

OPA Minutes

9/10/12

Meeting held at The Victorian Restaurant.

Board Members in Attendance

David Auch, Pauline Bohannon, Patty Godon-Tann, Sadat Huq, Jeffrey Jarow, James Lawson, Jan Ludwinski, Mary Marlow, Lori Nafshun, Evan Meyer, Michele Perrone, Roger Swanson, David Tann, Bob Taylor, Marcy Winograd

Noticed Board Member Absences

Ross Furukawa, Susan Lewis

Introduction to OPA

President Jan Ludwinski called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

Announcements

Roger: Big Blue Bus meeting will have a community meeting on [resurfacing of Lincoln](#) and finding additional funding sources for tree plantings; Friends of Sunset Park & Lincoln Blvd. Safety Committee to meet on 9/20 at Mt. Olive Church, 14th and Ocean Park Blvd., 7-9 pm.

Jan: free aircraft silencer workshop – Sept. 22nd, 9:30-10:30

Patty: Ozone Park had received six new trees as part of a grant program.

Mary: Meeting at library in reaction to Planning Commission presentations on over 23 development projects.

9/20 City sponsoring a workshop on a new zoning ordinance related to parking and traffic management.

Patty: City of Santa Monica will close Civic Center auditorium in June because the city cannot afford to pay for expensive renovations. Someone mentioned this will be the last year an organization that feeds the homeless will be able to deliver its services at the auditorium. OP resident Mike Salazar, who serves on the advisory committee for the Santa Monica Conservancy, mentioned the city lost 12-million in redevelopment money, and that the renovation would have cost between two and three million dollars. The building, however, has landmark status – so the question is whether it can be preserved. David Auch volunteered to follow up to learn more from the city.

Marcy Winograd reminded everyone to sign up for the city's excellent disaster preparedness CERT classes. Visit the city's [web site link to emergency preparedness](#).

David Tann suggested Board members urge others to run for the OPA Board, which will hold its next election in December.

Actions Taken

OPA voted to sponsor candidate squirm night, which is now scheduled for Mon., Oct. 15th at the Main Library. The forum will include candidates for Santa Monica City Council, Santa Monica-Malibu School Board, and state legislative seats.

Approval of Minutes

Patty Tann requested the minutes be revised to read “gigantic increase” not 6,000 visitor increase in web traffic. Minutes were approved with the revision.

Olympic High School Presentation

Principal Jeanie Gates announced the school will be hosting a Food Truck Night fundraiser with guitar students and a DJ on Thursday, October 11th. She asked the Board to please help spread the word. She also urged the Board to encourage everyone to donate to Good Will on Sat., Oct. 13th, when a Good Will truck will be at Olympic HS to pick up clothes, etc. Gates said Good Will had promised the school \$1500 if it can fill the truck with donated items. Lori N. suggested the school could promote the Oct. 13th fundraiser at the city’s upcoming yard sale.

Grant Application

Patty presented a grant application for \$4,000 in city funds to be used to develop, monitor and encourage community outreach through the OPA web site, email blasts, community meetings and resident surveys. Marcy moved to approve the grant application. Bob T. seconded.

Patty explained the grant application requires submission of bylaws, budget, board members and membership database, and board member volunteer hours. Jan suggested board members periodically fill out the volunteer hours form at the beginning of a board meeting.

Lori N. mentioned there are some organizations that do not accept city funds because they do not want to be beholden to the city. For example, a city-funded organization cannot endorse candidates.

The Board voted unanimously to submit the grant application and to designate Patricia Godon-Tann as the authorized signatory for this grant.

Neighborhood Council Meeting

Jim L. reported a city official came to explain that there will be a workshop on how to run meetings, acquire insurance, etc., and that membership envelopes from mailings will no longer come to the city but will instead go directly to neighborhood groups.

City Manager’s Meeting

Mary Marlow reported the City Manager will hold an informational meeting Nov. 12th at the Civic Center to update residents of various neighborhoods. Some expressed concern that the City Manager’s office will not be making a presentation before OPA and this new format was “not in the spirit of meeting with residents of Ocean Park.” Mary mentioned OPA and other neighborhood groups are welcome to set up informational tables at the meeting.

WILMONT Resolution

The Board voted 12 to 3 to endorse a resolution, introduced by Mary, to urge the incumbent and newly elected Wilmont board members to resolve their dispute involving fair elections to the Wilmont board.

The resolution reads, "Until this dispute is worked out, by a new election open to the participation of all Wilmont members (including those purported to have been expelled), or through negotiation, court proceedings or otherwise, the other neighborhood organization boards will not acknowledge that Wilmont has an official representative on the Neighborhood Council." At issue, according to Mary and Jim L., is the issue of overdevelopment vis a vis the Miramar project – and the integrity of Wilmont's board election.

Prior to OPA approving the Wilmont resolution, Lori N. introduced a motion to make the resolution more generic and applicable to other potential neighborhood council disputes. David A. seconded. The vote was 4 yes; 9 opposed.

Treasurer's Report

Patty T. reported the General Account has \$2,440.07; the Parade account: \$14,800, which includes \$5,000 from Buy Local parade sponsorship. Next year, Patty said the Board will start parade planning with \$15,000 in the bank. She will give the quarterly report at the next meeting.

[Airport Commission Draft Recommendations](#)

David Goddard, the Chair of the Santa Monica Airport Commission, presented the commission's third draft of recommendations for 2012. The recommendations include the following:

- a) Discontinue non-essential aviation related capital expenditures until the airport's future is determined.
- b) Discontinue leasing space to all industrial tenants with business activities incompatible with neighboring land uses.
- c) Removal of the 1949 quitclaim parcel from aviation use.
- d) Install runway safety areas at each end of the runway pursuant to the FAA guidelines to provide public safety.
- e) Limit any future airport land use to a 'No Additional Trip Generation' policy, so that the current land use cannot be intensified.

Evan M. asked what the impact would be of removing the quitclaim parcel and shortening the runway to 3,000 feet. David G. pointed out that jets need 5,000 feet of runway to take off, so this would effectively limit the airport to light aircraft.

David G. added that in 2015 the city will no longer be required to sell fuel at the airport. According to him, Torrance Airport does not sell jet fuel, only aviation fuel.

Bob Taylor asked the Airport Commission Chair if it was true he did not have aviation experience and that the board lacked commissioners with this experience. David G. said he did not have aviation experience. When Taylor questioned the qualifications of the airport commissioners, Marcy W. objected and pointed out that everyone in the room was qualified to be on the commission since

all in the room had been subjected to noise and air pollution resulting from the airport, and all would pay the price if the city were held liable for an airport accident.

Lori N. said the issues over the airport were largely land use issues – how best to use the land to benefit the community.

Committee & Other Reports

Election Committee

David T. said he was soliciting nominations for the OPA Board. Evan M. will be voted on for election, as he was recently appointed to the Board.

Discussion ensued as to when the election should be held – at the holiday party venue, prior to the party beginning or at another time and place.

Patty suggested that the ballot include a Yes/No option for voting on Board members.

Mary suggested an e-vote.

The Board voted to let the Election Committee decide when and where the election would be held.

A visitor shifted the discussion to request that the OPA board not meet or hold its holiday party at The Victorian because of a legal (noise) dispute between residents of the Shores apartment complex and owners of The Victorian. OPA Board members assured the visitor the holiday party would not be held at The Victorian. Jan. told the visitor he had not been aware of the legal nature of the dispute.

Squirm Night – Monday, October 15th, Santa Monica Main Library

Lori N. reported OPA had agreed to be one of the Squirm night sponsors, and that normally OPA solicits questions from neighborhood residents.

Marcy volunteered to compile questions for the candidates.

Lincoln Blvd. Task Force

Roger reported the current focus is on creating an on-line survey of OPA members.

David T. reported the city had sent out a letter reminding Lincoln Blvd. tenants of city code ordinances, and then followed up with a walk-through of the Blvd. The committee was awaiting city feedback on the walk-through. An Oct. 12th meeting has been scheduled for the Lincoln Blvd. committee and city staff.

Membership Committee

Sadat reported OPA has 251 paid members, though the email list is much larger. People are using the automated Pay Pal button to join OPA. Sadat is working on another mixer.

Disaster Preparedness Committee

Marcy reported the 3-Saturday CERT classes were terrific, very hands-on with participants learning search and rescue procedure, fire safety, first aid, etc. She urged OPA Board members to [sign up for future CERT classes.](#)

CERT 2013

The Office of Emergency Management is offering the following CERT courses in 2013.

January/February 2013

Saturday, January 26 8:30AM-2:30PM

Saturday, February 2 8:30AM-2:30PM

Saturday, February 9 8:30AM-2:30PM

May 2013

Saturday, May 4 8:30AM-2:30PM

Saturday, May 11 8:30AM-2:30PM

Saturday, May 18 8:30AM-2:30PM

Lori N. moved to adjourn. Roger S. seconded the motion.

Jan L. adjourned the meeting at 8:22.