

Minutes

Meeting Date: May 2, 2011

Time: 7-9 PM

Location: SMASH School Auditorium

Board Members in Attendance:

David Auch
Pauline Bohannon
Patricia Godon-Tann
Jan Ludwinski
Mary Marlow
Sadat Huq
Dana Ehrlich
Bob Taylor

Noticed Board Member Absences:

Susan Lewis
Roger Swanson
Lori Nafshun
Michele Perrone
Jeffrey Jarow
Nina Fresco

Other Board Member Absences:

Ross Furakawa

Topics Discussed

Introduction to OPA

President Jan Ludwinski introduced the guest speaker at 7:05 PM

Presentation by Linda Gamberg, City of Santa Monica, Big Blue Bus - Proposed service changes (30 min)

BBB is doing a Line-by-Line analysis

- 97% BBB service satisfaction

- Weekends show a big drop in riders, especially around SMC
- Weekday ridership up 6% since 2007
- Pico, SM Blvd, Westwood, Bundy and Main Street are high performing
- o Going to shift to these
- 3 Yr Service Plan
- May 10th Council Meeting. First of a series to discuss the 3-Yr Plan.
- Goals: increase mobility, Prepare for Expo, Support Luce
- Small changes in 2011
- o Adding to routes 1 and 2 on SM Blvd and Wilshire
- They were going to end SB route 2 at Pico.
- Changing it to go all the way to Hill Street
- 2012 - Adjust routing based on Expo to Culver City
- 2013 - plan for expo phase to SM
- o New mainstreet/4th n/s line and potential "Streetcar"
- o 17th Street n/s corridor
- o Bergamot n/s connection route

OPA BOD Call to Order

President Jan Ludwinski called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 PM

Announcements

- Miscellaneous upcoming community events were announced.

Actions taken since last Board meeting

- None

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve April 4, 2011 meeting minutes, as amended. Passed unanimously.

Relocation of John Muir Elementary School Monthly Fundraising Event presented by Amy Hopper.

PTA Representatives Comments, Clay, SMMUSD Representative, Carey Upton, and others

- 20 year old event
- Construction at Olympic

- Modernization
- 16-month project
- Fall 2011 start
- No new structures
- Staging for the construction
- Desire of PTA Organizer for the Flea Market to be in the heart of the community where the school is located
- Not on holiday weekends
- Month-to-month vendor contracts
- 12 month schedule
- PTA would like to stay permanently at the school location
- Vendor parking at campus on 4th Street
- Trash removal at end of event
- Limited parking in the east end of the lot
- Hours of operation 9-3
- Vendors come in 7am
- Will drop and move out to 4th street school lot
- Money collected for spaces go to the PTA
- Goals is to improve the community
- They have a waiting list:
- 44 vendors – increasing the cost / space
- Currently larger spaces, with 60 vendors
- Make about \$25k a year for the PTA

Neighbor comments

- Neighbors voiced concerns about:
- Safety of 5th and Ocean Park Blvd
- Growth of Event
- Signage
- Trash
- Toilets
- Parking
- Noise
- The location is too small
- Commercialization of a residential neighborhood
- The somewhat trashy, "carnie" or garage sale nature of the flea market
- That this is a permanent change
- One neighbor protested that the flea market is an adult event designed to make money

- Most neighbors profess long time support of the schools, but disagreement with this move of the flea market to the new location.
- Long time residents commented that the school districts were not responsive to their requests when the school was build 20 years ago. Concern that it is happening again.
- Neighbors proposed alternative sites
- Keep it at the current location and work around the construction
- Explore other site options such as California Heritage Museum or SaMoHi
- Neighbors complained that this has not been announced to the majority of school neighbors and that OPA should not vote without hearing from more school neighbors.

The school board representative noted that it had set OPA approval as one of the requirements to move forward with the relocation. This is counter to what OPA had learned the prior month. Board member Auch said he learned of this requirement just two hours prior to the meeting. If this had been known, there would have been a concerted effort to get out neighbors. Board member Taylor protested that OPA should not be put in a position where the board votes on a matter such as this.

Motion:

- To table the discussion to give OPA time to notify residents, give the school district time to answer resident questions, and develop a set of metrics and limitations.
- Vote initially passes when Board member Taylor abstains. Board member Taylor changes vote. 4 yea / 4 nay. Motion denied.

Motion:

- Change event so no set up until 8am until 4pm with a Two month pilot come back
- Bob - Information needs to be distributed to the community
- Motion Passes: 7 to 1

Motion to adjourn: Passed

Future agenda items

Meeting minute approvals for the 4/4/11 minutes

Monthly reports:

- Treasurer
- SMO Airport
- OP Blvd.
- Membership

4th of July Parade

Neighborhood survey

Policy on email blasts

Meeting Close

Next Meeting, June 6, 2011 (location: SMASH Auditorium) 7:00 – 9:00
PM