Minutes for DRNC Board of Directors and General Meeting
7:15 pm Thursday, March 8, 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 by Chair, Eric DeSobe, at 7:15 p.m.
2. Director’s Roll Call
   Present (9): Eric DeSobe, Brett Flater, Deborah Geller, Tom Kielty, Dan Moreno, Renae Paonessa, Frank Sanford, Mike Stafford, Elizabeth Zamora
   Absent (2): Gerry Crouse, Jonathan Neuman, April De Stefano, Enrique Fernandez, Rolin Moe
3. Government Reports
   1. Council District 11 – Cecilia Castillo
      Most of Westchester, except for the triangle east of the I-405, is back in CD 11. Council Member has recommended that the triangle be added back into Westchester. That change will require some adjustments to the other borders. Passed motion to have green certification program for cultural facilities, called Arts Earth Partnership. Update on Glen Alla Park bathroom construction. Still scheduled for April. Can contact Mike Schull. All of Del Rey is CD11, even the Mesmer Triangle.
   3. Victoria Cross – Scattergood project – Release of draft EIR scheduled for March 19. Open houses are scheduled. Two public meetings are set for April 11 and 12 from 6 – 8:30 p.m. One will be at Corinth Ave. office; the other will be at Westchester. Draft EIR will be available for review at their website and at the local libraries. Will be sending out postcards. Preferred route is tentatively going across Culver and up Centinela to Olympic. Two alternative routes. 45 days to review draft EIR. Comments that are submitted are in final EIR. Final EIR should be released in summer 2012.
      Moreno – Solar incentives? Is DWP considering buying excess power from homeowners?
      Cross – Looking into feed and tariff. Purchasing from solar producers, not necessarily private homes.
      You can bank your own bill if you generate more energy than you use. Takes conversation off line re: Mr. Moreno’s question about bill credits.
4. Pacific Division/Fire department
   Officer Rodriguez – Presents certificate of appreciation for Del Rey NC for their support of holiday toy giveaway.
   Little over 7% crime reduction from this year to last. Captain wants an initial 5% reduction this year.
   Upcoming events – (1) Pacific Division Spring Carnival from March 30 to April 1. Traffic between Inglewood and Centinela is shut down. Outreaching to neighbors in that area by attending Neighborhood Watch meetings. Also posting information at library and on nixle.
   LAPD Pacific Boosters Association Golf Tournament is May 4. All the money collected goes to youth programs in Pacific Division. Update on “Lock It, Hide It, and Keep It” campaign to reduce burglary from motor vehicles. E-mail flyer to anyone interested.
   Moreno – What has happening at Mar Vista Gardens?
   Officer Rodriguez – Barricaded suspect would not leave house. Suspect had mental disorder. Her mother thought she was in house with gun. SWAT came in to get her out. She in fact had a toy gun. She was not hurt and has been put in psychiatric hold.
   Moreno – Could be good to have music with the Del Rey Community Jazz Band at Spring Carnival.
   Officer Rodriguez – Will contact Officer De la Torre who might be able to schedule a performance.
5. Other Dignitaries – Charlotte DeMeo, Del Rey Senior Citizens Support Group
   Senior support group has had one meeting. Twelve people showed up at first meeting. Heard the major concerns: bereavement counseling, missing their family, transportation, getting a simple handyman, and needing to be needed. Talked about things that they would like to see happen. Major concerns were earthquake safety. First thing to do is going out and shopping for earthquake supplies. Marlene Savage has offered her assistance as an Activities Director. Following meeting will be focused on emergency services.
Art Walk is on June 24, Sunday. Adding new artists and music. Three groups, including the Del Rey Jazz Band. Including children’s art. Proceeds of any sales would go towards art programs at participating elementary schools. Will come back to DRNC BOD with expenses for art walk.

4. Public Comment (3 minutes maximum):
   a. Marlene Savage – As representative for Congress of Neighborhood Councils, she will be asking each NC for $1000. Elections will start in August and end in September. Your budget for 2012-13 is $25,000.
   b. Lenore Ritkes – Lives in Villa Marina, member of Villa Marina Council. Good contact with City Councilman and SLO Jacobus. Have established a Neighborhood Watch. Have not had a lot of contact with the DRNC and would like to reach out to them. Would like to get support for beautification projects.
   c. Bev Sue Powers – Having first green vision workshop at Burton Chase Park Community Building. Have initiated talks with Toyota, CalTrans, Ballona Institute, and Council Member Rosendahl’s office to make Ballona Wetland secure. Will distribute the flyer for Chair to disseminate.

5. Summary of Previous Meeting and Approval of Previous Minutes
   Motion to approve minutes carries unanimously.

6. Old Business – none

7. Ex Parte Disclosures
   a. Kielty – Talked to Hector Banuelos and Wendy Averil who said that Council Member Rosendahl is coming to meeting on the 29th. Spoke to Megan Shirer of LA Conservation Corps about trees. Met Dennis Wake and John Ariole on path.
   b. DeSobe – Touched base with Charlotte, who gave public comment, and James Haydu, who is here for Literacy Fair.
   c. Kielty – Met with Elizabeth and Marlene. Working on planning Fiesta Del Rey.
   d. Paonessa –
      2. Cecilia Castillo – She said there is a moratorium on new preferential and overnight parking districts. Anything that was not submitted to the Department of Transpiration before April 2010 cannot be processed. She will let me know when the moratorium is lifted.
      3. Monica Faulkner from Friends of Playa Vista library is on March 30 and 31. Last book sale made $1,037.00.

8. New Business
   A. M/S/P (DeSobe/Flater) Motion to approve Shelli Margolin as DRNC Secretary.
      Ms. Margolin provides brief introduction of her experience in public service.
      Questions from Board Members
      Geller – Are we still going to be paying for note taking? (No.) With only three months left in this term, are you willing to run again? (Margolin - Yes.)
      Flater – Was there anyone else who showed up at the public meetings? (No. We’ve had one informal meeting and one ad hoc committee meeting. There was no other public candidate.)
      AYES (8): Flater, Kielty, Sanford, Zamora, DeSobe, Moreno, Paonessa, Stafford,
      NAYS (0):
      ABSTAINING (1): Geller
      Motion passes 8-0 with 1 abstention.
      Ms. Margolin joins the board.

   B. M/S/P (DeSobe/Moreno) “Motion to approve expenditures for budget line item “Mar Vista Family Center Literacy Fair.”
      Presentation by James Haydu – Del Rey Community Jazz Band will be performing at the event. Mar Vista Family Center. 8th Annual Literacy Fair. We provide 3 hours during the day, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. where they are read to by guest readers. Everybody leaves with a tote bag full of brand new books. DRNC could help pay for the tote bags.
      Points of Clarification
      Sanford – How many children attend? How many children from Mar Vista?
      James Haydu – Anticipating 400 people, there were about 275 kids. Estimates 40-50 percent of children from Mar Vista. A lot of people live on or just off Slauson Ave. His vision for event is to take this and expand into Venice and Hawthorne
Flater – This is in our budget as a line item? (DeSobe – Yes. Motion is for transparency.)
Geller – In budget as 2000, request is 1200. Amendment necessary?
Flater – There will be a balance in the line item that will be swept back to general funds

Speaking in Favor


AYES (9): DeSobe, Flater, Geller, Kielty, Moreno, Paonessa, Sanford, Stafford, Zamora
NAYS (0):
ABSTAINING (1): Margolin
Motion passes 9-0 with 1 abstention.

C. M/S/P (DeSobe/Moreno) “Motion to approve purchasing up to $800 in planting supplies to continue landscaping improvements to Culver Blvd. walking path contingent upon approval of Urban Forestry Department.” (submitted by Eric DeSobe; approved by Outreach Committee)

Presentation by Kielty – Spoke to someone from Urban Forestry Division who said he would bring mulch. Not sure that it will arrive. If it does, expenses will reduce by $800. Will have a planting day from 1 to 4 p.m. Need wheelbarrows. Ron Lee from Bureau of Street Services who has offered to give us new trash bins for walking path.

Point of Clarification
Paonessa – Not sure why we’re putting plants there when there are already plants. Why are we paying for mulch when it is freely available?
Kielty – Sometimes free mulch orders don’t come.

Speaking in Favor
Zamora – City of LA portion of bike path is neglected. This material will go far considering number of volunteer hours put towards improving that portion.

AYES (9): DeSobe, Flater, Geller, Kielty, Margolin, Moreno, Sanford, Stafford, Zamora
NAYS (1): Paonessa,
ABSTAINING (0):
Motion passes 9-1 with 0 abstentions.

D. M/S/P (Sanford/Paonessa) “Motion to allocate up to $2,000 to serve as a co-sponsor for the Del Rey Resident’s Association “Fiesta Del Rey” Festival in May 2013.”

Presentation by Elizabeth Pollock – After speaking with DONE rep., Pollock learned there MOU between DONE and LAUSD. Make a request to school district to lease the particular school for the day, it can be done and paid for by the NC. Removing $250 from original application.
$550 for stamps
$1450 - Fiesta la Colmena– providing 9’ x 16’ portable stage, 3 piñatas, and 20 pop-up tents
Total of $2,000
*Precise amounts of expenses will depend on costs in spring of 2013. Would have event in April 2013. Cannot call it a co-sponsorship with the DRNC because it’s a fundraiser. We can put your logo on advertising placards and provide a booth for the NC. If motion is phrased so that it says they’re allocating money now and we want it to be spent in next year’s budget with the following itemized list, then DONE will approve it.

Points of Clarification
Flater - Who did you speak to at DONE? (Pollock – Tanita.)
Moreno – Would we have front and center logo? (Pollock – Cannot say definitively.)

Amendment by DeSobe. Seconded by Moreno.
Strike “to serve as a co-sponsor” from motion as written.

DeSobe withdraws amendment and offers new one. Sanford seconds.

“Motion to allocate up to $2,000 for the Del Rey Resident’s Association “Fiesta Del Rey” Festival in April of May 2013.”

AYES (9): Flater, Kielty, Sanford, Zamora, DeSobe, Margolin, Moreno, Paonessa, Stafford
NAYS (0):
ABSTAINING (1): Geller

Vote on amendment passes 9-0 with 1 abstention.

Speaking in Favor
Kielty – Good event. The expense balanced out with with the sweat equity we’re getting.
Speaking in Opposition
Geller – Irresponsible to vote for an event when we will not be in the board. They can come back after elections to see if new board can support it. No way to guarantee that budget is accurate or that the event will happen. Tying up money this way is a violation of our fiduciary responsibility.

Flater – From a logistical standpoint, they are going to be locked into those items. Doing it in the next year will give the planning organization more flexibility. Would be in favor of putting it as a line item for the next fiscal year.

VOTE ON MOTION AS AMENDED:
AYES (5): Kielty, Paonessa, Sanford, Stafford, Zamora
NAYS (4): DeSobe, Flater, Geller, Margolin
ABSTAINING (1): Moreno
Motion passes 5-4 with 1 abstention.

E. M/S/P (Moreno/Stafford) “Motion to approve up to $300 to promote and secure location for Del Rey Visioning Project on Saturday, April 28th.”

Presentation by Pollock – Ad hoc committee of people from Del Rey, Mar Vista, and Palms working on scheduling a visioning session. MDR Middle School agreed to let them use their library. Session will be only 2 to 2.5 hours long. They have written questions and then they have small group discussions. Part of $300 will go for flyers.

Points of Clarification
Geller – What are Mar Vista and Palms contributing? (Pollock – time, meeting space, experience)
Margolin – Does the City Council adopt the visions? Is there any evidence that Planning takes the ideas into account? Is there any representation to the people involved that the city will accept their ideas?
Pollock - Getting grass root ideas in lieu of community plan approval. Reports can be submitted to Planning when they are looking at community plan. Re second question, goal of sessions is more to inspire Del Rey residents to get involved. Re third question, the answer is no.

Speaking in Favor
Stafford - Money well spent. Getting good ideas written down and on the record.
Flater – What line item is the budget coming from?
DeSobe – Possible to move money from line item for Del Rey Day
Flater – in our motions, I would ask that we are clear where the money’s coming from

DeSobe proposes amendment. Stafford seconds.

After “April 28” in motion, add language “with funds reallocated from Del Rey Day line item.”

Points of Clarification
Stafford – We should approve this so the plan can go forward
Flater speaks in favor.

Speaking in Opposition
Geller – We committed to do a Del Rey Day event in the spring. Should not take from that line item.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT:
AYES (9): DeSobe, Kielty, Moreno, Paonessa, Sanford, Stafford, Zamora
NAYS (0): Flater, Geller
ABSTAINING (1): Margolin
Amendment passes 9-0 with 1 abstention.

Speaking in Opposition
Flater - We’re going to have $800 remaining from Literacy Fair. Would rather pull from Literacy Fair.
Margolin – Concerns having a visioning session not led by the city. Planning Dept. is not going to put input from these sessions in reports to the City Council. Visioning programs are meant for General Plan updates.

VOTE ON MOTION AS AMENDED:
AYES (6): DeSobe, Kielty, Moreno, Paonessa, Sanford, Stafford
NAYS (3): Geller, Margolin, Zamora
ABSTAINING (1): Flater
Motion passes 6-3 with 1 abstention.

F. (From WRAC): M/S/P (DeSobe/Flater) “DRNC hereby approves an extension of the current Memorandum of Understanding with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power for a minimum term of two years and a maximum term of five years, which term shall be determined by a resolution of the Board of Water and Power Commissioners that concurs with the extension of this agreement.”

Stafford – City does not have time or resources to draw up new MOU. Current MOU seems to work.
G. (From WRAC):

M/S/ (DeSobe/Flater) DRNC hereby approves election task force motions.

1. Election Task Force recommends that Neighborhood Councils will run their own elections or selections at such time, place, and manner of their choice with assistance of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Department) as it is capable.
2. Election Task Force encourages Neighborhood Councils to run election cooperatively and, if desired, to conduct regional elections with the assistance of the Department.
3. Regions are to be established by Neighborhood Councils and their regional alliances.
4. Neighborhood Council elections or selections should be monitored or overseen by a trained, independent third party.
5. Election Task Force requests the City Council to allocate in the FY 2012-13 budget the amount of $650,000 to the Department for additional staffing and resources for the Neighborhood Council election process.
6. Election Task Force requests that the City Council expedite the process for contracting Independent Election Administrator and staffing associated with the Neighborhood Council elections which should not exceed 60 days.
7. Election Task Force recommends to Neighborhood Councils the inclusion of independent poll watchers as part of their elections.
8. Election challenges must be heard and decided by arbiters hired and paid for by the Department.

Chair asks Board to ask for clarification on each bullet one at a time.

Flater – Parliamentarian Moe is not present. Not sure whether voting on each bullet of the motion individually is in accordance with Robert’s Rules of Order.

M/S/P “Motion to suspend rules to enable general discussion before voting on WRAC motion.”
Rules are suspended with a unanimous voice vote.

“Motion to unsuspend rules.” Passes by unanimous voice vote.

DeSobe suggests amendment. Kiethyl seconds.

DRNC hereby approves election task force motion:

1. Election Task Force recommends that Neighborhood Councils will run their own elections or selections at such time, place, and manner of their choice with assistance of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Department) as it is capable.
2. Election challenges must be heard and decided by arbiters hired and paid for by the Department.

AYES (3): DeSobe, Geller, Stafford,
NAYS (4): Flater, Kietyl, Moreno, Zamora,
ABSTAINING (3): Margolin, Paoneuxa Sanford
Amendment fails 3-4 with 3 abstentions.
Flater objects to calling the question. Council can be missing the opportunity to have a voice in elections. We can table the entire motion or make our own.

M/S/P (Stafford/Flater) “Motion to table.”
AYES (8): DeSobe, Flater, Kielty, Margolin, Moreno, Paonessa, Sanford, Stafford
NAYS (2): Geller, Zamora
ABSTAINING (0):
Motion passes 8-2 with 0 abstentions.

9. Officer and Director Reports:
   a. Treasurer’s Report – Brett Flater
      Flater- Need to reallocate and have a budget and finance committee. Should we do it at the board meeting or at the budget committee meeting? Concern is that there will not be enough board members attending the budget committee meeting. Money remains for monthly expenses.
      Board members agree to have budget discussion at the next board meeting.

      Monthly expenses and remaining budget:
      bulletin board: 329.94  SSG Sport Supply Group
      copying expenses 37.35  Fedex
      meeting space 150  Courtyard by Marriott
      total remaining budget - $7,695.31

      M/S/P “Motion to approve expenditures and Treasurer’s report.”
      Points of Clarification
      Geller – Deadlines for spending? (P-card – June 15. Demand warrant - May 16.)
      Motion passes unanimously.
   b. President’s Report – Eric DeSobe – Hopes to see everyone on Saturday from 1 to 4 on the Culver Walking Path. Next BOD meeting is April 12.
   c. Remaining Officers and Directors’ Reports
      1. Moreno – Confirms that opening day is on schedule. Board members still have not received business cards or name tags.
      2. Geller – Spectrum is opening on March 26. Would like some of the posters created by Danny Meyer. BOD should begin outreach about elections. (Flater – We can encumber funds for this.)
      Asks whether there are term limits in place for NC members.

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

11. Next meeting – April 12, 2012
12. Motion to Adjourn (By 9:15pm). 9:10 p.m.
M/S/P (Flater/Moreno) “Motion to adjourn.”