

Mira Mesa Town Council Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.

Mira Mesa Library Community Room (also virtual broadcast via MMTC Facebook Live)

1) Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance led by MMTC President Bari Vaz

2) First Responders' reports (SDPD/SDFD if present)

- a) SDPD Northeastern Division – Officer Christina Santos. Prescription take-back completed – 100 pounds of medication disposed of. Keeping on top of street/parking lot racers. They may move to Poway. RSVP will do vacation house checks. Still not up to minimum staffing. Police Academy has a graduating class coming up which may provide some help with staffing shortage. New Hawaiian restaurant in Rancho Penasquitos is sponsoring a Maui relief event on Dec. 2, 2023, in the parking lot for the dog park across the street from the police station.
- b) SD Fire Department Station 38 – Captain Joe Raymundo. Not present.

3) Approval of October 2023 Minutes and President's Report – Bari Vaz. Minutes approved.

4) Main Program: Meet VAYA (Vietnamese American Youth Alliance), Mira Mesa Town Council's featured "business member of the month." The non-profit group will host the **2024 San Diego Tet Festival (sdtet.com)**, February 16-18, 2024, in Mira Mesa Community Park – presentation by Alan Tran, Treasurer and webmaster for VAYA. 19th Tet Festival. Second most popular of its kind, behind Orange County. Moved if it occurs on Superbowl weekend. \$155,000 operating costs. Stage rented, tents rented, etc. Tet Festival 2024 celebrates start of Year of the Dragon. MMTC will be a nonprofit vendor. Looking for volunteers to man MMTC booth.

5) MMTC Business –

- a) **Bylaws review committee** (Parliamentarian Eric Kolbeck and Jeff Stevens) presented recommendations for periodic bylaws update (vote by members scheduled for January 2024 meeting) – see attached report. Current and new bylaws as well as changes are posted on the MMTC website.
- b) **MMTC Board Elections** – Nominating Committee, Parliamentarian Eric Kolbeck, chair, along with Pam Stevens and Danielle Austin, presented these recommendations for 2-year terms in 2024-2025. President – Bari Vaz; 2nd Vice President/Membership – Yvonne Negron; Secretary – Jeff Stevens; Parliamentarian – Eric Kolbeck; Director at Large #1 – Dan Austin; Director at Large #2 – Shane O-Garro. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Newly elected/re-elected 2024-25 Board members take office at the January 2024 MMTC meeting (1/08/2024), joining these continuing 2023-24 Board members: 1st Vice President/Programs – Pam Stevens; Treasurer – Jonathan Lea; Newsletter Editor – Javier Farkiya; Director at Large #3 – Kaanchan S. Farkiya; Director at Large #4 – Dorothy Lorenz.

Motion to approve slate (Derr/Frichtel) Approved 15-0.

6) Government and Community Resources

- a) Mira Mesa Maintenance Assessment District – Tom Derr. \$17/year for maintenance of Mira Mesa Blvd. Will need to rebalot next year. In 2 years will not have enough to do what is needed. Trying to include 4th of July cost in budget. Budget will be placed online on the MMTC website. Send Tom a note if you want anything taken care of. Vote on budget in December.
- b) Mira Mesa Library – Branch manager Marta Brandes-Miesner, represented by Crystal Williamson, Library Assistant III, supervisor of idea lab. Events planned for Native American Heritage month. Library master plan went to City Council today. Master Plan will do major maintenance at Mira Mesa Library. For upcoming events at MM Library see sandiegolibrary.org, click on "event calendar," then "deselect all" (assuming you want to filter out "virtual branch" online events), then "Mira Mesa Library."
- c) Mira Mesa Community Planning Group – Jeff Stevens, Chair Emeritus
 - i) November Planning Group meeting postponed to November 27 due to Thanksgiving Holiday.
 - ii) MTS is discontinuing bus service from the Sorrento Valley Coaster station to Sorrento Mesa. The North County Transit District is now doing a survey to evaluate transportation needs from that station. <https://gonctd.com/svccsurvey/>.
 - iii) Presentation by Kent Lee on City projects in progress or about to start in Mira Mesa.
 - iv) Sub-Committee for Official Planning Group Recognition has completed work so MMCPG can vote on documents in November.
 - v) Voted to support stop signs on Kemerton Rd at intersections with Penara St and Schilling Ave for pedestrian safety.

- vi) Appointed Ria Otero to fill residential vacancy.
- d) Mira Mesa Community Recreation Group – Joe Frichtel, Chair.
 - i) Good news – projects at Salk and Wangenheim going well. Bad news - Community Park improvements including the pool are delayed. There were two bidders, but neither was satisfactory. Meeting next Tuesday at Lopez Ridge, 7 PM.
- e) Scripps Mesa Fireworks – Plans for 2024, presented by Scripps Mesa Fireworks Fundraising Team. Pam Stevens gave report. SMF brought back fireworks in 2023 to Wangenheim Middle School on Sunday, July 2, viewed from Hourglass Park. That fireworks show cost \$18,000. Would have cost \$35,000 if had been on July 4th holiday. Scripps Mesa Fireworks, an all-volunteer 501c3 non-profit group, is now starting from scratch to raise money for 2024 fireworks -- need to raise a lot of money! Currently have \$3,800. SMF goal is to raise \$40,000, amount needed for fireworks on 4th of July holiday on Thursday, July 4. Doing it on an earlier day would cost less. If it can't be done on July 4th, looking at either Wednesday July 3 or Sunday June 30. Scripps Mesa Fireworks is actively seeking donations to the fireworks fund, large or small, which may be made at: <https://miramesafireworks.org>
 - i) Anyone who would like to volunteer with SMF can find out more by contacting the group or attending the next SMF Fundraising Team meeting, Thursday, November 29, 6pm at Mira Mesa Presbyterian Church Pre-school.
 - ii) MMTC will work to bring an afternoon community picnic and fireworks watch party, similar to this year's picnic but with a few more food vendors, to Hourglass Field Park whichever date fireworks take place. Need to coordinate with SMF for planning about that. Daytime events might include a parade of some sort, but only if there are volunteers to organize it.
- f) Miramar College – P. Wesley Lundburg, President. SDCCD Chancellor search. Miramar College pursuing offering a bachelor's degree program. Public safety bachelor's degree is approved to start Fall 2025. Police Academy, Fire Academy and Aviation were the first priorities of Miramar College. Athletics: Water polo now; adding men's and women's diving. Pool resources are stretched. Next month MMTC will meet on campus (Dec. 4 at 7:00pm). Must park in lot 2. There it will be free. Auditorium style classroom. Making available to Community for large meetings. Holds 250 people. County Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer will be there for a meet and greet starting at 6:00 PM.

7) Elected Officials – standing reports

- a) San Diego Community College District Board Member Bernie Rhinerson – not present
- b) San Diego Unified School Board member Sabrina Bazzo – not present
- c) City Councilmember Kent Lee, District 6 – Jermaine Rocacorba
 - i) MTS has pulled out of servicing the Sorrento Valley Coaster to discontinue routes 972, 973, 974, 978, and 979. However, North County Transit District (NCTD) is hoping they can service it for the sake of supporting students, employees, and other folks who frequent using the Sorrento Valley Coaster. Although, nothing is finalized it's critical for people complete their survey by December 1st: Sorrento Valley Mobility Survey - North County Transit District (<https://gonctd.com/svccsurvey/>). Survey responses will help planners and schedulers try their best to create transit service that meets your transportation needs. If you know folk that would like them to present to staff, residents, or other interested parties, please email planning@nctd.org directly for further inquiries.
 - ii) Gold Coast - Current Work (As of Nov. 1): Continuing to install pipes in the area of Camino Ruiz and Gold Coast Drive. AND Storm drain materials will be delivered and staged near the intersections of San Ramon Drive and Gold Coast Drive and Westonhill Drive and Gold Coast Drive after Nov. 1.
 - iii) Pure Water San Diego Phase 1 Construction Update; Video provided <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RCUJZOYZfA0>.
- d) Mayor Todd Gloria – Michaela Valk – sent report
- e) County Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, District 3 – Evan Bridgham
 - i) County has hired 5 times more homeless outreach staff.
 - ii) Building more supportive housing.
 - iii) Homeless diversion program to keep people in their houses.
 - iv) December 4 Meet and Greet with Terra Lawson-Remer at Miramar College. 6-7 PM.
- f) State Senator Brian Jones – Marc Schaefer
 - i) Thanks to people who attended open house. Recognized Bari Vaz as woman of the year. 1300 people attended the open house. Open house had a petting zoo. Will do as annual event.
 - ii) Senator had 3 bills signed by the governor. SB 654. SB844 clarifies treating holiday beers the same as ordinary beers. SB403 governor vetoed, introduced caste as a protected class. Brian was lone vote against it initially. SB811 regarding teacher shortage. SB846 military pension tax exemption. SB55 identification number on catalytic converters.

- g) State Assemblymember Chris Ward – Miki Holmes. Not present.
- h) Congressperson Sara Jacobs – Kathleen Dang. Not present.

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

- a) Carol Rieker, lives on Calico Street. She and her husband have a huge problem with trucks parking on residential streets in their area. Blocks vision in addition to using parking. Being used as commercial loading and unloading zone. Owner of the business lives in apartment on street. Parks vehicle in spaces where trucks were to preserve parking space. Referring to City Council office.
- b) John Smith – Ditto on parking issue. Need to give tickets often and regularly.
- c) Evan Longpre – Ditto on parking issue. Want to solve it, not just move it to be someone else's problem.
- d) Jayna Lee – Associate Director of Outreach for PATH. Went to Mira Mesa schools and went to Miramar College. JaynaL@epath.org. Now working on homeless issues in Mira Mesa.

9) Other MMTC Committee Reports

- a) Treasurer's Report – Jonathan Lea. Street Fair came out well. Have about \$89,000 in bank now.
- b) Banner District – Jennifer Kvalvik
- c) Membership – Yvonne Negron

10) Adjournment 9:00pm

Next MMTC Meeting: Monday, December 4, 2023, 7pm

(following "Meet County Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer," 6 – 7pm

Location: Miramar College – English Building ("I" Building) Details to follow in December MMTC Newsletter and at www.miramesatowncouncil.org

Mira Mesa Town Council Bylaws Update

The Mira Mesa Town Council bylaws require that the bylaws be reviewed and updated periodically to ensure that they stay current and to make any changes that have become necessary since the previous bylaws review. A committee chaired by Parliamentarian Eric Kolbeck was formed to review the bylaws and has suggested a number of changes. Most of the changes are either related to the increased use of modern technology or are clarifying language. The main changes are:

1. Specifying that meetings may be either physical, virtual or hybrid. Currently the bylaws say that "MMTC General Membership meetings ... shall be held at any public place within the geographical area known as Mira Mesa." This gives the impression that meetings must be held in person. During the pandemic, all of our meetings were virtual and we are currently doing hybrid meetings, broadcasting meetings on Facebook live. We need to update the bylaws to allow virtual or hybrid meetings.
2. Changing the newsletter editor language to allow electronic distribution of the newsletter. Currently the bylaws require mailing a hard copy newsletter to members who request it, but we are no longer producing a hard copy newsletter. Current practice is to post the newsletter on the website and email all members to let them know it is available.
3. Removing the requirement to do an annual independent financial review. This requirement dates back to a time of paper records. Currently, the Board does a review of the finances every year during development of the budget and the Board has the power to request an independent review if deemed necessary. An external annual review would be expensive if we hired an outside consultant to do the review, and we do not think it is necessary to do an external financial review on an annual basis.

Appended to the bylaws are the standing rules of all standing committees. These are not part of the bylaws, but are kept here to make them easy to find and access. During the bylaws review, the committee cleaned up the language in a number of the standing rules. We also added a set of standing rules for the Mira Mesa Business Association, a new committee for the business members of MMTC.

The procedure for amending the bylaws is specified in the bylaws: "These bylaws shall be amended by a 2/3 (two-thirds) majority vote of the regular membership present at any regular meeting of the MMTC, provided a quorum is present and that prior written notice has been given." We will be posting the proposed updated bylaws on the [MMTC website](http://www.miramesatowncouncil.org) and asking for a vote of the membership at the January 2024 meeting.