

Maxwell Park Neighborhood Council
Maxwell Park Neighborhood Council
Monthly Meeting—Wednesday, April 12, 2006
Location: Maxwell Park Elementary School, Multipurpose Room
Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Present: Jan Hetherington (Membership Secretary), Jeremy Gluskin (Treasurer), Krista Gulbransen (Minutes Secretary), Adelle Foley, Bonnie Henriquez, Cheryl Wilson, Chris Coscia, Claire Antonetti, Heather Blackmore, Jimmy Thompson, John Howard, Jon Ward, Karen Bridges, Luan Strauss, Mireille Edwards, Nick Stoughton, Ruben Aurelio, Susan Scolnick, Tim Wilhelm, Araina Richards, Lt. Sharon Williams, Claudia Jimenez, Emily Rogers, Darryl Stewart, Lease Wong, Jain Williams, Akram Alazzani

Guests: Lease Wong, BID/Komodo Toys & Jain Williams, BID/State Farm

Board Absent: Jose Dorado (Chair)

Welcome Comments & Introductions

Robert McGillis (Vice Chair) welcomed us to the meeting and conducted brief intros of all present. March minutes put up for approval. Motion to approve the minutes by Nick Stoughton. First and second from the audience. Minutes approved at 7:16pm.

Board Reports

Jan Hetherington-Yahoo email group leader, 625 members, works with Tom on the website for updates, we are looking for someone who could help getting content and updates on the website. Please contact Jan at jan@moves-to-improve.com.

Jeremy Gluskin-Current balance \$343.56, we are encouraging anyone who is interested in fundraising please contact Jeremy at jtgluskin@ev1.net.

Neighborhood Action Teams (NATs)

- *NAT (Neighborhood Action Team) Program Update:* Sarah Hipolito not present, no report.
- *Traffic NAT—Heather Blackmore reporting:* Not much going on because we have a staffing shortage at OPD, Lt Green sent out an email opening up a process of identifying particular locations of trouble each month, it's been moving slowly due to weather and staff shortages we don't expect much to happen during April but hopefully by May specific request will be made, if you're interested in making a specific request to trafficnat@yahoogroups.com, will pick up meetings again in May or June.
- *Crime NAT—:* Susan Scolnick not present, the group hasn't met in months, we are looking for additional parties to help invigorate the group, we have a date in May

for the next trial date for one of the alleged shooters in our armed robberies, we are working to keep up with the DA's office to track this particular case, we are interested in having someone volunteer time to track the crimes in our area to help create connections, if interested please contact Jan Hetherington jan@moves-to-improve.com.

- *Blight & Beautification—Claire Antonetti reporting:* Continue to focus on the MacArthur/Pierson beautification process, that includes the Caltrans property, on and off ramps, the 76 station, working to develop a pocket park underneath the freeway overpass, next meeting is the fourth Thursday of the month, we have Earth Day on April 22 at the Walgreen's parking lot area, we'll be pulling weeds and doing mulching.
- *Community Building NAT Krista Gulbransen reporting:* Still planning on having our A Day in the Park event on September 16 at Maxwell Park Elementary, we're looking for volunteers to help pull it together in the areas of entertainment, children's activities, logistics, etc. Please contact Helen DaSilva at hds2288@aol.com for more information, our next meeting is the beginning of May if you're interested in joining the Community Building NAT.
- *Education NAT Jan Hetherington reporting:* Cleanup day on April 1, 46 adults and 22 children, most of the adults were not parents or teachers which was discouraging, put together bikes for the Kindergarteners, Lisa will be putting together a website for the school, in May they will put together a summit to discuss education in Oakland, April 20 at 6:30 at Maxwell Park Elementary School.
- *CORE Report—Nick Stoughton reporting:* Citywide emergency response drill happening April 29, everybody is welcome to come and take part in it, you don't need to have been through training in the past, if you have been trained we'd particularly like to see you, exercise goes from 10am-noon at Maxwell Park Elementary, two more Core classes (Core I and II) Tuesday, April 18 at Maxwell Park Elementary.
- *MPERT—Alice Leon not present.*
- *Neighborhood Walks--Adelle Foley reporting:* There have been a few neighborhood walks, won't have a walk on Earth Day but will be going out this weekend, we are going to do a survey in terms of preference for day and time.
- *Maxwell Park Elementary School—Reuben Goldberg reporting:* no one reporting, Spring Break for the kids.
- *Neighborhood Watch Coordinator Report – Jan Hetherington reporting,* we currently have 66 people signed up as Block Captain's, 27 have had meetings thus far, those who have not done anything yet will be contacted for follow up.

Guest Speakers – Jain Williams and Lease Wong of the Business Improvement District

- What is the BID? Started out with a strong merchant group, assesses the property owners based on the size of the structure and the type of business that you have, the BID was formed after a vote by the merchants, the goal is to improve the look and feel of MacArthur Blvd between High St and 35th St, want to increase customer traffic, came on the heels of the improvement with the arch, planting of trees, placement of new street lights, garbage cans and benches
- What will they be focusing on? The public right of way, hired a group to clean up such as steam cleaning the sidewalks, putting in more trashcans, removing graffiti, beautification to enhance the look (i.e. planting), received funds in Feb, installing new banners, hang street lights during the holidays, motivating the business owners to improve the look of their buildings, developing a website, hosting events on a regular basis, Aug 12 will be the World Food & Music Festival.
- New developments? New housing developments will bring new customers; work with developers to make sure they put in amenities so that there are things that are good for pedestrians.
- How do businesses get started? There is a lot of interest but in actuality it's not always feasible to make it work due to costs and requirements, trying to reduce the saturation point of some of the kids of business on the Blvd.,

City & County Representatives

Councilwoman Desley Brooks—Emily Rogers reporting

- Rainbow Recreation Center to be rehabbed, low income housing across from Frick School will be rehabbed, the Farmer's Market will be opening again on June 3, everyone is invited to the next Town Hall meeting on the second Sat. of the month at Frick School on April 19 at Mills at the Faculty Lounge, Arroyo Viejo Park Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 15.

Councilmember Jean Quan—Claudia Jimenez reporting

- Introduction of Mr. Alizani the property owner of M&W Liquors, in the process of working with the city's façade improvement committee, collecting emails for ideas and suggestions of what we'd like to see in that building, the idea of a Police Substation is not realistic at this time, will be sprucing it up and then looking for a new tenant.
- Places across the street have been contacted and Jean's office working with them to bring some things up to compliance and the façade improved, one business owner went out and bought surveillance cameras, increase the lighting, set out house rules for tenants.
- City's Public Safety Committee Meeting, talked about "Shotspotter" that helps to detect gunshots, a Councilmember has agreed to pay for a trial weekend of the system in East Oakland to see how it works, to see if they want to invest in it permanently.

- Sexually exploited minors, having a conference on the topic on April 26 and 27, being co-sponsored with the county, free and available to the community.
- Jose Ortiz who owns the building at the corner of High and Virginia, the business plan to open a café is finally moving forward, a public notice will be posted proposing a coffee shop and a cell phone store, he needs a conditional use permit, and letters of support are recommended.

Supervisor Nate Miley – Darryl Stewart reporting

- Violence Prevention Coordinator hired for Alameda County, first time ever, he will be brought to every NCPC in the District to meet him, after June primary Supervisor Miley will hold 3 Town Hall Meetings about Alameda County's responsibilities to the citizens.

Community Policing Reports--Araïna Richards reporting

- Back after 6 weeks out, 777-8712 is her phone number, also responsible for Beat 27X and 29X.
- 9 counts possession firearm, 14 counts of robbery, 2 counts of armed robbery, not charged with assault, he had a record in San Francisco, was arrested in San Francisco.
- Abandoned auto detail has new email address, if car has been parked longer than 72 hours, abandonedauto@oaklandnet.com, please give them EXACT location, vehicle license plate #, make, model, color.
- Spent all of our NCPC funds, but there are others who have not and we also try to get that money, we need a letter with a cost estimate of how we want to spend the money.
- Donnie Williams is retiring.
- How do we describe a person that looks suspicious? Sheet handed out explaining how to do it best, will be placed on Yahoo group as well, sex, race, age, height, estimate weight, complexion hair length and color, glasses, tattoos, scars, marks, facial hair, type of weapon being used, hat, tie, coat, shirt, all of the particulars will help when looking for someone.

Neighborhood Hotspots

- No reports on High Street and Monticello
- New potential hotspot-Kingsland @ Rawson, lots of abandoned cars, cars with no registrations, suspicious activities coming from the parked cars, problematic house with renters in it

Announcements

Broke for networking at 8:50 pm

Next meeting – Wednesday, May 10, 2006 at Maxwell Park Elementary School

Krista Gulbransen reporting

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

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Robert McGillis	Vice Chair	vicechair@...
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Araina Richards	NSC-Beat 28X	nsc@...

Each person can be contacted via their 'maxwellparknc.com' email address (unless otherwise noted)

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