



Meeting Minutes – Community Meeting Sponsored by the Montclair Safety and Improvement Council (MSIC) and the Piedmont Pines Neighborhood Association (PPNA)

Thursday, November 3, 2016, Montclair Presbyterian Church, 5701 Thornhill Drive

MSIC Steering Committee Members Present: Carolyn Winters (Chairperson), Michael Tigges (Vice Chairperson), Jim Clardy (Treasurer), Nick Vigilante (Secretary), Doug Mosher (Community Representative), Stan Weisner (Community Appointed Representative), and Daniel Swafford (Community Representative).

MSIC Steering Committee Members Absent: Jason Purdy (Community Representative – temporary appointee) and Jeff Diamond (Community Appointed Representative).

Members of the Piedmont Pines Neighborhood Association (PPNA) Board of Directors Present: Teresa Constantinidis (President), PPNA Board Members Stan Weisner, Roberto Stinga, and PPNA Administrator Ms. Robbie Neely.

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

Special Guests: Linda Handley, Facilitator for the showing of the movie, "Cracking the Codes - The System of Racial Inequity" (by Dr. Shakti Butler) which presents moving stories about racial justice leaders and asks Americans to think about the causes and consequences of racial inequity.

Other Attendees Present: 21

The first part of the meeting, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., was a MSIC Steering Committee meeting. Attendees were invited to observe.

The second part of the meeting, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. was the showing of the movie, "Cracking the Codes" and discussion about aspects of the film by Facilitator Linda Handley.

(MSIC Steering Committee Meeting)

The MSIC Steering Committee meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Tigges as a quorum of SCMs was present. Chairperson Winters was busy assisting Ms. Handley with setting up the computer and projection screen to show the "Cracking the Codes" movie.

1. Approval of Minutes from the August 4, 2016 Steering Committee Meeting:

Secretary Vigilante stated that he had distributed the draft minutes to the Steering Committee via e-mail in mid-August and had received feedback from several SCMs and NSC Rose which he had incorporated in the August 4 minutes submitted for approval.

Vice Chairperson Tigges made a motion to accept the minutes. SCM Weisner seconded the motion. The draft minutes, as revised, were accepted as complete and accurate by all SCMs.

2. Proposed Bylaws Changes:

Vice Chairperson Tigges stated that MSIC needed to select a date in 2017 for a community meeting to present the tentative draft bylaws changes to the community for review and approval. He noted that according to the 2017 MSIC meeting schedule, the next community meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2017. This would be an ideal date to present the draft bylaws for review and approval. He made a motion to make presentation and approval of the proposed bylaws an agenda item for the February 2, 2017 meeting. SCM Weisner seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously accepted by all SCMs.

3. Montclair Train Mural Project:

Via e-mail on November 2, 2016, SCM Shaw (MSIC Project Leader for the Train Mural Project) sent the Steering Committee a project update report for review and comments in advance of the November 3, 2016 MSIC Steering Committee meeting. Secretary Vigilante responded with some feedback prior to the Steering Committee meeting. Those e-mails are appended to this set of minutes. No other responses from SCMs were offered prior to the Steering Committee meeting.

SCM Shaw led the meeting discussion about the status of the project. He noted that the Mural Committee had three different scenarios for completing the mural based on cost ranges.

At 40K, the mural would include everything already described in the project specifications. If 40K is raised, the mural would be completed according to those specifications.

If approximately 25K is raised, the project specifications would be scaled back to accommodate that funding level. It might include a more basic mural with less detail in the design and might not include the entire wall.

If much less than 25K is raised, the mural project specification might be further scaled back. If that is not possible, then the funds could be redirected towards another type of mural design similar to the butterfly mural at the southern entry to Montclair, or some other acceptable design.

SCM Swafford asked for details about what the mural might look like in the 25K range. SCM Shaw stated that the Mural Committee will provide a tentative design for this funding range by the end of November 2016.

SCM Shaw noted that the Mural Committee is expanding their fundraising efforts to obtain larger grants and contributions. This effort will last from 60-90 days. They are hoping to raise enough money to start the mural, in one form or another, in the summer of 2017.

Secretary Vigilante recommended using Nextdoor for continued fundraising efforts and to enlist volunteers with fundraising experience to help the Mural Committee. There was a consensus of agreement among SCMs that use of Nextdoor could help the Mural Committee meet fundraising goals.

Secretary Vigilante stated that he felt that SCM Shaw, or another member of the Mural Committee, should soon issue a solicitation on Nextdoor for this purpose. There was a consensus of agreement among SCMs that this is an acceptable course of action.

SCM Shaw noted that City Councilmember Annie Campbell-Washington had also offered support and assistance for the mural, including help with fundraising. She also offered to follow-up with Oakland Public Works Director Brooke Levin to obtain any supporting record documentation needed by the Mural Committee.

4. December 2016 MSIC Steering Committee and Holiday Party:

Vice Chairperson Tigges asked the SCMs if the December 1, 2016 date would work for the next Steering Committee meeting which would also include a Holiday Party for SCMs.

SCM Swafford noted that December 1 was not a good date because that is the date of the Holiday Stroll in Montclair Village.

Secretary Vigilante recommended the date of Wednesday, November 30, 2016 as the date for the next Steering Committee meeting. No one objected to that date. Secretary Vigilante then offered it as a motion. Treasurer Clardy seconded the motion. All SCMs voted to accept the motion.

5. Pocket Park Update:

Treasurer Clardy noted that there was a work day at the Pocket Park on Saturday, October 29, 2016 sponsored through the Hillside Gardeners Club. The Gardeners Club has taken the lead on maintaining the Pocket Park but they will continue to need assistance from the MSIC and the community. Compost was placed at the top of the hill and the Pocket Park was given a general clean-up as well. Eight young men from a local correctional unit assisted with the work, along with community volunteers.

Treasurer Clardy noted that the Hillside Gardeners will be planting some new plants and it will need to repair an irrigation valve. The valve itself costs approximately \$80, and the labor costs for installation of the new valve were estimated to be in the \$600 range. The work is likely to begin sometime during the first quarter of 2017.

Both SCM Swafford and Treasurer Clardy felt that \$600 labor estimate was somewhat high and maybe the labor work could be done for less money, or maybe for free by volunteers. This will be further investigated and pursued by the Hillside Gardeners.

Secretary Vigilante offered to personally donate \$100 towards the irrigation valve repair once a date for the work is established.

6. Safety Alert Decals For Parking Meter Poles in Montclair:

Although not on the agenda, this item was added as new business.

SCM Swafford and Secretary Vigilante noted that the City of Oakland had granted permission to the Montclair Village Association and the MSIC to begin placement of the alert decals on all parking meters in Montclair Village. This project is being done to help stem the rise of "smash and grab" automobile burglaries in the Village. These decals will alert Village patrons to remove all valuable from their automobiles, roll up all windows and lock all doors, and report any suspicious behavior to the Oakland Police Department via the non-emergency number at (510) 777-3333. There are about 250 meters in Montclair Village and decals will be placed on both sides of each meter pole. Members of the MSIC Steering Committee will begin placing the decals on the meter poles Saturday, May 5, 2016.

The Steering Committee completed the agenda items at 7:00 p.m. and that meeting was adjourned.

(Cracking the Codes - The System of Racial Inequity - A Discussion Movie by Dr. Shakti Butler)

This agenda item commenced at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Facilitator Linda Handley introduced herself and welcomed everyone.

Facilitator Handley engaged everyone in a relaxation exercise before commencing this segment of the meeting.

Facilitator Handley then asked everyone to divide up into groups of three and engage in a quick “getting to know everyone” exercise by answering three simple questions about themselves to other members in their group.

Facilitator Handley then explained there are four segments to the movie. After each segment, she asked participants to privately write down anything of interest to them, such as things they saw, heard, and/or felt during the segment.

Facilitator Handley then showed the movie segments and gave everyone several minutes after each segment to write down things of interest to them.

After the movie segments were shown, Facilitator Handley encouraged everyone to routinely check, identify, challenge and correct themselves (if necessary) regarding impressions and understandings they have about others who may be different.

Finally, Facilitator Handley asked for feedback from participants about what caused meeting co-sponsors to want to see the movie. Several participants offered explanations.

Inasmuch as all meeting agenda items were now completed, the meeting ended at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Minutes Prepared By:

Nick Vigilante

**Nick Vigilante
MSIC Secretary**