MONTCLAIR SAFETY & IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Making A Difference-Together

Montclair Safety and Improvement Council (MSIC)
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 1, 2015, Montclair Presbyterian Church

Steering Committee Members Present: Carolyn Winters (Chairperson), Michael Tigges (Vice Chairperson), Jim Clardy (Treasurer), Nick Vigilante (Secretary), Nancy Havassy (Community Appointed Representative), Jeff Diamond (Community Appointed Representative), Josh Shaw (Community Representative), Barry Klezmer (Community Appointed Representative), and Stan Weisner (Community Appointed Representative).

Steering Committee Members Absent: Mimi Rohr (Community Representative), Doug Mosher (Community Representative), Nicki Kaiser (Community Representative), and Dan Swafford (Community Representative) – all excused.

Advisory Members Present: Patricia Rose, Oakland Police Department (OPD) Neighborhood Services Coordinator (NSC), and Nayeli Maxson, Representative from the Office of Oakland Councilmember Annie Campbell-Washington.

Montclair Residents Present: 1 (from meeting attendance sign-in sheet).

A quorum of Steering Committee Members (SCMs) was achieved and Chairperson Winters called the meeting to order at approximately 6:57 p.m.

1. Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Clardy provided a comprehensive Treasurer's Report (three pages) and provided a written copy of that report to Secretary Vigilante for inclusion in the minutes. The first page of the Treasurer's Report (summary sheet) is attached to these minutes.

NSC Patricia Rose noted that the Oakland City Council had approved the dispersal of money to help support City of Oakland Neighborhood Crime Prevention Councils (NCPCs). The City of Oakland is currently developing the distribution procedures for this money. After the distribution procedures are finalized and issued to the NCPCs, it is likely that each NCPC will be eligible to receive some money after submitting a request.

2. <u>Approval of Minutes from the August 6, 2015 Steering Committee Meeting</u>:

Secretary Vigilante noted that he had sent out the draft minutes to the Steering Committee via e-mail and had received comments. Most of the comments were incorporated in the August 6 minutes submitted for approval.

SCM Diamond made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded. The motion was then voted on by the Steering Committee. There were six votes to approve the minutes. Three SCMs abstained from voting because they were not present at the August 6 meeting.

3. <u>OPD Priorities To Present to Community Resources Officer (CRO), Kristine Jurgens-Duenas</u>:

Chairperson Winters opened the discussion on this item by asking everyone for their thoughts on what should be the priorities for OPD in Beat 13Z. There was much discussion, and there was a general consensus among SCMs without any objections that the following three items should be OPD priorities for Beat 13Z:

Priority 1 *= School Zone Safety (pedestrian safety, jaywalking, parking/drop off, traffic control)*

Priority 2 *= Auto Burglaries (Smash and Grabs)*

Priority 3 *= Response Time (casings, burglaries, suspicious activity)*

NSC Rose stated that CRO Jurgens-Duenas had asked her to present the following Beat 13Z crime statistics for 2014 and 2015 (to date) to the Steering Committee in her absence:

Robberies---------- 11 in 2014, and eight in 2015
Auto Burglaries---- 61 in 2014, and 141 in 2015
Stolen Vehicles---- 58 in 2014, and 59 in 2015
Assaults---------- one in 2014, and two in 2015.
Homicides---------- one in 2014, and none so far in 2015.

Nayeli Maxson stated that on October 23, 2015, Councilmember Campbell-Washington and City Staff would observe traffic, parking, and pedestrian activity along the Mountain Boulevard and Thornhill Drive corridor during morning commute hours because Councilmember Campbell-Washington had received an enormous amount of community feedback regarding problems in that area.

There were suggestions from several SCMs that the Councilmember should also consider observing traffic, parking, and pedestrian activity along Ascot near the Joaquin Miller and Montera Schools because there were similar and recurring problems at that location as well.

SCM Klezmer stated that more than five years ago there was a fire near the Schools on Ascot Drive and as a result, there were evacuation and egress problems along Ascot when parents came to pick up their children and when Fire and Police responded to the fire and traffic problems. After this event happened, there was a lot of activity to try to improve coordination between the City of Oakland Fire and Police Services, parents of children at the Schools, and the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) to prevent future evacuation and response problems. As far as he knows, the Schools still have not finalized evacuation plans and it appears that little has changed since the fire over five years ago.

Carolyn Burgess, Safety Committee Chair for the North Hills Community Association (NCHA) - the NCPC for Beat 13Y - stated that her NCPC is dealing with similar issues, including parking on narrow streets, and she suggested that there could be future coordination and collaboration between MSIC and the NHCA on these issues.

Secretary Vigilante stated that he had raised similar issues regarding evacuation and egress during emergencies and disasters with the new Fire Marshall (FM), Miguel Trujillo. FM Trujillo told him that a City of Oakland intra-departmental Development Review Team (DRT) was being established to study these issues city-wide and try to come up with workable solutions to address them.

4. <u>Pocket Park (PP) Maintenance Discussion</u>:

Treasurer Clardy facilitated a discussion on this subject by describing the history regarding the PP – how it was established, and how it has been maintained over the years. The land that the PP is on is part of the OUSD. When it was established in 2008, MSIC agreed to help maintain it. Volunteers have helped maintain the PP but the number of volunteer helpers has dwindled over the years. He stated that an irrigation system was installed when the PP was completed. But the irrigation system has been damaged, and there is normal wear and tear as well. It is now in need of replacement. The Fernwood Neighborhood Group has pledged $450 towards irrigation repair cost of work of $907.50. Treasurer Clardy suggested that the remaining amount be pledged by the MSIC.

Secretary Vigilante stated that he was with MSIC in the early days, and that it is true that MSIC did agree to help maintain the PP. He stated that there should be a signed written agreement with OUSD which establishes PP responsibility. He also pledged $100 of his own money to help the PP with the irrigation replacement.

SCM Shaw stated that he was working on a fundraising letter for the mural and maybe the PP could be added to this fundraising effort?

Chairperson Winters stated that no documentation was ever transitioned to her that established that MSIC was responsible for helping to maintain the PP in this manner. She was concerned that such documentation should be obtained. She also stated that the Steering Committee needs to be mindful about expenditure of money, and that

additional fundraising is needed to continue to support present and future MSIC projects.

There were extensive discussions regarding this matter. After SCMs had expressed their individual thoughts and viewpoints, Treasurer Clardy submitted a motion that MSIC pledge the remaining funds, up to $350 dollars, for repair of the irrigation system. The motion was seconded. The motion was then voted on by the Steering Committee. Six SCMs voted in favor of the motion. Two SCMs abstained from the vote.

5. <u>Presentation From Lowney Architects – Development At 2080 Mountain Boulevard</u>:

This item was initially item nine (9) on the meeting agenda but was moved up to item five (5) because the presenter, Ms. Alexandra Lee, had arrived and was waiting to make her presentation.

Ms. Lee stated that it is proposed that the current building at 2080 Mountain Boulevard would be torn down and a new three story building raised in its place. The first floor of the new building would be for retail establishments, the second floor would be for offices, and the third floor would be for a roof-top restaurant. The parking spaces behind the current building would be eliminated, and those spaces would be re-allocated to the nearby Montclair Parking Garage which is currently under-utilized.

Ms. Lee also presented pictures of the proposed new building for the Steering Committee which she displayed on easels.

There was discussion among SCMs about the impact that the new building would have on parking throughout the Montclair Village. There was also discussion about how parking for disabled individuals would be worked out.

There was also discussion among SCMs about whether or not the MSIC should endorse the proposed project, or just facilitate a public meeting to allow Lowney Architects to make a presentation about the proposed project and allow the community to ask questions and provide feedback.

After a discussion about what to do and how to phrase a motion on this matter, Secretary Vigilante made a motion to add Lowney Architects to the MSIC November 5, 2015 Public Meeting Agenda and have them make a presentation about the proposed project and allow the community to ask questions and provide feedback about it. The motion was seconded. The motion was then voted on by the Steering Committee and the vote was unanimous to accept the motion.

6. <u>Update On NCPC Focus Group Meeting With Mayor's Office</u>:

Chairperson Winters and Vice Chairperson Tigges stated that they attended an NCPC

leaders focus group meeting with Peggy Moore, Senior Advisor to Mayor Libby Schaaf, on August 18, 2015 The focus of the meeting was to obtain feedback on how to boost the effectiveness of NCPC and Neighborhood Watch (Home Alert) programs, and better understand how to support these programs. At the focus meeting, they provided feedback which our Steering Committee members had provided to Chairperson Winters and Vice Chairperson Tigges earlier that month via e-mail.

Vice Chairperson Tigges stated that on October 7, 2015, the City of Oakland Community Policing Advisory Board (CPAB) will be soliciting feedback from NCPC leaders about how the NCPC aid money should be distributed and used.

There was a general consensus of agreement among SCMs without any objections that Chairperson Winters and Vice Chairperson Tigges should attend the October 7 meeting and provide feedback on that matter for the MSIC.

7. <u>Proposal For MSIC Committee Structure</u>:

Secretary Vigilante facilitated a discussion on this subject.

Secretary Vigilante stated that the Steering Committee needed to discuss and decide on two things tonight. The first item is what committees do we want for MSIC and who will serve on them? The second item is how do we want the committees to operate?

To address the first item, Secretary Vigilante passed out a hand-out which included his proposals for MSIC committees which he had been asked to send out to SCMs prior to the October 1 Steering Committee meeting, and which included the names of SCMs who had volunteered to serve on those committees.

There was a general consensus of agreement among SCMs without any objections that the proposed committees were acceptable with the following changes:

SCM Havassy asked that her name be removed from the Crime and Traffic Safety Committee. Instead, she would serve on the Fire Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee.

Chairperson Winters asked that her name also be added to the Crime Prevention and Traffic Safety Committee.

SCM Klezmer asked that his name also be added to the Communications Committee.

Secretary Vigilante then made a motion to accept the Committee structure and staffing, as revised. The motion was seconded. The motion was then voted on by the Steering Committee and the vote was unanimous to accept the motion.

To address the second item, Secretary Vigilante suggested that Committees meet once a month, but no less than once every two months. He also recommended that each

committee solicit community involvement and feedback in its operations. And, that regular committee reports be provided to the Chair for presentation and discussion at Steering Committee and Public Meetings. There was a general consensus among SCM without objection that this is a simple and fair way to operate the committees, and that it gave committees discretion to do operate in a more flexible manner if necessary.

Chairperson Winters recommended that the committee structure, membership, and operation be added to the agenda for the November 5 Public Meeting for a brief presentation so that the community will know: (a) about the committees and which SCMs are on each committee, (b) that the community can participate on committees, and (c) that there will be information provided at future MSIC meetings about committee activities and opportunities for community participation. There was a general consensus of agreement among SCM without any objections that this was acceptable.

8. <u>MSIC Fundraising</u>:

Chairperson Winters stated that now that MSIC has a formalized committee structure and one of the committees (the Special Projects Committee) deals with fundraising, that this matter (an important one) is now committee work and should be performed by the Special Projects Committee. Chairperson Winters stressed that all of the MSIC Committees should consider the importance of providing fundraising input as well.

9. <u>Design Approval For Montclair Village Auto Burlgary Awareness Sign</u>:

Chairperson Winters led this discussion. She indicated that she had prepared some ideas and signage examples but had forgotten to bring her lap top which has the information on it to the meeting for the her presentation.

Secretary Vigilante recommended that in the interest of time, that Chairperson Winters be allowed to use e-mail to the Steering Committee to present the ideas and information and solicit feedback from the Steering Committee about this agenda item.

There was a general consensus of agreement among SCM without any objections that this was acceptable on this item because the meeting had gone beyond 9:00 p.m. and there were more items on the agenda to address.

10. <u>November 5 Public Meeting Agenda</u>:

Chairperson Winters presented the proposed agenda items for discussion. During the discussion, recommendations were made to add the following topics to the agenda:

a. Lowney Architect presentation and opportunity for community questions and feedback,

b. A brief announcement about the new MSIC committee structure and opportunities for community participation,

c. PP should be added to the list of Community Updates/Announcements.

There was a consensus of agreement among SCMs without any objections that the proposed agenda, as revised, was acceptable for the November 5, 2015 MSIC Public Meeting. There was also a feeling among SCMs that the Chairperson should be given the discretion to set the agenda order for this meeting.

11. <u>New Business – Other Announcements</u>:

SCM Klezmer stated that a Gateway Median Improvement Project will soon commence in and near to the Park and Mountain Boulevard intersection. This will involve a mural and median improvements. The mural will occur first.

Carolyn Burgess stated that Orchard Hardware in Berkeley is very supportive of the work of community groups in Oakland, and that they are willing to donate equipment and labor for community projects. They helped out with the drought and fire resistant demonstration garden at the Gateway Emergency Preparedness Exhibit. The Berkeley Store can be contacted for more information.

SCM Klezmer stated that there have been problems with EBMUD in connection with work to repair sewer infrastructure in the Montera Neighborhood Area.

Secretary Vigilante stated that he encountered similar problems with EBMUD during the Saroni Drive water main replacement project in 2013. He indicated he would send SCM Klezmer information about the problems he encountered. He suggested that SCM Klezmer contact EBMUD Director Ms. Marguerite Young. Ms. Young is the newly elected Director for EBMUD for Ward 4 which includes Montclair and Piedmont.

Inasmuch as all agenda items were now completed, Chairperson Winters adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:37 p.m.

Nick Vigilante

Nick Vigilante
MSIC Recording Secretary

<u>MSIC Treasurer Report 10/1/15</u>

Current Funds:

U. S. Bank $9392.25

PayPal Account **$ 42.12**

Total: **$9434.37**

RR Mural Dedicated: **$8056.17 (Total Donations by Check and PayPal)**

Balance: $1378.20

Expenditures since 2014

Railroad Mural:	**Banner**	**$ 129.50**
	Postage	**$1580.43**
	Post Card	**$1990.08**
		$3700.01

Antioch Court **$1500.00**

League of Women Voters **$ 80.00 (5/7/15 Election Monitors)**