

## **NORTH RICHMOND MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Tuesday, January 7, 2020

515 Silver Avenue - North Richmond, CA 94801

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

### **Minutes**

#### **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. Board members present were: Don Gilmore, Lily Rahnema, Karen Garcia, Beverly Scott, and Dr. Henry Clark. Annie King-Meredith absent.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

The agenda and minutes were reviewed and approved by the board members.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Cynthia Jordan/Concerned Citizen: Requesting that the city be more helpful and mindful in providing information about projects that the city work on in the area. In particular, the big renovation of the building at Shields and Reid Park, and the renovation of the parks' ball fields. She states that there were two major renovation projects that occurred at the park.

The NRMAC was not informed about neither one of the projects. It is to her understanding that the city made presentations to the Shield's and Reid Neighborhood Council, in detail about the two projects. They did not present to the NRMAC on either project. Cynthia is asking that the city start informing the NRMAC about projects that take place under their direction, in the community.

Eleanor Thompson, Director/Social Inc. Incorporated: Eleanor says that this year, will be the 10th annual July 4th, parade and picnic. She really needs the support of the community. This year makes a decade, and preparations are being made to make this year greater and bigger than the past years.

Robin Bryant, Resident/Citizen at Senior Center: Robin expresses the need for proper notification of community events. At the building, there are no post on the bulletin board pertaining to community events, in the lobby of the building.

Dr. Henry Clark says the Green Newsletter goes out to the neighborhood, informing residents of community events. Janie Holland says that she will make it her business, to get that information posted at the senior citizen complex.

Cynthia says the NRMAC bylaws say the meeting should be posted at this center and in the community, 72 hours in advance.

**NRMAC MINUTES/JANUARY 7, 2020**

**(2)**

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY REPORTS**

Lt. Buford, Deputy Culberson and Deputy Kyle Williams/CCC Sheriff's Department:

Reporting for the month of December 2019. Crime rates in the community are steadily dropping. There were five select crimes.

Residents ask about homeless issues; deputy says that it is handled collaboratively by several agencies.

The homicide of Jamarrea Frazier, that occurred in front of the Rancho Market is still under investigation, no arrests have been made yet.

Officer Abernethy/CHP: Reporting for the month of December 2019. Crime is on a down incline, in the community. Officer says that he is happy to look into any issue, that people are concerned about. Speeding down Chesley is being prioritized.

Mr. Mark Howe says there have been sideshows in the neighborhood. The side shows are taking place on Market Street, near Annie's Annuals a business that the Howe family has owned and operated for years.

RPD was not in attendance this evening.

## **PRESENTATIONS and Proclamations**

Miguel Molina/Richmond Promise: Miguel present information on the program, and its accessibility to the youths of NR. The program was launched in 2016. Students are encouraged to apply for the Richmond Promise Scholarship. Applicants could receive \$1,500 each year, plus a mentor, for up to six years, and extra college support.

One thousand students have engaged in the program. The first graduating class will be this spring.

Qualifications: Richmond or North Richmond resident. No GPA or income requirements. All are eligible. If you are graduating from a public, private, or charter school within the WCCUSD boundaries. The student must have attended school within the WCCUSD boundaries since the 9th grade? Students must attend a Summer Transitioning Program. Student must be enrolled in 12 units. The FAFSA/CA Dream Act Application must be completed by March 2nd.

Miguel says that every year we are missing about 200 students who could be eligible for the scholarship. For lack of information, less qualified students are applying. More outreach is being done, to inform students about this great opportunity.

**NRMAC MINUTES/JANUARY 7, 2020**

**(3)**

## **PRESENTATIONS and Proclamations Continued**

Lily Rahnema notes that the program was started with \$35 million from Chevron.

There are also other scholarship programs that Chevron fund. Additional resources, such as two additional scholarships are available for residents on top of the Promise Scholarships.

Dr. Clark wants to know how many students from NR have been awarded money. Miguel says he will get data and give to Robert.

Mark Howe says the program is great, but \$1,500 per student is a small amount. Have RP thought about giving each student more funding to have more impact? Lily says that the additional funding from Chevron enhances sustainability.

Miguel says we do a lot of outreach at Kennedy High and De Anza High School due to high need there. There are 16 school sites at which RP provide on campus outreach.

Cynthia asks about the graduation ceremony. Miguel says it is for scholarship recipients, and the first graduating class from 2016 is now finishing. Cynthia also asks about the possibility of a RP student, that is a North Richmond resident, filling out the vacant NRMAC youth seat. Robert will provide info to Miguel to be able to share.

## **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSIN AND/OR ACTION**

Discuss/Recommendation - Application for equipment parking for excavation business at 2703 Goodrick Ave. #DP1903018-- (no show)

## **OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAM REPORTS**

Robert Rogers, District Coordinator/Supervisor John Gioia's Office: Robert reports on the Verde School Xmas Fundraiser was a huge success, for the students. Lots of support was received. Joseph Pulido Jr. was one of the biggest individual donors. Chevron and Lumber Baron were the biggest corporate donors. Thanks to all for supporting the children of North Richmond. Joe also donated to Merrill Pierce 5th grade class, toward their annual snow field trip. This trip gives students a chance to explore and learn the environment of the snow country.

Las Deltas demolition began today, mainly at 1st. and Ruby Streets. Two buildings came down. The process is a slow and orderly, and safe process. The child care facility will eventually be torn down; the center will be relocated.

**NRMAC MINUTES/JANUARY 7, 2020**

**(4)**

## **OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAM REPORTS CONTINUED**

Shield's and Reid renovation is near completion, a huge benefit to the community. The city has put over one million dollars into the renovation of the building. The building looks fantastic on the inside. New additions were developed within the building, upgraded kitchen, new appliances, etc.

Cynthia says that she does not get a chance to go by the park often. She asks if any upgrade or upkeep was done to the sky-light on the building of the park. She states that it is dirty and missing glass panes. Goes further to say, if work was overlooked on the sky-light, then the park is getting a neglected make-over. Which is typically of the way NR is treated, when it comes to allocating funding, and improper work is performed in the community.

The death of Jamarrea Frazier goes unsolved, and is a terrible tragedy to his family, class mates and the NR community.

Dr. Clark asks about Mitigation Funds and Veolia funding for NR. Robert says: Mitigation Fund meeting was great and funding was steady for various nonprofits. Lilly says that local organizations were funded. Social Progress Inc., Men and Women of Valor and Love Your Block were funded. Info on Mitigation Funding Meeting: The program did add a third meeting for this year. They are talking about starting a task force to figure out how to get money into the community

Veolia money is supposed to be coming, and we must reach out to LaShanda White, and the City of Richmond again for status of the program. Robert thanks Dr. Clark for leading on this. Cynthia presents update on the last report from LaShanda. In April of 2018, she reported that the funding has sat for a few years. Continues to collect the money annually as part of the conditional use permit. Twenty-five thousand per year for programs and projects in the Iron Triangle and North Richmond. Has about \$155,000 available. Funding decisions were to be made available by January 2019. Need five panel members for the funding to be disbursed into the community, required via the permit. One member from the Iron Triangle, one NR, one West County Toxics, and two from the business community. Need members on the panel to award the grant.

Dr. Clark says the city should be giving a report on the renovation projects at Shields and Reid. Robert says he will get the city to come to the next NRMAC meeting.

Don Gilmore, Director/CHDC: Don reports that Heritage Point is halfway full with occupants. Will have 100% by February. The grand opening should be in February. Everyone at CHDC is really excited. Need to raise more money for the store part, probably a couple hundred thousand more dollars. Pertaining to the store, CHDC is reaching out to vendors.

**NRMAC MINUTES/JANUARY 7, 2020**

(5)

## **OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAM REPORTS CONTINUED**

There's is an underdeveloped room at the Heritage Point Complex. Looking to set up a resource center. Want to bring in training, making it a hub for training, focusing on computer skills to write resumes, job resource and social service resources, etc. CHDC continues to work with the community, to make a vision that can influence an RFP. In the process of scheduling another town hall meeting on the Las Deltas property.

Eleanor Thompson wants to get more information about proposals, applications and opportunities for housing sites and properties. Cynthia said only four families from Las Deltas applied for Heritage Point. She asks what heritage Point is doing to pay respect to community heritage, other than adding Jesse Slocums' name on building. What about memorial bricks being added to the walkways/ landscape, with NR family names, (past and present) on them, what about the museum, etc.?

Don says we had a special task force with Annie and Henry to champion that museum idea, and we may need to reengage that. Cynthia is concerned that we are talking a lot, but not seeing enough action.

Sidney Magana, Community Service Coordinator/CHDC-Mitigation Fee Funded:

She reports that the NR newsletter is recently finished. She distributed them to the audience. Workers were out during the holiday, and trash did pile up in the community. They are moving fast now, to get illegal dumping issues resolved. Please report any illegal dumping issues that you may see in the community. Karen says that someone dumped a washer and dryer on the Parkway. Sidney says that she goes out twice a week, to check on illegal dumping.

Robin Briyant/Senior Citizen Building Resident: Complains about outreach. Sidney is working on education and outreach. Robert notes that mitigation fund is a resource that helps with the availability of trash vouchers, dumping pickups, etc.

Sidney is leaving at the end of the month, and we need to fill that position with a great person. Very important position in the community. CHDC will be listing the job announcement Monday, on the web site: INDEED.com.

De Andre Evans, Director/Urban Tilth Farm: De Andre says every 4th Saturday is volunteer day at the garden. Martin Lutheran King event is upcoming. Celebrations will be held at the farm and also at the Richmond Greenway.

**NRMAC MINUTES/JANUARY 7, 2020**

(6)

**OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAM REPORTS CONTINUED**

Carlos Lemus/Healthy Richmond: Thinking about the next chapter of the resident leadership team following the Quality of Life Report last year. Priorities were established for the community. Business, housing, youth community center and community safety.

Listening sessions about a youth center is important, and upcoming. Will be reaching out. Is it possible to have a youth center, what would it look like, etc.? Housing toward ownership, working with Richmond Neighborhood Housing. Business, will be working with Co-op Richmond. Community safety, working with Urban Habitat out of Oakland.

\*Warehouses to be located in North Richmond between Verde and Urban Tilth Garden are an issue. Center Point is the company that presented to the NRMAC about this project in April 2018. At that time the NRMAC had a 5-0 vote in favor of the warehouse. Dr. Clark asks that they come back to us when they know what the warehouses will be used for. Karen asks to bring them back also.

\*Don asks for more communication from Healthy Richmond, about activities so we can work together more effectively. Don also ask about the status of these projects that are at work, CenterPoint, warehouse, etc.

Dr. Clark asks who is doing cannabis at 801 Chesley. Mr. Howe says that it went to the Board of Supervisors, to apply for land use permit, to use that there, and that Howe he owns the property. Robert says we are early in the process, but if they want to move forward, they will come to the NRMAC and present. Mr. How says at Rotary meeting-upcoming, Power Plant park people will make a presentation.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Lily says there is a training program for industrial work at Chevron open to all. January 13th and 14th. She will send further information to Robert.

Mr. Howe announces at Richmond Country Club; a major job fare event will take place at noon.

DeAndre announces a job opening at the Urban Tilth Garden for Campaign Manager.

Meeting adjourned at 7:09

**Next Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 4, 2020**  
**5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**  
**515 Silver Avenue - Richmond, CA 94801**