

Mira Mesa Town Council Minutes

January 9, 2022 - 7:00 p.m.

1) Call to order by Vice President Pam Stevens. Pledge of Allegiance.

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

- a) SDPD Northeastern Division – Officer Christina Santos. Not present.
- b) SD Fire Department Station 38 – Captain Joe Raymundo. Not present.

3) President's Report & Approval by MMTC members of December Minutes. Minutes approved.

4) Swearing In of 2023 MMTC Board, followed by San Diego City Council District 6 Update – San Diego City Councilmember Kent Lee [7:15pm]

Newly elected Councilmember for District 6. Longtime member of the Community. 9 years on Planning Group. Surreal being on the other side of the table. Now at 1 month mark. Homelessness is top priority. Need affordable and middle income housing. Infrastructure needed. Please report potholes with GetItDone App. Mira Mesa has some old parks and public facilities that need to be upgraded. How do we get resources delivered back into Community? There are 9 committees; Kent is on 5. Chairing active transportation and infrastructure committee. Serving on budget committee, housing and land use, economic development, rules. Plan Update – need to figure out how to get infrastructure. Carroll Canyon Road extension is high priority. City did feasibility study \$50-\$60 million. Community Park completion is high priority.

Introduced Dustin Nguyen, new Mira Mesa Rep.gov. Phone is 619-236-6616.

5) Government and Community Resources [7:45pm]

- a) Mira Mesa Community Planning Group – Jeff Stevens, Chair
 - i) Planning Group made 13 recommendations to correct deficiencies in the Community Plan Update. City Council approve the Community Plan with no changes. This means that the City has approved up to 24,000 new units, an increase in the population of over 50,000 people, without providing the infrastructure for the increased population.
 - ii) November meeting – reviewed/approved Lazy Dog Restaurant which will replace Mimi's. Presentation on feasibility study for Carroll Canyon Road extension; is now estimated to cost over \$50 million. Update on Pure Water program.
 - iii) January meeting – Longfellow industrial project on Lusk Blvd. Four large (~10 story) buildings with two large parking structures has concerned some nearby residents.
 - iv) Planning Group elections in March. Will have several vacancies due to term limits. Encouraging people to apply. Need to attend two meetings, so if you have not been to any meetings, must attend January 19th and February 23rd.
- b) Mira Mesa Community Recreation Group – Joe Frichtel, Chair
 - i) Wangenheim and Salk Projects both going forward. Rain has temporarily paused construction. Could impact Fireworks if Wangenheim is not done.
- c) Miramar College – P. Wesley Lundburg, President. Not present.
- d) Mira Mesa Branch Library – Ina Gibson, Branch Manager
 - i) Winter reading challenge info provided. Go to library website and sign up. Full calendar is on website. Information also on Facebook. All programs are free. 3-3:30 story time for elementary age group. Tuesday evening English language conversation program. Chess club Thursday 3-5. Closed for MLK day. Jan 20 Lion Dance Troop. Family career exploration workshop. Idea Lab close to opening. Nanotechnology exhibit now operating through end of February. Interactive, what it means to our lives.
- e) Scripps Mesa Fireworks – by email from Michael Spencer - SMFW opened a dialog between the city and Pyro Spectaculars identifying what the necessary laydown is for the show. We will still need buy-in from the school as well. Pyro Spectaculars has said that they have had a significant decrease in technicians and we would likely need to lock in sooner than later. I will be getting that portion sorted hopefully starting next week. If we are a go with the site operators, we would most definitely need donations/sponsorships to stream in or we may not cover the show.

6) Elected Officials – standing reports [8:00pm]

- a) City Councilmember Kent Lee – Dustin Nguyen

- i) Dustin is from San Diego, with family in Mira Mesa. Rain has caused potholes. Report them. City is informing people about the organic recycling program. Will take months to roll out. Put things in that can't go down garbage disposal. Q – how enforced? None. Similar to recycling program.
- b) San Diego Unified School Board – Sabrina Bazzo
 - i) Congratulations to Kent Lee. Happy to have on Mira Mesa team. No longer represent UC, but now have Scripps Ranch. Have 5 areas total. Up to the challenge. Brought kids up in Mira Mesa. Mira Mesa resident many years. At Mason this morning. Mira Mesa has very strong community schools. Seen as model for San Diego schools. High percentage of students who live here go to school here (80%). Some schools decreasing in enrollment. Mira Mesa, Scripps Ranch, Clairemont enrollments have stayed the same or increased. UTK programs expanding. Several UTK classes at each school. Sabrina elected Board president. New superintendent last year. Two new Board members. Try to focus on student outcomes.
- c) Mayor Todd Gloria – Michaela Valk. Not present.
- d) County Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, District 3 – Rachel Beck. See attached report submitted by email.
- e) State Senator Brian Jones – Marc Schaefer
 - i) Now represents 40th district. Pine Valley, University City, Fallbrook. About 1 million constituents. Toni Atkins is majority leader. Special session on gas prices. Gas tax holiday proposed. SB31 homelessness bill to remove encampments from sensitive areas such as parks. Office will be moving to this area in the next month or so. Internships available. RealID act extended to 2025. Two seminars – CHP live well, drive smart. Strategies for senior citizens to drive better. Second senior scam stoppers. Phone: 858-880-5653. Call 7 AM to 9 PM. Email Marc.Schaefer@sen.ca.gov.
- f) State Assemblyman Chris Ward – Miki Holmes
 - i) 78th Assembly district. Chris is speaker pro-tempore. Can help with DMV or other state entities. District goes south to 94. We are at North end of district.
- g) US Congressperson Sara Jacobs. No representative present.
- h) San Diego Community College District Board Member Bernie Rhinerson. Not present.

7) Open Forum (2 minutes each, items not on agenda)

- a) Dennis Huang, Alex Nguyen. Tet Festival is Jan 27-29. Live music. Miss Vietnam pageant. Dennis grew up in Mira Mesa. Saturday noon-1 elected representatives are invited. At Mira Mesa Community Park. Lots of food. 22 food vendors.
- b) Sabrina – would like to see more people at MMTC meetings.

8) Other MMTC Committee Reports [8:25 pm]

- a) Treasurer's Report – Jonathan Lea. Draft budget created. Submitted next month
- b) MMTC Booth at San Diego Tet Festival Jan. 27 - 29 – Pam Stevens, Yvonne Negrón
- c) Banner District – Jennifer Kvalvik
- d) Membership – Yvonne Negrón

9) Adjournment by 9pm

The Vietnamese American Youth Alliance (VAYA) & Vietnamese Federation of San Diego are excited to sponsor the San Diego Tet Festival in Mira Mesa Community Park January 27 – 29, 2023. Please join us! The Festival celebrates the Lunar New Year (Tet), which this year is both the Year of the Cat (in the Vietnamese Zodiac) and Year of the Rabbit (in the Chinese Zodiac). For details see www.sdtet.com



January 2023 Updates

The Office of Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer

Federal Omnibus Bill a Big Win for San Diego

Highlights include:

- \$4.48 million for the County's Mobile Crisis Response Team to help people with mental health crises, giving us the ability to add overnight coverage for two teams, seven days per week.
- \$3.75 million for the purchase of a twin-engine firefighting helicopter, which will assist firefighting efforts in San Diego County and neighboring counties.
- \$3.45 million for the Smuggler's Gulch dredging project, which will help improve coastal water quality by clearing trash and sediment coming from the Tijuana River Valley.

Fentanyl "Upstream" Strategies

At one of its last meetings of 2022, the County Board of Supervisors took new action on the fentanyl crisis.

In response to a proposal by Supervisors Lawson-Remer and Desmond to declare fentanyl a public health emergency, the Board approved new tactics to fight overdose and deaths.

This four-point-plan is based on what Supervisor Lawson-Remer calls an "upstream" approach.

If we imagine the fentanyl crisis as a river, we're currently pulling people out of the water **after** they have already fallen in — by treating people once they've overdosed.

But to truly address the problem, we have to go upstream — and stop people from falling into addiction in the first place.

That means more education, more health-based treatments, and more data-driven solutions to provide early intervention.

The plan includes:

- Prevention education for high-risk groups
- Installing more vending machines that provide naloxone — the life-saving medication that can prevent overdose deaths — which is sometimes known by its brand name Narcan
- Early intervention with people at risk of an overdose, such as people with mental health conditions
- And tracking the locations of overdose outbreaks so we can provide a more effective response tailored to the community

Native Plants

Last month the Board of Supervisors also adopted a new policy to help our **local ecosystems thrive**.

Climate change is threatening San Diego County's unique habitats — which are recognized as one of the most biologically diverse in the United States. Our Ocean Beach Estuary is home to more than 150 bird species alone!

But the good news is that **we each have the power to protect native plants through some simple actions.**

This Native Plants Policy Package will make it easier for residents to plant drought-tolerant native vegetation — with **incentives to San Diego County residents, landscapers, and businesses** to protect the biodiversity that makes our region so beautiful and unique.

The board gave direction to staff to start developing this plan.

It includes rebates for converting lawns to native vegetation, free landscape design templates, native plants being used in more County projects, a partnership with school districts to install gardens, and more.

Volunteer Call to Action: Point in Time Count

The annual count of the region's homeless population is coming up the morning of **Thursday, January 26**, and we're asking for volunteers to help out.

The count helps us collect data on the needs of people experiencing homelessness in our community. The federal government relies on this data when it's deciding where to send funds to help reduce homelessness.

It also provides an excellent opportunity to increase awareness of homelessness and to spark action.

A successful and accurate count is an essential component to informing our regional response and to ultimately making homelessness rare, brief and one-time in San Diego County.

We encourage you to sign up to be a volunteer by visiting the website for the Regional Task Force on Homelessness, or going to sandiego.pointintime.info.

Rachel Beck is the District 3 representative attending the Rancho Penasquitos Town Council meetings in 2023. She can be reached at rachel.beck@sdcounty.ca.gov or at (858) 289-7177

For more updates, please sign up for our newsletter:
<https://remer.nationbuilder.com/join>

To sign up to volunteer for the Jan. 26 regional homelessness count, visit sandiego.pointintime.info