

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MISSION VALLEY PLANNING GROUP**

July 10, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT

Deborah Bossmeyer
Jason Broad
Paul Brown
John Carson
Gina Cord
Monica Davis
Perry Dealy
Randall Dolph
Alan Grant
John LaRaia
Elizabeth Leventhal
John Nugent
Doris Payne-Camp
Alex Plishner
Brittany Ruggels
Karen Ruggels
Marco Sessa
Dottie Surdi
Josh Weiselberg

MEMBERS ABSENT

Marla Bell
Robert Doherty

GUESTS

Eddy Brikho
Jim Brikho
Joseph Brikho
Bob Cummings
Kathleen Ferrier
Derek Hulse
Rob Hutsel
Robert Zakar

FEDERAL REP'S STAFF

Jonathan Hardy

CITY STAFF

Brian Genovese
Duncan Hughes
Brian Schoenfisch

COUNTY STAFF

ASSEMBLY STAFF

George Gastil

President Dottie Surdi called the regular meeting of the Mission Valley Planning Group (MVPG) to order at 12:00 p.m. at the Mission Valley Library Community Room located at 2123 Fenton Parkway.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Verify Quorum – 18 members were present, constituting a quorum.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Gina Cord led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. INTRODUCTIONS / OPENING REMARKS/ AGENDA CHANGE

Dottie Surdi welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded those present to sign the sign in sheets.

Guests introduced themselves.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Doris Payne-Camp moved to approve the minutes of the June 05, 2013 regular meeting. Gina Cord seconded the motion. Minutes were approved 13– 0 – 5, with Deborah Bossmeyer, Monica Davis, John LaRaia, Alex Plishner, Josh Weiselberg abstaining.

E. PUBLIC INPUT – NON-AGENDA ITEMS

1. Costume Party Run Charity

Randall Dolph expressed concern that the July 7, 2013 Costume Party Run Charity, coordinated by Superhero Events, starting at Qualcomm Stadium and continuing along Friars Road past the Fashion Valley Mall and back along Friars Road to Qualcomm Stadium had not been adequately publicized in the Mission Valley Community and asked that future events of this nature be better publicized and prior notification be brought before the MVPG.

2. River Park Trail

Doris Payne-Camp expressed concern that some of the benches along the San Diego River Trail had been removed and that directional signs and an informational kiosk had been installed in their place. Doris explained that while the signs are very nice there is now no place for someone to sit and rest along that portion of the trail.

Rob Hutsel, from the San Diego River Park Foundation, explained that this change was made based on the San Diego River Improvement Project initiated by the Union Square at Hazard Center Condominium Association due to homeless and security issues. The project was coordinated with the San Diego River Park Foundation, the City of San Diego and the California Public Utilities Commission.

F. MEMBERSHIP BUSINESS – Brittany Ruggels

1. Vacancy Elections

Brittany Ruggels reported on the current vacancies on the MVPG and recommended Bob Cummings to fill a property owner’s position expiring in March of 2014.

Brittany Ruggels moved to approve Bob Cummings to fill a property owner’s position on MVPG, expiring in March of 2014. Perry Dealy seconded the motion. The motion was approved 19 – 0 – 0.

2. Elected Member Resignations

Brittany Ruggels submitted her resignation as Secretary and Membership Chair of the MVPG effective immediately.

Brittany Ruggels moved to accept her resignation as Secretary and Membership Chair of the MVPG. John LaRaia seconded the motion. The motion was approved 19 – 0 – 0.

3. Secretary and Membership Chair Election

Dottie Surdi asked for nominations for the combined position of Secretary and Membership Chair or for each position separately. John Nugent volunteered to fill both positions.

There being no other nominees:

Jason Broad nominated John Nugent for the combined position of Secretary and Membership Chair of the MVPG. Alex Plishner seconded the motion. The motion was approved 19 – 0 – 0.

G. TREASURER’S REPORT

In Bob Doherty’s absence, Dottie Surdi reported a balance of \$1,414.43.

H. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

1. Police Department – Officer Holland (Holly) Tafoya
Officer Holly was not present-No report.

2. Fire Department – No report.

I. GOVERNMENTAL STAFF REPORTS

1. Mayor’s Office

No report.

2. State Representatives

a. Senate Member’s Office – Sen. Marty Block from the 39th Senate District l.
Ralph Dimarucut was not present. No report.

b. Assembly Member’s Office – Shirley Weber from the 79th Assembly District
George Gastil reported on the new office location at 1350 Front Street, Suite 6046, San Diego, CA 92101. George also reported that on the 3rd Monday of each month the District Staff holds office hours from 10-12.

3. Federal Representatives

a. Congresswoman Susan Davis’ Office --

Jonathan Hardy distributed the July 2013 “Davis Dispatch” and reviewed Congresswoman Susan Davis recent work on legislation regarding renewable energy. Jonathan reported on the community discussion that Congresswoman Davis hosted on mentoring and empowering young women. Congresswoman Davis will be available during the month of August to meet with community groups.

b. Congressman Scott Peters’ Office – Sarah Czarrecki was not present. No report.

J. NEW BUSINESS

1. 5,000.00 Grant-Jason Broad (Action Item)

Jason Broad discussed The American Society of Landscape Architects, San Diego Chapter's \$5,000.00 Reimbursable Community Grant program for a community group to make landscape improvements to their neighborhoods.

Jason reviewed some potential projects that the funds could be used for. MVPG members offered some other ideas, including coordinating with other community groups including the San Diego River Park Foundation.

Jason asked for authorization for the MVPG parks subcommittee to review projects and if a feasible project is agreed upon that the MVPG be notified via email and an application be formally submitted.

Jason Broad moved that a formal application be made to The American Society of Landscape Architects, San Diego Chapter's \$5,000.00 Reimbursable Community Grant program upon agreement of a project by the MVPG parks subcommittee.

Deborah Bossmeyer seconded the motion. The motion was approved 19 – 0 – 0.

2. HAWK- Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon - Brian Genovese (Information Item)

Brian Genovese, from the City of San Diego, discussed and demonstrated the HAWK(High-Intensity Activated crossWalK beacon) system for Mission Center Road and two locations on Cam Del Este. The three projects are funded through separate grants.

A **HAWK beacon** (High-Intensity Activated crossWalK beacon) is a traffic signal used to stop road traffic only as needed to allow pedestrians to cross safely. It is officially known as a "pedestrian hybrid beacon".

Brian focused on the improvement of pedestrian safety with the installation of the Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon using the 'Hawk Signal' at the project intersection of Mission Center Road and the San Diego River Bike Path. The cost is \$293,000, whereas a bridge over Mission Valley Road is estimated to be at a cost exceeding \$2 million.

Discussion included the need for a "regulatory device" at the location, educating the public regarding the "flashing red light" function of the beacon and the decision to install a HAWK signal rather than a "half traffic signal".

3. Bike Share- Brian Genovese, City of San Diego (Information Item)

Brian Genovese, from the City of San Diego, discussed the City Council unanimously approving a bike-sharing program with DecoBike. The company was chosen from three bidders in November 2012 and the city has been working since then to finalize details. The estimated start for the program early 2014.

The program is predicted to bring 60 to 70 new jobs to the city. The initial size and scope of the program will be approximately 180 solar-powered station locations and a fleet of 1,800 DecoBikes, or approximately 10 bikes at each station. There will be flexible, and one time, memberships and rentals in order to accommodate the needs of those seeking to use the bike sharing program as tourists, commuters or recreational.

There will be a webpage and mobile apps which will allow patrons to locate stations and available bikes in real-time. Bikes will be equipped with LED lighting, adjustable seats and a basket suitable for a laptop or a beach bag.

There will be opportunities for a variety of sponsorship and outdoor advertising opportunities.

Brian recommended that MVPG start discussions about where the bike stations might be located in Mission Valley.

4. Mission Valley Post Office Closure-Dottie Surdi (Information Item)

Dottie Surdi reviewed the United States Postal Service notice of 6/19/2013 regarding comments on the proposal to close the Mission Valley Postal Store.

Josh Weiselberg volunteered to coordinate comments on the closure and develop an action recommendation for the August MVPG meeting.

5. Mission Valley Mobil CUP-Robert Zakar (Action Item)

Robert Zakar discussed the application with the City of San Diego for a Conditional Use Permit to Amend CUP 89-0314 to upgrade a Type 20 Liquor License (Off Sale Beer & Wine) to Type 21 (Off Sale General-Beer, Wine and Distilled Liquors) at an existing 24 hour service station market located at 5494 Mission Center Road.

There was discussion regarding the selling of small bottles of distilled liquor and cheaper bottles of wine. Robert explained that the market demand is not for these types of products and that they do not currently sell these at any of their locations and will not at this location.

Alex Plishner moved to approve the Conditional Use Permit to Amend CUP 89-0314 to upgrade a Type 20 Liquor License to Type 21 for the Mission Valley Mobil at 5494 Mission Center Road, San Diego, CA. Karen Ruggels seconded the motion. The motion was approved 17 – 1 – 0 with Elizabeth Leventhal voting no.

K. OLD BUSINESS

1. City Planning Update

Brian Schoenfisch reported on the reorganized planning department with the new name of “The Planning and Neighborhood Restoration Department” and its new director Bill Fulton.

Bill Fulton, former mayor of Ventura, CA, and author of the textbook “Guide to California Planning,” started on Monday July 8, 2013. Brian stated that Mr. Fulton wants to visit the community planning groups.

Dottie Surdi will invite him to attend the August 2013 MVPG meeting.

Brian verified that the approved 2014 city budget included funds to update the Mission Valley Community Plan, although he did not have details on the process due to the reorganization of the department and new department director.

In response to a question on the Phyllis Place project, Brian responded said that they are reviewing comments on the Environment Impact Report for Phyllis Place.

2. Council Office-District 7- Councilmember Scott Sherman

Jack Straw was not present- No report

3. Subcommittee Reports

a. Design Advisory Board

Randall Dolph-No report

b. Stadium Committee

Randall Dolph- No report

c. San Diego River Coalition

Alan Grant reported that the June meeting included a presentation from the San Diego Mountain Biking Association on proper trail construction.

The agenda for the July 19, 2013 meeting includes a presentation on the draft 2013 San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, with a special focus on the San Diego River Watershed.

d. Community Planners Committee (CPC)

Dottie Surdi reported that she had attended the latest meeting and will distribute minutes when available

e. Parks Subcommittee

Jason Broad had no report.

Perry Dealy reminded members of the July 18, 2013 meeting from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Union Tribune - Rotunda for a design review of the Union Tribune Pocket Park, which will be an action item at the August MVPG.

f. Uptown Regional Bike Corridor Advisory Group

Brittany Ruggels had previously emailed an update.

g. Public Health, Safety and Welfare

Elizabeth Leventhal reported on:

1. Stand Down for homeless veterans this weekend at San Diego High School. Stand Down is a community-based intervention program designed to help homeless veterans "combat" life on the streets. <http://www.vvvsd.net/standdown.htm>

2. The Alpha Project/Labor Ready initiatives are looking for donations of hard hats, work gloves, and work boots to help homeless residents of the temporary shelter tents be prepared for work opportunities.

Labor Ready Site & Temp Associate Testimonial: <http://www.laborready.com/Worker-Stories>

Alpha Project Site & Drop-Off Locations: <http://www.alphaproject.org/donate-money/donate-personal-items/>

4. Miscellaneous Mail

There was no miscellaneous mail.

L. ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business to be brought before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, August 07, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. at the Mission Valley Library, Community Room.

John Nugent, Secretary