

**Maxwell Park Neighborhood Council**  
**Monthly Meeting – Wednesday, September 14, 2005**  
**Location: Mills College, Lucie Stern Hall, Room 107**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees**

**Present:** Jose Dorado (Chair), Robert McGillis (Vice Chair), Jan Hetherington (Membership Secretary), Jeremy Gluskin (Treasurer), Krista Gulbransen (Minutes Secretary), Adelle Foley, Alice Ross Leon, Anna Saulala, Barbara Taylor, Birgitta Borgstrom, Claire Antonetti, Joe Davis, Joelle Fraser, Lucille Jackson, Malia Saulala, Nommi Alouf, Reuben Aurelio (Maxwell Park Elementary School Principal), Sarah Hipolito, Tracy Almeida, Claudia Jimenez

**Guests:** Reuben Aurelio (Maxwell Park Elementary School Principal)

**Board Absent:** None

**Welcome Comments & Introductions**

Jose Dorado (Chair) welcomed us to the meeting and conducted brief intros of all present. Minutes for August were approved.

**Neighborhood Actions Teams (NATs)**

- *NAT (Neighborhood Action Team) Program Update*  
Sarah Hipolito, NAT Coordinator, reported on her column in the MacArthur Metro about Maxwell Park. She wrote of the upcoming Community Outreach Summit hosted by the Community Building NAT, wrote of the October 12 NCPC meeting to be held at the Maxwell Park Elementary School and conducted as a potluck dinner, the number of Maxwell Parkers on the Yahoo! Group site, and promoted dressing up and participating in Halloween activities for the kids of Maxwell Park.
- *Traffic NAT – Adelle Foley reporting*  
They are trying to get the Traffic NAT started again, there hasn't been a meeting in awhile. Beat 27X is having a traffic breakout session at their monthly meeting this week. Adelle is trying to get a message to the Traffic NAT to get one of them to go as representative of Beat 28X.
- *Drugs & Crime NAT – Sarah Hipolito reporting*  
She is insisting in reinvigorating the Drugs & Crime NAT as it has fallen silent. They will be undertaking a project in which they will be entering crime stats for the OPD at the Eastmont station. If it goes well the project will be offered up to other NCPCs. This will allow the police to have a "searchable" database of past crimes so that they may make connections with more current crimes. If you're interested in participating in the crime statistics input please contact Susan Scolnick of the Drugs & Crime NAT.
- *Blight & Beautification NAT – Nommi Alouf reporting*
  1. They are working on the Pierson stretch near the 76 station. They have met to assess the cleanup necessary. They are talking with CalTrans about the NCPC possibly8

adopting the stretch. They are also looking into an island at the foot of Pierson to slow down traffic.

2. Daffodil planting and the Keep Oakland Beautiful campaign is coming up once again. Last year, 1,000 daffodils were planted in Maxwell Park alone. To get daffodils planted you must be proposing to plant them in a place that is public property, not in your personal garden! Keep an eye out for applications. The NCPC will be doing the Courtland strip and schools again this year. Contact Jan Hetherington if you want to get involved.
3. There will also be a repeat of the tree planting effort and B&B will be heading it up once again. Applications will be coming out soon. Nommi will be taking a leave of absence to have her first child and Claire Antonetti will be taking over as Chair of B&B.
4. Jose reminded us that the 76 station is also an issue for the community and we need to be pushing on them for further developments and an update on what they plan to do to the property.

▪ *Community Building NAT – Krista Gulbransen reporting*

We are moving forward with our Community Outreach Summit planned for next week (Sept. 20). We have invited 12 different neighboring NCPCs and community organizations to meet for a potluck and evening of discussion at the Boys & Girls Club. We will share ideas and ways in which we can connect to make for a more cohesive community. We hope these Summits will become regular (every Quarter). Since space is limited, it is only open to leaders of these community organizations and will not include city agencies this time around. We will report more at our next monthly NCPC meeting. We are primarily focused on that right now and are also looking into a neighborhood picnic sometime in the near future since we were unable to do the Mega Block Party due to lack of volunteers.

▪ *Education NAT – Reuben Aurelio reporting*

Clean up day was a great success at Maxwell Park Elementary. They are talking about doing an ice cream social to help get parents involved in the school. They are trying to create a PTA for the school, which has fallen to the wayside in the past couple of years. Parents Back to School night is next week. The NCPC has adopted the school and will be doing some fundraising activities with it. The NAT is going strong but could use some more participation. Contact the Chair, Lisa Cortolano for more information.

▪ *Art & Cultural NAT – No one present to report*

▪ *Outings NAT – Sarah Hipolito reporting*

12 people have expressed an interest in the group who will be organizing community outings. Jan told the whole NCPC list serv about Shakespeare in the Park and some people went out. We definitely want to be able to support the arts of Oakland.

## **Committee Reports**

▪ *CORE/MPERT – Alice Ross Leon reporting*

Alice has been very busy volunteering at the American Red Cross in an effort to support relief efforts for Hurricane Katrina including processing over 700 families that have relocated to the Bay Area since being displaced by the Hurricane. She spoke at length the need for us all to be prepared for our disaster (most likely an earthquake!) and the various resources that we can use for preparation purposes. She is trying to send out weekly emails with things that you can do to prepare your household. She is sending them out in small chunks so that they are more manageable. We talked about the possibility of looking into selling a combo flashlight/emergency radio/cell phone charger for neighbors to buy. Krista will send to Jeremy the website for the company that sells these. Jeremy will contact the company to see if they might offer a discount to Maxwell Park neighbors (perhaps by using a discount code). She has really been thinking about how the elderly and disabled in disasters. We have many in the Maxwell Park neighborhood and we need to make sure that they are included in our overall emergency plan. Would be nice to get some of us together to figure out what the plan is. City is currently reviewing their Emergency Preparedness Plan and a report will be released on that in October. Maxwell Park Elementary School has been named as a staging place during an emergency where Maxwell Parkers could meet.

- *Neighborhood Walks*

There will be Halloween walk, keep your eyes out for further information. There will be a memorial walk in honor of Jim Ballay. We are trying to get media attention because his murder is still unsolved. People will meet at the Best/Kingsland circle at 9am and end the walk at the place in which he died on MacArthur & Loma Vista.

- *Neighborhood Schools*

Mills College has adopted the Elizabeth Sherman School  
Maxwell Park NCPC and UPS have adopted the Maxwell Park Elementary School

### **Guest Speaker – Reuben Aurelio, Principal, Maxwell Park Elementary School**

- Started his new job July 1. He kicked it off with a neighborhood Clean Up day. Education NAT is now meeting at the school on a regular basis, MPNCPC and UPS have adopted the school, he has realized that many neighbors have not even stepped inside the school, he is trying right now to focus on what the parents need, the climate in the school is better, they have had a very strong start, teachers are more comfortable, there are 340 students total, they are hosting a new District program which is a Reading Clinic, it is housed at the school and kids from other schools get bused in daily to go through the Clinic, it has added to traffic and he is looking to us as a neighborhood to help keep it at bay, he is working with parents to create a traffic routine so that they can reduce the kids from crossing the street, they are currently on a Program Improvement Year 1 courtesy of the “No Child Left Behind Program”, we will try to move our monthly NCPC meeting to the school, next month’s meeting will include a potluck at the school, the school is looking for additional volunteers both at lunch and during the day, please contact Reuben for more information.

### **City & County Representatives**

- *Councilmember Desley Brooks – No representative present*

- *Councilmember Jean Quan – Claudia Jimenez reporting*
  1. Courtland Creek Cleanup was a success
  2. The Brookdale Recreation Center will be celebrating 10 years on September 17<sup>th</sup> with a big community party held in conjunction with the Community Outreach Program Alternative.
  3. Measure Y committee is moving along, their first meeting is next month, the first of 3 new officers hit the streets this week, Beat 27X is a high stressor Beat and will be receiving at least one of the officers, Jose mentions that as a member of the Measure Y committee he will need assistance in going over a lot of the materials associated with requirements and he would like volunteers to help give opinion, please contact him if you're interested.
  4. We had a short discussion on the drawing of PSA boundaries. There was some confusion as to what was said in last month's meeting about an officer possibly suggesting that boundaries be redrawn so that high stressor areas could receive more officers. No real resolution reached as not all parties present at last month's meeting could remember what had been said.
  
- *Supervisor Nate Miley – No representative to report*
  
- *Community Policing Reports*
  
- *NSC – Araina Richards – No one present to report*  
Araina was out sick. A note was made that when she's sick and officers are not present (as they are not this evening) we need to make sure that someone can provide us with our crime stats for the previous month. Claudia J. said she would email the stats to the whole list serv the following day.
  
- *Problem Solving – Officer Ron Johnson not present*
  
- *Crime Statistics – Lt. John Gibson not present*

### **Neighborhood Hot Spots**

- *High Street (Virginia to Walgreen's) – Krista Gulbransen reporting*  
Unfortunately things have gotten worse. There is a lot of activity at two apartment buildings and a rental house in between. Neighbors on Courtland have been active in calling the landlords and trying to get them to make changes. They say they're going to, but little has visibly been done. There has been increased activity (drugs, guns going off, loud noise) and a new activity of doing donuts in the back parking lot with children standing around watching (911 was called for that activity). We are also still working closely with city reps to try desperately to close off the pathway between Courtland and the creek that eventually leads out to High Street. There is a lot of drug dealing going on thanks to that access and it just goes on and on. Claudia said she will pull call-in stats for the trouble addresses to see how many complaints have been going on. We as neighbors try to call as much as possible to get it on the record.

▪ *Monticello Avenue – Neighbor reporting*

There are good weeks and bad weeks. The middle son at the problematic house comes along and when he gets out of jail there's a definite increase in problems around the house. One arrest was made recently as a result of a fight, which broke out, a girl as part of the fight called the police. There is obvious drug dealing. The garbage that was at the front of the house that was ordered removed looks as though it was just moved to the back yard. They believe 5 or 6 people are possibly living in the back in a shed but they're not 100% sure if they are living there or inside the house but there are definitely a lot of people living there. Jose mentioned pushing to work with Neighborhood Solutions. The neighbor said that people are reluctant to get involved for fear of retaliation. At one point a woman told the little boy from the house that he couldn't play on her lawn. The little boy then went and got his big brother. The next day the woman woke up to find her house has graffiti spray painted on it. This brings up a serious issue for neighbors trying to resolve disputes in the best way possible.

## **Old Business – Allocation of City Funds to NCPCs – not reported**

### **Announcements**

1. Allendale Block Party on Saturday, September 17 in the afternoon
2. Maribel Corral at Boys & Girls Club is trying to get people to take the kids fishing on October 8 @ 9am at the San Pablo Dam, contact her at 535-9461 for more information
3. Claudia Albano gave us Home Alert materials to review, anyone interested in helping should contact Jose
4. Positive Loitering is still out on the table, 12 people have expressed interest in participating
5. Club Nyriat made a settlement at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour with the city, it includes to new hours, clean up, a security guard, new landscaping, etc., Jean's office will keep an eye on making sure they're complying
6. The NCPC has been keeping an eye on people who are arrested within the neighborhood and then they're subsequent release, we want to make sure that when they get out, they are adhering to the conditions of their probation but we also want to make sure that we're helping them get connected to resources that will help to improve their lives and not just telling them to "stay out of our neighborhood"
7. The Allendale NCPC annual picnic will be happening at the Allendale Rec Center on Sept. 21 from 6pm-8pm, all are invited
8. We remember the losses of our community: Cha-Cha's death one year ago on Sept. 20, Jim Ballay's death one year ago on Sept. 24, the Hurricane Katrina victims, and the victims of 9/11

### **Broke for networking, 8:45pm**

Next meeting – Wednesday, October 12, 2005 at Maxwell Park Elementary School, 7:00-8:30pm  
THIS WILL BE A POTLUCK MEETING

Krista Gulbransen reporting

Minutes Secretary  
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Contact Info <http://www.maxwellparknc.com>

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Robert McGillis	Vice Chair	vicechair@...
Jan Hetherington	Membership Secretary	membsecretary@...
Jeremy Gluskin	Treasurer	treasurer@...
Krista Gulbransen	Minutes Secretary	minssecretary@...
Sarah Hipolito	NAT Coordinator	natcoordinator@...
Nommi Alouf	B N B NAT	bnbnat@...
Helen da Silva	Community Building NAT	communitynat@...
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Jim Gilsenan	Traffic NAT	trafficnat@...
Lisa Cartolano	Education NAT	<a href="mailto:mpncpc_ednat@yahoo.com">mpncpc_ednat@yahoo.com</a>
Pat Patterson	Arts NAT	<a href="mailto:pmacp@aol.com">pmacp@aol.com</a>
Nick Stoughton	CORE/MPERT	nick@...
Araina Richards	NSC – Beat 28X	nsc@...

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

To join the Yahoo! Email group go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MPNCPC/>