Preliminary Minutes

Meeting Date: April 4, 2011
Time: 7-9 PM
Location: Joslyn Park

Board Members in Attendance
David Auch
Pauline Bohannon
Patricia Godon-Tann
Jeffrey Jarow
Jan Ludwinski
Mary Marlow
Lori Nafshun
Michele Perrone
Bob Taylor

Noticed Board Member Absences
Dana Ehrlich
Sadat Huq
Susan Lewis
Roger Swanson

Other Board Member Absences
Nina Fresco
Ross Furakawa

Topics Discussed

Introduction to OPA

President Jan Ludwinski introduced the guest speaker at 7:05 PM

Discussion with by Randy Little / SM Public Landscape Manager

Responded to questions about the Torrey Pine trees in the beach lot at 2030 Barnard Way.

- Torrey Pines are the smallest species available for this grant, which is specific to CA Native plants
- City received funding from US Forest service to plant 1,000 trees
- Trees help to meet AQMD air quality programs as well as tree cover calculation for City
- Planting on the beach lot at 2030 Barnard Way to be on April, 30, 2011
- New trees will be pruned to not block views from Sea Colony condos and surrounding areas
- City to replace the palm trees at the end of OP Blvd with native palms Fall/Late 2011

Presentation by Miriam Mulder/ SM City Architect

Discussed public works projects planned for the next 5 years, including:

- 17th Street Expo Station
- Colorado Esplanade
- Pier Bridge (2014)
- Freeway Capping
- Palisades Garden Walk
- Village (Public/Private – Fall 2011)
  - Housing

- Civic Auditorium (Nederlander Group, Design/Build)
- SM High School
- Cultural Facility at Civic Center
- UCLA Medical
- St. Johns
• SM College
• Pico Branch Library (8300 Sq Ft)
• eGenesis
• Bergamot Expo Station
• Village Trailer Park
• Hines/Papermate Site
• SMC Academy on Stewart
• Expo Maintenance

Infrastructure:

• California Incline (2013 / 1 yr to 18 mos)
• 1000 Trees
• Bike Path improvements city-wide
• Expo Rail
• 20th and Cloverfield
• OP Blvd Improvements

City is reviewing all project schedules in order to best coordinate the efforts and inform the public.

Question: What about Lincoln Blvd?

• The City expects to get control of LB by end of year
• Patching is planned, but nothing further at this point

Miriam Mulder to send overview URL to Jan.

OPA BOD Call to Order

President Jan Ludwinski called the meeting to order at 7:50 PM

Announcements

• Lori – special event taking place
• Jerry Rubin – Big Blue Bus realignment 5/10 City Council and Petition
• Bob – Need to get notice of Events in OP. Lori to contact Kate at the City

Actions taken since last Board meeting

- Letter sent to City Council regarding Main Street signage

- OPA had a table at the Grand Re-Opening of the Ocean Park Library on Saturday, March 12. Patricia and Jan attended the event on behalf of OPA. No significant traffic at OPA table.

- A formal stance of the Board was communicated to City Council at the most recent Council meeting regarding the Hines/Papermate Project. Michele presented on behalf of the board.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve March 7, 2011 meeting minutes, as amended, passed unanimously.

Relocation of John Muir Elementary School Monthly Fundraising Event presented by Amy Hopper.

Amy Hopper, John Muir Volunteer and Parent, briefly described the school’s plan to permanently re-locate the monthly fundraising Flea Market event from the Olympic High campus to the Muir/SMASH school parking lot, located between 5th and 6th street on Ocean Park Boulevard. On behalf of the school, Amy requested that OPA give the plan its blessing. The event will be held in the school parking lot, and attendees will be expected to park in local streets. The event will be held every month on a Saturday until further notice. The School Board has already given their approval of the move from the current site location at Ocean Park Boulevard and Lincoln. The Borderline Neighborhood group voted in favor of the relocation. While the Borderline Neighborhood group does not encompass the school location, there are Borderline families with children at the school. There has been no prior notice of the move to neighbors of the school nor has there been discussion with the neighborhood about potential impacts of the move. There is no plan presented regarding handling of parking or how to deal with days when events are already being held in the park. There was no consideration of holding the flea market in
the park and having flea market attendees park in the school parking lot. No other sites are under consideration at this point.

Lively discussion followed, including comments addressing: need to support the school, concerns about impact on the neighborhood. It was determined that we know too little about the schools plans or impact to officially support the move.

Motion: To request a formal meeting with the school district to discuss their plans for the Flea Market and its impact on Ocean Park and the neighborhood.

Vote: Yes 6, No 2. Motion Passed

Neighborhood Survey

Bob gave the status report:

- Survey has been written.
- Bob will send out the survey for comments.
- Discussion held about the dynamic and potentially ongoing nature of the survey.

Neighborhood Council Report

David reported on the March 19 meeting that included several topics:

- 3/31 Neighborhood mailers to be (and were) sent
- Miriam Mulder presentation of upcoming public works and infrastructure projects
- 4/7 Transparency Meeting @7pm, 933 20th Street, Unit A
- 4/26 SM City Council discussion regarding RDA Funding Priorities
- New/renewed Neighborhood Organizations: Mid City Neighbors and Northeast Neighbors

- 5/10 SM City Council meeting discussion regarding Big Blue Bus realignment and changes.

Events Committee status

Lori recapped the first parade meeting that was held on Friday March 30th. Grand Marshall ideas were discussed and solicited.

Candidate Transparency in Funding

Mary Marlow reported on the development of a group called The Transparency Project. This is a grassroots initiative by Santa Monica residents following the 2010 City of Santa Monica elections. The goal of the group is to provide ongoing public awareness with respect to the amount of funds donated to participants in City-wide elections. The effort is underway to collect donation information and it is being determined how to best present the data to the public. Initial data was presented by members of The Transparency Project at the recent City Council meeting at which the Papermate project was discussed. Currently, meetings of the group are not public. Jerry Rubin suggested that the group should consider opening its meetings to the public.

SMO Airport updates

Michele made the SMO Airport report with the following highlights:

- SMO Webtrack site has launched. Michelle to send a link and draft letter to membership.
- Rand study is starting about optimal uses of the airport upon expiration of the lease in 2015. Will begin interviewing residents.
- Kevin McKeown letter was discussed. It appears less likely that the FAA will move forward with a Finding of No Significant Impact from the new flight pattern.
- Henry Waxman legislation was introduced in the US Congress regarding safety at SMO.
- Comment: Need for improved resident reporting mechanism
- Comment: Red Cross is apparently against closing the airport because of its potential usefulness during a disaster.
- Discussion: Bill Rosendahl position
Treasurer’s report

Patty made the Treasurer’s report, including the following comments:

- Quarterly Report
  - Starting Balance: $2451 (General Fund)
  - Ending Balance: $2253
  - Grant was signed and received
    - Need to spend the money by 6/25
    - Patty to send the quarterly report to Jan

Membership report

Sadat was not present at the meeting so discussion was deferred until next month.

Policy on membership-wide email blasts

Further discussion on the proposed policy on membership-wide email blasts was postponed until the May meeting.

- Jan reminded that guidelines had been sent to the board along with Board meeting documentation
- Jan to resend the guidelines in a dedicated email communication to the board

Future agenda items

Meeting minute approvals for the 4/4/11 minutes

Monthly reports:

- Treasurer
- SMO Airport
- OP Blvd.
- Membership
- 4th of July Parade
Neighborhood survey
Policy on email blasts
Meeting Close

Next Meeting, May 2, 2011 (location TBD) 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Action Items

What: Letter to School Board regarding the move of the Flea Market
Who: David
When: Draft in two weeks

What: Send link and email regarding airport and Webtrack to the Board and Membership
Who: Michele
When: within two weeks

What: Resend membership email guidelines to the board
Who: Jan
When: within two weeks

What: Get link from Miriam Mulder regarding Public Works and infrastructure projects. Consider posting the link on the OPA-SM website.
Who: Jan
When: within month