Minutes for DRNC Board of Directors and General Meeting
7:15 pm Thursday, January 12, 2012
At the Courtyard by Marriott
13480 Maxella Avenue Del Rey, California, 90292

1. Call to Order and Introduction – Meeting called to order at 7:18 p.m.
2. Director’s Roll Call
   A. Present (11): Jonathan Neumann (Area A) (leaves before discussion and vote of item 8b), Debra Geller (Area B), Renae Paonessa (Area C), Gerry Crouse (Area E), Dan Moreno (Area F), Enrique Fernandez (Area G), Eric DeSobe (President/Chair), Tom Kiely (Second Vice President), Mike Stafford (Communications Officer), Elizabeth Zamora (Vice President), Brett Flater (Treasurer),
   
   Absent (3): April De Stefano (Area D), Rolin Moe (Parliamentarian), Frank Sanford (Area H)
   Recording Secretary (1): Edith Darling

3. Government Reports
   a. Council District 11 – Cecilia Castillo –
      Update on sewer rates. January 27 is deadline for public comment. Homeowners are responsible for repair/maintenance of lateral that connects to the sewers. Percentage of increase (.5%) going to loan program for assistance with people doing repairs on lateral. Residents can ask for low-interest rate loan to help with repair costs.
      Update on NC elections – Responsibility is transferred from City Clerk to DONE. Funding will be through DONE. Not sure on the amount/status of the funds.
   b. Kate Anderson (kanderson@childrennow.org) – Member of MVCC and of organization called Children Now. Will be requesting that DRNC consider joining the Children’s Movement, a coalition of organizations in support of prioritizing legislation in support of children’s best interests. Enact policies that get them more health insurance. Improvements on K-12 education system. Not enough success.
      Working on prioritizing children/education in state policy.
   d. Pacific Division/Fire department – Not present. Chair would like to reach out to the representative because he/she has not been present for a few meetings.
   e. Other Dignitaries – No other presentations.

4. Public Comment (3 minutes maximum):
   a. Alexa Bold, homeowner – Seeking help with getting enforcement of dog barking ordinance.
   b. Mr. Bold – Worst experience in his life. Lives in Area C. Have been seeking help of public organizations with little success.
      a. Questions from Chair re level of interaction with neighbors. Moreno asks if they’ve tried with county health department.

5. Summary of Previous Meeting and Approval of Previous Minutes
   M/S/P “Motion to approve minutes of 12/8/2011 pending corrections that Mr. Flater will send.”
   Motion passes unanimously.

6. Old Business - none

7. Ex Parte Disclosures
   a. Neumann – Speaking with Steve Jones of Steve Jones Architects re reconfiguration of space for a tenant
   b. Kiely – talked to Tyler and Andrew re staffing project in Del Rey Square
   c. DeSobe – Spoke with Ms. Anderson and Ms. Bold
   d. Paonessa –
      1. Jack Cargerman, Alexa Bold – contacted re problems with barking dog
2. Nick Listanic – Boy scout interested in participating and discussing traffic concerns (Ms. Zamora invites him to come to Land Use & Planning Committee.)
3. Shane Mayo – neighbor interested in helping in anyway
4. Susan O Halini – gift card scams
5. Gary Pealer – Child ID person – when is next Del Rey Day?
6. Sherri Akers – Wants support re lawn at City Hall; she is from MVCC
8. Fernandes – Contact with Robert Donne from Rec. & Parks, Mr. Palomares from Autobahn Soccer Academy, and Mr. Allen from Little League

**8. New Business**

a. M/S/P (DeSobe/Moreno) 
   **Motion to approve up to $600 for 5 banners to co-sponsor the Ballona Creek Renaissance Organization’s Ballona Creek Clean-up.**
   Presentation by Jim Lamb, here with Sandrine Cassidy-Schmidt
   5 banners - 4 - 2x6, 1 - 6x2
   Support from Council Member Bill Rosendahl and Office of Community Beautification. Providing portable toilets, tools, and gloves. Working with schools and private organizations to provide educational/community service opportunities to youth. Newsletter online. More Ballona Creek projects on the way.

   **Points of Clarification**
   Moreno – Organization would be responsible for putting up, taking down, and storage? (Yes.)
   Geller – Placement of banners? (Facing both directions of bike path.) Could one of the banners be more generic not talking about clean-up, something indicating that DRNC supports Ballona Creek that could be up on a longer basis? (Lamb – Could be difficult in light of county approval process for long-term or permanent signage.)
   Stafford – Banners would be reused? (Yes. Every 6 weeks or so with banners up 6 days before event.)
   Geller – Any other organizations sponsoring? (No. NC would be mentioned in online newsletter, e-mails.)

   **Speaking in Favor**
   Paonessa
   Kielty – Better than sending the money back to the city

   **Speaking in Opposition**
   Geller – In support of a partnership, $500 investment seems too much considering level of outreach. Would probably propose amendment to reduce number of banners purchased.
   Flater – BCR has done great work for the community. Sponsorship promotes the clean-up and provides outreach opportunity for DRNC.
   Moreno – Concern that banners could be ripped down by county employees.

   Opposition to calling question.

   **AYES (8): DeSobe, Fernandez, Flater, Kielty, Moreno, Paonessa, Stafford, Zamora**
   **NAYS (3): Crouse, Geller, Neumann**
   **ABSTAINING (0):**
   Motion carries 8-3 with 0 abstentions.

b. M/S/P (Fernandez/Flater) “Motion to approve funds of up to $3,000 to refurbish the infield dirt of MVG Little League Field and to purchase glass bulletin board case to promote DRNC and other community events.” (submitted by Enrique Fernandez; approved by Community Services Committee)
   Presentation by Robert Donne, Director of Mar Vista Gardens – Increase of patrons using facilities. Anticipating that about 125-150 kids will be in Little League. Field is in desperate need of repair. Hasn’t been touched since 1986.

   **Points of Clarification**
   Geller – Can we have engraved plaque within bulletin board saying that the DRNC supports the families of MVF Gardens? (Yes.)
   Stafford – Can we put agenda on the bulletin board? (Yes)
   Kielty – Improvement of graffiti after soccer lights were turned on. Are the after-school activities good for the community and for the children? (Yes)
Flater – Estimated value of time and labor? (It will take a week with 8 guys. Estimate of about 30-40,000 dollars.)
Flater – Money is available in budget. Will they take p-card as payment? (Yes.)

Board Discussion
Speaking In Favor
Fernandez – Good investment for outreach through community. Keep kids involved and busy.
Chair asks for any objections to calling the question.

Proposed amendment by Geller:
M/S/P (Geller/Moreno) “Motion to approve funds of up to $3,000 to refurbish the infield dirt of MVG Little League Field and to purchase glass bulletin board case, with permanent signage acknowledging DRNC’s sponsorship within, to promote DRNC and other community events.”
Amendment carries unanimously.

AYES (9): DeSobe, Fernandez, Flater, Kielty, Moreno Paonessa, Stafford, Zamora, Geller, Neumann has left.
Motion carries 9-0 with 1 abstention.

M/S/P (DeSobe/Donovan) Motion to approve up to $5,000 for the Del Rey Summer Concert Series (submitted by Eric DeSobe; presentation to be made by stakeholder Danny Meyer; approved by the Community Services Committee)
Motion carries unanimously.

Brief Presentation by Danny Meyer
Danny Meyer – Passes out info re to WLA summer events. $20,000 event - $15,000 from NC, $2,500 from Rosendahl’s office and $2500 from WLA Cultural Center. Attendance was not as good as it could be. Idea is to start out as a community band. Idea is that we’ll put the word out. Will organize concerts around the LA district – Glen Alla Playground, Farmer’s Markets,

Points of Clarification
Geller – What kind of audition process so that the performances are of a professional quality? (People tend to self-select. People who can’t really play tend to leave.)
Moreno – All volunteers? (Yes. Meyer will be paid as he will be organizing all the events. Money will go to Community Music Programs.
Stafford – No problem with no-bid process?
Flater – Minimum amount of money to get project off ground? ($2,000)

Board Discussion
Speaking in Favor
DeSobe – Good to work with Danny. Professional. Experience with Del Rey Day was good and would like to continue it. Funds would not continue at this level year after year. If city funds decrease, will still be likely to support the event.
Paonessa –
Stafford – in support – A lot of venues in Del Rey area that we haven’t considered. St. Gerard’s, the baseball fields, schools, there are more places than we’re thinking right now.

Speaking in Opposition
Geller – Supporter of concerts in the park in the DRNC area. If it were for a concert in the spring and summer in Glen Alla Park or in the Mar Vista Parks and Rec. area, she could support it. The cost is not the issue. High-quality, professional musicianship that’s part of a larger event that promotes our council like Del Rey Day. Talked about scaling event down and holding it more frequently, maybe 4 times a year. Cannot support as it is.

Flater - If the board decides, we have to determine where the money comes from. Less than $5,000 in General Neighborhood outreach sponsorships. Another option is maybe the Del Rey Day series. The board needs to tell him where the money’s coming from.

Amendment proposed by Eric DeSobe:
(DeSobe/Fernandez) “Motion to approve up to $3,000 for Del Rey Summer Concert Series, which, in its initial year, will only take place in Del Rey.”

Posted by Mike Stafford on
http://www.delreync.org
Discussion of Amendment
Speaking in Favor
Kielty – Good bargain.
Speaking in Opposition
Flater – Would like to see a calendar of events that this band will play at before we approve the funding

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:
AYES (9): DeSobe, Fernandez, Flater, Kielty, Neumann, Paonessa, Stafford, Zamora, Geller,
NAYS (2): Crouse, Moreno
ABSTAINING:
Amendment passes 9-2 with 0 abstentions.

(Geller/Flater) “Motion to table until next meeting to allow this proposal to be fleshed out.”
AYES (9): Crouse, Fernandez, Flater, Geller, Moreno, Neumann, Paonessa, Stafford, Zamora,
NAYS (1): DeSobe
ABSTAINING (1): Kielty
Motion carries 9-1 with 1 abstention.

d. M/S/P (Kielty/Geller) “Motion to approve spending up to $600 for trash can lids on the Culver Blvd. walking path.”
Kielty – Trash piles up outside the trash cans and the liners fall in, making clean-up difficult for Tropical Creations. The liners would be help up by the trash can lids.

Board Discussion
Points of Clarification
Moreno – There won’t be enough space for people to throw away trash because of the tops. Also concerned that the lids will disappear, which is why he’d like to look into purchasing hinged lids?
Stafford – Del Rey logos on the trash cans?
Crouse – Concern that cost is more than it needs to be.
(DeSobe/Crouse) “Motion to table until February GB meeting.”
AYES (5): Crouse, DeSobe, Flater, Moreno, Paonessa
NAYS (6): Fernandez, Geller, Kielty, Stafford, Stafford, Zamora
ABSTAINING:
Motion fails 5-6 with 0 abstentions.

Chair asks for any objection to calling the question.

VOTE ON MOTION:
AYES (9): DeSobe, Fernandez, Flater, Geller, Moreno, Neumann, Stafford, Zamora
NAYS (2): Crouse, Paonessa
ABSTAINING (0):
Motion carries 9-2 with 0 abstentions.

e. Presentation regarding sponsorship of a new baseball field backstop for Culver Marina Little League.
Harold Allen (motion possible)
Allen - Organization has been there 50 years. Baseball fields are neglected. Estimates to fix up the back stops is between $2800 and $3000. Would focus efforts on major league field and little league field.
Summary of Board Discussion
Fernandez – Who owns the property? (Stafford - It’s owned by State Fish and Game.)
Geller – Would like to see a detailed line item budget proposal showing exact costs of all projects. Indicated what other support has been obtained and where from. Also what vendors, products, also verifications that vendors accept credit cards. Any component that would allow for permanent or designated period of time the display of a banner.
DeSobe – With your volunteer team, think of ways for us to be present for some kind of opening ceremony.
Moreno – Any outreach to LA Angels or Dodgers?

f. Presentation from Jose Luis Palomares regarding DRNC sponsorship of a Del Rey soccer clinic (motion possible)
Palomares – Grew up at Mar Vista Family Projects – Seen that a lot of kids don’t have opportunity to have mentors or to be guided. His son played professionally in Germany. Self-educated and helped by community. Gotten kids into schools.

Antonio Cervantes – College professor, former full-time grant writer. Helping them put together grants, federal and foundation. Trying to set up foundation to help kids where they will not become at-risk kids in the future. Where they can get after school tutoring, family literacy.

Presenters will be coming back with formal proposal.

9. Officer and Director Reports:
   a. Treasurer’s Report – Brett Flater
      Credit Card Charges on Statement from 12/21/2011

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M/S/P “Motion to approve expenditures and Treasurer’s report.”
Motion carries unanimously.

b. President’s Report – Eric DeSobe
   Keep an eye on developments related to NC elections. Do we want to spend our own funds? If so, how much? In theory, we’re up for reelection on June 2012.

c. Remaining Officers and Directors’ Reports
   Kielty – Help with planting projects on the bike path. Needs help.

10. Committee Reports:
   a. Land Use and Planning – Will be on Jan 30 at Westside Neighborhood School. Requests to be on agenda from developers of _________, developers of apartment buildings on Courtley, and owners of Nickel’s restaurant, and the boy scout interested in helping community.
   b. Outreach Committee - TBD
   c. Community Services - TBD
   d. Education – Most likely Jan 31

11. Next meeting – Feb. 8, 2011

12. Motion to Adjourn
   M/S/P (Fernandez/Flater) “Motion to adjourn.” Motion carries unanimously.
   Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.