

# Old Town Neighborhood Association Meeting

## *August 7, 2024 Minutes*

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7:00-9:000 pm

MIIS McKone Building

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The meeting was called to order by President Gari Soulé at 7:00 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), Phyllis Bussey (Social), Mary Grove (Treasurer) and Susan Ricketson (NCIP). Others attending in person were Brian Edwards, Rosemary Robert, Bret Grove, Tim Gadus, Suzie Grimes (Undergrounding chairperson), Roberta Myers, April Harrison, Uwe Grobecker, Joyce Haferman, Cathy Collum (social co-chair), and Jerilynn Smith Crivello . Attending on Zoom were Melanie Cervi and Terry Hanna.

**SPEAKER – BRIAN EDWARDS** – Brian Edwards, Head of the Library and museums, spoke about the many sites that are under his supervision. Many of the facilities are in need of repair, and the cabins on Bruce Ariss Way are scheduled to be repaired as an NCIP project. He also spoke of how the path of history began as a red line, still visible along the 17 mile drive, and of the many neighborhoods that have historical significance. Photos of early Monterey and Monterey Angels were shown. We were treated to a vintage film of Monterey from 1937, made as a commercial for Chevrolet, which will be shown during car week. Volunteers in many museums are needed.

**TREASURER REPORT** -Mary Grove reported that we have a current balance of \$4,896.18, after deduction for expenses of the summer picnic. There have been three new members and total paid membership is at 65 households.

**MINUTES**-The minutes were reviewed. As there were no corrections, Mary Grove made a motion to approve, seconded by Suzie Grimes, and they were approved unanimously.

**UNDERGROUNDING COMMITTEE REPORT** – Suzie Grimes reported that combined undergrounding proposal submitted to NCIP was given high priority and is waiting city council approval. Upon approval by City Council, the next phase would be for a property manager to be assigned to develop a plan. The undergrounding committee meets the third Monday of each month on Zoom.

**NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (NCIP)** – Susan Ricketson reported that the top NCIP proposals will be discussed on August 15, with pricing information provided. Then the city is scheduled to meet on September 24 to approve the projects that will move forward, subject to the budget. Usually the city moves on the top 30 projects, however this year there are many high-ticket items, the top two of which are repairs to two fire stations. Note that Susan Ricketson and Rosemary Robert were approved as our NCIP representative and alternate, respectively, an update from the last meeting.

**WEBSITE** – Max reported that there are no new developments on the website.

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE** -Phyllis Bussey reported that the July 13 summer social and picnic was a resounding success and well attended. People commented that they liked bringing food, as well as having the board provide Subway sandwiches, snacks and drinks. A suggestion for next year is to have someone in charge of getting games started (a game custodian), to actively involve more in the activities. She also suggested we move up the time to a 1 pm start time, since it is a mid-day meal and and warmer, as it starts getting chilly later in the afternoon. “Phil” also announced that we have a date for our fall membership appreciation party, scheduled for Wednesday, November 6 at the Perry House. Reservations will start around October 1. She suggested our fall bocce be scheduled in mid October.

**CERT** – Gari reported that the Community Emergency Response Team was used for crowd control at the recent July 4 parade. There will be a new fall class which Nancy will announce in bulletins.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**ELECTION FORUMS** – Gari announced that several presidents met to discuss having forums for the upcoming November election. Because there are so many local races and issues, different neighborhoods are tackling a portion of the races/measures, but allowing the public to attend even outside their neighborhood. Two candidates are now running for mayor and for districts 3 and 4. Old Town districts 1 and 2 are not up for new council seats. There also are two candidates for the airport board district 3, of which Old Town is a part of. Uve Grobecher discussed the issue of noise in the early and late hours, which violates earlier guidelines, which he hopes to address if elected. In addition, there are numerous state ballots and a measure by MPUSD for a school bond. As Old Town has traditionally participated in election forums, there was discussion of combining with New Monterey in tackling the state propositions, the airport board and the MPUSD bond in two forums, to be moderated by the League of Women Voters. Nancy Soulé made a motion, seconded Jerilynn Smith Crivello, to split the cost of room rent for the Hilltop Community Center and liability insurance with New Monterey. The motion passed unanimously. Roberta Evans, a member of both Old Town and New Monterey Neighborhood Associations, volunteered to be our liaison on details of forums as they progress, so that Nancy can put these into bulletins.

**NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE** – Nancy discussed the idea of having a neighborhood garage sale, whereby a date and hours would be set and advertised in our bulletins, with each family participating doing so at their own home, etc, with no other involvement by OTNA. Uwe Grobacher suggested we should inform the police so they can monitor if there is additional traffic. Although the idea of a garage sale was received with enthusiasm, it was suggested that the fall was too busy with all the forums and other activities, and that deferring this until next year made more sense, perhaps in the spring.

**MEETING SPEAKERS**- Gari asked for ideas for a speaker for the next meeting. Clyde Roberson was suggested, to speak on the history of the neighborhood associations and their development.

**NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**- Gari announced that the next meeting is scheduled for October 9, and adjourned the meeting at 9:00.