



Montclair Safety and Improvement Council (MSIC)

A Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC)

Public Meeting Minutes

Thursday February 5, 2015 7:10 pm to 9:35 pm

Montclair Presbyterian Church, 5701 Thornhill Drive, Oakland California

www.montclairsic.org

The meeting was chaired by Michael Tigges and was attended by approximately 23 people.

MSIC Steering Committee members attending:

Jim Clardy, Treasurer

Peggy Esposito

Nancy Havassy

Nicki Kaiser

Michael Tigges

Steering Committee members unable to attend:

Jill Broadhurst, Chair

Barry Klezmer

Doug Mosher

Sandra Pohutsky

Josh Shaw

OPENING

The quarterly public meeting of the Montclair Safety and Improvement Council was called to order at 7:10 pm on February 5, 2015 at the Montclair Presbyterian Church, 5701 Thornhill Drive by Michael Tigges. He was standing in for Chair Jill Broadhurst who was unable to attend.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE REPORT FROM CRO AND AREA 2 CAPTAIN

Our new PSO renamed as Community Resource Officer (CRO) Kristen Jurgens-Duenas (kjurgens-duenas@oaklandnet.com) presented the Beat 13Z crime report for incidents since Jan 1st.

Crime statistics for the period from January 1st until the date of the meeting in Beat 13Z included:

- 1 robbery (Gouldin and Thornhill)
- 9 Residential burglaries (vs. 11 in the previous year for the reporting period)
- A 36% increase in auto burglaries mostly clustered in the Montclair Village area.
- 5 reported auto thefts which is lower than previously.

Captain Allison was unable to attend, so Lt. Bolton (also a member of the Area 2 command staff) provided the overview. Two other patrol officers were in the room to provide additional information as needed.

The discussion centered on the auto burglary problem and a request that the MSIC engage with the CRO in a community outreach to alert neighbors on how to reduce vulnerability to this crime. The discussion touched briefly on home invasion robberies (none in 13Z) and the fact that most are classified as such when the homeowner was home when a residential burglary was in progress. Lt. Bolton pointed out that the most frequent call for service in Montclair in 2014 was responding to burglar alarms (474). Most of these were false and usually take at least 45 minutes of patrol officer time to respond.

The current OPD sworn officer count is ~720

Sgt. Aaron Smith reported that some people had been followed home from Montclair. If this happens to you, you should turn around and drive to somewhere safe and well lit. He also suggested that we add different layers of security measures to our homes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES COORDINATOR PATRICIA ROSE

The California Earthquake Authority has announced the availability of grants for earthquake retrofits in selected areas of hazard and need. The focus of the program is on soft story buildings (mostly apartment buildings) and other structures built before 1979. An informational brochure was made available.

The CORE annual city-wide emergency preparedness drill will be held on April 25th. The schedule of CORE trainings was available at the information table.

DISTRICT 4 UPDATE

Councilmember Campbell-Washington was unable to attend because of a scheduling conflict, but two of her staff members were there to introduce themselves.

Adam Simons – Chief of Staff

ASimons@oaklandnet.com

Phone: (510) 238-7042

Communities: Laurel, Dimond, Redwood Heights and Oakmore

Nayeli Maxson – Council Aide & Scheduler

Nmaxson@oaklandnet.com

Phone: (510) 238-7273

Communities: Montclair, Woodminster and Piedmont Pines

Adam spoke and urged the audience to subscribe to the council member's newsletter and announced the upcoming Local Heroes event on February 28th sponsored by the councilmember. Nominations remain open and can be sent to Nayeli. The awards ceremony will be held at the Allendale Rec Center.

Other ongoing projects include resubmission of a \$66,000 grant request to install a sidewalk on Thornhill between Mountain and Moraga, possibly extending to the existing sidewalk in front of the church parking lot. The first request by the City of Oakland in 2014 was not granted by the State of California. A high priority is to get a regular crossing guard at Montclair Elementary. Several members pointed out the need for assistance at Thornhill Elementary as well. Discussion of the fast traffic along Moraga by the park ensued.

Nayeli will hold the council member's office hours the last Sunday of the month at the Montclair Farmer's Market. Council member Campbell-Washington intends to be there as often as her schedule allows. Jamilla Melrose, who has community responsibilities in the Allendale will hold office hours at the Allendale library on the 2nd Sunday of the month

MSIC BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS UPDATES

Antioch Court – Report by Jim Clardy

- The plan approval is with the city
- Funding has solidified with some city money to be made available
- Remaining funding is to be obtained with the sale of 2100 bricks to be laid in the pedestrian crossings.

- More information and brick purchase can be found at montclairbricks.com. An information page was passed out to the attendees and additional information was available on a table at the back of the room.

Railroad Mural – Report by Michael Tigges

- \$7,800 has been raised.
- There have been further discussions with the artist, Andrew Johnstone, regarding special water proofing preparation for the wall before any picture is painted on it. He reiterated that that prep was part of the proposal and has been budgeted.
- Michael reported that the total budget has been reconsidered and the total cost adjusted to \$40K.
- As previously stated, 50% of the cost must be raised before work can begin. He said that the project is “on its way.”

OPEN FORUM

A motion was offered that the election of officers and steering committee members be held in a special public meeting prior to the next scheduled meeting in May. It was pointed out that regular elections have been held at the last general meeting of the year. Last year, that meeting was superseded by the mayoral candidate forum. Election of officers and community representatives to the steering committee was not on the agenda for this meeting, prompting the request for an earlier public meeting for elections.

The discussion that followed centered on a date that allowed the Neighborhood Services Coordinator, Patricia Rose and members of the current steering committee be available, and that the venue would also be available. The motion to have a public meeting on March 26th to elect officers and community members to the steering committee was offered by Carolyn Winters and seconded by Mimi Rohr. The consensus was that this allowed enough time to allow candidates to submit their requests for inclusion on the slate and for notification to the community of the election. After further discussion about the need for a quorum of sitting steering committee members, it was noted that 5 of 10 steering committee members were present.

A vote on the motion to hold a special election meeting on March 26th was held of the remaining 16 Montclair residents present. The tally was 9 yes, 4 no and 3 abstentions.

The NSC, Patricia Rose and others pointed out that there was no record that the revised bylaws had been ratified at a public meeting. Moreover, the latest revisions to our bylaws have to be ratified at a public meeting.

AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

The agenda will be sent through the Yahoo MSIC listserv.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m. The next general meeting will be at 6:45 pm on May 7, 2015, At the Montclair Presbyterian Church, 5701 Thornhill Drive.

Minutes submitted by: Michael Tigges and Peggy Esposito

ADDENDA

Subsequent to the meeting, Sandra Pohutsky reported that the current funds raised for the railroad mural had reached \$8,056 as of February 15th.

At a meeting of the Steering Committee on February 11th in conjunction with Patricia Rose, Neighborhood Service Coordinator, and Angela Haller, Oakland Community Policing Advisory Board, it was noted that the motion from the floor at the public meeting to call a special meeting for officer and community representative elections was not officially noticed on the agenda, and was out of order.