

## **Draft Minutes for 5-13-13**

James L. called the meeting to order at 7:05 at the Church in Ocean Park.

### **Board Members in Attendance (Enough for a Quorum)**

David Auch, Pauline Bohannon, Patty Godon-Tann, Sadat Huq, Jeff Jarrow, James Lawson, Jan Ludwinski, Mary Marlow, Thane Roberts, Jodi Summers, David Tann, Bob Taylor, Marcy Winograd

### **Noticed Board Member Absences**

Andrew Gledhill, Evan Meyer, Lori Nafshun, Michele Perrone, Roger Swanson

### **Guests in Attendance**

Albin Gielicz, NOMA (North of Montana Association); Brian Glaspy, PIO (Pico Improvement Organization); Phil Brock, Parks Commissioner; Tim Harter, Assemblyman Bloom's field deputy; Brandon Marlow, resident of Ocean Park; Judy Abdo, former Mayor of Santa Monica; Douglas Faye; Julie Dad Lopez, former SM Planning Commissioner

### **Announcements**

Tim Harter of Assemblyman Bloom's staff introduced himself and encouraged communication between OPA and Bloom's office. Harter mentioned Bloom had sponsored legislation (assembly bill 1301) to impose a moratorium on fracking in CA. [tim.harter@asm.ca.gov](mailto:tim.harter@asm.ca.gov)

Brandon Marlowe announced he was forming "Preserve Bayshore Lanes" to stop the demolition of the bowling alley at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Pico. He encouraged others to work with him. [brandonmarlowe@roadrunner.com](mailto:brandonmarlowe@roadrunner.com) Thane suggested the most effective way to stop the demolition would be to stop the zoning change that will allow construction of 91 apartment units at the site. Thane invited Brandon to participate on OPA's zoning committee.

Jim L. announced the city, at council member Kevin McKeown's urging, is organizing the first offering of a Citizens Academy in spring, 2014, to educate residents about their local government and encourage participation in local public policy making. The Santa Monica Citizens Academy will be a free 7-9 week program, open to residents of all ages. A selection committee will review all applications and select a class of between 20-25 residents. Applications will be made available in early 2014.

May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 3:14 - 4:30, Santa Monica HS, 601 Pico. The city of Santa Monica invites stakeholders to a workshop entitled, "Safe Routes to School." The objective is to prioritize improvements that will encourage more biking and walking to school. A second workshop will be held from 6:30-8:00 PM at the Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4<sup>th</sup> Street, SM. Proposed improvements include

better pedestrian crossings, wider sidewalks, new bike lanes, cycle tracks, and more bike racks for the school. For more info, contact Michelle Glickers, Senior Transportation Planner, 310-458-2204.

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-9:00, Ken Edwards Center: Redesigning the Santa Monica Pier Bridge community meeting. The public is invited to view the new bridge concepts and to submit input on important design components.

Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, Make Music Los Angeles/MMLA is a daylong celebration of music with live performances all over LA County, including Santa Monica, on the Summer Solstice. The event will encourage people to get together in their neighborhoods and organize their own free music concerts in a variety of locations, including community gardens, plazas, schools, courtyards and parks. To discuss hosting your own performance, contact Rebecca Hogan at [rebhogan@gmail.com](mailto:rebhogan@gmail.com) or 310-951-4587. [www.makemusicla.org](http://www.makemusicla.org)

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-8:00 PM, Pico Improvement Organization mixer at McCabe's Guitar Shop, 3101 Pico Blvd. Albin Gielicz, Chair of NOMA and a member of the Recreation and Parks Commission, invited everyone to attend the mixer to promote local businesses on Pico. Albin introduced Brian Glaspy of the Pico Improvement Organization (PIO), who said the group's goal is to reach out to merchants and neighbors in a 36-block area to encourage communication and support. The June 4<sup>th</sup> mixer is to be the first in a series, with one mixer being held for every six blocks along Pico. Brian, owner of a fitness and training studio on Pico, said ultimately PIO would like to work with the city to make Pico more friendly to bicyclists and walkers, and to include a bike lane. Brian can be contacted through the website [picopassort.com](http://picopassort.com)

David Auch suggested OPA co-sponsor one of the mixers with PIO. Mary M. suggested OPA do an email blast to inform its members of the June 4<sup>th</sup> mixer.

Mary M. – May 9<sup>th</sup> – Lutheran Church – meeting on the Bergamot Area Plan

### **Approval of Minutes**

The board unanimously approved the minutes from its April 1, 2013 meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Patty reported the General Account has \$3,724 and the Special Events Account has \$16,331. She said a lot of memberships came in directly to OPA's P.O. Box. OPA took in over \$1,000 in membership dues the past month. Starting in June, Patty said she will have to do the reconciliation for the city grant. She distributed reconciliation forms to document volunteer hours and encouraged board members to submit the completed forms to her at the next meeting.

## **Parks Presentation – Phil Brock**

Phil Brock, Chair of the Recreation and Parks Commission, gave an overview of open space in Santa Monica, updating OPA on bike sharing proposals, new pocket parks, the need for more children's play areas and entertainment in the parks, and the importance of making developers accountable for promised "public" parks. Brock's presentation included the following points:

- City needs to put out an RFP for bike sharing, so that people can rent bikes that can be dropped off at other parts of the city.
- Two new parks are opening near City Hall: Ken Genzer Square and Tongva Park, with a proposed outdoor café to seat 100 people. Also, a new playground is coming at the south end of Ocean across from the Sea Colony.
- Yahoo's "public" park is not managed by the city, nor easily accessible to the public; future development agreements should make sure promised public parks are managed by a public entity and open to the public.
- Santa Monica is the 6<sup>th</sup> most densely populated city in Santa Monica. Even though we have 25 city parks, there are wide swaths of the city with no parks or children's playgrounds.
- Goals of the commission are to a) add more pocket parks b) add more playgrounds
- City needs to resolve the use of public parks for private fitness training. Public lands should not be used for private enterprise unless fees are charged.

Patty suggested rules be posted at all parks.

## **Reef Presentation – Douglas Fay**

Douglas Fay, an Ocean Park resident, proposed sinking a ship off of Santa Monica to create a reef to promote marine life, protect the coast, enhance habitats, and advance coastal research. He said he presented his proposal to the city planning commission, but the commission was not receptive.

## **Neighborhood Council Report**

Mary M. said the council met on 4/20/13 to discuss the lack of a downtown specific plan, as well as possible mixers.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Airport Committee**

Thane R. reported on a city council meeting (4/30/13) in which 100 speakers attended to weigh in on the future of Santa Monica airport. For the first time, the council voted unanimously to impose a \$15 per plane landing fee (estimated for a Cessna), something Thane said was long overdue given that the city is subsidizing the airport operation and that previously no landing fees were charged. The city council also directed staff to look into closing or at least severely limiting the operating hours at the airport, stating it was the council's intent not to renew the

1984 agreement after 2015 and to allow all aviation leases to expire at that time. In addition, the city agreed to study the CASMAT proposal, which is on line at [www.casmat.org](http://www.casmat.org).

The council also voted to approve all airport commission recommendations previously submitted to the council for approval but never voted upon. These recommendations were as follows:

#### *Santa Monica Airport Commission Recommendations to City Council*

- 1. Stop using millions of tax dollars, from Santa Monica residents, to subsidize airport operation costs. Impose fees on all airport users to fully cover the costs of their activities at the airport. Discontinue non-essential aviation expenditures. Spend the minimum required by the FAA.*
- 2. Impose flight operation reductions and aircraft non-addition rules.*
- 3. Require that aircraft operators carry environmental liability insurance and obtain flight operation permits for every flight.*
- 4. After July 2015, when the 1984 FAA Agreement expires, stop using the 18-acre parcel on the west side of the airport (including 2,000 feet of runway needed for jets). Allow aviation leases to expire and discontinue the sale of aviation fuel.*

#### **Zoning Committee**

Julie Dad Lopez announced members of the zoning committee were meeting to work on a zoning model. She invited anyone interested to contact the committee's chair, Mary Marlow. [marymarlow@verizon.net](mailto:marymarlow@verizon.net)

Mary mentioned the committee would like to survey Ocean Park residents on zoning and development agreements. She said agreements that allow for a reduction in parking requirements for commercial buildings will impact residential parking.

#### **Membership Committee**

Sadat reported an increase in membership dues, from \$600 in 2012 to almost \$1,000 in 2013, attributing the increase to more on-line sign-ups. He discussed using facebook to invite OPA members to participate in the parade. After the parade, he will do an email blast to invite others to join OPA.

June 1<sup>st</sup>, OPA will have membership applications available at the Santa Monica Festival, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 6 PM, Clover Park – a mix of music and dance.

#### **Lincoln Blvd. Committee**

Jim reported the Earth Day clean-up went well, with OPA members weeding and picking up litter along Lincoln Blvd. Muralists also participated. If OPA members know merchants or store owners along Lincoln Blvd., they are encouraged to contact them to see if they are open to artists painting murals on their storefronts.

### **Communications Committee**

Jodi S. distributed OPA's newly-designed business cards for board members to use. The board thanked Jodi and expressed delight at the design of the cards.

Jan pointed out that there is more than one "tagline/slogan/logo" being used by different folks in OPA, making specific branding of the organization more problematic.

### **Outreach Committee**

Jeff J. encouraged OPA board members to distribute their OPA business cards to OP residents who might be interested in attending a meeting.

### **Parade Committee**

K.C. Clamorhouse, OPA's July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade consultant/organizer and organizer of the LA Film Festival, introduced herself, and said she is scheduled to accept parade applicants beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>. She said she has talked to the city about closing Main Street off from traffic until 1 pm on July 4<sup>th</sup>. Following the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade, she will deliver to OPA a detailed binder on the logistics of organizing the parade. K.C. can be reached at [kcm@clamorhouse.com](mailto:kcm@clamorhouse.com)

### **Disaster Preparedness Committee**

Marcy encouraged attendees to visit the disaster preparedness page on the OPA web site, (<http://www.opa-sm.org/preparedness>) and for block captain volunteers to distribute the checklist and surveys to residents on their block. She noted the OPA web site now has a map with block captain volunteers in specific areas.

### **Railroad Art Project**

Jim L. reported there is a set of old railroad lights on 20<sup>th</sup> Street north of Olympic. They will be removed when the new Metro is built and Jim has asked the city to put aside the lights. OPA can have them if we can establish a public place for them to be installed. Jim's thought is to have them erected at Bergamot as part of that station.

### **Roll Call Voting Policy**

Patty emphasized that OPA needs a procedure for tracking voting on line. Either the secretary or a vice-president should keep track of the votes. Marcy will talk to Andrew G. to see if he is able to track the on-line votes.

*According to the new policy, the "item must be stated in full and identified by a board member as needing board approval before the next regular meeting. The Secretary or assigned Vice President, using the voting roster, would acknowledge the request and call for a motion. The motion must be made by a board member and seconded by another board member, at which time the vote commences; the members making and seconding the motion shall be deemed to have voted "yes." No discussion would be permitted. Because of the nature of the medium, 48 hours should be given for all members who wish to vote. 2/3<sup>rd</sup> s of the board must respond for the vote to be valid. Results of the vote will then be announced. If at any time a change is deemed necessary in the motion, a new motion shall be initiated in place of the original and the process shall start anew. At the next general meeting, in the agenda item of "actions taken", the information on the roster would be delivered to the board and if all is in order, set in the minutes."*

David T. moved to pass the protocol. Marcy seconded. The protocol passed with 1 abstention.

### **Email Blast Policy**

Jan L. said OPA has been in violation of its existing email blast policy and submitted an update which allows for emails directly related to OPA business, as well as area public schools and educational events. Mary M. moved to table discussion as several members indicated a desire to relax the policy even further. David A. seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.