

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

The Oak Park MAC held an official meeting Tuesday, October 25, 2005, 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 7:30 p.m. MAC members Todd Haines, Bonnie Biddison, Jay Kapitz, and Ron Stark were present. Deena Parry was absent.

2. Flag Salute

The salute to the flag was led by resident Dean Burnett.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Ron Stark moved the adoption, Bonnie Biddison seconded the motion, and the MAC approved it 4-0.

4. Approval of the Minutes of September 27, 2005

Ron Stark moved the adoption of the September 27, 2005 minutes, Jay Kapitz seconded the motion, and the MAC approved it with a 4-0 vote.

5. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

Supervisor Parks described the community BBQ in honor of firefighters scheduled for October 30 by Assembly member Pavley, and noted that the grateful residents of Bell Canyon had contributed \$1000 towards supplies.

She announced the November 7 Oak Park Town Hall Meeting on Emergency Preparedness and Response, to be held at the Community Center with the support of RSRPD. Ventura County Sheriff Bob Brooks, VCFPD Chief Bob Roper, and CHP Commander Cliff Williams will participate with Supervisor Parks in addressing residents' concerns related to emergency situations. Volunteers who aided with evacuations during the Topanga fire will be recognized.

Supervisor Parks noted that the newly installed stop signs at the intersection of Deerhill and Deerbrook appear to be well received by the residents.

The Triunfo Sanitation Board narrowed down the alternative sites for the Conifer replacement tank to 5 sites. There will be an opportunity for community input on these sites at a public workshop on November 14. The workshop is being publicized through flyers inserted into every Oak Park water bill, among other means.

Supervisor Parks said that she would appreciate suggestions and input from Oak Park residents regarding new uses for new funding for mental health services.

The Oak Park MAC has joined the Agoura/Oak Park Chamber of Commerce, and has received a plaque from the Chamber which Supervisor Parks gave to the MAC.

Supervisor Parks encouraged Oak Park residents to participate in the meeting of the LA Regional Water Quality Control Board on November 3 in Simi Valley.

6. Special Presentation: OPUSD student Danielle Gold's charitable project

The student was not able to be present.

7. Public Comments

Officer Randy Hosking, the CHP Community Officer for Oak Park, made a presentation to the MAC and the residents regarding some results of CHP patrols in Oak Park during the month of September. Officer Hosking explained that 14 out of 27 moving violations involved Oak Park residents, and that 30 notices were provided to owners of parked oversized vehicles that had been the objects of complaints.

AMR representative Butch Kedrowski presented a report on ambulance response times in Oak Park for the previous four months showing that AMR had complied with the standards set for it in the contract with Ventura County.

Dean Burnett observed that the traffic signals at the intersection of Kanan Rd. and Doubletree seem to change too slowly late at night. He wondered whether they were set on a school schedule and stuck there.

8. Council Comments

Ron Stark encouraged residents to attend the LA Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting.

Jay Kapitz reported on his attendance as a MAC rep at the last OPUSD meeting; he encouraged people to vote against Prop. 76, as Superintendent Knight had done. The VC Board of Supervisors had passed a

resolution against this proposition, as had OPUSD. He encouraged residents to shop in Oak Park, and said he hoped the Chamber of Commerce membership could help further this end.

Bonnie Biddison said that the Oak Park Gardeners' Pumpkin Patch event was great. She said that extra gardening plots are available at the Community Garden. She introduced safety tips for surviving earthquakes. She said that she had recently ridden the Santa Monica Mountains shuttle bus ParkLINK through the mountains, and praised this new service. She said that she was looking forward to the firefighters' BBQ.

CERT has out a new information sheet on emergency preparation, which is posted on Oak parkupdate.com and will also be mailed in the water bills, according to **Ron Stark**.

Todd Haines expressed his deep appreciation for the work of firefighters, law enforcement, and other safety personnel who came to the aid of Oak Park and its residents during the Topanga fire. He said that the mutual aid agreement worked successfully and that the Board of Supervisors can also be thanked for the overall success because it is "where the buck stops". In particular he was impressed by witnessing on his own residential street how effectively the "unified command" functioned, with Ventura County directing the activities of firefighters from many different departments in the State.

A general discussion of Oak Park's experiences during the fire followed. Dean Burnett complained that no one had told him that an evacuation was mandatory. Supervisor Parks replied that people cannot be forced to leave, and that this subject would be discussed more fully at the Town Hall meeting. Ron Stark appreciated the care given to his pets by VC Animal Regulation during the evacuation. Harvey Kern reported that oakparkupdate.com had 2200 hits the day the fire broke out, 5500 hits the following day, and 1800 on that Friday. Tom Reyes commented that "all the departments did a fantastic job".

9. Action items

a. Resident's request to replace 3 pine trees at corner of Hawthorne Dr., Rockfield St., Evanwood Ave. (adjacent to 5152 Evanwood Ave.)

MAC voted 4-0 in favor of the replacements, after Ron Stark made a motion to do so, seconded by Bonnie Biddison.

b. Standing landscape committee update and recommendations

Bonnie Biddison reported on a meeting held the previous Wednesday. The MAC agreed that the committee's recommendations need to be made public and shared with the MAC in a written form when the MAC packet goes out, and that Ron Stark would ask for the time being that rye seeding of the parkway near the holly oaks along Kanan Rd. not begin until the MAC can weigh in on the topic, and that the bender board in front of 52 Kanan Rd. be removed.

10. Information Items

a. Conifer water tank replacement project

It was agreed that this topic was addressed during the Supervisor's Comments item.

Tom Reyes said that he is getting mail delivery as late as 8:00 PM. Harvey Kern explained that the mail comes from Santa Clarita, and Todd Haines promised to speak with one of the U.S. Postal Service supervisors.

11. The meeting was adjourned by Chair Haines at 8:33 p.m. until November 22.