

Minutes

Date: February 7, 2011

Time: 7-9 PM

Location: Joslyn Park

Board Members in Attendance

David Auch

Pauline Bohannon

Dana Ehrlich

Nina Fresco

Patricia Godon-Tann

Sadat Huq

Jeffrey Jarow

Jan Ludwinski

Michele Perrone

Roger Swanson

Bob Taylor

Noticed Board Member Absences

Mary Marlow

Ross Furakawa

Susan Lewis

Lori Nafshun

Topics Discussed

Introduction to OPA

President Jan Ludwinski introduced the guest speakers at 7:10 PM

LA Marathon: March 20, 2011

Kate Vernez, Asst. to the City Manager, introduced Ginger Williams - LA Marathon Community Relations Director and members of City Staff including: Don Patterson - Parking, Bruce Davis - Fire, Jay Tisler - Police, Linda Gamberg - BBB, Sam Morrissey - Transportation, Kim Braun - Waste Mgt.

Each discussed plans and other details for the 2011 LA Marathon (Note: all plans subject to change):

- Ginger Williams: The race finish will be at California Ave. not Santa Monica Blvd.; The event after the race will be held across from City Hall at the old Rand site. Anyone wanting to volunteer should do so at www.Lamarathon.com.
- Chief Davis: Discussed the route down San Vicente (eastbound side) and Ocean Ave., as well as various runner amenities. A total registration of 28,000 will result in an expected 25,000 runners. A total of 55 fire/paramedics will be at various points along the route, with an additional 150 volunteers to help. 30 fire/paramedics personnel will cover the city. Last year 743 runners were from Santa Monica.
- Sam Morrissey: Traffic closures will begin at 6 AM. The race course will begin opening to traffic on San Vicente at 5 PM and finish at Colorado by 9 PM.
- Don Patterson: Downtown City lots will charge \$20, but the rate declines to \$5 at more remote locations. Parking will also use the Civic Center lot and South Beach lots for runner parking. Sunday

Main Street Market parking at the South Beach lot will be \$5, with 300 only spaces reserved.

- Linda Gamberg: All westbound bus routes will end at 11th. Shuttles west will be made available. BBB information services will also be expanded for the race.
- Sgt. Tisler: SMPD will focus its efforts on public safety using the tools at its disposal, with significant increases in traffic services to keep the traffic moving. ;-)
- Kim Braun: Last year Santa Monica cleaned their race route before LA did. The haul last year totaled 12,000 lb., of which 88% was recycled. Cheers! This year there will be 500 trash cans along route and in downtown.

OPA BOD Call to Order

President Jan Ludwinski called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM

Announcements

Jan made the following announcements:

Ocean Park Library reopened January 29; Grand reopening on March 12, 2011

Planning Commission Meeting: Bergamot Transit Village Workshop, 17 Feb, 6:30 PM @ Pier 59 Studios, 2415 Michigan Ave @ Bergamot Station

Neighborhood Council meetings held every 3rd Saturday of the month at 10 AM

2501 2nd Street Demolition (Update from Nina Fresco, member of the SM Landmarks Commission: The Commission voted unanimously on February 14th to designate the front house on the property as a landmark. An appeal to City Council is expected. The property owner did not support the designation.)

Vidiots: Long-term, local business suffering hard times reported in a SMDP article; Shop Local!

Actions taken since last Board meeting

Jan discussed one action taken:

The letter to SMC regarding ethics and conflict of interest issues posed by a Professor's support of SMRR candidates in the 2010 City election using students in his class was sent on January 10, 2011. SMC has not yet responded.

Status of action items

Since there are no pending Action Items; no status reports were made. This will commence next month.

SMO Airport updates

Michele distributed copies and briefly discussed the January 19, 2011 report by John Fairweather titled, "Analysis of SMO Flight Traffic", which was for flights on January 8, 2011.

The report covers 81 flights with 65% from flight schools. Two thirds of the flight path violations were due to flight school flights.

Michele took an action item to post an electronic version of the report.

Other related information included:

- Announcement of the February 28 Airport Commission meeting
- Santa Monica lost its suit regarding the C and D jet safety issue against the FAA; A court solution is not likely, however, the City Council is weighing its options and will make a decision about how they intend to proceed shortly. The legal options available to the City are thought to be limited according to some sources.

- Lobbyist hired by the City will earn a bonus of \$70K if the FAA adopts the flight path recommended by the City Consultant- ASRC Research and Technology Solutions.
- A local neighborhood group has conducted two 2-day studies of the planes leaving SMO. The results of these studies identify the origin of the flights their routes and flight path violations. An interesting and unexpected finding was that many of the flights logged (more than 30%) do not show up on the Webtrak radar or in the Airport's database. Most of these omissions are flights at low altitude and often off the recommended route. Since this is the data base that has been the primary source of data for the FAA and City consultants, it raises questions as to the credibility of their findings of compliance in past reports. Their study finds that 2/3 of the flights come from flight schools, 1/2 do not use the recommended "fly friendly" departure path, and 3/4 of those not using it are from flight schools.
- An Airport task force made up of the various neighborhood groups has been formed. This group will be meeting with the City Manager in 10 days to discuss issues relating to the airport operations.

Next milestones/decisions for SMO:

- What are the long term and short-term issues?
- And, what does the SMO committee want OPA to do?

Newsletter Status

No report provided. A FAQ on Measure RR will be added to the Newsletter after review by OPA and other Neighborhood groups.

Treasurer's report and discussion of banking change

Patty reported that she has all the accounts up to date and all outstanding invoices are paid. Patty created a new reporting

methodology that includes a paper trail for all payments to ensure correct reporting. A monthly Treasurer report will be made.

The following account status was distributed:

- General Account: 2010 year-end balance is \$2,514.
- Special Event Account: 2010 year-end balance is \$8,024, including a July 4th Parade surplus of \$7,809.
- The 2010 P & L includes income of \$21,681, expenses of \$20,333 and a net income of \$1,348.

Patty also reported that the 2011 application for the Santa Monica Grant for Neighborhood Associations was submitted within the last 45 days.

A change in banks has been proposed and any ideas on a new bank should be sent to Patty.

Membership report

Sadat reported that OPA's membership database is maintained through the back end of our OPA website. We currently have over 1000 contacts and just over 200 paid members.

Ross is setting up a membership renewal system with automatic email notices. Sadat will work with Ross to set up a "Membership" tab section on our website, complete with a user-friendly payment checkout for renewals and new memberships.

Sadat will send out a membership promo email blast as soon as we have the Membership section of our website properly set up.

In the future, Sadat hopes to have a better system in place for keeping track of t-shirts sales, and membership payments for individuals and families.

Ocean Park Blvd. "Green Street" status

Bob provided an update indicating that plantings and other amenities have been finalized in construction drawings, which he brought to the meeting.

Decision on construction bids is expected in late March/early April, with construction to commence July.

Results of poll on permanent meeting date change

Poll results indicated that Monday nights were the favored night for meetings. Only Bob and Susan objected due to their school night commitments: Only one of them is able to attend on Monday nights.

Until further notice, all OPA BOD meetings will be held on the 1st Monday of the month.

Policy on membership-wide email blasts

This item was deferred to the March meeting.

Main Street

Gary Gordon, President of the Main Street Business Improvement Association, requested that OPA add an agenda item to the March BOD meeting to discuss and, hopefully, endorse changes to allowed signage on Main Street.

On March 22 the City Council will review/decide changes to Main Street signage and outdoor displays. The main issue is the use of sandwich board signs versus blade signs, which are perpendicular to building fronts. Both aesthetics and sidewalk blocking aspects will be discussed.

Future agenda items

Meeting minute approvals for the 1/10/11 and 2/7/11 minutes

Action items and monthly reports:

- Treasurer report
- SMO report
- OP Blvd. report
- Membership report

Main street signage

Policy on membership-wide email blasts

Meeting Close

Next Meeting, Mar. 7, 2011 Joslyn Park 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Action Items

What: Post electronic version of 1/19/11 SMO Analysis Report

Who: Michele

When: March 7, 2011

What: Report status of neighborhood survey

Who: Bob

When: March 7, 2011