

NEW MONTEREY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2010

I. CALL TO ORDER

Howard Fosler, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:04PM. Board members present were Howard, Sharon Dwight, Brian Greenshields, Joanne Kelly, and Bob and Barbara Evans. Including the Board members there were 14 people in attendance to include Mr Dennis Copeland, Archivist and Historian Coordinator, California History Room & Archives, Monterey Public Library City of Monterey, and Mr Forrest Ebbs, Senior Planner, City of Monterey.

II. GUEST SPEAKER:

- a. The Board invited Mr Copeland to speak at tonight's meeting and deliver a short history

of New Monterey as part of the Board's effort to add to the Historical Survey context

statement.

- b. Mr Copeland's presentation was both fascinating and educational as he covered the

history of our neighborhood and the development of the Lighthouse District from the

native Rumcian people, to the Spanish settlement on Presidio Hill, to the 1818 major naval battle in Monterey Bay, the impact of the Little family on the New Monterey area, the arrival of the Buffalo Soldiers of the 9th Cavalry, and the mineral springs/natural baths on Spencer.

III. PUBLIC Comment:

- a. Mr Moses Sites, a local resident, commented on the noise and traffic on both David and

Prescott, and reminded the Board to consider environmental reviews/EIRs when

looking at issues of new development.

- i. He commented that cities can work with trucking companies to help mitigate the negative affects of increased truck traffic on our roads and suggested the city lower the speed limit to 25 mph on David and Prescott.
 - ii. He also singled out City Councilwoman Nancy Selfridge who visited his residence to discuss noise traffic issues. Discussion included the 4 way stop at David/Pine and calming measures along David.
- b. Board members made everyone aware that there was a traffic management plan for David and Prescott (April 2008). In fact, there were several NIPs funded to address David Ave traffic, but those monies were frozen due to the current fiscal emergency.

Sharon stated that maybe we need to relook the speed limit issue, but raise it as a safety issue. The Board also stated we need to address traffic management issues not only on David but Lighthouse and Hawthorne as well, and that the Association needs to be part of the review process for any new developments and hold developers accountable.

- c. Mr Ebbs stated the City had adopted a decibel rate of 60 in residential areas and that

Monterey is relooking how it addresses traffic.

- d. Howard moved that we address traffic issues as an agenda item for next meeting;

Sharon seconded. Approved by all.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

After a brief discussion, Sharon made a motion and Bob seconded to draft/send a

letter to the Planning Commission requesting they leave the CDBG funds door open to

help pay the cost of underground utilities for low-income neighborhood members.

Sharon commented that CDBG funds have been used that way before.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. History Day. Howard stated that there will be an article promoting the event in the Wednesday **Herald**. Flyers will be handed out to the Senior Center, Hilltop, Bay View Elementary, and the Library. Bob asked for three more volunteers and got commitments from other Board members and community members to assist.
- b. Update on 22 April Waterfront meeting. According to Sharon the meeting was well attended and included local business owners, fishermen, Del Monte residents, and others. The attendees broke into groups and came up with concerns, questions, and proposed solutions. Next step will be for City officials to consolidate all those inputs and discuss at the next meeting. A question was asked why this project concerns New Monterey residents...Sharon answered because of Del Monte traffic and its impact on Lighthouse traffic, the project's importance as an economic driver for the City, and since it will become the City's biggest public park. The Board decided we need to encourage New Monterey resident awareness and participation and suggested we include in the newsletter.
- c. Lighthouse Destination Study. The Association has put on record our support for the City position of requesting a community planning grant from Caltrans. TAMC also wrote a letter of support. Mr Sites said he will help circulate the letter(s) with his contacts at Caltrans.
- d. Board Vacancies. Howard moved the board remove Christina Riddoch due to the fact her demanding work schedule had not allowed her to attend recent meetings and recommended the Board install Alexandra Albin. The motion passed.

VI. REPORTS:

- a. Minutes. There was a short discussion on the minutes format/content, but the last meetings minutes were approved. Sharon moved to approve, Bob seconded.
- b. Treasurer. No update as Bruce Crist was unable to attend.
- c. Bay View School: Bob moved/Brian seconded a motion to ask the Board to write a letter in support of the Bay View Charter School petition. Howard requested we hold off on the letter of support until he got smarter on the initiative and was able to examine the academic details and financial viability of the proposed Charter School. The Board voted to authorize the President to investigate information about the Bay View Charter School and to write a letter in support.
- d. Airport Liaison. Nothing to report

- e. CERT: There will be a Table Top exercise on April 24. Sharon suggested we add to the agenda in the future fundraisers for CERT box supplies.
- f. City Business Reports: Howard mentioned we had received a letter back from Ms. Kim Coles in the Planning Department addressing our concerns on the Historic Survey effort, the Downtown Ruhnke plan, and the priority or lack of priority given to the Area Plans. The Board again expressed concern on where the Ruhnke Plan was going and what priority it was being given. Mr Ebbs assured the Board that the Ruhnke firm had been brought on retainer as an on-call consultant, nothing more. In regards to the Historic Survey effort, the Board again mentioned their concerns over the DPR process when there were still no adopted standards for what makes a residence "historic". Mr Ebbs did confirm, though, that the New Monterey Historic Survey would remain on hold until the Association presented their inputs.

The meeting adjourned at 0905 PM.