Minutes for DRNC Board of Directors and General Meeting
7:15 pm Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012
At the Courtyard by Marriott
13480 Maxella Avenue Del Rey, California, 90292
The public is welcome – no charge.

1. Call to Order and Introduction – Meeting called to order at 7:17 p.m.
2. Director’s Roll Call
Present: President Eric DeSobe, Vice-President Elizabeth Zamora, Second Vice President Tom Kielty, Treasurer Wes Farrow, Secretary Shelli Margolin-Mayer, Communications Chair Mike Stafford, Area B Sandi Tamkian, Area C, Renae Paonessa, Area E Gerry Crouse, Area F Dan Moreno, Area G Enrique Fernandez, Area H Frank Sanford
Absent: Area A Jonathan Neumann, Area D Lorena Alvarado, Parliamentarian ______
3. Government Reports
   b. Mayor’s Office report – None present
   c. Pacific Division/Fire department report – None present
   d. Other Dignitaries –
      i. Presentation by Food Forward
         Erica Copmar represented the local non-profit harvesting backyard fruit for the hungry and donates it to local food pantry. Last month they donated the 1 millionth pound. Homeowners can sign-up on the website or call for harvest and they receive a tax receipt. Last month, they began the Farmer’s Market harvest. It will be expanding this next year. Visit foodforward.org or call 818-530-4125. Chelsea McFarland said she runs Honey Love and would like to partner with them, as well as have the DRNC participate.
      ii. Presentation regarding Westside Mobility Plan (7-10 minutes)
         Michael Kennedy presented a background re analyzing the mobility plan. They have been working on the plan for the past year or so. They are looking for a north-south transit lines along Lincoln and/or Sepulveda. They are looking at the possibility of a streetcar on Venice. With respect to the timeline, they will be having public outreach meetings this fall. See westsidemobilityplan.com. Shelli asked if the light rail would go LAX? Yes. Dan asked about timeframe? Kennedy responded three years. Renae asked if Beethoven would be widened? It is a bike-friendly street, so it will not likely be widened. Gerry asked about the connection to Playa? Kennedy mentioned the bridge at the creek would be redone to include bike lanes, etc.
      iii. Susan Elaine Wheeler, Stakeholder, represented “Label GMO.” She said most people do not know that GMOs are in most fast and processed food. Those who export food have been labeling it for years (e.g., baby formula). By voting “Yes” on Proposition 37, it would protect the consumer’s right to know and she urged the DRNC to support it. Westwood, Mar Vista and Palms have already supported it. Chelsea McFarland said she is a big advocate for this, stating one doesn’t have to be for or against GMOs; the labeling would just provide the information so the consumer can make their own choice.
4. Public Comment
   a. John Whistler, homeowner on Glencoe, spoke re the ongoing issue that that street has become dumping ground for campers and vans. They are on the phone daily for enforcement, and he asked for support, whether it is restricting parking or cleaning the street. There were several other supporters.
   b. Jackie Harmon spoke on the same issue, also suggesting they paint the curbs red. She often walks to Washington Blvd. and she notices the number of people living in their cars.
c. Tara Pollock also spoke on the same issue, suggesting they need more safety zones. She has even seen Fedex and UPS parking and blocking driveways. Further, there are people dumping their urine in the street.
d. Elizabeth Zamora said the Land Use Committee has met and is looking into how best to address the homeless issue in that area. They will be revisiting this topic in future meetings.
e. Catherine Bigelow said there is no place to safely cross the street from Glencoe to Maxwella. It’s impossible to not jaywalk.
f. Cecilia Castilla advised the Glencoe residents to please stay in contact with her.
g. Tony Wilkinson from DONE spoke re DRNC elections. The neighborhood councils help deliver City services to the residents. Information about how to get involved is on their website at www.empowerla.org (elections tab). If you don’t get a seat, you can still participate on the committees.
h. Stacy Dega (translated), is a tax-paying Mar Vista Gardens resident. They asked for assistance re paving their streets, especially covering the gutters to keep the kids from falling into them. There was almost another accident this day at Culver and Inglewood. They have been repeatedly told these streets would be repaired, but they have not been.

5. Summary of Previous Meeting and Approval of Previous Minutes – Approved by Acclamation

6. Old Business - none

7. Ex Parte Disclosures
   - Frank Sanford - none
   - Enrique - none
   - Dan - none
   - Mike - none
   - Elizabeth - none
   - Eric – Mr. Riggs, other presenters and those interested in running for seats
   - Gerry - GMO
   - Renae – Nicholas D’Amico wants to run for Area F and was directed to website to apply. Also spoke with Stakeholder Regina Korossy who asked if dogs were allowed at the Farmer’s Market. Renae contacted Helen Lee to get the answer (no dogs) and responded to Ms. Korossy.
   - Kelli - DONE

8. New Business
   a. **Discussion regarding new management of Mar Vista Gardens Recreation Center. Motion possible**
      Sanford Riggs from Housing Authority, which oversees the 14 public housing developments including Mar Vista Gardens. They have 7 recreation & park (R&P) facilities on these properties. Since 1990, they’ve had an agreement with R&P that R&P would provide programming. About two years ago, they were told that R&P could no longer provide the programming unless they had more money. That was provided a couple years, but they can no longer afford that, so they had to go to open bids going forward. They received two bids to run the facility, which are now in the procurement process. They hope to bring in someone who will also bring in additional funding in terms of donations. Joanne Harvey Dixon introduced herself as a resident that’s on the board for this. They initially didn’t know what was going on and there are some residents who don’t want this to happen. They would appreciate it if DRNC will weigh in. Stacy Dega would like for DRNC to get involved and be part of the process. Funds towards sports would be appreciated too. Dan Moreno asked Mr. Riggs about the abbreviations he used, specifically RFP (Request for Proposal) and MOU (Memorandum of Understanding). Eric DeSobe asked why Mar Vista Gardens is being the first public housing chosen for this new model. Mr. Riggs said it was an internal evaluation and Mar Vista Gardens was a good fit. The funds of the past will not be available going forward. Mike Stafford asked who bid to provide the programming? Mr. Riggs said Venice Boys & Girls Club and Santa Monica Boys & Girls Club submitted bids. Renae asked if there would be any changes in the program, or will they get the same service? Mr. Riggs said they believe the services will continue to be robust, meeting the scope of work defined by the residents; high quality. Enrique asked if P&R will still get money if this goes through? Mr. Riggs said their office was still paying utilities but they were told they have no service funding going forward. The budget got tighter so it had to change. Eric Brown of intergovernmental services added that if the bids get kicked out and doesn’t go through as a pilot, there will simply be no services. Dan asked what would happen to the current R&P employees. Mr. Brown responded that they are R&P staff who may have seniority, but the programs may do some hiring of residents and others who live in the community. Tom asked how much funding was being put into it? Mr. Riggs responded $100K. Tom then pointed out that basically the City
is paying the same amount for someone to provide programming and also do fundraising. Frank asked how many employees the Housing Authority had and if they could make cuts there to find the money. Mr. Riggs responded there are 850 employees, but they are down from 1000. Joanne Harvey Dixon said the Housing Authority is the wrong one to attack because it is R&P that’s saying they can’t afford to continue being in the 7 communities and are the ones pulling away. Studek said that Mar Vista Gardens has been carefully developed, then asked how much is R&P saving? Approx. $216K in programming and staffing. Eric asked when the window will close on this decision? Mr. Riggs answered that there were two bids, and a committee of three is reviewing them. On September 20, 2012, the committee will be scoring the bids and then their choice will work its way up to the commissioner about 30 days later. He suggested the DRNC invite the bid winner to a future meeting in order to introduce them to the community. If none is chosen, there will be no further programs.

b. **Review of 3rd Annual Del Rey Cup expenditures and program. Funds previously approved by Board vote on FY 2012-2013 budget.**

Enrique reported that September 29, 2012, will be the 3rd Annual Del Rey Cup, played by 6-8 soccer teams. There will also be a barbeque, which is extended to the resident spectators. They cannot give out trophies, so they hand out t-shirts. There will be a kick-off on September 28, 2012, under the lights. Robert Dunn said this event has gained momentum, and last year 600 people attended it, putting DRNC on the map. Half of the DRNC monies allocated will be for t-shirts, the other half going to food, first aid and school supplies.

c. **Discussion of Del Rey Farmer’s Market outreach strategy. Motion possible.**

Eric asked how the DRNC could improve its outreach at the market itself, suggesting having a table there or banners. The costs would be approximately $250 per pop-up stand, and another $350-375 for the designer. It would be a great opportunity to visually spread the DRNC name at the Farmer’s Market, and would be useable at other events. Shelli said others have this table, and even having it out for a couple hours would be helpful. Renae said someone emailed her about changing the parking in the area. This will be pursued later.

Eric – motion to approve funds up to $1000 to buy two banners, one outdoor tent for farmer’s market.

**Eric/Shelli.**

**Motion carried by acclamation.**

Chelsea McFarland suggested that the table be manned by a different organization each month.

d. **Discussion of Culver Blvd. tree planting project. Motion possible - Tom Kiely – motion to send letter to Mr. Tasada re water**

Tom reported that the old brass valves no longer work. There are portions of bike path that are nice, but others are just dead because of the hot, dry summer. Getting involved would show them at DRNC is awake. When Tom mentioned a lawsuit, Mr. Tasada was very responsive. Elizabeth thinks the pictures should be included with the letter.

**Motion carries by acclamation.**

e. **Discussion of election outreach. Motion possible.**

Mike Stafford reported they are looking into using the library as a polling place but DONE hasn’t yet gotten back to him. Money for polling place: Sunday, 8 hours, est. $500 but to be safe $1000 to open and pay maintenance person costs associated with polling.

**Eric/Dan**

**Acclamation**

$1700 from election funds to have one more walking man before the election

**Eric/Shelli**

**Acclamation**

Suggest the walking man focus on candidates and have the candidates bring their own voters

9. **Officer and Director Reports:**

a. **Treasurer’s Report – Wesley**

   - Motion to approve expenditures and Treasurer’s report

   **Wes/Eric**
Acclamation
b. President’s Report – Eric DeSobe
   Reminder to file for candidacy, Sept. 28 is the deadline. Encourage others. Candidates drive voters.
   Hope to see everyone tomorrow. Ethics training, when taken and passed is good for two years.
c. Remaining Officers and Directors’ Reports
   Tony – Reminder that the Ethics course will be Free at the Neighborhood Congress on 9/22
   Frank – none
   Tom – none
   Enrique – just the Del Rey Cup information he spoke of earlier
   Dan – Is looking into alternative meeting room space
   Zamora – There may be a land use committee meeting re the remodeled building

10. Committee Reports:
   a. Land Use and Planning - TBD
   b. Outreach Committee - TBD
   c. Community Services Committee - TBD
   d. Education Committee - TBD

11. Next meeting – Oct. 11, 2012 – final one of this committee before next board is seated.

12. Meeting Adjourned at 8:55pm

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices or other aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting Mike Stafford at 310-822-7202 or delreycouncilstaff@verizon.net.

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.8, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at www.delreync.org.