

NEW MONTEREY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN
MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13, 2010

I. CALL TO ORDER (7:06 PM) - WELCOME ATTENDEES

Board Members Present: Howard Fosler (Pres Presiding), Barbara Evans (VP), Brian Greenshields (Sec)

Excused Absence: Alex Albin, Bruce Crist, Bob Evans, Sharon Dwight

NOTE: Vote was taken to proceed with the meeting despite not having a quorum physically present because Howard had been given a proxy vote by Alex Albin and Bob Evans was available to vote by phone.

Guest Speaker: None

Honored Guests: Nancy Selfridge (City Council Planner) and Carl Miller (Monterey Peninsula Airport District Board)

Several members of the public including Joanne Kelly and Moses Stiles were in attendance.

II. NONCOMPLYING FENCE AT PRESCOTT & JESSE ST

Complaint was registered with David Wright concerning the new fence at the corner of Jesse St and Prescott.

The Board is in discussion with the City of Monterey to solve the matter quickly as the fence is a hazard to motor traffic.

III. RENAMING CANNERY ROW EAST OF REESIDE—NEXT STEP

At the end of October, there will be a meeting with the City of Monterey in regards to changing the signage of Cannery Row Street east of Reeside since this has caused tremendous confusion in the past with tourists visiting our city. Many folks will make the right turn just after entering Foam from Lighthouse and end up on the Coast Guard pier and not at Cannery Row. Several different street names were suggested to include Sharon Dwight Avenue and Steinbeck Way. The Board had anticipated further discussion at tonight's meeting with a concerned business owner from the Coast Guard pier area, but he was not able to attend.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

DECIDE WHETHER TO HAVE A NMNA BOOTH AT THE BAY VIEW HARVEST CARNIVAL

After a brief discussion on the pros/cons of being represented at the Bay View Elementary Carnival, Brian Greenshields was tasked to secure a booth/table for the NMNA at the Carnival. Howard Fosler stated that he had tables, chairs, a sign, and NMNA literature.

V. REPORTS

A. PRESIDENT

Howard Fosler mentioned that some of the businesses on Lighthouse Ave were getting "a little seedy" in appearance and that the NMNA was working in cooperation with the Lighthouse Business District and the City to address the problem whether code violations, painting, or fixing torn awnings.

B. SECRETARY

Howard Fosler motioned, Barbara Bass Evans seconded to approve the July and September NMNA minutes. Howard executed his proxy vote and the minutes were approved.

C. TREASURER

Howard Fosler reported that the Association had 156 registered members making us the largest association in the City. Last month the Association had a balance of \$2,931 and this month it had grown to \$3,005.92!

D. GARDEN TOUR

After a lot of discussion with Alex Albin, Howard Fosler determined that we were not ready for a proposed Spring garden tour—simply did not get enough of a response from the community. We were hoping to get 20 interested, with 10 to commit as a minimum. We will need to work on advertising the tour and getting volunteers to support this effort in the future.

E. BAY VIEW SCHOOL

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Brian Greenshields gave an update on the status of the Bay View Academy charter initiative stating the effort was in the home stretch and had garnered the support of the City of Monterey and other community partners to include NOAA, MIIS, NMBA and of course the NMNA.

F. AIRPORT LIAISON

Carl Miller led an enlightening and lively discussion on the Monterey Airport that ranged from noise issues (just finished residential soundproofing of over 900 dwellings), to airport improvements (new runway light switch, solar panels for parking lots, and runway safety project to extend 1,000 feet each side or at least achieve the same effect using a product called EMAS that gives under aircraft weight on the overrun), to sharing airport fire services with the City of Monterey, to lowering landing minimums especially with the planned installation of a GPS landing system, to different approach corridors in the future, and to better taxi service at the airport (should be a minimum of three cabs at all times). This discussion led to a conversation on the proposed Regional Taxicab Authority that would put all Monterey County taxis under TAMC but with the program administered by MST.

Lastly, Carl Miller suggested we attend the regular Airport Board liaison meetings they hold with the local cities.

G. NMBA, CRBID

Bob had attended recent meetings of both these business organizations. Howard will represent the NMNA at the next meetings.

H. CERT

Howard Fosler addressed upcoming CERT training and commented on the recent drill that occurred on 9/25 stating that the drill did exactly what it was supposed to and that was "expose holes and shortfalls." Nancy Selfridge attended the drill and called it "eye opening!" Next CERT drill scheduled for 11/13 at Hilltop, 9 – 12 and a new class will be forming 1/20/11.

I. NIP

The importance of NIP to the community and the City was emphasized by Howard and echoed by members of the neighborhood in attendance. San Carlos Beach was mentioned as a great example of what NIP can deliver. Nancy Selfridge stated that there will be money this year allocated to NIP (the Transient Occupancy Tax is up this year)! Prescott Sidewalk NIP project to begin in October. Spencer 600 Widening to begin in November.

J. CITY BUSINESS REPORTS

1. City Council -- Budget Meeting

Barbara Bass Evans commented that maybe there were too meetings diluting the process. In addition, the outcome based budgeting only looked at City programs when everything should be on the table to include infrastructure, salaries, and sewers. Focus should be on what we can reasonably do in two years and where will the money come from? Barbara also had a concern that there might be too many consultants to support specific/special plans, and that all the plans seem to have been thrown in together. Moses Stiles commented that all the disparate plans should have been incorporated into the General Plan Review (looking out to 2020) in order to ensure a wise expenditure of taxpayer dollars. Some asked why the City is not relooking at salaries, personnel costs and furloughs? Lastly was a discussion on PERS costs to the City with Carl Miller stating that the State was trying to stop the 100% retirement promise but that we must be careful not to throw the baby out with the bath water when critiquing PERS.

2. City Council -- Down Town

The mayor and ad hoc committee are still soliciting ideas and will reconcile and present to the public again.

3. City Council – Western Flyer Project

Barbara Bass Evans briefed the Western Flyer Project to the Board and other community member in

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attendance. The Western Flyer is the boat that Steinbeck and Ricketts sailed in the Sea of Cortez. A nonprofit has been formed to get the Western Flyer located in Monterey from its current home in Seattle. There will be a fundraising event on Nov 11 at Gilberts.

4. HPC

Barbara discussed the positive meeting with the planners and committee reference the Historic Context Survey and all agreed that it should be tabled especially in light of the historic materials that the NMNA had collected recently. The Association needs to ask Council to revise the staff's work plan and allow us to get our inputs into the report with the help of a licensed historic preservation planner or the city's historical architect. Moses Stiles suggested NMNA Board members put a value on out time spent gathering historical data and a show a cost benefit analysis of our effort vice the consultant!

Meeting Adjourned (8:59 PM).

Next Meeting November 8th 7pm Hilltop Park Center.