

Old Town Neighborhood Association Board Meeting

January 10, 2024 Minutes

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7:00-8:30 pm

MIIS McKone Building

The meeting was called to order by President Gari Soulé at 7:05 pm. The meeting was held in the conference room of the MIIS McKone Building, 499 Pierce Street, as well as live via Zoom.

PRESENT - Officers and Directors attending in person were Gari Soulé (President), Nancy Soulé (Secretary), Max Troyer (Website Administrator), April Harrison (NCIP), and Phyllis Bussey (Social). Others attending in person were Bob Evans, Roberta Myers, Sue Ricketson (NCIP alternate), Suzie Grimes (Undergrounding), Tim Gadus, Rosemary Robert, Richard Oskey, and Vincent DiGirolamo. Attending by Zoom were Mary Grove (Treasurer) and Bret Grove.

MINUTES-The minutes were reviewed. Hearing no changes, Mary Grove made a motion to approve, seconded by Suzie Grimes, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

TREASURER REPORT -Mary Grove reported we have a current balance of \$5,048.14, with the addition of two renewals. Events by Classic was paid \$300 for the servers at our member appreciation evening at the Perry House. Mary suggested we do more to acknowledge their extreme generosity, and Nancy said she would write up something for the newsletter.

UNDERGROUNDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Suzie Grimes reported the discussion from the Monterey Undergrounding Committee that there be a November ballot initiative by the city to underground when feasible when streets are dug up with residents to just pay for lateral connections to the home. There were comments that the city has a dig once policy, just not in the master plan. It suggested it might be done more simply than a ballot measure, and possibly by simply pressuring the city to do what they have voiced at meetings. No measure was made regarding this issue. Separately, there was discussion on a new NCIP proposal Suzie wrote to use NCIP funds to create a plan to place power lines underground in evacuation routes to keep internet connectivity and protect the safety of residents. There were many comments of support for this, and a motion supporting this proposal was made by Nancy Soulé, seconded by Sue Ricketson, and was passed unanimously. Bob Evans, who with Roberta Myers has homes in Old Town and New Monterey, said he will bring the NCIP proposal to the attention of New Monterey, as many residents have expressed concern for safe evacuation.

NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (NCIP) -April Harrison reported that the first meeting for the year will be January 11, 2024, at which time they will review the projects submitted last year. As to the new proposal, the deadline for submission of new proposals is February 11. Suzie will confer with the Monterey Undergrounding committee, then finalize submission.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE -Phyllis Bussey reported that the Perry House event in November was extremely successful and gained several new members. The food was spectacular. She will check this

year to see if the 100 person limit can be exceeded. She suggests a spring social event be a docent-lead tour of the museum in the Stanton Center, which features historical art, at the Monterey Museum of Art, or at the First Theater, if it is open for tours. She will check with Jason Reed, an Old Town resident who is on the State Parks committee. She is thinking of this event for March.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)-No report marathon.

NEW BUSINESS

SPEAKER FOR ANNUAL MEETING IN MARCH – Gari will check with Bill Leone, who was to speak on the Neighborhood Watch program, and see if he wants to reschedule for March.

CANDIDATE FORUM – Bob Evans, who owns property in New Monterey, was asked to speak to his idea of putting on a Candidate Forum for the Supervisor seat for District 5. There are three candidates- Bill Lipe, Kate Daniels and Alan Haffa- who are running to replace the vacant seat held by Mary Adams, who is not running. He suggests Hilltop Community Center in New Monterey, and has already confirmed availability. He also knows the League of Women Voters will supply an independent moderator. There was much positive discussion about doing this, which will be live instead of by Zoom. It was suggested we invite Monterey Vista to join us in putting this on. Suzie Grimes made a motion to support having a Candidate Forum, seconded by Nancy Soule, and passed unanimously. Bob and Gari will coordinate setting a date, as the election is on March 5.

ELECTIONS – Gari announced that the election of seven directors for Old Town Neighborhood Association is set to be held on March 13. He asked the six directors present if they were willing to put their names on the slate of directors, and all said they were willing to run again. He asked if there were anyone else who would like to run, but there were no takers from those present, and no response to Nancy's bulletin announcement soliciting members who might want to run or be on a committee. Gari will check with Corey Brunson to confirm her status. Candidates running should be posted in a bulletin or newsletter prior to the annual meeting.

NEWSLETTER- Nancy will need newsletter articles by the end of January in order to have time for finalization and Liliana's graphic work and to publicize the Candidate's forum.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Nancy announced that Vito and Deidre Palmieri are interested in finding a part-time housekeeper, as he has been in the hospital.

NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT- Gari announced the next meeting will be March 13, 2024. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.