

MAXWELL PARK NC – Meeting on Wednesday, Jun 8th, 2005

Held at Mills College, Lucie Stern Hall, Room 107

Minutes

Present: Jose Dorado (Chair), Robert McGillis (Vice Chair), Jan Hetherington (Secretary), Jeremy Gluskin (Treasurer), Helen da Silva, Joe Davis, Joel Davel, Krista Gulbransen, Matt Leonard, Montia Chiles, Nommi Alouf, Rachel Geller, Sarah Hipolito, Jean Quan, Sgts Williams, O'Rourke, Beat Health Officer Hubbard, Officers Patterson, Buchell (apologies for any misspellings)

Guests: (Unplanned) **Oakland Deputy Police Chief Michael Holland**

Board Absent: None

- **Jose Dorado (Chair)** welcomed us to the meeting & brief intros all around.
- Minutes for May were approved
- **N.A.T. (Neighborhood Action Team) REPORTS (See end)**

Sarah Hipolito wrote an article that appeared in Jun Metro about the community WALKS. Also, please contact chair people for more information about specific groups.

NAT1 – Traffic – Jim Gilsenan

NAT2 – Drugs/Crime - Susan Scolnick

NAT3 – B ‘n’ B - Nommi Alouf

NAT4 – Community Outreach - Helen da Silva

NAT5 – Education – Lisa Cartolano

NAT6 – Arts & Culture – Pat Patterson

- **COMMITTEES**

CORE/MPERT – Joe Davis reported. A meeting was held on May 19th. Historical perspective was given, and appreciation for the work of Lucas Daumont who was instrumental in getting people engaged in CORE. Next meeting will be announced.

WALKS – No further report – Thursday & Saturday WALKs are happening.

GUEST SPEAKER -- Oakland Deputy Police Chief Michael Holland

(Note: we were not expecting the Deputy Chief – otherwise notification to the neighborhood would definitely have been made). However, the presentation he made came about as a result of the MPNC Board meeting regularly with the DC as a continuation of our meetings with former COP Word).

DC Holland demonstrated a new system being developed to assist in not only inputting data from property crimes, but being able to track & filter more easily. It is hoped & expected that volunteers from neighborhood groups will be used to input this data. MPNC will be initial group used. We hope to have more information soon on when & how we can contribute to this gathering of data.

- **COUNCIL MEMBERS/COUNTY SUPERVISOR**

Jean Quan's Office – Jean Quan present

1. This year's "Community Summit" was very successful, with 430 attendees

2. Prostitution in Oakland – Billboard strategy – “john’s” photos will be posted; Younger & younger girls getting pulled in – minors being exploited; City looking to bring more serious charges against pimps - minors being exploited; City looking to bring more serious charges against pimps; As heat is put on, kids may move to other n’hoods.
3. Abstention vote by Ms Quan to Mayor’s proposal to charge Sideshow spectators has sent it back to committee. She felt that more work needs to be done in formulating this legislation.
4. Budget Summaries handed out. \$21m in cuts – looking at eliminating City Jail & Park Rangers
5. Sunday Jul 10th, party on MacArthur to celebrate the Laurel improvements. MPNC can have a table there
6. Club Nayarit in Beat 27X being taken to a hearing. Letters of support to the community are needed. Jose will draft something.

Desley Brooks’ Office – No representative.

Supvr Nate Miley’s Office – No representative – Darryl Stewart sent his apologies & he’ll see us next month.

- **COMMUNITY POLICING – Araina Richards, NSC**

1. Reiterating that this year’s Summit was successful. Staff wonder if a different month might be preferable.
2. Fireworks – Illegal in Oakland. Penalties up to \$1,000 fine.
** CALL 238-2373 if you hear fireworks. Police will monitor, plot locations. Teams will be out on Jul 4th.
3. Officer Brian Hubbard from ‘Beat Health’ talked about his job, which is basically to go after the owners of properties where drugs are being dealt. Often it’s absentee landlords. 3400 High is problematic. Concern about B&G Club’s surroundings.
4. Officer Patterson reminded us to CLOSE OUR WINDOWS & DOORS when we go out!!!!
5. Sgt. Don Williams told us that victims of the recent crimes may be able to get restitution from parents of teen perpetrators. Letters should go to probation officer.

Hotspots
No new info

- **OLD Business**

The new revised Bylaws will be emailed out and voted on at the next meeting. We will also accept nominations for Minutes Secretary, Membership Secretary (current position being split into 2), & Chair – voting to be done in August.

Other Business

1. The Daffodil project – sponsored last Fall by Keep Oakland Beautiful (KOB) invites community members to participate in planning meetings for this Fall’s planting project (contact Jan)
2. Jose would like to invite Raul Godinez (PWA director) & Claudia Albano (supervisor of NSCs & Home Alert supervisors) to be guest speakers.
3. Modesto House liens (small claims). House being sold – liens should be paid. (Historical HotSpot)
4. On June 30th there will be a presentation of a new project at 35th/MacArthur. Robert McGillis (Vice Chair) is an architect on this project
5. Krista looking for volunteers to help distribute the MacArthur Metro on YOUR block. Contact her at krista_gulbransen@yahoo.com

Next Meeting - Wed, Jul 13th, 2005, at MILLS COLLEGE, 7 – 8:30pm

- **Jan Hetherington, Secretary**
- 510-534-4978 : jan@moves-to-improve.com

CONTACT INFO

<http://www.maxwellparknc.com>

Jose Dorado	Chair	chair@...
Robert McGillis	Vice Chair	vicechair@...
Jan Hetherington	Secretary	secretary@...
Jeremy Gluskin	Treasurer	treasurer@...
Sarah Hipolito	NAT coordinator	natcoordinattor@...

Nommi Alouf
Helen da Silva
Susan Scolnick
Jim Gilsenan
Lisa Cartolano

B 'n' B NAT
Community NAT
Crime NAT
Traffic NAT
Education NAT

bnbnat@...
communitynat@...
crimenat@...
trafficnat@...
mpncpc_ednat@yahoo.com

Araina Richards

NSC – Beat 28X

nsc@....

Each person can be contacted via their 'maxwellparknc.com' email address

To join yahoo email group - <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MPNCPC/>

NAT REPORTS

TRAFFIC – NAT report

Location: Boys & Girls Club, Oakland, May 25th
Moderator: Jim Gilsenan, TrafficNAT@yahoo.com

AGENDA: Map Project status update and initial discussion on TrafficNAT Leadership

Map Project / Traffic Calming Update

Jean Quan's office approved flyer with map (for residents to ID problem areas)
Flyer to be distributed via 1) NCPC meetings 2) Door to Door

- Two ways to respond
 - In person at NCPC mtg
 - By mail to address on flyer (c/o Jean Quan's office)

Next Steps

- Heather to speak w/ Claudia about inviting Traffic Engineer to upcoming meeting
- Open assignment: Contact Desley Brooks to request advice and financial assistance (e.g., info on Pierson planter arrangement)
- Estimate 6-8 weeks to distribute/collect all flyers and begin data compilation
- TrafficNAT to work with Jean Quan's office and Traffic Engineers to develop solutions

Traffic Calming Suggestions

- Y-Shaped reflective device, with raised dots, on Carson (off east-bound High Street toward Hwy 13)
 - Possible option for areas with grade/incline
- Automated Speed Monitoring
 - Device to capture offenders' license plates
 - Per Adelle, City Hall backed down on program 6-7 years ago due to civil liberties / privacy issues
 - Program would have been monitored by Engineers (vs. using OPD resources)

Problem Multi-Street Intersection (Kingsland/Rawson/Fleming)

- Laurie on Fleming documenting Stop-Sign runners after her cat was killed by a motorist at the intersection (sending incidents to Lt. Gibson)
 - Reports that a car crashed onto her neighbor's property, nearly missing a young boy

Next Steps

- Compile documentation/petition and submit to Claudia, include:
 - Laurie's violations report in Excel spreadsheet format
 - Petition w/ neighbors' signatures for Traffic Calming Solution
 - Documentation for neighbor's car crash incident (OPD Incident # & date)
- Arrange to have Motorcycle Cop positioned on property to cite violators

June 22 TrafficNAT Meeting 7:30-8:30pm

- Discuss Leadership Scenarios
 - Revolving Chair (e.g., 3 months per chair)
 - Co-Chair (1 Maxwell, 1 Melrose)
- Strive for productive, 1-hour meetings (start promptly, be time-efficient)

CRIME – NAT report

Crime Prevention NAT, Susan & Marty Scolnick, co-chairs – No Report.

B ‘n’ B– NAT report

B ‘n’ B NAT, Nommi Alouf, Chair – Meeting was held Jun 2nd.

Tree update presented, looking at developing a process to work with blighted properties, reinvigorating design plans for the MacArthur, 76 station gas station off ramp area.
(Full minutes will be available).

COMMUNITY NAT report

Community Outreach NAT, Helen da Silva, Chair, Krista reported

No meeting was held this month, & still awaiting confirmation of Maxwell Park school as the site for the Mega Block Party on October 8th. Volunteers will be needed for many aspects

EDUCATION NAT report

Education NAT, Lisa Cartolano, Chair. No one present to report, report available on ED Nat Yahoo site - & here

- **Discussion of Action Items from Last Meeting**
- Contact Sherman Elisabeth Principal
 - Rachel tried contacting the Principal, but found out that she resigned and is no longer at the school. Hopefully we will find out who the new Principal will be soon, so we can get in touch with them.
- Contact Maxwell Park Elementary Principal
 - Lisa emailed with her. She seems receptive to us getting involved with the school, and said she would contact me soon after the end of the school year
- Guest Speaker Gary Yee
 - He gave a brief overview of the school district as it looks now:
 - There is declining enrollment. Some of this is due to the class size reduction initiative, but there are also a lot of families leaving Oakland. The school district has lost 10,000 students over the last 5 years. A number of things affected this the rising cost of the living, the dot bomb, a lot of the houses that are being purchased are by people without kids, and an increase in Charter Schools. There are approx. 20 charter schools in Oakland.
 - Change in outlook of schools. It used to be that the school was considered an asset to the neighborhood, but these seems to be no longer true.
 - Shifting demographics in Oakland have also changed the schools
- ~20 years ago the open enrollment process was implemented
- the No Child Left Behind law and Charter Schools have had an effect on the public school
- With declining enrollment this greatly affects the school. When you lose 60 kids, you will have a decrease in staff by 3 teachers. The most senior teachers are the ones that stay.
- He went over students tested and their demographics at Maxwell Park.:
 - 245 tested
 - 150 African American
 - 70 Hispanic
 - 61 ESL
 - 185 qualify for free lunch. (this is approx. 70-80% of the school and is above the state and Oakland average)
 - 33 Special Education
- For there to be effective change at the school there needs to be a critical mass from the neighborhood. We will not be able to become truly involved until we are part of the school. Then we will be able to become involved in the PTA, etc.
- We need to identify families in the neighborhood with small children to see if they have thought about school
- Talked about ways we can get involved now.
 - Clean up day at the school with a BBQ after

- Volunteers. There is a faith based organization that helps churches adopt a school, find community members, etc. HERO tutoring (can tap into resources at Mills College). There are several grass roots organizations that can also help: ACORN, MPNCPC, OCO (Oakland Community Organization), Boys & Girls club, our local council members
- Fundraising/Corporate Members. Can find ways to help raise funds for the school to help with school supplies, etc.

Action Items

- Vee and Sonja will head up group to organize clean up day. Date is Aug 13th
- Amy will write a blurb about the ED-NAT group to be distributed through-out the neighborhood when info regarding the MPNCPC will be distributed. Amy will provide this to Jose
- Rachel (384-9588) along with Amy will help to get the Volunteer group going
- Fundraising/Corp Sponsors (need to find someone to head this up).

Arts & Culture NAT report

Arts & Culture NAT, Pat Patterson chair. No one present, report below.

Meeting Notes & list of Ideas: 1st meeting held 7/7/05

Received over 25 messages of neighbors interested. About 15 neighbors attended [many others rsvp'd, unable to meet that time], ea. shared talents/skills/interests including writing, art, music, art conservancy, filmmaking, murals, lectures, dyework, photography, dance, etc. The group agreed that we wanted to promote cultural interests in the area, and to start with some easy, 'doable' events/projects. Other offshoot events would evolve as we worked on them. We created a list of potential ways we could promote Cultural events in Maxwell Park.

The group wants to plan a first event near the end of this month and will notify everyone soon. This is just a sample of what creative ideas were blooming in our meeting!

1. Host Salons - [a gathering of people w/similar interests] held at a home, ea. month? where person provides a demonstration/lecture of their craft/skill, light refreshments, social
2. Host Musical jam sessions [at park, someone's home,etc.]
3. Culinary events, group cooks together/eats/serves food
4. Filmmaking project [*for fun..show movies on that wall at high/macarthur [just kidding!]*].
5. Lecture/intellectual discussions, socials with cool topics
6. Outdoor, Cultural event at Maxwell Park to share what we've done thru year, i.e. music, poetry, culinary
7. Choir, chorus, singing, even if cant sing!
8. Virtual tool library - tools available, kept at owners home to share....may not belong w/ACNat, but what the heck we were being creative!
9. Coordinated field trips to museum, ballet, symphony, zellerbach
10. Further work on the mural project [find out whats holdup..move it [we have muralists interested..]
11. Wine tasting/lecture

Just a few, to whet the appetite. And we will change meeting dates to allow as many to participate as possible. more to follow.