

OAK PARK MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES of Meeting – January 25, 2005

The Oak Park MAC held an official meeting on Tuesday, January 25, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. at Oak Park High School, 899 N. Kanan Rd., Oak Park

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Todd Haines at 7:35 p.m. MAC members Todd Haines, David Chatfield, Kent Behringer, Deena Parry, and Ron Stark were present, as well as student representative Stephen Greenberg from OPHS.

2. Flag Salute

The salute to the flag was led by the MAC.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Todd Haines moved the adoption of the agenda with the change of putting item #7 off until the end of the action items. Kent Behringer seconded the motion, and the MAC approved it 5-0 with this change.

4. Approval of the Minutes of November 23, 2004

Kent Behringer moved the adoption of the November 23, 2004 minutes with the addition of his name being added to the list of the MAC in attendance, David Chatfield seconded the motion with this change, and the MAC approved it with a 5-0 vote.

5. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

Supervisor Parks announced that the new medic engine is now stationed at the Deerhill Fire Station, with round-the-clock paramedics on site to supplement the excellent service AMR is providing to Oak Park. The new contract with AMR also requires faster ambulance response times.

The Board of Supervisors approved Supervisor Parks' agenda item to provide CSA #4 funding to the Oak Park CERT program, as well as to an Oak Park defibrillator program. Supervisor Parks also noted that the Board approved installing speed humps on Medea Creek Lane, as requested by residents living there.

At Supervisor Parks' request, staff from the Public Works Agency is working with the Shadow Oaks Homeowners' Association to bring down the costs of waste collection at the complex. The Sheriff recently solved some cases of vandalism and drug sales; there is growing optimism that the litigation between the Sheriff and the County regarding the County budget can be resolved through mediation.

There will be a lecture at the National Park Service's Visitor Center in Thousand Oaks January 29, at 2:00 PM, that tells about the wildlife living around Oak Park and the problems caused by rat poison in the food chain. It is called "Carnivores on the Fringe".

The recent heavy rainstorms created a great deal of damage in the County, and the State of California followed the Board of Supervisors in declaring the County a disaster area. A Federal declaration is being requested by the State.

Supervisor Parks described the ordinance change which she has successfully pursued to tighten up the County's protections of its native oak trees.

6. Supervisor Parks administers oath of office to newly elected MAC members

Deena Parry and Todd Haines were sworn in by Supervisor Parks.

7. Council Reorganization

By unanimous votes, Todd Haines was elected Chair of the MAC for 2005, and Deena Parry was elected Vice Chair.

8. Adjournment of the MAC meeting

Chair Todd Haines adjourned the meeting so that RSRPD could conduct its election for the Oak Park Recreation and Park Planning Advisory Committee.

9. Call back to order of the regularly scheduled 1/25/05 MAC meeting

Chair Haines called the meeting back to order after the election.

10. Public Comments

Tom Reyes expressed his concern over the safety of the Conifer water tank.

David Ross introduced proposals for creating a redevelopment agency for Oak Park as a way to fund the refurbishing of the infrastructure in Oak Park.

Sue Boecker commented on preserving the open space around Oak Park, in the light of the expiration of the deed restrictions that presently protect it. She also spoke against the concept of using aquifers beneath Ahmanson Ranch for storing water, and Supervisor Parks said that she will ask that this concept be removed from the list of solutions suggested for solving the sanitation district's excess water.

Janna Orkney expressed her dissatisfaction with the study by Pacific Horticulture of the trees on Kanan Rd.

11. Comments of Auditor-Controller Christine Cohen; question and answer period

Ms. Cohen distributed materials that explained the organization of her office and how property taxes collected from Oak Park are spent. She answered questions.

12. Comments of Sheriff Bob Brooks; question and answer period

Sheriff Brooks addressed concerns that have been raised by residents about the level of service of law enforcement in Oak Park. He noted how statistics for every category of crime except domestic abuse have been dropping in the last year, and answered questions.

13. Information Items

a. Status of the closure of the East County Jail and Booking Facility

Supervisor Parks noted how the mediation process currently underway between the County and the Sheriff's Department have raised hopes that the jail will be reopened.

b. Permit requirements proposed for the Tapia wastewater treatment Facility

Mark Capron of TSD will return to the February MAC meeting to give a report on the LAWQCB's discussions about raising wastewater quality standards for areas including Oak Park.

c. Subcommittee Report regarding the monument signs at Oak Park shopping center, Kanan & Lindero Canyon Rds.

This item was continued to the February meeting.

d. Subcommittee Report regarding meeting with school officials to discuss Medea Creek Middle School traffic issues

This item was continued to the February meeting.

e. Status of residents' request to install speed humps on Medea Creek Lane

As reported earlier during the Supervisor's report, today the Board of Supervisors voted to approve the residents' request.

14. Council Comments about Issues not on the Agenda

Deena Parry asked about the timetable for fixing potholes in Oak Park that were caused by the recent storms. Supervisor Parks noted that emergencies in the County will need to be prioritized. David Chatfield applauded everyone who participated this evening for making the meeting a success.

15. Comments of Student Representative to the MAC, Stephen Greenberg

Stephen announced that the Nestle Corporation will be donating \$80,000 to the fund for building the new OPHS track. The track will be completed in two months.

16. Action Items

a. MAC assignments for 2005

The MAC members decided on their special assignments for 2005.

b. MAC recommendation re arborist report on Kanan Rd. holly oaks

This item was continued to the February MAC meeting.

17. The next regular MAC meeting will be on February 22, 2005.

18. The meeting was adjourned until February 22 at 10:00 p.m.