



## Meeting Minutes

### Town Hall Meeting For Oakland Police Chief Anne Kirkpatrick and MSIC Community Meeting

Thursday, March 23, 2017, Montera Middle School Auditorium, 5555 Ascot Drive

**MSIC Steering Committee Members Present:** Carolyn Winters (Chairperson), Michael Tigges (Vice Chairperson), Jim Clardy (Treasurer), Nick Vigilante (Secretary), Stan Weisner (Community Appointed Representative), Daniel Swafford (Community Representative), Jason Purdy (Community Representative – temporary appointee), and Roberto Stinga (Community Representative – temporary appointee).

**MSIC Steering Committee Members Absent:** Doug Mosher (Community Representative), Josh Shaw (Community Representative), and Jeff Diamond (Community Appointed Representative).

**MSIC Advisory Members Present:** Patricia Rose, Neighborhood Services Coordinator (NSC), Oakland Police Department (OPD); Ms. Iowayna Pena, Representative from the Office of Oakland Councilmember Annie Campbell-Washington, and OPD Community Resource Officer (CRO) Kristine Jurgens-Duenas.

**Special Guests:** Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf, Oakland Councilmembers Dan Kalb (District 1), Abel Guillen (District 2), Annie Campbell-Washington (District 4), City Auditor Brenda Roberts, Oakland Police Chief Anne Kirkpatrick, Oakland Public Safety Program Director Venus Johnson, Oakland School Board Representative (OUSD) Nina Senn (District 4), OUSD Police Chief Jeff Godown, and Acting Deputy Chief Darren Allison and Acting Captain Randy Wingate.

**Other Attendees Present:** 130 – This is an approximate overall headcount for the meeting. Not every attendee signed-in at the sign-in desk.

**Montclair/Beat 13z Residents Present:** 34 – This is the number of Montclair/Beat 13z residents who signed-in at the sign-in desk. This number does not include MSIC Steering Committee Members noted above.

## **(1) Town Hall Meeting To Introduce Chief Anne Kirkpatrick**

The Town Hall meeting was sponsored by Mayor Schaaf's Office, Councilmembers Kalb and Campbell-Washington, the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD), Neighborhood Crime Prevention Councils (NCPCs) in Montclair (Beat 13z), North Hills (Beat 13y), and Rockridge (Beats 12y/13x), the Piedmont Pines Neighborhood Association, and the Montclair Village Association.

Councilmember Campbell-Washington served as Master of Ceremony for the Town Hall meeting. She kicked-off the Town Hall meeting by introducing the Montera Toros Cheerleaders who gave a heartfelt cheerleading demonstration. She noted that the cheerleaders had just received their report cards and had attained an average grade point of 3.6. She also thanked Montera Principal Darren Avent and the custodial staff.

Councilmember Campbell-Washington then introduced some of the Special Guests above, and she acknowledged each of the sponsoring organizations. Some of the Special Guests who were introduced spoke briefly.

Councilmember Campbell-Washington then introduced Mayor Schaaf.

Mayor Schaaf then introduced Ms. Venus Johnson as the new Public Safety Director for the City of Oakland. She stated that Ms. Johnson would serve as her primary staff advisor for both Police and Fire Programs. Ms. Johnson had formerly served in a similar capacity for California Attorney General Kamala Harris who had recently been elected to the United States Senate. Ms. Johnson is also an Oakland resident.

Mayor Schaaf then spoke about the reasons she hired Chief Anne Kirkpatrick and about various important public safety issues impacting Oakland. She also addressed her concerns about the plight of homeless people in Oakland. Mayor Schaaf then introduced Chief Kirkpatrick.

Chief Kirkpatrick spoke about her background in law enforcement, her accomplishments as a reform-minded public safety professional, why she chose to serve as Oakland Police Chief and live in the City of Oakland, her short and long-range goals for OPD, and her plans for collaborating with the community and building relationships and trust between OPD and the community.

Chief Kirkpatrick then addressed questions from attendees. Attendees had been asked when they arrived at the meeting to fill out a question card if they had a question for Chief Kirkpatrick to answer. There were about 50 question cards completed. Duplicate questions were combined, and Councilmember Campbell-Washington read the questions. Chief Kirkpatrick answered each question one at a time.

Acting Deputy Chief Allison and Acting Captain Wingate provided supplemental information when asked to do so by Chief Kirkpatrick.

OUSD Police Chief Godown also provided supplemental information about the schools and about sanctuary policies.

After all the questions had been answered, Chief Kirkpatrick made a few closing remarks.

Councilmember Campbell-Washington then announced that MSIC would be having a Community meeting immediately following Chief Kirkpatrick's presentation. She turned the public address microphone over to MSIC Chairperson Carolyn Winters to begin the MSIC Community meeting.

## **(2) MSIC Community Meeting**

A quorum of MSIC Steering Committee Members and 34 Montclair/Beat 13z residents were present at the meeting as noted on page 1 of these minutes.

### **(Background)**

MSIC issued public notices about this meeting on March 10, 16, 20, and 23, 2017 on the MSIC Alert Yahoo! Group which includes 1,027 Montclair/Beat 13z residents<sup>1</sup> to address the three underlined business items below:

1. Approval of the February 2, 2017 Community meeting minutes – A draft of the minutes was circulated to the community via the Yahoo! Group and Nextdoor for feedback, and the draft submitted for approval by the MSIC Steering Committee included all the feedback received.
2. Approval of a proposal to change the name of MSIC to the Montclair Neighborhood Council (MNC) - The proposal was discussed at the February 2, 2017 Community meeting, and feedback from residents was received and considered. A hand-out describing the reasons for the change was offered to all Beat 13z residents as they signed-in to attend the March 23 meeting. The hand-out is attached to these minutes as Exhibit 1.
3. Approval of a proposal for new Council By-Laws - A draft of proposed new by-laws was approved by the Steering Committee in August 2016, and feedback was solicited from the community thereafter via posts on the MSIC Yahoo! Group, Nextdoor, and as agenda items at Steering Committee meetings. Only one comment was received from the community via Nextdoor which recommended that MSIC explain the reasons for changing the by-laws. MSIC provided a response on Nextdoor as recommended. Drafts of the proposed new by-laws were included with the March 23 meeting notices for the community to review, and a hand-out describing the reasons for the proposed new by-laws was offered to all Beat 13z residents as they signed-in to attend the March 23 meeting. The hand-out is attached to these minutes as Exhibit 2.

---

<sup>1</sup> As of March 2017, according to the MSIC Alert Yahoo! Group Home Page.

Chairperson Winters asked if anyone had feedback to offer regarding the revised February 2 Community meeting minutes and no feedback was offered. She then motioned for Steering Committee acceptance of the revised minutes. The motion was seconded. The Steering Committee voted unanimously to accept the revised minutes.

Chairperson Winters stated that the Steering Committee had voted affirmatively on a proposal to change the name of MSIC to MNC. She asked for community feedback and no feedback was offered. A community vote “for” and “against” on the proposed name change was then taken by a show of hands raised by eligible voters. The community vote to approve the proposed name was unanimous. No one opposed the name change.

Chairperson Winters stated that the Steering Committee had voted affirmatively to change the Council’s by-laws. She asked for community feedback and no feedback was offered. A community vote “for” and “against” on the proposed new by-laws was taken by a show of hands raised by eligible voters. The community vote to approve the proposed new by-laws for MNC was unanimous. No one opposed the by-laws change.

Chairperson Winters thanked everyone for their participation. Inasmuch as all agenda items had been completed, the meeting concluded at 8:20 p.m.

**Minutes Prepared By:**

***Nick Vigilante***

**Nick Vigilante  
MSIC Secretary**

Attachments: Exhibits 1 and 2

(Exhibit 1)

***REASONS FOR THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF MSIC TO MONTCLAIR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (MNC)***

The name of the organization does not impact the geographic area covered by the MSIC. The geographic area is defined by the Oakland Police Department, Police Beat 13z which includes the Montclair area.

The reason for removal of the word "Improvement" in the current name, and the use of the word "Neighborhood" instead of "Community" in the proposed new name, are efforts on the part of the MSIC board to generally clarify for residents the coverage of the MSIC (a residential orientation) versus the coverage of the Montclair Village Association (a business orientation). Confusion about the respective functions of the two organizations exists among Montclair residents, especially newer residents.

Re-naming MSIC to MNC will make it easier to find on the internet. The MSIC website is hard to find unless you correctly type the MSIC name into your browser.

Some residents have stated that they do not like the MSIC name because of the "SIC" in the name (an association to the word "sick").

## (Exhibit 2)

### ***REASONS FOR REVISING THE MSIC BY-LAWS***

The MSIC board initiated the proposed by-laws changes because it received feedback from the community that the current set of by-laws deterred community participation in MSIC.

A summary of the key changes:

(1) The current by-laws require use of range voting for annual board member elections. Range voting requires the voter to use a rating form and assign a rating score from 1 point (a low score) to 5 points (a high score) to each candidate, and then MSIC has to determine an average score for each candidate based on all the voter scores the candidate received. Range voting is a labor intensive and time consuming process, and it has required MSIC to hire the League of Women Voters and pay them from community contributions to oversee each election. The proposed new by-laws return MSIC to simple majority "hand count" voting at elections with free oversight by the OPD Neighborhood Services Department. Volunteer time and monetary contributions are better spent to help the community solve problems than on annual board elections.

(2) The current by-laws require an applicant for a board position to fill out a lengthy application form before they can run for a board position. The current application process is unnecessary because the only requirement to serve on the MSIC board is that you must live or work in Montclair - Police Beat 13z. The proposed new by-laws simplify the application to a simple and short e-mail or letter of interest. The proposed new by-laws also allow nominations from the floor during the election. MSIC is a grassroots volunteer group and, thus, there is no need for a complex application and election process.

(3) The current by-laws do not contain a duty statement for Community Representatives and Community Organization Representative which populate most positions on the MSIC board. The proposed new by-laws include a brief duty statement so incumbents and the community know what is expected of them.

(4) The current by-laws contain a long section dealing with disrespectful conduct at meetings which is unnecessary because MSIC has never had such a problem at meetings. That section implies that MSIC meetings are potentially an adversarial environment which can deter community participation, including freedom of expression about problems in our community. The proposed new by-laws contain a short paragraph giving the Chairperson reasonable authority to suspend or end a meeting, or take other appropriate actions if disrespectful conduct occurs at meetings.

(5) The rest of the by-laws changes are edits to improve readability and understanding of the by-laws.