

MAXWELL PARK NC – Meeting on Wednesday, Nov 10th, 2004

Held at Mills College, Faculty Dining Room

Minutes

Present: Jose Dorado (Chair), Robert McGillis (Vice Chair), Jan Hetherington (Secretary), Jeremy Gluskin (Treasurer), Pamela Drake (Desley Brooks' office), Jean Quan, Araina Richards (OPD), Officer Patterson, Officer Johnson, Dan Brown (Public Safety Mills), Sarah Hipolito, Adelle Foley, John Munnerlyn, Mark MacDonald, Michael Risse, Shannon Risse, Leslie Egashira, Tracy Almeida, Jane Friedman, Shailen Tuli, Miki Morimoto, Krista Gulbransen, Noel Thomas, Edward Colon, Kate Phillips, Joelle Fraser, Louise Halle, Heather Graves, Martin Scolnick, Susan Scolnick, Jennifer Vasquez, Lisa Besso, Johnny Russell, Walter Williams, Pat Kelly, Mary Washington, Helen da Silva, Joe Davis, Nommi Alouf, Afor Mofor, Sebastian Mofor (apologies for any misspellings)

See end for contact information

Guests: Lou Kolb (owner of building housing former 'White House Market') & Debbie Graceffa (realtor)

Board Absent: None

- **Jose Dorado (Chair) welcomed us to the meeting.**
- Minutes for October were approved.
- 'Networking Opportunities' as a concept was explained. (i.e. Continue discussions after formal meeting).
- **N.A.T. (Neighborhood Action Team) REPORTS**

NAT1 – Traffic – Pat Kelly

1. Introduction of how traffic issues will be handled: Gather/collect information on green cards; discuss, prioritize and assign numbers for frequent review and update, then a city service office/department with name of person will be matched and a calendar clock to begin (sort of) along the lines of the "Chronicle Watch" section of the newspaper. Maybe photos of the problem and finally a disposition of the problem as it gets resolved. This process is open to revision, streamlining, other ideas

2. Get a large blown up neighborhood map showing the current state of islands, slow down zones, works in progress and "donut" markings in "open streets" school zones, churches, etc. This map will be part of our working plan.

3. Also Jennifer from Pierson circulated a petition to get signatures for traffic circle at Pierson/Redding

NAT2 – Drugs/Crime - Susan Scolnick

Look at 2 aspects – Crime Prevention, & Intervention.

1. Prevention – coming up with a means to report new 'hotspots' – anonymously if wished, alarm Systems, private patrols

2. Intervention – Mentor Diversion program through OPD; Asset forfeiture – drug seizures/money can partially go to community for community-based projects. Suggested putting together a program to work with Boys & Girls Club on High Street (they need funding for a number of programs); Using small claims court to close down offending businesses/drug houses; Working with police re: unsolved crimes & parolees.

See addendum at end for full report.

NAT3 – B ‘n’ B - Nommi Alouf

1. Beautification & Blight reported on successful submission of tree planting forms – about 179.
2. Daffodil projects (Keep Oakland Beautiful) – Plantings at Sherman school last week; Maxwell Park on 13th, 9am; Courtland Ave at High & Foothill on 13th, 10am; Maxwell School on 13th at 1pm; Redding/Courtland on 20th at 9am.

NAT4 – Community Outreach - Helen da Silva

1. Need more members – many aspects of outreach to cover.
2. Big project – Mega Block Party to be planned with surrounding NCPCs to be held at Mills College spring/summer
3. Let parents know about events for kids happening in the Parks.

● **COMMITTEES**

CORE/MPERT – No report

WALKS - Successful Halloween Walk was held – there were many participants, so the group split into two. Rachel graciously hosted a ‘post walk’ party at her house.

NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS – The Garden & Social Club organized a work day on 13th at Sherman School, & more work was done in the gardens.

There have been a number of break-ins & robberies at the school.

● **GUEST SPEAKER** – Deb Graceffa (realtor) & Lou Kolb (building owner)

Deb Graceffa & Lou Kolb attended the meeting to address neighborhood concerns & answer questions. They are both very aware of the problems with the previous tenant, & are working to find someone responsible. Possibilities could be organic grocery store, Arts collective – sharing the space – different groups. We are invited to check out the refurbishments & improvements. They were invited to the El Camile Block meeting.

● **COUNCIL MEMBERS/COUNTY SPUERVISOR**

Desley Brooks – Pamela Drake represented Desley Brooks.

Pamela introduced herself as Desley’s new assistant. Nothing else to report,

Jean Quan

1) Most of MP voted for Measure ‘Y’. The Mayor’s priority is getting the murder rate down – which deflects resources from QOL issues. Jean is lobbying for more community officers. Deborah Edgerley (City Administrator) is setting up Head Hunter to look for new Police Chief.

2) Looking at next 2 yr budget – might need to close some rec centers. City only gets back 23% of prop taxes from the state. Allendale & Brookdale centers need advisory committees. Good news – our libraries are now open 6 days a week.

Supvr Nate Miley’s Office – no representative

1) Budgets being worked on – looking at \$30m in cuts

● **COMMUNITY POLICING**

1. Officer Patterson reminded us to be careful about how much information we put on the email group. He did go to Sherman School & fingerprints were taken after the burglaries. There is only one Sgt handling all the burglaries in Oakland. There were questions raised about tracking patterns & actions taken. Yes, they do try to find patterns. Officer Patterson & Jose reiterated that WE are the best observers of what doesn’t seem ‘right’.

2. Crime Stats were distributed. They are now showing ALL reported incidents, including towed vehicles etc. We did not previously get all this info. The stats therefore look greater - & in fact probably are as we seem to be experiencing an increase in activity.
3. Reminders to keep porch lights on, keep cars locked & don't leave packages in the car.
4. Suggestion by Araina to invite the Mayor to a meeting.

5. We also have \$550 to spend on NCPC items.

6. Let Araina know if we know of needy families so they can give out a Thanksgiving basket.

CPAB – no report.

- **HOTSPOTS**

- a) El Camile – Remove from agenda.
- b) Virginia Avenue Church – No-one present to report, but possibly still problems

- **NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Rebuttal article about Maxwell Park in the Tribune appeared on Nov 6th.
- Our Web site is in beta version & hope to have it live soon.
- Contact Krista at metroadvertising@yahoo.com if you have special Xmas activities going on
- Dan Brown, new Public Safety Officer at Mills College was introduced.

Next Meeting - Wed, January 12th, 2005, at MILLS COLLEGE, 7 – 8:30pm

- **Jan Hetherington, Secretary**
- 510-534-4978 : jan@moves-to-improve.com

CONTACT INFO

Jose Dorado	Chair	jdorado@sbcglobal.net
Robert McGillis	Vice Chair	rmcgillis@aol.com
Jan Hetherington	Secretary	jan@moves-to-improve.com
Jeremy Gluskin	Treasurer	jtgluskin@ev1.net
Sarah Hipolito	NAT coordinator	SHipolito@acgov.org
Nommi Alouf	B 'n' B NAT	nommiX@yahoo.com
Helen da Silva	Community NAT	hds2288@aol.com
Susan Scolnick	Crime NAT	sscolnick@earthlink.net
Pat Kelly	Traffic NAT	scoopnhaul@cs.com
Araina Richards	NSC – Beat 28X	ARichards@oaklandnet.com

CRIME – NAT report

Crime Prevention

Hot Spots:

“One of the safest and easiest ways to get neighborhood residents involved is by starting a hot spot campaign. The hot spot card provides a safe way for residents to report to police suspicious activity in their neighborhood. Although the police might be aware of the activity, once the community says it is a problem the police are more likely to give it more attention. It gives your organization a means to follow-up with police for a report back regarding specific police activity.

The hot spot card is a fundamental tool that a community can use in its initial efforts to close a drug-dealing location. Its purpose is to:

1. give residents the opportunity to anonymously report suspicious activity
2. alert police of suspicious activity. Even if the police know about the location it alerts them that the community knows and wants something done about it
3. give your organization a reason to have public meeting with police and follow-up meetings
4. provide a sense of hope to residents that they can do something about the drug issue in their community.”
(National Training and Information Center)

We can appoint one person in our Council to handle the collection of these forms (anonymously by mail to Grace Neufeld’s P.O. Box number) and communicate the information to the police department.

Alarm Systems

Private Security Patrols

Intervention

1. Mentor Diversion Program

Oakland has a probation officer in charge of a Community Mentoring Program in which a person young indicted for a crime is not sentenced if he/she successfully completes a diversion program. Perhaps we could have a group that will work with and mentor these offenders. Contact: Charles Wright 268-7215

2. Asset forfeiture – reclaiming confiscated money and property for our community

Under California Health and Safety Code 11489 65% of the money forfeited from drug offenders (selling their assets, cars and confiscated cash) goes to police agencies. 15% of this money can be used for community-based youth intervention programs. Perhaps we can organize a group that works with the Boys and Girls Club on High Street on a specific program that will assist at-risk juveniles.

- The MPNC must submit a proposal to the Chief of Police outlining the plan and what money we want to carry out the activity. Person in charge of dispersing this money in the District Attorney’s Office is Andy Cuellar (phone number 272-6222). Head of Boys and Girls Club: Calvester Stanley 444-8211. Boys and Girls Club direct number 535-9651; Mirabel 535-9461
- Activities that the Boys and Girls club would like funding for:
 - 1) 30 little girls who are interested in dance lessons – need money for dance teacher
 - 2) after school food program – kids are hungry and they feed kids who are doing their homework
 - 3) money for hiring someone for cooking classes and teaching good nutrition; they have a kitchen where food can be prepared
 - 4) help with garden plot in back where they can teach kids about growing food
 - 5) money for chartering buses to take kids to visit colleges and be interviewed for college admission - this includes buying kids appropriate clothes for visits and interviews
 - 6) money for drivers education; they have some cars but need certified driver educators. Many kid are learning on their own since the schools charge for the lessons, and they don’t have the money.

3. Using small claims court awards to close down offending businesses or drug houses

4. Setting up "wanted" and "unsolved crimes" on police website with pictures of offenders so community can see faces of wanted criminals
5. Working with police to be aware of parolees being released into the community ("Citizens Parole Accountability Committee")