

MINUTES  
OF  
NEW MONTEREY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION  
MEETING  
September 12, 2012

President Bill Whipple was unable to start the meeting on time due to the lack of a quorum. Howard Fosler was present. Two representatives of the City, Kim Cole and Hans Usler were present as were four members of the public and Jon Hill, board member of MPUSD. In the absence of a quorum Whipple opened the floor to questions for Cole and Usler.

The first item addressed was lighting. We reviewed the memorandum concerning light and discussed it in detail due to dissatisfaction with the wording. Several members felt the wording was inadequate to meet the need of controlling overreaching lighting that affects neighbors. Cole said the City was averse to getting involved in the issue.

Cole reported the Specific Plans for Fremont and Downtown Business Districts were nearly complete and would be presented for public review shortly. The Neighborhood, Coastal and Waterfront plans remain and need to be prioritized.

Cole was also asked about the new view sharing standards. She said there are none anymore, except in Specific Plans- which New Monterey has- and which earned concern from the members. The old guide, she said, was invalid because it had never been properly approved by the Council. She said steps are underway to correct the problem, but issues remain. The board was concerned by the situation.

Usler was asked about Code Enforcement and reported that while the incumbent is off on sick leave a replacement, Louise Beck, was hired recently and is getting involved. Fence offenses were enumerated. Usler said we should bring those to his attention for review. In a month or so they will begin working on the trash container problem, but meanwhile Usler noted they have sent out more notices and fielded several inquiries. He also said a new Sustainability Officer, .....Terrazzas, was recently hired and will be working on the trash containers.

Usler mentioned several streets will be getting repairs, some with about half the normal budget available, and some with NIP funds, such as Irving at Lobos and Irving at Devisidero. The emphasis will be on moderate needs being met in order to stretch available dollars as far as possible, thus worst streets will get worse. He asked that his office be notified of streets needing repairs so that they can begin the process of repairing them.

Board member Bob Evans arrived and the meeting was called to order by Whipple at 7:18pm. Sharon Dwight arrived from another meeting at 7:20pm. With a quorum in place Whipple called for reports. No Treasurers Report was presented, although the treasurer stated we were solvent. The Minutes from the July meeting had been electronically approved and were accepted officially. A report will be tendered next month. The NIP report included mention of the Hilltop Reserve Water Tank fencing being completed satisfactorily. CERT training continues.

Present to answer questions concerning Bay View Academy was MPUSD board member Hill. He noted that Proposition 39 requires districts to provide adequate sites for charter schools. BVA asked to be moved to the Bay View campus. He said the board considered it carefully and decided its current site

met its needs better and declined, saying there was no cafeteria, its space was more limited for future growth, it was less safe, less centrally located and generally substandard, as some of the reasons. Hill explained the proposal for new uses of the Bay View campus which include a preschool, an evaluation center and treatment center for special needs children, hopefully to be open by the first of the year.

Fosler noted his appreciation to all involved in reopening the gates to the playground that had been effectively closed for six months. Uslar said he would remove half the red curb blocking parking right away and look into removing the rest perhaps by the end of the year if it is no longer needed.

Nothing new was discussed concerning the airport, other than to say we are waiting for new people to be appointed as FAA representatives and airport managers in the near future, after which we will again express our concerns over noise and safety.

Fosler mentioned the New Monterey Business Association sponsored Movies In The Park again this summer. Record audiences enjoyed the three presentations and an encore will occur in October (Ghost Busters).

ARC reporting from Cole included further mention that several City Council directives over many years were recently found to be inoperative due to faulty approval procedure processes. They include home additions, view sharing, trash enclosures, trees and more. Staff is working with the legal department to sort it out and get things legal again, but meanwhile, questions about what rules apply now should be directed to Staff.

Concluding Old Business, Cole readdressed the recently changed regulation concerning lighting and found dissatisfaction among the board. No one was happy with what appeared to be an effort by the City to dodge the issue and leave it squarely on each citizen to resolve as best he can. The board resolved to challenge the regulation by making suggestions for change.

The variance issued 498 Archer was briefly discussed as a good example of everyone working together to meet a balance between the owner's desires and the neighborhood's sensitivities.

New Business was called and Whipple asked for a vote for our representatives to NIP for 2013. The incumbents, Dwight and alternatives Garden and Evans, were reappointed.

Plans for the Candidate's Forum to be held 9/26 were discussed. Dwight will notify candidates of details. Whipple will get notification in the newspapers and try to get an article as well. Evans will arrange for a moderator from the LWV. Dwight and Fosler will provide refreshments. Questions will be formulated and presented to the candidates ahead of time, followed by written questions that will be screened and handled by a board member.

Plans for a memorial bench for Barbara Evans were discussed. Evans will select a site he prefers and work for its approval with the City.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Fosler  
Secretary