

Rancho Bernardo Community Council
MAD Committee Minutes
July 12, 2006

1. Call to Order at 7:05 pm. In attendance: Alethea Altenbern, Myrna Reese, Robin Kaufman, Frank Auwarter, Steve Ewart, David Blitzblau. Staff ~ Joe Henderson, Cory Peterson. Donna Hartings from RB News Journal.

2. Approval of Minutes: approved with two corrections ~ under staff report, it should be 'quoted' and on second page it should be spruce up 'our' (not 'or')

3. Staff Report:

- Repairs to accident on Bernardo Center Drive by the I-15 over pass have been completed with the exception of mulch, which should be taken care of by this week.

- Water meters ~ capacity fees were never paid by the original developer and needed to be paid in full to install each new meter and save money on our monthly bills. Nothing prevents us from installing a water meter ourselves (approximately \$300) to monitor water use. We would still need to continue at the current prices for flat rate. The installation of one meter would allow us to see if we can save more money than what we are being charged for a flat fee. If so, each meter would cost approximately \$7,000. It would take 10 years to recoup our cost. After much discussion, Steve made the motion to install our own meter (one) at \$300 to see if we can save more than the flat rate fee. Frank seconded the motion. All were unanimously in favor.

- Tree trimming ~ a tentative date of August 1 has been set for the trimming of all olive trees on our main medians. Living wage will not effect the cost as this was planned prior to living wage took effect.

- Conserve a tree nomination ~ a nomination for all olive trees on our medians in our community has been submitted in July, on behalf of the MAD committee. If accepted by the City, it will prevent the trees from ever being destroyed. If one becomes sick or injured, it will require another olive tree take it's place.

4. Agenda Items:

.Update on Bernardo Center Drive median plants by Jiffy Lube
- See staff report

.Pomerado/Rios Road tree planting update

- Steve and Cory walked the area again on June 29 to determine the number of possible trees (up to 47) and types of trees. A suggestion of Western Redbud was made as it's a CA native tree/large shrub and would naturalize quicker than most other trees. It's roots go straight down and not out. Due to lack of meter in that area, a water truck would have to be utilized to establish any vegetation in that area, costing approximately \$10 per tree, per month. Staff will look into the feasibility of getting a one inch meter (and tap fee) in the area and report back next month. Cost would be roughly less than \$15,000. The system would run another \$3,000. The cost to bring in a water truck for one year would be approximately \$5,640. It takes roughly three years for trees to be established, so it may be less expensive to pay for the one inch meter. Also, 8-10 shrubs could be established south of Rios. Space for the trees is approximately five feet from sidewalk to fence, down to three feet in other areas. Trees can be obtained for free through the free tree program. Other trees/plants were discussed such as Lady Bank Rose, etc.

Lew Gary, Master Gardener and past Chair of MAD, will be asked to attend the August meeting to give his expert opinion on the matter.

- .Review of Westwood Sound Wall Native Plants letter
 - unanimously approved to send a copy of the letter reminding Weswood Club and Council Member Brian Maienschien's office that it was agreed MAD will only be responsible for the area if a meter and water system is installed.

- .Reading of Editorial in RB Journal
 - a copy was given to all members as an informational item

- .Improvements of Medians West/East of 15
 - the area has been placed on the Community's wish list in regard to FBA and new construction which comes in front of the Planning Board

- .Discuss Neighborhood Partnership Grant
 - The grant is for \$1,000 and is only given if it is matched, meaning the group would have to raise \$1,000 before receiving the \$1,000 grant. It was decided to pass on it as it would be difficult to ask for donations from the community to match the grant. We would then have to prove what the grant money would be used for in the community.

- .Volunteer to keep log for MAD meeting
 - Steve volunteered to come up with a sample and present it at next month's meeting.

- .Other items
 - Myrna presenting information from the High Country West community in regard to Newland Development and plants. Newland wants to place plants on the sides of the street and wants MAD to water and maintain them. We only agreed to plants in the median, if they supplied the meter. Staff will speak to Newland and club manager and report back to us next month. No plants can be planted in the medians without MAD approval to insure proper plants are utilized.

5. Adjourn ~ 8:50 pm.

Respectively submitted by Robin Kaufman