

RB COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Rancho Bernardo Library

April 24, 2008

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Administrative Matters:**
 - Pledge of Allegiance
 - Roll Call: Of 17 members; 12 present; Excused were Ken Michael, Frank Auwarter, Andrea Thomas, Beverly Merrill and Teri Denlinger
 - Minutes: Motion made, seconded and passed with correction to the spelling of Brian Bilbray's name.
 - Corresponding Secretary: Andrea Thomas was excused so there was no report.
 - Treasurer: Dorothy Risheberger reported that the Council has 7 CDs totaling \$8,131.39; a checking account with \$1,453.88; and a San Diego Foundation account with \$1,026.78; for a total of \$10,612.05. Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the report as presented.
3. **President's Remarks:** In addition to the usual introductory comments, President Jay Riordan welcomed new members and chairs. He encouraged the community to be involved with Council activities and visit the website at www.RBCommunityCouncil.com for information about agendas, meetings and projects.
4. **Resident's Remarks:** Myrna Reese spoke about her concerns with an unusual election situation in March when she was a candidate. There was a tie for the representative in District G and Myrna, who has served on several community councils over the past two decades, felt that it was inappropriate to have the two candidates give presentations and then have the council vote. She recommended that if this situation ever happens again, that a coin flip would be more fair procedure to solve the dilemma. President Riordan thanked Myrna for all her efforts on behalf of the community over the years.
5. **Liaison Reports:** (Non Board Members)
 - Council Member Brian Maienschein's Representative *Courtney Smith* congratulated President Jay Riordan and the new members. It has been 6 months since the wildfires. At this time, there are 65 permits issued, 20 homes are under construction and 2 homes have been completed. Crime in this area is down 5% this year and down 14.9% since 2006. The following Saturday is Arbor Day and Rancho Bernardo has been chosen as the county location for tree planting and celebration because of the wildfire destruction. Free trees will be available.
 - Dick Katz expressed concern that some insurance companies are cancelling RB insurance policies. Courtney said that while that is not illegal, the insurance commissioner will be looking into that situation when he visits San Diego next week.
6. **Presentation:** Jo Ellen Jacoby, Supervising Landscape Designer from the Water Resources Management Program of the City of San Diego Water Department, discussed water sources, usage, ways to conserve, new technology, and services. She said that San Diego residents are getting the message because our water use has remained constant even as our population continues to grow. More information is available at 619-515-3500 or www.sandiego.gov/water.
7. **Agenda Items (Voting Items):** The President abstains from voting, except to break a tie.
 - Removal of the fire station as an Ad Hoc committee: President Jay Riordan explained that Ad Hoc committees are established as a temporary solution to address issues. Since the city has stepped forward with funding and because none of the chairs are presently on the Community Council, Jay recommended that the fire station renovation project become a separate entity. Robin Kaufman, Steering Chair, and Diane Peters, Fundraising Chair, stated that the project was at a crucial stage, hoped that they still had the support of the Council and will choose a liaison to report back to the council periodically. A motion was made to remove the fire station Ad Hoc committee from the Community Council. After seconding and discussion, the motion passed (10-1-0).

- **RB Beautiful utility box painting:** Janet Atkin proposed a project to enhance the downtown by painting artwork on the utility boxes. San Diego Gas & Electric endorses this endeavor and works with communities to organize the painting. Janet passed around photos of painted utility boxes in Hillcrest and a fact sheet with an overview of the project. She recommended that Rancho Bernardo box painting be limited to a flora/fauna theme and she would establish a committee to set guidelines. The committee would include downtown business people and artists. A motion was made to create an Ad Hoc committee to begin planning. After seconding and discussion, the motion was passed unanimously.
- **Appointment of liaison to RB United:** A motion was made that Robin Kaufman serve as liaison and present monthly written reports. The motion was seconded and was passed unanimously.
- **Appointment of Public Safety Chair:** Jay Riordan moved that Frank Auwarter serve as chair and Frank has agreed. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- **Re-arrangement of agenda order:** Jay Riordan suggested that the monthly speaker's program be moved to the beginning of the agenda to ensure a better audience. He also would like to see a more structured time frame for the meeting which would include limiting the speaker to a 20 minutes talk and 10 minutes of questions. The motion was made, seconded, discussed and passed (9-1-1).
- **Quarterly speakers presentations were discussed:** Steve Dematteo then recommended that programs would be offered only 4 times a year with topics offering broader appeal to attract larger audiences. However most council members spoke in favor of continuing the monthly programs and the motion failed to pass with 6 opposing and 3 in favor.
- **Appointment of District D vacancy:** There are still open seats in District D.

8. Agenda Items (Non-Voting): None

9. Standing Committee Reports:

- **Government Affairs:** Ken Michael was excused so there was no report.
- **Maintenance Assessment:** Steve DeMatteo reported that the committee is working on improving the Pomerado Road medians and designing the Welcome Sign. MAD will maintain the new median on Camino Del Norte and has postponed discussion of uplighting the trees at Pomerado and I 15.
- **Programs:** Joe Dirks announced that there will be a debate between the two District 5 City Council candidates at the May meeting. Future programs include a talk about reverse mortgages.
- **Public Relations:** Brandy Luscalzo's committee did not meet last month.
- **Public Safety:** Frank Auwarter was excused so there was no report.
- **Traffic and Transportation:** Dick Katz reported that striping crosswalks on Pomerado Road will be on their next agenda.

10. Liaison Reports:

- **Planning Board:** Joe Dirks gave a brief description of the previous Planning Board meeting and agenda items are posted on rbplanningboard.com.

11. Adjournment; The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Minutes were prepared by Janet Atkin