

NEW MONTEREY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWS



FEBRUARY 2012

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Having fun at the First Annual Alice Street Block Party, September 2011.



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Our Next Meeting

Our regularly scheduled neighborhood meeting on the second Monday of the month will be special for two reasons. Firstly, our new police chief, Phil Penko will be there to tell us what he has in mind for the force, to listen to our questions and to hear our concerns. There may be some beat officers there, too.

Secondly, the newly elected board will elect officers for the year and attempt to organize our activities. Howard Fosler indicated he doesn't want to be president again. The secretary position is vacant. Bruce Crist has agreed to continue as treasurer. And Sharon Dwight will continue to be our NIP representative.

We would like to have people to monitor affairs at the Planning Commission and the City Council. We like to have a representative attend the Lighthouse Business Association meetings and the Cannery Row Business District meeting. And of course, there are the various other commissions, study groups and special districts that should be monitored.

If you have some interest in getting involved with your community we have a spot for you. No experience is necessary,

just an interest in effective government and citizen involvement. You will learn a lot and your contribution will be meaningful.

Please contact a board member if you are at all interested so you can learn more about it.

All meetings are scheduled for 7pm at Hilltop Center, at Irving and Jessie Streets.

Join Us!

Please be sure you sent your dues in for 2012. Our membership must remain numerous if we are to be a force at City Hall. Support your neighborhood association and send in your dues today. Ask a neighbor to join.

Expense Control

Expense Control- Would you be open to getting your copy of the newsletter via email? Our biggest expense is publishing and distributing the newsletter. Expenses now exceed the minimum membership fee of \$10 yearly.

Sending it via email is largely cost free. Please let us know if we can send your copy electronically. It would be a huge assist to your association's biggest budget item.

From the Prez

Having served three terms as president I think it is time to allow another the honor of serving in that capacity now. It has been a pleasure meeting so many neighbors and the folks at the City who operate the complex machinery that makes everything work.

I leave convinced we have an exceptional neighborhood and city in which I am proud to live. Thanks to all who have helped me in my efforts to make things work a little bit better. I think we succeeded. - **Howard Fosler**

Library Meeting

The Monterey Public Library has been working with the community, conducting survey's, convening meetings, and collecting input as part of the library's effort to make short-term plans for library services that reflect the needs and interests of our constituents. On Sunday, February 12, at 2 p.m., the Library will hold a Town Hall Meeting at the library to tell you more about how the plan is shaping up, and to receive additional feedback.

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Membership Dues: 2012 NMNA Membership Form

Basic: \$10

Additional Support: \$20
or

\$ _____

Make checks payable to
NMNA and Mail to:

P.O. Box 2642

Monterey, CA 93942

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Deliver my newsletter via Email: Yes No

Comments/Suggestions?: _____

Annual Meeting

Three important events occurred at our annual members meeting January 23.

Fred Meuer, City Manager, answered questions from the audience. He said the City is still scrambling to balance its budget after the latest blow when the State requested the return of Redevelopment Funds as a result of a recent court order allowing it to do so. Meuer said it would likely cost only one or two positions and that the City would adjust. He noted many things the City would like to do are impossible now given its fiscal conditions. He mentioned about all that can be done has been done to make retirement funding an affordable benefit, including more contributions from the employees, longer service time and scaled down plans for new employees. He said he could earn more elsewhere as could other city employees. However, the satisfaction of working for the City makes it worthwhile for them to stay on. Executive positions have been minimized making it hard to do succession planning since there are so few key positions left.

After his talk Fosler recessed the meeting for ten minutes to give the audience time to ask questions individually of Meuer, other City staff present and of the board members. The slate of candidates for the board was presented and since there were only six, the minimum needed to continue, Fosler asked for an up or down vote on the group. They were elected overwhelmingly with no no votes. Sharon Dwight then presented the projects proposed for NIP funding. Discussion of each project ensued and we voted on them. These are the ones that were selected to be presented to the NIP Committee next month.

PARKS

Neighborhood-

Scholze Pk pavers along Lighthouse	70K
Archer Pk replace asphalt walk w/pavers	23K
Hoffman Pk pavers around the play equip area	24K
Oak Newton Pk replace 8 security light fixtures	12K

Citywide-

Sports Ctr Pool Deck	35K
Sollecito Ball Pk Artificial Turf in infield	125K
Dennis the Menace replace Moon Bridge	50K

STORMDRAIN REPLACEMENT

Oak/Irving from manhole, thru private property to 834 Pine
Hawthorne/Prescott c/b lateral pipe across Hawthorne
Hawthorne/Dickman from catchbasin to pipe under Hawthorne

- : 191 Lighthouse c/b junction to manhole on opposite side of st.
- : Rec Trail to Foam under Dickman Rt-of-way (park)

TRAFFIC

Lighthouse Controllers (3) Installation & Coordination	70K
David/Terry Ext Curbs, Xwalk & Median Ph II	109.5K
Prescott/Parcel Ext Curbs	100K

CERT Base Radio & Tower Upgrades to Narrowband (3)

SIDEWALKS/WALKWAYS/WIDENINGS

Filmore 800 Widening	514.4K
Drake/Archer Walkway repair	
1581 Hoffman Walkway repair	(10K repair/35.9K AC)
1650 Prescott Sidewalk	(25K)
Taylor 600 Walkway & Berm	(70K)

Lighthouse Avenue

Out of town consultants made their recommendations to a joint meeting of the Planning Commission and City Council recently. The Council asked that the report be reviewed by Staff and presented to the Planning Commission quickly, after which it will be presented to Council for final approval of the proposal thus far.

We have concerns about it. It reintroduces turn lanes at Prescott Avenue, eliminating more than twenty parking places to do so. It creates three eastbound lanes above Pvt. Bolio only to have them merge there into two lanes before the tunnel. The consultants admit it does nothing to help with traffic movement. Your association wonders why we should go to the trouble and expense for so little gain. We will soon be meeting with the City to see what we can do to make positive changes that will in fact help the situation.

Airport Taxi News

If you have tried to use taxi service to get to or from MRY you know the service was inadequate and in need of attention. The Airport Board addressed the problem recently and is about to announce some changes. Yellow Cab will no longer have a monopoly on airport service.

Perhaps by April, there will be four companies providing service from which you can choose. There will be a starter at the airport to coordinate things. In addition, for the first time, the meters will be checked for calibration and the vehicles for safety. The City of Monterey will provide the administration.



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