

RB COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
RB Branch Library
July 27, 2006

1. **Call to Order.** 7:03 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance led by Alethea Altenbern.
2. **Administrative Matters:**
 - **Roll Call:** All members present except Eric Luthard and Richard Auderheide (unexcused).
 - **Minutes:** Accepted as written with all in favor except one abstention by Guy Cargulia, who was not present at the June meeting.
 - **Corresponding Secretary's report.** Alethea Altenbern sent out several letters last month to:
 - Penni Takade, thanking her for the presentation on the city budget report at the June meeting;
 - Chief William Lansdowne in support of Paul Lennon's job as the RB Community Relations Officer, and sent a copy of the letter to Brian Maienschein;
 - The Westwood Club director regarding water options for the plants along the sound wall on RB Road, cc to Brian Maienschein also.
 - **Treasurer's Report:** Dorothy Risheberger reported that the Council has a total of \$10,164.55 in savings and CDs. Report accepted with unanimous support.
3. **President's Remarks:** After her customary welcome and instructions to the guests in attendance, Robin:
 - Suggested people not give money to beggars, but rather to service organizations such as shelters;
 - PUSD has requested a Community Plan Amendment regarding condo conversions;
 - Concerning graffiti on the old Denny's, the owner was contacted, who cleaned it up immediately;
 - Kudos to Dave Hall for a successful running of the Public Safety Committee meeting this month;
 - Call or cc Robin, when communicating with Council Members;Guy recommended the website of the city DA for checking crime stats of San Diego.
4. **Resident's Remarks:** None.
5. **Government Relations Reports:**

Courtney Smith for **City Councilman Brian Maienschein** introduced Megan Athnar, her assistant, who may fill in as liaison for Courtney in the future. She reported that the city will be saving 8 out of 16 Community Relations Officer positions that were previously scheduled for reassignment; though, there will be only one for all of District 5. She assured us we would have enforcement for RB, Lomica, Escala, Bernardo Oaks roads. Dick Walker asked about inter-agency traffic support to target communities and write up many tickets for speeders. Robin told him Sgt. Hatchings would be the contact for that. Guy asked about 1) grace period on lights and needle exchange—according to Brian, no; 2) red light cameras—Courtney was not sure; and 3) Paseo Lucida to Bernardo Parkway. Norm asked about speeding on Pomerado Road, and Myrna about running of 4-way stops, both of which Courtney will look into. Regarding letters about the migrant day-workers situation in RB, Jerry suggested we carbon copy Brian Bilbray.

Stephen Lew for **Mayor Jerry Sanders** introduced himself as our new representative to this and two other districts, adding that he would therefore not attend all our Council meetings, but rather "by request" only. He acknowledged our letters regarding CRO Paul Lennon, received by the Mayor and Chief Lansdowne, and confirmed that there will be one CRO for each district, stating the Mayor was hopeful for Paul's position. Robin added that Stephen's mother, Susan Lew, was the owner of the Pearl Restaurant in RB!

Myrna Reese, reporting for the **San Diego North Chamber**, suggested people call the Chamber office at 487-1767 for details about its various activities: congratulations to Centre for Health Care on its 15th

anniversary in RB; fall festivals for Carmel Mountain and 4S Ranch are in planning stages; free Score counseling by appointment; there are monthly meetings for Young Professionals' Group, 5-minute Networking, Women's Wednesday Roundtable, and Chamber Orientation; Friends of Youth Golf Classic on August 14; and Business Expo August 23.

Andrew Lund for **State Assemblyman George Plescia** announced that, in regard to the airport and MCAS, there will be a Town Hall Meeting at Scripps Ranch High School August 17. The budget was completed on time, a 1st since 2000. Guy asked what other viable sites Plescia had in mind for the new airport. Andrew said mentioned Brown or Montgomery, but said MCAS is too important to national security. He added that Lindbergh is operating "under capacity" and could be expanded. Janet asked about the senator's stand on the health care bill for uninsured children to cover around \$100 million in healthcare given to undocumented immigrants, and Andrew said the bill had some problems the senator could not support.

6. **Presentations:**

- A. Dan McAllister, SD City Treasurer and Tax Collector**, gave a very entertaining explanation on the process of creating a new property tax bill. Dan said his team interviewed many people, including taxpayers and even fifth-grade students, about how they could improve the tax bill to make it more readable and easier to use. In the beginning, there were many complaints about the bill, which had not been updated since 1951. The result is pleasant looking, informative, as well as easy to read and understand. And now people can pay their bill on line and sign up for e-billing. Dan credited the recent proliferation of condo conversions with a substantial increase in the tax base. An audit uncovered a pool of about \$2.1 million in unclaimed refunds, from people accidentally overpaying their taxes, usually while refinancing. Homeowners can check the website, www.sdtreastax.com, to see if they have a refund.
- B. Palomar Pomerado Hospital expansion**, introduced by Tina Pope and by Marcia Jackson, VP of Planning, and presented by Mike Shanahan, Chief Architect showed the Council what changes are in the works:
- Phase I includes a multi-level parking structure and a facility for outpatient care and a women and children's center. The Centre for Health Care will be moving to this facility.
 - Phase II includes postpartum and inpatient care, conference and education centers. The main building will be a sand-colored, terraced structure to blend with the hills in the background, using Anasazi ruins as inspiration. Verandas, windows, and landscaping emphasize a "resort-like ambiance" and "healing atmosphere".
 - A church in Rancho Penasquitos off of Black Mountain Road has been purchased to be converted into a 2-story outpatient clinic.

Q&A: Guy asked what modifications have been done for earthquake safety, to which the answer was "none", since the building is compliant with current seismic regulations. Robin asked if the site in PQ required an amendment to the community plan, which it apparently does.

7. **Agenda Items – Voting:**

- A. Approval to install our own \$300 meter** for monitoring water use at the site on Paseo del Verano Norte, which won't affect our bill but, rather, give us a baseline idea of our actual water usage. If it is significantly lower than the flat rate, it may be warrant installing working meters on other taps to save MAD funds in the long run. Jerry motioned and Myrna seconded for the Council to approve the installation of this temporary meter for assessing water usage, of which all were in favor.
- B. Reimbursement bill of \$200** for items purchased in fundraising efforts for the Fire Station require Council approval. Dorothy moved and Robert seconded to add this item to the agenda, with all in favor. After some discussion to clarify the expenditures, Dorothy moved and Norm seconded that we vote to approve the reimbursement, which passed with unanimous support.
- C. Approval of recent Bylaw amendments.** The Council began reviewing the bylaw edits, deletions and additions one by one, discussing and advising further amendments, including the following:

- 3.06 – Concerning indemnification, most thought this item should be struck, since the Council has no such coverage. Norm asked that we forestall the decision to strike, until he had a chance to research cost of indemnity insurance. Many believed it futile, owing to high costs of these policies.
- 4.02 – Regarding the change of term limits for officers from 4 to 8 consecutive years, which was done to be consistent with Planning Board and Recreation Council, but some posited 8 years is too long for one to serve in an officer's seat. Those in favor cited continuity, lack of willing or qualified candidates, and yearly elections with open nominations as due reason.
- 4.03d – Add "As directed by the Council" and delete from "and unless..." to the end.
- 4.05, 4.06 – Regarding meeting minutes for the Executive Committee, this duty has been deleted from the President's and Recording Secretary's duties, and not reassigned. Robin feels minutes for this meeting is unnecessary, since it's main function is to set the agenda for the Council meetings, but others believe there is more covered in the EC, which should be documented. No consensus was reached on this matter.
- 4.09b – Delete "which... March";
- 4.09g – Strike item regarding "give a bond".

This review will be continued at the August Council meeting.

D. District F – Bernardo Heights Vacancy Status: Kim Kennedy Johnson, a 2-year RB resident, presented herself in consideration for this seat. She is a local entrepreneur, running a home business for a tracking system for Fleet Trucking using GPS technology. She is certified to administer Personality Insights psychological tests, and also works for her father-in-law at Power House Real Estate. Robert made a motion, which Janet seconded, to approve Kim for this seat on the Council. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

8. Standing Committee Reports:

Government Relations/Utilities: Janet Hoy – Brian Bilbray's representative attended, thanks to the efforts of this committee.

MAD: Alethea Altenbern – Noted an error in a news article by Donna Hartings that cited the monthly cost of watering new trees on Pomerado Road as the yearly cost.

Public Relations: No report, Eric was unavailable for comment and absent from all recent meetings.

Public Safety: Karen Rott recognized Dave Hall for a job well-done on running the last PSC meeting, and announced that the Friends of 33 ad hoc committee has raised \$3,802 for the fire station.

Traffic & Transportation: Robin Kaufman – see the minutes from their last meeting on our website, which were posted the previous Friday.

9. Liaison Reports:

Planning Board: PUSD presenting at the next meeting. Robin invited all to attend the Regional Issues Committee meeting on August 1. There will be an important voting item at the August 17 PB meeting.

Recreation Council: Robin Kaufman – There is a big event coming up at the Dog Park – the annual fund raiser on October 22. Usually this is held in September, but it was postponed for cooler weather.

Adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Respectively submitted by Diane Peters.