

Mira Mesa Town Council Minutes

January 4, 2021 - 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

1) Call to order by President Bari Vaz

2) Recognition of First Responders (SDPD/SDFD if present)

- a) SDPD Northeastern Division – no report
- b) SD Fire Department Station 38 – Captain Joe Raymundo (Division C captain and current overall station captain). Increase in Covid over the last month. Most calls to fire department are Covid respiratory calls. Many are over 70 years old. More homeless around Mira Mesa recently. Bari – homeless locations next to the mall by the Shell station and O'Reilly's; median of Mira Mesa Blvd; Bridge over Black Mountain Road. Montongo by canyon, Carwash at night. Sleeping between Fire Station and Park. Two home fires this week. Not sure how they started, More fires when it gets cold. Electric blankets, fireplaces, ... 3 fire stations in Mira Mesa. New fire station 50 handling the south side along Miramar Road. Hospitals are very full. Stay out if possible. No visitors for patients. Don't call 911 for minor cases. Some homeless in Los Penasquitos Canyon also. Fire hazard.

3) Swearing in of 2021 MMTC Board – District 6 San Diego City Councilmember Chris Cate

Bari Vaz, President
Pam Stevens, First Vice President – Program Chair
Brandy Ludwick, Second Vice President – Membership Chair
Jeff Stevens, Secretary
Jonathan Lea, Treasurer
Ted Brengel, Parliamentarian
Renee Schmiedeberg, Newsletter Editor
Danielle Austin, Director at Large
Kanchan S. Farkiya, Director at Large
Richie Ludwick, Director at Large
Yvonne Negron, Director at Large

4) State of the District talk – District 6 San Diego City Councilmember Chris Cate

Budget chair for this difficult year. 5 new councilmembers. \$124 million deficit projected, Budget priorities due tomorrow. Survey available. Be specific. Budget meeting with Andrea Tevlin. Have money for reconstruction of Gold Coast and Parkdale. Issue bonds in spring timeframe. Will take 1.5 years. Epicentre – lots of changes in real estate assets department. Q: FBA and Complete Communities. A. Concerned about this and will follow up. Q: Are there separate bonds for Gold Coast and Parkdale? A. Chris does not think so but will check. Pam: Gold Coast/Parkdale timetable? Hopefully start in Spring. Will be disruptive. Mayor will release budget in April. Probably not a good news budget.

5) MMTC Members' Approval of Minutes from December Meeting

- a) Approved by unanimous consent.

6) President's Report – Bari Vaz

- a) What a year! Very difficult to do anything. Not going to get a lot of help from the City. May look like 2008-9 budget. City has been reluctant to allow volunteers to do anything. May need to push City to do things. Crime has been increasing, Trash, Homelessness. Being homeless is not a crime, so can't arrest. No homeless resources north of 8. Need to get them here. Pedestrian bridge has become a gathering point for homeless. Mail theft. Sticky rat traps used to fish mail out of mail boxes. Lights continuously broken on bridge. MMTC will host community cleanups to address trash. Get City to come out with dumpsters.

7) Government and Community Resources

- a) Mira Mesa Community Planning Group – Jeff Stevens, Chairman
 - i) Last meeting – approved expanded area for El Camino Memorial Park. Asked then to resolve any issues with Carroll Canyon Road alignment.

- ii) Next meeting – presentation by a group that is trying to improve the proposed Parks Master Plan. Trying to address the FBA issue with them also.
- iii) Community Plan update – City to return with specific proposals at next meeting on January 21.
- b) Mira Mesa Community Recreation Group – Bari for Joe Frichtel, Chairman. CRG will hold its first meeting since the pandemic began, virtually via Zoom on Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2021
- c) Mira Mesa Branch Library – Ina Gibson, Branch Manager. Must have mask and library card to enter library or pick up books. Will have virtual programming coming up soon. Christina Wainwright doing afternoon reading with tea M-Th at 3 pm. Short stories being read aloud. Winter reading challenge, Read 5 books and you can win prizes. Wait a couple of weeks to bring book donations. Working on ways to do it. Christina will be reading Great Gatsby. Banned Book Group is doing the 5th Heart, historical fiction.
- d) Scripps Mesa Fireworks – Michael Spencer, President. 2020 was disappointing. Fingers crossed for 2021. Still in good standing financially since still have money from last year. No County grants this year. Hopefully vaccines and social distancing will work to tame virus in time to have 4th of July celebration. Need fire department, school district approval. Hope to have T-shirt design project in some form virtually on the SMF website. Fireworks fundraising meeting sometime this month.

8) Elected Officials – standing reports

- a) City Councilmember Chris Cate, District 6 - Luis Pallera. Councilmember Cate main speaker earlier in evening so no report.
- b) County Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, District 4. sworn in Jan. 4 at 10:40am, anticipate she will have a staff rep attending MMTC meetings starting February 2021
- c) Mayor Todd Gloria – Michaela Valk. Mayor issued executive order for more enforcement of Covid regulations. Stage collapse. Getitdone app report is the only record of it being reported. Neighbor City Signs says they reported problems there several times. Trying to improve Covid behavior with education more than enforcement. Parking enforcement halted. SDG&E franchise agreement extended to June 1. Park master plan sent back to staff. Will try to attend MMTC meetings as often as possible. Will send Bari a report if not able to attend. Wed Jan 13 6 pm state of the city address. On City TV (24) and streamed on website. Mayor and Council members got raise due to ballot measure passed in 2018.
- d) Assemblyman Brian Maienschein, District 77 - Rob Knudsen. Not present.
- e) State Senator Toni Atkins – Diana Lara. Handling EDD claims. Start of new legislative session.
- f) Congressman Scott Peters - Anthony Nguyen:
 - i) Scott is honored to serve his 5th term in Congress
 - ii) Congress passed a long-awaited COVID-19 emergency relief bill, as well as funding for all federal government operations. This includes:
 - (1) \$120 billion for unemployment insurance (provides an additional \$300/week to supplement state and federal unemployment benefits until March 2021.)
 - (2) \$166 billion for economic impact payments (one-time direct payments of \$600 for individuals making up to \$75,000 and \$1,200 for couples making up to \$150,000, as well as an extra \$600 per eligible child dependent.)
 - (3) Contact our office if you have issues with your stimulus check:
<https://scottpeters.house.gov/privacy-release-form-authentication>
 - (4) Contact your State representative if you have issues with EDD benefits:
<http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/>
 - iii) Questions on COVID-19 Vaccine:
https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/community_epidemiology/dc/2019-nCoV/vaccines.html
 - iv) Inauguration 2021 will be virtual
 - v) Covered California’s Open Enrollment season is here, which means San Diegans can sign up for health care coverage or make changes to their existing plan. Sign up by December 15th for coverage starting January 1st. Open Enrollment ends January 31, 2021.
 - vi) Medicare General Enrollment Period: January 1st to March 31st 2021; Effective July 2021
- g) San Diego Unified School District Board Member Sabrina Bazzo. District A. Just sworn in Dec 8. One meeting so far, so not much to report yet. Will be lots with school reopening, Budget looks pretty dismal. Waiting for stimulus funds. Coming up with a plan. Be patient with people. Mother caught Covid. Daughter at Colorado state caught it. Both doing OK, but many are not. Wear masks. Husband is physician and just got vaccine. Figuring out how to vaccinate students.

9) Open Forum

- a) **Tommy Hough** – congratulations to Sabrina. Tommy's wife lost a couple of family members to Covid. ADEM elections coming up. Choose state democratic party delegates. Candidate Ria Otera is born and bred Mira Mesa.
- b) **Kent Lee** – new member. Saying hi to MMTC.

10) Other MMTC Committee Reports

- a) Banner District – Jennifer Kvalvik. No report.
- b) Fourth of July Committee [Parade and Fun Day] – Bari Vaz. Going to try to do it, No City or County grants.
- c) Membership – Brandy Ludwick. Have 42 members, 7 businesses. 31 renewals and 11 new members.
- d) Treasurer's Report – Jonathan Lea. Bank balance almost unchanged since we were unable to do much last year. Will have budget next month.
- e) Kaanchan – looking for positive images of Mira Mesa for website, Instagram and Facebook. Leo has been painting and can send pictures.

11) Adjournment

Next Meeting: Monday, February 1, 2021 – virtually via Zoom