

Draft OPA Minutes

6-3-13 at Jocelyn Park

Jim L. called the meeting to order at 7:10.

Members in Attendance (Enough for a quorum)

David Auch, Pauline Bohannon, Patty Godon-Tann, James Lawson, Jan Ludwinski, Thane Roberts, Roger Swanson, Jodi Summers, David Tann, Bob Taylor, Marcy Winograd

Noticed Members Absent: Andrew Gledhill, Sadat Huq, Jeff Jarow, Mary Marlow

Guest Speaker

David A. introduced his neighbor Julie Weiss, a marathon runner raising money for pancreatic cancer research and treatment. Julie spoke about her passion for running and for finding a cure for the disease that took her father's life. She described her father as one of the founders of SMASH school and "the life of the party who always brought a pocket trumpet to the party." Having run over a 1,000 miles since 2008, Julie said she had raised \$200,000 for the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and will be featured in the film Spirit of the Marathon, which will play in theaters across the country on Wed., June 12th. To learn more or donate, people can visit her website: marathongoddess.com

Announcements

Crossfit Santa Monica

Carter Gaffney and Kaj Larsen, long-time best friends, introduced themselves as the owners of Cross Fit Santa Monica, a new business opening late summer at Edgemar on Main Street. Crossfit is diverse high intensity exercise that combines cardio and strength training in a community setting with members exercising together.

Expo Update

Torrie Hill, Community Relations/Expo Line Project, announced plans for construction and street widening from 17th -14th to create more lanes and set cables for tracks to be laid in late August. The line is slated to be finished in 2015.

Civic Center

Steve invited everyone to attend a meeting on the future of the Civic Tues., June 4th, Virginia Park. On June 11th, the city council will listen to staff suggestions based on community input. Lori N. urged the board to get involved in deciding what happens at the site, noting that developers are eyeing the property. Jan L. said open space would be a legitimate use. Judy A. said the cost of renovating the Civic is estimated at 50-70 million dollars, a sum no longer covered by state redevelopment money.

Pier Bridge Project

Judy A. announced June 18th the city will host a meeting to talk about the replacement project for the pier bridge.

Westside Impact Project

Sara Blanche, founder of the project, explained the project's mission: to reduce underage drinking rates in Santa Monica and Venice by working with local retailers on sales to minors and policy makers on outlet density. The project's goal is to promote healthier communities by reducing alcohol-related harms (drunk driving, confrontations, domestic violence, addiction, etc.) Blanche said Santa Monica has an over-concentration of businesses that sell alcohol, with one outlet for every 294 residents. Blanche welcomed suggestions and community input.

impact@publicstrategies.org or 310-215-9924

Parking Concern

Bob T. said the city is considering installing parking meters on residential streets. Several board members said meters would be unwelcome.

Santa Monica Festival

Patty T. thanked the board members (Jim L., Patty, Marcy, Andrew) who volunteered to table at the Santa Monica Festival, where OPA shared a table with NOMA. She urged the board to continue tabling there, only to bring swag (pens, t-shirts, etc.) in the future.

Memorial Day Observance

Jim L. praised the Memorial Day tribute he attended at the Woodlawn Cemetery.

Actions Taken

Patty presented the on-line email data approving a letter to the city council objecting to the development agreement for 1318 2nd Street. The board approved the letter with 13 yes votes; 2 no votes; 1 abstention. Lori N. expressed concerns about the board voting on-line, rather than at board meetings where the public can participate. Other board members noted Lori's concerns and said the new on-line voting policy, where Patty tracks the votes following a motion and a second, was to be used only when there is an urgent deadline before the next board meeting. Discussion also focused on whether there should be on-line board discussion prior to or following a motion posted in an email to the board.

Approval of 5/13/13 OPA Board Minutes

David A. moved to approve; David T. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Patty: General Account: \$2,224; Special Account (Parade, etc.) \$15,761

May expenditures: \$2,900 (General Account), which included \$1414 for insurance and partial payment for the new parade coordinator/assistant.

Patty said she will reconcile the grant hours this month and reminded board members to submit their volunteer hours to her.

Proposed Email Blast Policy

The board voted to table a decision on a new email blast policy until Patty researched possible

restrictions tied to OPA receiving city grant money. Both Marcy and Lori suggested OPA send out a monthly email with calendar listings from the OPA web site. Jan L.'s proposal was to allow for email blasts related to OPA issues, as well as local school-related fundraisers.

Opportunity Sites

A brief discussion was held concerning Councilman Kevin McKeown's motion calling for delaying action on high rises in the downtown area until a comprehensive land use plan is approved for the downtown area. The board opted to wait until Mary M. could provide more information related to her concerns about the decoupling of opportunity sites from a future downtown area plan.

Parade

Jan L. urged the board to suggest names of local youth who might be interested in working at the July 4th parade.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05.