

NORTH RICHMOND MUNICIPAL ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, September 1, 2020
515 Silver Street, North Richmond, CA 94801

Minutes

**Remote Meeting/Due to COVID-19/Meeting was accessible via Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. Board members present were: Dr. Henry Clark, Don Gilmore, Annie King- Meredith, and Lilly Rahnema. Absent were Beverly Scott and Karen Garcia.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

The agenda and minutes were reviewed. Dr. Clark moves to approve minutes and agenda, Annie second, all in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sherry Stanley, Board of Directors/West County Waste Water District: Sherry is seeking a letter of recommendation/endorsement from the NRMAC. She is campaigning for reelection to the board of directors voting Ward #2, which includes North Richmond.

Sherry reviewed the more recent projects taken on by the district. Sewer pipe replacement, carbon footprint reduction and pandemic protection. Still working on the levee project. Wanted to build a levee to protect the community from flooding and sea level rising. A living levee and natural habitat are being proposed, a walkway and a science learning center. Wants to bring Chevron in to contribute to the levee project.

The NRMAC board members, opens up for discussion. Don says that we could give individual endorsements. Dr. Clark says we can't do it openly like that. It's not proper for NRMAC members to endorse individually. Furthermore the NRMAC should hear from each candidate that's seeking that position, to present themselves to the NRMAC.

Decision was made to table the entire issue, in order to give each candidate an opportunity to make a presentation to the NRMAC.

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PUBLIC COMMENT CONTINUED

Josh Bradt/Specialist & Project Manager/San Francisco Estuary Partnership: Reporting on the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, (SFEP) involvement in the Horizontal levee and shoreline public access project in NR. They are helping to facilitate and support

this effort and move it towards implementation. They are also working alongside local partner the Watershed Project to move some other key adaptation and green infrastructure ideas forward in and around the project area. Horizontal levees can provide both sea level rise protection as well as greater shoreline access for the public. The horizontal levee could minimize flooding in NR, protect critical infrastructure and enable marsh growth in an ecologically rich part of the bay.

Dr. Clark asks if there is a representative from the EBRPD involved in the project. Josh says that WCWWD received the grant. So far EBRPD has not become involved. The S. F. Restoration Authority has become involved.

OTHER AGENCY PROGRAM/REPORTS

Robert Rogers, District Coordinator/Supervisor John Gioia's Office: Robert says that the COVID-19 numbers are steady and decreasing. Daily briefings are held with CCC doctors. Helpful message is to continue with the reopening phase. Remain vigilant, wear your masks, and constantly wash your hands, and distance (6 ft). May we continue to reduce the spread of the virus.

There have been complaints about an abandoned boat on Fred Jackson Way. If any one has complaints, feel free to call Robert or Alesia Orozco, Community Coordinator.

Dr. Clark asks: has the abandoned camper on Vernon Street been removed. He also asks about the strip of property that runs between the Parkway and Battery Street. There is a field that is overgrown with weeds and blackberry bushes. The bushes are forcing the fence to fall. This was discussed at last month's meeting. Questions as to who owns the property. The problems on that property are being solved one step at a time.

Last month an announcement was made about the COVID-19 Testing site in NR. Some corrections are to be made about the announcement. The site is located in the SIT parking lot, not the Center for Health. Entrance is accessible thru the 2nd Street parking lot entrance. Testing will be conducted on Tuesday and Friday, 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M., no appointment needed.

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OTHER AGENCY PROGRAM REPORTS CONTINUED

Karla Silva, Health Promoters Project Specialist/LifeLong Medical Care: Carla announces that training is available for Leaders in the Community. This is an eight week long program. To take place in mid October. Due to COVID-19 the training will be virtual. Focusing on leaders in the community. Ensuring that community leaders have the proper tools to work with.

Annie shows concern that the NRMAC logo is not represented on the NRMAC website. Presently there is a logo of a mural, a picture taken from the side of the old Neighborhood House building on Chesley Ave. Robert says that he will remove the logo and install the NRMAC logo. Cynthia says, upon looking at the NRMAC logo, in

her opinion it does not reflect NR. She says it looks like a picture of a Metropolis City. She feels like one should be able to look at the logo and identify something pertaining to NR. Such as the creeks, wildlife, or the newer additions that's been added to the community. The bottom of the logo says MAC and she thinks it should say NRMAC.

Carlos Lemus, Project Manager/Healthy Richmond: Healthy Richmond is in the process of finalizing the Google Forum, to be held in three sessions in October. Workshops will be conducted in English and in Spanish. The forum is scheduled for October 2020. For more information on the forum, contact Carlos at carlos@rysecenter.org or (510) 932-6489.

Conversations are ongoing with the Housing authority of CCC. Announcing COVID-19 testing in N R and the Richmond Civic Center.

Don asks does Life Long have an office in N.R. No the office is located on Harbor Way in Richmond. Henry asks where is Healthy Richmond located. Answer across from Kaisers in Richmond.

Don Gilmore, Director/CHDC: Don reports on the Heritage Point Site. They are securing funds from the County. To start the process \$400,000 has been secured. One point five million is needed for the store.

In the process of preparing an updated Memorandum of Understanding/MOU. All progress in the present memorandum was accomplished. All CBO's are invited to be involved with the planning of the new MOU.

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OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAM REPORTS CONTINUED

Alisa Orozco, Community Service Director, CHDC, Mitigation Fee Funded: Alisa continues to work on the illegal dumping issue. Some major clean ups were accomplished recently. There was a decrease in illegal dumping in the community. The property between the Richmond Parkway and Battery Street, is being taken care of. Vegetation has been knocked down. Fabricating of the fence will take time. Presently they are working on the fence. There was an illegal dumping incident on 6th Street. Illegal dumping activities have been reported at Giant Road and Parr Blvd. Question is that area public or private property. Garbage was dumped in the area of 7th Street, heading toward Central Richmond .

Henry asks about the abandoned van on Vernon Street. Has it been removed. There will follow up on that. Pam Bilbo, director Men and Women of Valor, states that her staff has been keeping the area on Kelsey Street cleaned.

PRESENTATIONS

Charles Thomas, Battalion Chief/CCC Fire District: Chief Thomas starts his presentation by honoring the two fallen firefighters that died recently fighting

wildfires. Firefighters Scott and Matt. Numerous grass and vegetation fires were caused by fireworks on the 4th of July. Extra staff was brought on board, July 3rd thru the 5th.

In participation of a high volume firework activities. During that weekend: 93 fires, 63 grass and structure fires. The fire season started with an 400% uproar of fires.

A crew of twelve firefighters have been established as a fire prevention crew in East County. Specializing in fire prevention and control, they respond to wildfires and they also do weed abatement. The department has created a Wildfire Preparation web page. COVID-19 symptoms have increased within the fire dept. Workers are continuously tested for the virus. Helicopter rescue has increased, Con Air One and Con Air Two are in operation. They are capable of aerial fire fighting, air ambulance. As we all know CA is experiencing and battling wildfires all throughout the entire state.

A firefighter graduating academy ceremony of new recruits was held on July 17th. A graduating class of (55) new firefighters.

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PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED

Paula White, Project Coordinator/CCC Watershed Project: Paula announces the Coastal Cleanup Days. Due to COVID-19, cleanup day will be different than previous years. The clean up will spread out coastal. Instead of cleaning on only one day, we invite you to participate on any day of the month, but especially on one or more of the four Saturdays in September: 5, 12, 19, 26. Working in small groups, such as individual families. Start with your own backyard, city streets. Mostly focus on small pieces of litter. All litter filters down to the bay. Cleanup kits will be available, consisting of facial masks, gloves, and trash bags. The supply kits will be delivered to people who register. There will be a few contests, like most unusual items. Documentation of what trash items are related to COVID-19, such as gloves, masks, etc. How has COVID-19 impacted trash in your area.

A social media campaign is underway. The film: The Story of Plastic, will be aired on September 13th.

Contact Paula for more information. paula@thewatershedproject.org

Jake Hamilton, Agent for Crown Castle, Infra Structure for Sprint and Verizon: Wireless Land Use Permit-Renewal-880455 N. Richmond: The applicant and tower owner, Crown Castle, requests the renewal of a Land Use Permit for an existing wireless facility located at 385 Pittsburg Ave, Richmond, CA.

The tower was constructed in 2000, and CCC Planning Department approved the project as constructed and implemented CUP conditions to ensure that it was completed using the least intrusive means necessary. The applicant proposes no changes or modifications to the tower at this time.

This is the second time that this presentation has come before the NRMAC. The NRMAC votes to oppose this land use permit renewal, with stipulation that applicants provide some offer for financial public benefits to the community. The vote was 4-0 by NRMAC board members: Don Gilmore, Dr. Clark, Annie King Meredith, and Lily Rahnema.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p. m.

Next Meeting--October 6, 2020, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., 515 Silver Ave, Richmond, CA 94801