

Maxwell Park Neighborhood Council

Monthly Meeting—Wednesday, August 13, 2008

Location: LDS Church, Virginia Ave

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

The Attendance List has moved to a separate document. Please see “Aug08-Attendance”.

Welcome Comments & Introductions

Jose Dorado (Chair) welcomed us, and called the meeting to order at 7.04 p.m. Joe Davis acted as door welcoming committee. Sarah Hippolito provided fried chicken for all. Introductions made. July Minutes approved by unanimous consent.

Community Policing Reports

NSC: *Araina Richards*: Not here tonight.

Officer Clement: Handed out last month's crime stats. Crime is slightly up on previous month (8 Vehicle Thefts, 2 Robberies). Need to secure houses really well ... lots of crimes of opportunity ... open windows, furniture left near windows, etc. Met with property owner of “Colonial Apartments” (close to Boys and Girls club on High). Installing cameras. Evicted some known trouble makers. Replaced rotting fence with cyclone fence (easier for police to see people hiding in the vacant lot next door).

Jose asked about the recent gunshots heard all over Maxwell Park. No news. How do we get followup information? Send email direct to officer Clement. Also several Loose Dog reports. However, without any specific address no action can be taken. Jan asked about followup on drug bust two months ago, and drug houses on Monticello. One of the beat 29 officers related that he had been called to an early morning accident at Courtland and Virginia, where one of the drivers was armed. This may have been the source of the gunshots heard.

Officer Mayer: News reports recently highlighted the fact that some Crime Reduction Team officers are being reassigned to field training, thereby reducing the overall safety. In reality, it means more police on the street. Don't always believe what you read in the paper!

City & County Representatives

Councilwoman Desley Brooks: Barbara Taylor reporting: Last weekend party at Arroyo Vieja attracted over 500 people, great time had by all. Next park event is 14th September.

Councilmember Jean Quan—Michael Johnson reporting:

- Please feel free to contact Michael at mljohnson@okalandnet.com 510 238 4738
- Attend and achieve for OUSD – anti truancy program running in September. Kick off is Aug 24. 600 backpacks for needy kids, celebrity guests. Please come and show your support.
- Laurel Street Fair last Saturday was a great success. Measure Y leaflets handed out there, but a few left handed out here.
- Seismic safety program continues. Low income families qualify for up to \$10,000.
- Loitering – Job fair trying to help get people into employment and off the street corners.
- Read the daily police log ... lot of domestic violence occurring. Jean is going to hold a workshop on avoiding DV soon.
- Newsletter @ www.jeanquan.org
- Art and Soul coming up soon!

Supervisor Nate Miley's Office—Daryl Stewart not present.

Neighborhood Action Teams (NATs)

- *NAT (Neighborhood Action Team) Program – Sarah Hippolito reporting.* Sarah will be retiring as the Metro reporter. If you are interested in taking over, please see Sarah!
- *Traffic NAT—Adelle Foley reporting:* .Traffic hotspot for the month: Fleming (from High to 55th). Worst at Monticello. Also opportunities for radar training available. Citizens equipped with radar gun get speed and license no; police then send a wake-up letter to registered owner, promising more enforcement.
- *Drugs and Crime: Still unfilled.* Rev Bob Forsburg has stepped up, with sexually exploited minors as a number one priority.
- *Blight & Beautification—Claire Antonetti.* Over the summer have only met by email. Talked to Joe Wang from traffic .. Pierson street will be modified plan A, should be done in late August. On the Pierson/MacArthur gateway project feasibility study grant, decisions have been made, but not announced. So we don't know. Normally third Sunday cleanup would fall this coming Sunday. However, will be canceled this month.
- *Community Building NAT – Helen da Silva reporting:* .Party In The Park coming up! Line up almost complete. Still looking for sponsors. Much local talent. YU catering. Sponsorship vital, please consider donating. Costs about \$1300. Currently at \$500.Raffle prizes also needed.
- *Maxwell Park Schools Together– No report.* Sarah has recently written a report for the Metro on the new school .. .watch out for this! Recent email requesting various items (books etc)
- *Diversity & Outreach Committee (NAT) – Jose Dorado reporting:* Still somewhat dormant. Planning to revitalize this group soon.
- *Maxwell Park – No report:* Meeting August 28 at Peter Pan.
- *Neighborhood Watch Coordinator:* 10 NNO parties, great success! Thanks to all the people who put this on. Thanks also to Adele for leading the walk. Day in the park coming up (September 13). Flyering for this soon.
- *CORE & MPERT Report—Nick Stoughton reporting:* CORE training overview. More on Seismic retrofitting of your home ... standards and code change frequently.

GUEST SPEAKER MISSEY Nola Brantley. Ishmael (her son) spoke for her as Nola has lost her voice! Program is funded by Measure Y funds, and includes a drop in center. Services include assesment, advocacy, education, and long term case management.

When you think of human trafficking do you think of people from other countries? It is just as common for locals. This problem is nationwide, and even worldwide. Many of the children come from the foster program and juvenile justice. Stand up and fight for the decriminalization of sexually exploited children. The victims we typically see range from 11-17. Children under 14 are handled specially and differently, since we don't want to expose them to other children who have been in trouble longer.

The advocacy and case management services exist because of the growing incidences throughout Alameda county and Oakland.

As citizens, we need to advocate with policy makers and local government to create policy to decriminalize these victims. We need to see these victims not as prostitutes, but as children. These victims, who are not old enough to have consensual sex, are being forced to plead guilty to prostitution, which by definition includes consensual sex for money.

Jean Quan is a champion in this city for this program.

The children are expected to testify in a criminal court against their exploiters, who are violent criminals who have already terrorized them.

NCPCs are invited to meet with Nola at a specialized meeting to help help build a comprehensive plan to address this in our city from a community base. Work directly with the people who are impacted.

Uncertain if this specific neighborhood is specially impacted, but we can be leaders for others.

Announcements

- There will be a “NAT Focus” meeting coming soon. Not yet sure which month
- Board is looking to expand. Will change the bylaws to add between 2 and 5 new board members. Make NAT chairs ex-officio members. A bylaws subcommittee is forming to work out the exact wording. All interested please let Jose know.
- Several NCPC chairs are joining together to make a new organization to help exchange information and best practices city-wide.
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- Future meetings will be held at LDS on Virginia from now on.

Broke for networking at 8:41 pm.

Next meeting – 9/10/2008

Nick Stoughton, Minutes Secretary.

510-388-1413: nick@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
Nancy Karigasha	Park NAT
Araina Richards	NSC-Beat 28X
Barbara Taylor	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/>