



Montclair Neighborhood Council Community Meeting

2/4/2020

Meeting Attendees

Start Time: 17:30 End Time: 19:30

Steering Committee Attendance:

Estimated total attendance: 37

STEERING COMMITTEE (SC) MEMBERS	Present
Chairperson - Macy Cornell	x
Vice Chairperson - Nicholas Vigilante	x
Treasurer - Jim Clardy	x
Secretary - Lenny Lesser	x
Community Rep. - David Liebman	x
Community Rep. - Neil Planchon	x
Community Rep. - Mary Henderson	x
Community Rep. - Tyrone Eugene	
Community Rep. - Matthew Rowe	x
Community Rep. - Josh Shaw	
Community Rep. - Denise Bostrom	x

Advisory/Special Guests/Volunteers:	Present
OPD Neighborhood Services Coordinator - Angela Moore	x

Councilmember Thao's Office - Brandon Harami	x
Community Resource Ofcr. (CRO) Aaron Johnson - OPD	x
North Hills Community Association - Elizabeth Stage	x

Other Special Guests Present:

Lt. Robert Rosin - OPD
 Sgt. Alain Manguy - OPD
 Sgt. Michael Valle - OPD
 Ofcr. Robert Hardy - OPD Investigations
 Rebecca Kaplan - Councilmember At-Large and Vice Mayor
 Desmond Jefferies - Office of Rebecca Kaplan
 Anna Tellez - Office of Rebecca Kaplan

Community Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome/Agenda Review- Macy (1 min)
2. Fire Station Closure/Coliseum Authority Vote- Macy introduced Oakland Councilmember At-Large and Oakland Vice Mayor Rebecca Kaplan. Vice Mayor Kaplan reported that in January, the City Administrator announced a plan to deactivate three fire stations along with many other budget cuts throughout other City Departments through June to help offset a 69 million budget shortfall. The plan to close fire stations was later changed to closing one fire station. Vice Mayor Kaplan felt that budget cutting decisions should have been vetted with the City Council. The temporary closure of one fire station will be scheduled for six days at a time, will rotate through 24 fire stations, and will save only about \$1 million. Vice Mayor Kaplan and Councilmembers have been working on a resolution to transfer \$10 million from the Coliseum Authority to Oakland with some of those funds intended to avoid any fire station closures. The City Council unanimously passed the resolution at a meeting earlier today. The 10 million will come from a portion of unspent bond funds from the Golden State Warriors renovation project at Oracle Arena. The money will help not only fire and emergency medical services but also the Oakland Police Department.
 Chair Cornell announced that questions for Vice Mayor Kaplan would be answered during the Open Forum segment (Item #6).

3. Chair Cornell announced that MNC Steering Committee Member David Liebman would be serving as Leader of the MNC Safety Team. David was not yet present at the meeting but was expected soon and would be introduced and speak at that time.
4. Lt. Robert Rosin introduced Beat 13 and Montclair's new Community Resource Ofcr.(CRO), Aaron Johnson. CRO Johnson gave a brief update of crime trends in Beat 13z Montclair over the last 60 days noting that there were increases in robberies and auto burglaries compared to the same period last year.
Lt. Rosin reported that due to the redeployment of CROs Citywide to work on the increase in homicides in Oakland, CRO Johnson will also be working in that area and may not be available full-time for several months. He and Sgt. Alain Manguy will assist Montclair residents when CRO Johnson is not available.
5. Lt. Rosin announced and discussed the apprehension of suspects alleged to have committed the recent CVS robbery in Montclair Village.
Lt. Rosin stated that OPD is actively investigating four other robberies in Montclair Village that have occurred over the last three months. Investigators Sgt. Michael Valle and Ofcr. Robert Hardy reported on aspects of the investigations underway.
Lt. Rosin stated that the walking Beat Officer program has been impacted by the recent budget cuts and many Officers are being redeployed to patrol and calls for service not impacted by the budget cuts.
Lt. Rosin indicated that he and MNC Chair Cornell, Vice Chair Nicholas Vigilante, and Montclair Village Association Director Daniel Swafford are working on events where Montclair residents can briefly meet Officers at a safe distance when they are assigned to walk Montclair Village. Events could start in March or April.
MNC Safety Team Leader David Liebman then introduced himself and summarized some of the crime problems and issues concerning residents in Montclair. One problem of particular concern was the same person(s) coming back multiple times in the evening and early morning hours on Arrowhead Drive to commit auto burglaries and thefts and OPD's apparent inability to apprehend the suspect(s).
6. Chair Cornell then opened the Open Forum segment where Vice Mayor Kaplan, Lt. Rosin, and CRO Johnson answered questions from the audience.
7. Agenda Item #7 - Vice Chair Vigilante provided the following updates:
(Zonehaven) - Zonehaven is a cloud-based application that brings together fire simulation, traffic analysis, real-time weather, and fuel modeling to help get people out of harm's way during a disaster. The contract with Zonehaven to develop an Alameda County-wide approach to emergency evacuations began in January. Oakland has completed the approval process for zones in Oakland. There are about

25 zones in the Montclair area. The next step is to develop zone critical descriptions. Community leaders and volunteers will participate in this process. Oakland Fire will be providing regular updates.

(Portable Generators) - Use of portable gas and diesel-powered generators are rapidly increasing due to PG&E power outages. During late October Red Flag Warning and power outage, there was a fire along Crown Drive in Thornhill caused by an overloaded shared portable generator that caused significant damage to three homes. Generator caused fires will become more common at the worst time for a fire, during a windy Red Flag Warning and power outage. Oakland Fire developed a generator use video at <https://vimeo.com/478681157> and is developing additional guidance for dissemination to the community. The City is also exploring ideas for portable generator use oversight such as: (1) requiring a “no fee” permit; (2) requiring users to complete a free on-line training class; (3) yearly generator inspections; (4) fines for misuse of portable generators; and (5) procedures to submit complaints about generator misuse.

8. Vice Chair Vigilante reported that there have been occasional reports of smoking in Joaquin Miller Park. In the last several years, there were two small fires due to smoking in the Joaquin Miller Park. Oakland Municipal Code Chapter 8.30 prohibits smoking in recreational areas. Lenny Lesser attended a meeting of the Parks Commission, where he was told smoking is not permitted in the parks. But, Oakland’s park and recreation use regulations and guidance do not address the smoking ban and what someone should do if they observe smoking in recreational areas. The MNC Safety Committee has recommended that the City amend the park use regulations and literature to include the smoking ban and what someone should do if they observe smoking in recreational areas.
9. Update from Vice Chairperson Bet Muth of the Friends of Montclair RR Trail (FOMRRT): Large Park Rules signs that prominently include “Dogs on Leash” rules have been produced and were delivered to the Public Works Department on January 15. Due to Covid and some employees being out, installation has been delayed, but should be installed by March.
10. Update on Fire Prevention at turnouts from Joe DeVries (Director of Interdepartmental Operation): Priority#1 is the Skyline turnout near Castle above Joaquin Miller. He will conduct a site visit with our engineers- getting on the calendar next 2 weeks. Possibility of parking restrictions nearer to Sunset Trail above where Skyline and Joaquin Miller intersect. All departments have halted any overtime authorization and all temporary part time staff have been laid off. The remaining staff are often required to clear trees to allow DOT projects to keep moving and are responding to emergencies caused by the storms/high winds.
11. Brandon Harami provided a report from OakDOT regarding the repaving of Thornhill

Drive and other streets in Montclair during 2021. The improvements to Thornhill Drive which include repaving, sidewalk, and intersection improvements will begin this Spring. Some initial preparation work along the street will begin later this month or next month. The following streets in Montclair are scheduled to be repaved sometime in 2021: LaSalle, Snake (portion), Ascot (portion), Merced, Thackeray, Zinn (portion), and Shelterwood (portion).

12. Oakland Fire Safe Council - Macy Encouraged community members to join Oakland Firesafe Council newsletter. <https://oaklandfiresafecouncil.org> They are doing a virtual town hall on different topics. Please see the website for details.

Steering Committee Agenda:

13. Treasurer Report-Jim Clardy (1 min): Presented Treasurer's Report. Macy to ask US bank about waiving the \$5 service fee.
14. Meeting Minutes Approval -Lenny (1 min)
 - 14.1. January minutes approved unanimously.
15. Cell Phone Service: Nick gave an update on the cell phone reliability survey.
 - 15.1. Motion: MNC (1) send a joint letter to Assembly Member Wicks and Senator Skinner informing them about the impact of the problem in Montclair as captured in our cell service reliability survey and encouraging them to support quick passage of SB 431 or similar legislation (preferably before the next round of PSPS later this year); and (2) encourage Montclair residents to send letters or e-mails to Wicks and Skinner for the same reason.
 - 15.1.1. Approved Unanimously.
16. Fundraising Review- Denise (5 min): We will start a raffle starting in March to raise funds and promote local businesses. Farmstead has donated \$50. We will look for additional raffles. Raffle monies will be used for the MNC's General Fund. Denise is also looking for targeted fundraising for the Fire Department. The current ask would be for more fire cameras.
 - 16.1. Lenny asked about any IRS regulations. Nick says we don't need 501c3 as long as we are raising <\$5000. Once we reach that limit, we should apply for 501c3 status.
17. Update/Next Steps regarding Montclair Mural-Josh Shaw (5 min). Josh Shaw was not present. Nick proposes a closed session for March.
18. New Business- Macy Cornell (5 min)
 - 18.1. Website improvements: Neil suggests visiting website and providing any feedback to him.
 - 18.1.1. Macy would like the meeting agenda and zoom links to be on the

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- front page. She reminds him to remove holiday safety tips.
- 18.1.2. Comments from Nick: Add frequent contact numbers from Piedmont Pines website. Neil will look over the numbers and compare to the ones on our website.
- 18.2. Next meeting: Nick will report on vegetation management along route 13.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lenny Lesser
Secretary