

Old Town Neighborhood Association Meeting

May 8, 2024 Minutes

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7:00-9:000 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), Corey Brunson (Vice President), Phyllis Bussey (Social), Mary Grove (Treasurer) and Susan Ricketson (NCIP). Others attending in person were Rosemary Robert, Bret Grove, Tim Gadus, and Suzie Grimes (Undergrounding chairperson). There were no zoom attendees.

MINUTES-The minutes were reviewed. Corrections are needed to the spelling of Monterey and to Nancy Soulé's position as secretary. The minutes were approved with noted corrections.

TREASURER REPORT -Mary Grove reported that we have a current balance of \$5,023.46, after deduction for \$76.48 for the flowers from Thickets Monterey to resigning NCIP representative April Harrison. There have been one new member and three renewals for membership.

UNDERGROUNDING COMMITTEE REPORT – Suzie Grimes reported that after a combined meeting with Monterey Vista, the NCIP proposal MN04 that she had submitted has been combined and revised into a new MN06 proposal. This new version of MN06 incorporates our focus on Del Monte and escape routes as a priority, uses the 2 million figure the city had suggested, and suggests using part of the funds to ensure that the North Fremont undergrounding is completed, if more is needed than the PGE rule 20 funds already set aside. The proposal emphasizes safety and evacuation routes. Suzie will support the newly revised MN06 at the NCIP meeting scheduled for tomorrow night, May 9. Phyllis Bussey made a motion to support the revised proposal, which was seconded by Nancy Soulé, and approved unanimously.

NEIGHBORHOOD AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (NCIP) – Susan Ricketson reported that the process to appoint her as our NCIP rep following the resignation of April Harrison, and the appointment of Rosemary Robert as our NCIP alternate, is still ongoing at the city level. Currently, as our city-appointed alternate, she has power to be our representative in place of April. A 2014 Old Town project still to be completed, is the repair of the Harrison Street steps. She will contact Reggie Paulding, the city public works engineer, for an update. A budget of \$10 million is anticipated for the year, due to an accounting adjustment. Susan gave attendees a printout of the projects, and there was much discussion on the merits of many. There was clarification on the differences between our undergrounding NCIP proposal and the one by the city, which uses funds for another staff employee. The New Monterey Hilltop Community Center proposals were compared also, with supportive comments for the NM 12 which begins with seismic and roof repairs not included in city's

NM08 version. Susan thanked the board for the many comments and said she hopes also for more feedback from the neighborhood. Susan suggested we have an NCIP roundtable before the June 6 voting night for OTNA residents to weigh in. After discussion, it was decided to hold an NCIP special roundtable meeting on Wednesday, May 29 at 7 pm. Max offered to get the room and can arrange zooming. Nancy will advertise it in a special bulletin.

WEBSITE – Max reported that he created a membership renewal system with paypal for the Alliance Francais, and is willing to created this for our website. There is a \$1 fee for each renewal, which could be paid by the member or absorbed by the association. Gari asked Max to bring an example to the and report any other costs to the association at our next meeting, for the board to review. Mary asked him to clarify how she would be notified and would receive member contact information, which he will respond to at the next meeting.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE -Phyllis Bussey reported that the date of July 13 is available for our annual summer social, and there were no conflicts with the board. Accordingly, she will solidify the date with the park, and will have a planning meeting for the event with the social committee. She anticipates that she may have a date for the Perry House for our fall membership drive by the August meeting.

NEW BUSINESS – Gari reported that our city council representative, Dr. Kim Barber, is planning to have quarterly roundtables with two representatives from each neighborhood, one of which is to be our NCIP representative. Accordingly, he heard from Susan Ricketson and from Fatima Dias that they are willing to represent us at her roundtable quarterly meetings.

MEETING SPEAKERS- Gari asked for ideas for a speaker for the next meeting. Max suggested getting Brian Edwards, head of the library and museums, to come speak. As this was agreeable to all, Max offered to contact Brian and make the arrangements.

NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT- Gari announced that he is unable to preside at the normally scheduled August 14 meeting. After discussion, it was decided to change the date of the next meeting to August 7. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00.