

Maxwell Park Neighborhood Council
Monthly Meeting—Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Location: Maxwell Park Elementary School, Library

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

Adelle Foley	Michael Johnson	Policy Analyst, Jean Quan
Alison Kastarna	John Stewart	City of Oakland, Building Services
Angela Gums	PSO Keith Clement	OPD
Ashley Thomsak	Officer Alain Manguy	OPD

Barbara Taylor (Treasurer)
Bob Forsberg
Eric Bailey
Giovanna Otfinowski
Gus Argyropoulos
Helen Argyropoulos
Jan Hetherington (Membership Secretary)
Joe Davis
Jose Dorado (Chairperson)
Keith Gums
Lucille Jackson
Nancy Karigaca
Rhea Durr
Santiago Wechsler
Sarah Cove
Shirley Burton
Steve Eckert (Guest Speaker)

Welcome Comments & Introductions

Jose Dorado (Chair) welcomed us, and called the meeting to order at 7.06 p.m. Introductions were made. April & May Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

City & County Representatives

Councilwoman Desley Brooks: Report presented by Barbara Taylor.

- Ms Brooks & Capt. Rachal (District 3) met with Don Blevins (Chief Probation Officer) to explore collaboration efforts to address public safety issues
- “Music at Arroyo Park” series (renamed Kent Brown African Liberation Festival in honor of a recently deceased Park employee) has the following schedule:
 - July 13th – Lenny Williams
 - August 10th – Comedy Day in the Park with Mark Curry & Friends
 - Sept 14th – Zapp
- “3 on 3” competition – Hoops – July 19th & 20th. Go to Desley’s website to register a team.
- Continuing to work to abate nuisance properties.
- Proposal to reduce wage increases to City employees, rather than shut the City down 1 day a month

- Working to improve Foothill/Seminary area & the Parks in District 6

Councilmember Jean Quan—Michael Johnson (at mljohnson@okalandnet.com 510 238 4738) reporting:

- Working with Nancy Karigaca on the survey for the improvements for Maxwell Park
- Citizens' pilot radar training program – 6/20 – 6/23 (to monitor speeding)
- Allendale “Parks for Peace” – June 14th
- Graffiti issues; Toured all along Foothill recently. Please report this whenever you see it. Also cc Michael on such issues. Contact pwacallcenter@oaklandnet.com, receive an incident number

Supervisor Nate Miley's Office—no representative.

John Stewart, Building Services Supervisor.

- Call 238-3381 to register complaints. They clean up public buildings & send notices to private homes. Anyone can call in complaints (can be anonymous)

Neighborhood Action Teams (NATs)

- *NAT (Neighborhood Action Team) Program – Sarah Hippolito (Absent this month)*
- *Traffic NAT—Adelle Foley reporting:* Lots of police presence noted. New issue – Pierson/Redding
- *Drugs and Crime:* still a vacancy here. Anyone interested in helping to reform this NAT should contact Jose.
- *Blight & Beautification—Jan Hetherington reported for Claire Antonetti:* Expecting to hear very soon about the Grant application for the MacArthur gateway project. Third Sunday cleanup this coming Sunday, 15th. Meet at Walgreens' parking lot.
- *Community Building NAT—Jose Dorado reporting:* Planning the third annual day in the park.

--Barbara Taylor reporting on Community Summit at Laney College on May 31st: An overall well-attended event. Maxwell Park presented at a workshop on “Building a strong, cohesive n’hood”, along with Old Oakland & West Street Watch. MP presenters were Krista Gulbransen, Jan Hetherington, Helen da Silva, Jose Dorado & Barbara Taylor. Different approaches – OO is in a commercial area & is able to tap into local businesses for fundraising events, WSW is by invitation only as they are dealing with a lot of crime.

- *Maxwell Park Schools Together—Ashley Thomsak reporting for Maxwell Park School & Melrose Academy.* MP School has been renamed Maxwell Park International Academy. Will re-open in August. Jean Quan's office will contribute \$5,000 towards a new marquee. Will be incorporating some new programs, including The Write Institute <http://www.writeinstitute.org/write/index.html> Academic English Mastery <http://www.learnmedia.com/aemp/index.html> SWUN Math Moving beyond tradition math approaches. The school is also in the process of selecting a Peace Keeping/Conflict Resolution Program that will be implemented throughout the entire school. Monica needs a volunteer or 2 to help with loading & unloading redwood gardening boxes – cell: 978-6755. There will also be Community Days to help clean out old classroom/teacher rooms. The school is also interested in hiring a professional organizer.
- *Diversity & Outreach Committee (NAT) – Shirley Burton reporting:* Shirley also attended the Community Summit. She is interested in re-engaging Block Captains.
- *Maxwell Park (the Park) (NAT) – Nancy Karigaca reporting:* Grown out of BnB NAT. New group forming to help improve the Park. Survey has been created & is now out, both as downloadable pdf & as an online SurveyMonkey link. There will be a gathering in the Park on Sunday, June 22nd to meet all interested parties & encourage new volunteers, get even more ideas.
- *CORE & MPERT Report—No report.*
- *Neighborhood Watch Coordinator – Jan Hetherington reporting:* Will be connecting with Block Captains & other neighbors to help distribute fliers relating to the Park event, & notifying people of upcoming events – National Night Out, Day in the Park, & the Park survey.

Police Reports

Police Report – PSO Keith Clement reporting:

Officer Clement, our PSO, made a brief appearance as they were involved in some incidents around the back of Walgreens. Problems around 3130 & 3150 High Str. He has checked on calls for service at the Monticello MPNC priority – there have been 47 calls this year for service recently – mostly medical. Lots of calls on dogs being checked (another MPNC priority). Work with Animal Control on getting some info out to the group on securing your dogs.

Guest Speaker: Steve Eckert

Executive Director of East Bay Agency for Children (non profit agency). Serves 15,000 kids every year, with 100 staff & many volunteers. So far have served 10,4995 kids this year. Most programs are tied to schools – After School programs, Special Ed, Workshops for at-risk kids, Grief & Loss Centers, Healthy Start health services – (latter currently at Sequoyah & Fremont schools). Some of funding comes from Measures Y (Violence Prevention programs) & K (which was started in 1996). Work with getting kids to go to school – all the kids they work with want to do well. Measure K money goes to After School progs, which are working very well. Dance, music programs that have been cut from the schools. K was started by a group called Kids First – looking to get 2.5% of City funds – about \$10m per year.

Announcements

- Jose will bring Measure Y materials from oversight committee meetings to our meetings.
- Jose met with Lt. Williams to talk about setting up a “training” in the philosophy of community policing, setting n’hood priorities, & establishing the roles of Lt, PSO, NSC, OPD & NCPC
- A petition was circulated for “Safe Streets Initiative”, to get on ballot.
- Lynn Mueller, from Community Alliance for Learning) spoke briefly about the Writer Coach Connection – a program to assist kids with writing. Volunteers are sought to help with this. Training given. Will be at Fremont Media Academy in the Fall. Contact www.writerconnection.org or 510-524-2319

Broke for networking at 9:07 pm.

Next meeting – 7/09/2008

Jan Hetherington, Membership Secretary, standing in for Nick Stoughton

510-534-4978: jan@maxwellparknc.com

Contact info: <http://www.maxwellparknc.com>

Board

Jose Dorado	Chair
Robert McGillis	Vice Chair
Jan Hetherington	Membership Secretary
Barbara Taylor	Treasurer
Nick Stoughton	Minutes Secretary

Neighborhood Action Teams

Sarah Hipolito	NAT Coordinator
Claire Antonetti	Blight & Beautification NAT
Helen da Silva	Co-Chair Community Building NAT
Krista Gulbransen	Co-Chair Community Building NAT
Susan Scolnick	Crime & Drugs NAT
Adelle Foley	Traffic NAT
Ashley Thomsak	Education NAT
Nick Stoughton	CORE/MPERT
Araina Richards	NSC-Beat 28X
Shirely Burton	Diversity and Outreach NAT

Each person can be contacted by going to the www.maxwellparknc.com website.

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