library community room, Wed May 18, 10-11:30am, continental breakfast provided. RSVP to MM Library, 858-538-8165, or to bschwartz@sandiego.gov. San Diego is one of top 13 cities in country for sex trafficking. Happens everywhere. Library can provide resources. Can provide a place for at-risk women to go. Average entry age is 15 years old. Had an experience with this at one of our libraries – young woman asked for help. Library is a safe place.
- 6) **Brief Presentation:** State Senator Marty Block, District 39 (Joyce Temporal) – Made presentation to VOY Jim Hearn.
- 7) **Featured Program: San Diego City Attorney Candidates** – 3 min presentation followed by 2 min question & answers each.
 - a) Mara Elliot – Chief district attorney now, for 7 years. Have an advisory and litigation function. In advisory section. City attorney's office has \$46 million budget, 146 attorneys. Previously with county. Was general counsel for MTDB; helped get trolley built. Lots of varied experience. Priorities – neighborhood prosecutors. Q: how do you contrast with opponents? A. Doing job now. Has endorsement of deputy city attorney's assn. Also John Witt. Q: had problem with City Attorney's office. Need way to communicate. Cost us ~\$11,000 more because of delays. A. Have heard this repeatedly. Want to have deputies coming to meeting. Maybe need a hotline.
 - b) Robert Hickey – City is in a great position of opportunity. Mayor is supporting candidacy, also Chris Cate. Son of Navy pilot. Hear from many people that City Attorney's office is difficult to work with. Prop 47 converted many felonies to misdemeanors – difficult to manage. Have experience in criminal and private law. Appointed by Fed Court to investigate fraud for SEC. Helped get Petco Park past legal obstacles.
 - c) Rafael Castellanos – private practice business attorney. Experience with land use laws. Turned around Port. Over last 47 years have had City Attorneys that have let us down. Pension problems, 911 problems, lots of problems in the past. Those have led to the position we are in today. Have not had City Attorney with deep experience in land use planning. Port commission's representative to Barrio Logan Planning Group. Have serious dysfunction at City Hall when it comes to planning.

8) Recognition of Elected Officials

- a) Councilmember Chris Cate, District 6 (Luis Pallera) – Budget review on Wed May 18. Marauder Way name change has been approved. Belgian Street home will be cleaned up starting in next couple of weeks. Appointed receiver on April 5. Neighborhood watch – encouraging community groups to participate. Asian Cultural Festival this Saturday. May 21 D6 night market.
- b) County Supervisor Dave Roberts, District 3 (Harold Meza) - Budget presentation tomorrow for 2016-2017. Decrease since last year. Likely to decrease in next couple of years. June 13 final approval. Honored Service Dog Association (in Sorrento Valley). This Saturday at Liberty Station for Walk for Animals. Also will be at Asian Cultural Festival and D6 Night Market.

9) Government and Community Resources (3 minutes allotted to each group unless otherwise noted)

- a) City Attorney, Neighborhood Prosecution Unit – Julio DeGuzman. In criminal division prosecuting misdemeanor crimes. Offer community court. 16 hours of community cleanup. Acceptance rate into program is 70%. Julio was asked to find out what percentage of those who do not go into the program are acquitted.
- b) Mira Mesa Community Planning Group – Jeff Stevens, Chairman
 - i) Last meeting – Pedestrian bridge proposed over Mira Mesa Blvd. from MMHS to MM Community Park. Would be possible to do it by moving bridge currently planned over Black Mountain Road from Wangenheim to Miramar College.
 - ii) Update to the Mira Mesa Community Plan will start in early 2017. Will take 3 years to complete.
 - iii) Next Stone Creek subcommittee meeting is on Thursday, May 12 at 6 PM at the library. This will be the first meeting on parks. At the last subcommittee meeting we learned that parks within the project are also serving as biofiltration for stormwater runoff. Schedule of meeting and reports and recommendations are on the website http://miramesatowncouncil.org/planning_group.
 - iv) MMHS is having a series of meetings to develop a new master plan. Next meeting is Wednesday at 6pm at the MMHS media center. Deciding how to spend money available from propositions S and Z. Priorities noted at first meeting were to build permanent classrooms to replace as many portables as possible, and to build a new bandroom (current bandroom has a capacity of 89 and band has over 200 members).

- c) Mira Mesa Recreation Council – Joe Frichtel, Chairman – base locked down tomorrow at 1 pm. Sign says 2:30. May 13th is Miramar College graduation. Top Gun tournament Memorial Day weekend. Mira Mesa Community Park phase 1, Park by Salk elementary, Park by Wangenheim, Canyon Hills under development. Want to rename some parks after community people. 7 projects going on in community next 3 years. Will go through them at MMTC next month.
- d) Epicenter (Question to Bruce Brown) – lease is terminated. RFP will come out in 4-6 weeks. Need to write proposal. After that can have workshop. Mira Mesa Civic Center, Theatre, Youth Center. Need to generate \$4,000/month. Looking for lease to Mira Mesa Community Foundation.
- e) Mira Mesa Cluster Schools Council – Joe Frichtel – next meeting on the 23rd.

10) MMTC Committee Reports and Announcements

- a) Treasurer's Report – Bari Vaz distributed detailed report. CD was generating very low interest – will move to another bank.
- b) Membership – Lainie Hardman – Please join MMTC if you are not a member. Spread the word.
- c) MM Street Fair – Jeff Stevens - MM Street Fair will be on September 17. Subcommittee meetings are the fourth Monday of each month at the community office. First organizational subcommittee meeting was in April. Vendor application to be posted on website May 15. Will have a beer garden again. If you would like to help plan the event, or can help out at the event, please see Jeff Stevens.
- d) Scholarship Committee – Pam Stevens. Deadline for scholarship application is May 11.
- e) President's Report, seeking volunteers for MMTC booths at Asian Cultural Festival May 7 and D6 Night Market May 21

11) Open Forum – Individuals or Community Groups wishing to speak on topics not

elsewhere on Agenda (2 minutes allotted to each individual or group. One speaker per group. Speakers must sign in at Membership Table to be recognized. Listed below are those who have expressed an interest prior to meeting in speaking tonight.)

- a) Mira Mesa Theatre Guild – Pam Stevens; Mira Mesa's Got Talent coming June 4 at MMHS, auditions May 17 and May 19 at Gil Johnson Recreation Center in MM Community Park.
- b) Relay for Life, San Diego Northeastern Pageant Team – team captain Maria Pankau. Relay is May 21-22, raises awareness and raises funds for fight against cancer of all sorts and provides support for cancer patient, honors cancer survivors and honors

memory of all who have fought cancer. MMTC members encouraged to sign up to be walkers on team for an hour or two at some time during day – or night! Will be at Asian Cultural Festival and D6 night market.

- c) Mira Mesa resident with concern about being told by City to remove, then re-plant a tree – Gary Roberts said that his in-laws live on Parkdale and had a dead Palm tree in their front yard that they had turned into a planter. A neighbor didn't like the planter and complained to the City, so they removed the tree. Then they were told that because the tree was within 10 feet of the street, it was in the City right-of-way, so it was illegal to remove the tree without planting another, and it must be a tree on the City list of allowable trees. It is a small front yard and they do not want to plant another tree. Motion (Jeff Stevens/Chuck Regan) to write a letter to Chris Cate in support of Mr. Roberts and his in-laws passed 18-1.
- d) Ted Brengel - Minutes of April meeting approved.
- e) John Horst – has lawn signs available for his campaign for Congress.

12) Adjournment (9 p.m.)