

Maxwell Park Neighborhood Council
Monthly Meeting—Wednesday, October 11, 2006
Location: Maxwell Park Elementary School, Room
Meeting Minutes

All meetings are recorded. If you do not want to be recorded please raise your hand so that when you speak, we can turn off our recording device. All recordings are posted on www.maxwellparknc.com.

Attendees

Present: Jose Dorado (Chair), Robert McGillis (Vice Chair), Jeremy Gluskin (Treasurer), Jan Hetherington (Membership Secretary), Krista Gulbransen (Minutes Secretary), Adelle Foley, Alice Ross Leon, Brenda Hansen, Claire Antonetti, Colese Henry, Gregg Brown, Joe Davis, Joel Davel, Jon Ward, Malia Saulala, Martin Scolnick, Nick Stoughton, Ruben Aurelio, Sarah Hipolito, Araina Richards (NSC), Lt. Sharon Williams, Ron Johnson (PSO), Greg Loud (PSO), Carmen Perez (Councilwoman Quan), Emily Rogers (Councilwoman Brooks), Jason Patton

Guests: None

Board Absent: None

Welcome Comments & Introductions

Jose Dorado (Chair) welcomed us to the meeting. Introductions made. September minutes put up for approval. Motion to approve the minutes by Adelle Foley. First and second from the audience. Minutes approved at 7:15pm.

Neighborhood Action Teams (NATs)

- *NAT (Neighborhood Action Team) Program – Sarah Hipolito reporting:* Nice article about Claudia Jimenez in the MacArthur Metro. Recent article was about a Max Park block party. Next month will be about our own Max Park Day in the Park event. Adelle Foley pointed out that she writes about High Street in the newspaper as well so check it out. It's on page 5.
- *Traffic NAT—Adelle Foley reporting:* 11 citations were written since last month for the Max Park area. We reported that the High Street off ramp off 580 is bad. Caltrans will be sending out an engineer to look at the issue. They will most likely make each light independent so that each set of cars in each direction goes at one time. Question: it isn't clear with signage what the yield sign means. What does yield really mean there? Answer: the engineers will look at it. At the last Traffic NAT meeting they spoke about having the Fleming and Monticello area be a requested area of focus. Question: is there anyone here who lives near the new stop sign on Brookdale? Audience member is still requesting that there be a focus on those coming down Fleming towards High Street. Most especially near the school in the morning.

- *Crime NAT—Marty Scolnick reporting:* A meeting happened about two weeks. Actions they decided to take: will look into a commercial policing service to look at trouble spots like High and Fairfax. Have contacted a company and made initial contact with it. This particular company seemed like they might be interested in taking on a client other than a commercial one. Crime NAT action items: check into surveillance cameras, Grace from Neighborhood Solutions supplied a standard letter that the neighborhood can use to start communication with trouble neighborhood businesses such as the one we're experiencing with the businesses at Fairfax & High. The NAT is looking for members. Victor Flint and Jose Dorado went to the 27X meeting to try to make connections regarding dealing with High and Fairfax. They have put together a diagram of the tasks that people will take on to deal with the particular issues surrounding this hotspot. They are creating a task force to deal with the trouble spot. Plan to do some canvassing to talk to people in the neighborhood about the problems going on and trying to make contact with people who might be able to form a Neighborhood Watch.
- *Blight & Beautification—Claire Antonetti reporting:* Took some time off for the summer but met again recently. Still trying to have a primary focus on the MacArthur/Pierson area where they want to put in a pocket park. They have been getting some signs that say "Do Not Litter" by Caltrans put up around the area. Each month they are calling and reporting things that need to be cleaned up. They will be meeting with Jean's office to talk about the pocket park planning process. Talking to Mills about creating a walking path and a bike path between Mills and the Laurel Business area so that Mills students can enjoy the area. Reviewing funding as well. Getting ready to make connection with the 76 Station owner. They are disappointed in what has occurred because they had worked with them in regards to intended façade improvements and those have not been done. They want to get on him about a number of things that aren't being done. Daffodil bulbs have been ordered for planting again which will happen in November after the rains. We'll be doing a street tree planting project. Question: what's the status on the landscaping for the school? Answer: it's supposed to be completed but not sure when.
- *Community Building NAT—Krista Gulbransen reporting:* Thanks to all who helped out and attended the Day in the Park event. We figure we had around 400 people and raised enough money to pay for the event. We plan to make it an annual event and grow it a little bit every year. Next potential projects include: another Community Outreach type Summit with a focus on youth, helping get volunteers to improve upon the website and Yahoo! Group (help Jan out), gathering history about Maxwell Park through elder's stories, creating a Welcome Packet for new Max Park neighbors, fundraising. We're looking for people to help with upcoming projects. Please contact Krista if interested at Krista_gulbransen@yahoo.com.
- *Education NAT—no one reporting*

- *Neighborhood Watch Coordinator – Jan Hetherington reporting:* We have about 30 Neighborhood Watch groups right now that are fairly active. NW Capt. Reported back on projects that have occurred recently: Courtland Ave. creek cleanup, Allendale garage sale, Morcom block party, Allendale new neighbor dinner. If you're interested in creating a NW Group talk to Jan at jan@movest-to-improve.com.
- *CORE & MPERT Report—Nick Stoughton reporting:* Core III has a refresher class coming up on Saturday, November 4 which will give you a chance to refresh yourself as to what you learned in Core III if it was prior to 2004. Saturday, November 18 there will be a radio communications workshop. Practice exercise done in April has a report that recently came out about the pros and cons. April 28, 2007 will be the next city-wide emergency event. If you're interested in taking any of the Emergency Response classes please contact Nick. If you have a group of 10 or more (especially amongst your neighbors), Nick will come to your home and teach the CORE class.

City & County Representatives

Councilwoman Desley Brooks – Emily reporting:

- Brooks' worked with the Black Collective Group to hold a community meeting about the police negotiation process. One thing that came out of it is that there is an obvious mis-communication and misunderstanding with the community about how contract negotiations affect on ground services to the community by OPD. Brooks is working with city officials to help make the process a more open one so that the community knows what's going on.

Councilmember Jean Quan—Carmen reporting:

- Met with the owner of the old M&W Liquors and his lawyer, inventory now has to be moved out by the first week of November, continue to contact Jean's office if we notice that product is being sold. He will come back to our group to talk about what we think we might want to see there.
- The Barber Shop and convenience store on the corner of Fairfax & High have been given eviction notices as problem tenants; it will take some time to work through the process.

Supervisor Nate Miley – Araina reporting (891-5586)

- Town Hall Meeting: October 30 from 6:30-8:30 at Sequoyiah Church. Come learn about what's going on in the county.
- The Oakland Parks Collation needs help on October 28 to survey people about the parks. Volunteers will be able to gather, learn how to survey and then go out to the survey.
- Human Trafficking & Violence Seminar on Saturday, October 14 at Mills College from 8am-5pm.

Community Policing Reports--Araina Richards reporting

- Robbery tips in English and Spanish available please pass them on to family members and friends.
- Safety tips available for Halloween for the kids.

Police Report – Officer Johnson reporting

- Problem Solving Officer for Beat 28X, crime stats look pretty good in comparison to what I’ve seen in past times, 18 stolen vehicles, 4 burglaries, 2 robberies and an attempted robbery.
- High & Fairfax: what is our concern if this is not in our area? Need to know so that he can coordinate with 27X Problem Solving Officer.
- Question: we’re noticing more people coming into the neighborhood through Pierson, using it as an entry and exit point; can we get more attention given to it since it creates a good getaway point being so near the freeway?

Guest Speaker: Jason Patton, CEDA – Oakland’s Bicycle Plan

- Oakland has a Master Bicycle Plan that is being worked on and they hope for completion in 2007.
- For more information go to oaklandpw.com/bicycling/bikeplan.htm or contact Jason Patton at jpatton@oaklandnet.com or 238-7049.

Announcements

Rev. Brown from the church on Virginia Ave. announced a Fall Harvest Festival on October 28 which will be used to raise money for the Boys & Girls Club on High Street.

Broke for networking at 8:45pm.

Next meeting – Wednesday, November 8, 2006 at Maxwell Park Elementary School

Krista Gulbransen reporting
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Contact info: <http://www.maxwellparknc.com>

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Each person can be contacted via their 'maxwellparknc.com' email address (unless otherwise noted)

To join the Yahoo! Email group go to: <http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/MPNCPC/>