

Maxwell Park Neighborhood Council Meeting
Wednesday, August 12, 2009
Location: Miracles of Faith Church, Virginia Avenue,
Oakland
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Adelle Foley, Policy Analyst Michael Johnson, Angela Gums, Ashley Thomsak, Barbara Taylor, Dusty Roads, Gregg Brown, Helen da Silva, Keith Gums, Kristi Johansen, Lucille Jackson, Malia Saulala, Michael Haworth, Nancy Karigaca, Sarah Hipolito, Scott Fuller, Shirley Burton, Valerie Stoller

Welcome Comments & Introductions:

Barbara Taylor (Vice Chairperson) welcomed us and called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

No minutes from the last meeting were available.

Community Policing Issues:

No Neighborhood Services Report. Araina Richards could not attend.

Problem Solving Officer – Crime Statistics: J.V. Clement could not attend

MPNC 2009 Priorities Update – Kristi Johansen: Side Shows on High Street, the MacArthur & Pierson intersection, Maxwell Park.

City & County Representative Reports & Actions:

Councilmember Desley Brooks was not present, and her representative Barbara Taylor did not have a report.

This is the last meeting that Michael L. Johnson, Jean Quan’s policy analyst, will attend. He reported the following:

A home inspection checklist is available on the front table.

The final forms and permits for “The Day in the Park” are approved.

On 8/29, Lend a Hand will distribute free backpacks and school supplies to needy children. School age children can be enrolled at this time.

Prostitution and narcotics eradication efforts have been enhanced by a stay-away order for hotels between Coolidge Avenue and Seminary. Call 510-238-2373, the prostitution hotline, if you notice any prostitution activity.

The High & MacArthur lot has been cleaned up. If it starts being overgrown and filling with rubbish again, call code enforcement: 510-238-3381.

The Brookdale & High traffic light camera is on the way.

Sideways on High and Foothill and 48th and Foothill are still a problem. Cameras have been ordered.

Supervisor Nate Miley was not represented.

Neighborhood Action Teams (NATS):

Adelle Foley – Traffic: A work order to repair the reflectors at Kingsland & Brookdale so that they are less confusing has been issued. The work should start in 6 – 8 weeks.

Jose Dorado – Drugs and Crime: The MacArthur and Pierson intersection has many problems: The OHA apartments, the duplex, the 76 station, the private apartment house, and the vacant lot. Tenants of the buildings are noisy and the area is littered with matches, needles, trash, and condoms. Jose talked to the neighbors about these problems, and the issues list will be sent to Desley Brooks, Araina Richards, and Officer Clement.

A neighbor across from the Mormon Church recounted being held up at gun point on 8/11 about 10:30 pm.

Helen da Silva – Community Building & Diversity Outreach: Our 4th annual “Day in the Park” is scheduled for 9/12. The fire department and police with a police dog will attend. Food will be available for purchase. Music has been booked, and the Miracles of Faith Church has donated \$150.00, and they will provide tables and chairs.

We are still trying to raise the money and deciding whether to rent porta-potties at \$265.00 per day. Raffle tickets for basketball tickets and dinner-for-2 at the Trattoria Laurellinos will be for sale. We also need other prizes to raffle off. The tickets cost \$1.00 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$5.00. To help pass out flyers, contact Jan Hetherington.

Ashley Thomask – Education (Neighborhood Schools) and Maxwell Park Families: On 8/31, the Dual immersion program starts at the Melrose Leadership Academy.

We have a new family listserv: email maxparkfamilies@yahoo.com or visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MaxParkFamilies/>.

The survivors of the man shot last March on High street are Turkish refugees. They need money for funeral expenses and relocation. Email Ashley if you can help.

Nancy Karigaca – Maxwell Park: Conceptual drawings of the park have been received and are being reviewed. To implement the changes, we need to raise money via donations and grants. The park-side restroom wall mosaic is complete. The Fleming Ave. side mosaic will be done next. We are trying to get new trash cans for the park.

Jose Dorado – CORE/MPERT: Citizens of Oakland Responding to Emergencies – CORE will conduct a crime and disaster response class if 10 people can be recruited for a class.

Announcements:

Adelle Foley: The 47 line will most probably be shutdown. An explanation of the decision has been sent out on our listserv.

Jean Quan: A response to the auditor issue has been posted on the MPNC listserv. Problems balancing the Oakland budget were reviewed, and details can be found in Ms. Quan's email to our listserv and in her newsletter. The appointment of the new Oakland police chief was announced. The High & Fairfax intersection may be experiencing an uptick in drug dealing and prostitution. Call in any observations to the drug hotline.

Pastor Greg Brown – Miracles of Faith Church: The church held a back-to-school health fair. Medical exams for 21 children and 9 high-school sports physicals were conducted. Free haircuts were also offered. Pastor Brown discussed the church's nutrition counseling program, the sinus health program to be conducted in collaboration with Walgreens, the disaster relief program to be conducted in collaboration with the Red Cross, and setting up 6 hotlines for various critical diseases. Violence at the Virginia and High intersection is increasing, and a house nearby appears to be selling large birds.

Barbara Taylor: On 8/29, from 10 - 2, Lend a Hand will distribute 5 - 6,000 free backpacks and school supplies to needy children. School age children can be enrolled at this time. Contact Barbara Taylor for the location and to volunteer.

Jose Dorado - United Neighborhood Councils of Oakland (UNCO): Oakland has 57 police beats, and 53 of those beats have formed neighborhood councils. UNCO is attempting to bring all of the councils under one umbrella. \$3,000 has been granted for an art memorial for the 4 police officers who were killed in a recent shootout. The memorial will be presented by the UNCO to the OPD at a location chosen by the OPD.

A going-away party for Michael Johnson will be held on 8/21 at 5:30 pm at the Den near the Fox Theater.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Michael Johnson's contributions to our council were recognized. A going-away party was held, and refreshments were served.