

**OAK PARK MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES  
of Meeting, June 25, 2013**

**The Oak Park MAC held an official meeting Tuesday, June 25, 2013 at 7:00 PM  
Oak Park Library, 899 N. Kanan Road, Oak Park**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Michael Paule** at 7:00 PM. **Mike Green, Robert von Schneidau**, and **Alon Glickstein** were also present. **Mike McReynolds** was absent.

**2. Flag Salute**

**Supervisor Linda Parks** led the flag salute.

**3. Adoption of the Agenda**

The adoption of the agenda passed 4-0, on a motion by **Mike Green** and seconded by **Alon Glickstein**.

**4. Approval of the Minutes of May 28**

The approval of the May 28 minutes passed 4-0 on a motion by **Alon Glickstein**, seconded by **Mike Green** and including a correction of the date of the CBE in agenda item #5.

**5. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks**

Supervisor Parks commented on the County's planning to put a Kanan Road shuttle service on the road in late summer. She spoke about the Board of Supervisors' work, including her satisfaction with the previous week's passing of a new fiscal year County budget which increased reserves while also having the County take on more responsibilities with, for example, the national Affordable Care Act. She said that the County was also looking forward to the coming month's ground-breaking for the biggest project in County history, a \$200 million hospital building. She said that she was pleased to see the Oak Park Solar Group members participating earlier in the month at the ribbon-cutting and tour for the new Moorpark solar installation. She commented that Los Angeles County had a planning process underway for an expansion of the Calabazas landfill and that residents could review the environmental document to learn about it and provide their input. She said that the County would introduce a new website on the first of July. Finally she expressed her appreciation to law enforcement for the 2013 Ventura County Sheriff's Office Public Survey, accessible on the Sheriff's website and containing interviews of Oak Park residents along with other unincorporated residents.

**6. Public Safety Reports**

**Ventura County Sheriff's Department Captain Cory Rubright** said that there had been no new crime trends in the last month, and that burglaries decreased. He noted that Thousand Oaks was experiencing more crime associated with criminals first ringing doorbells to see if people responded, and he said that in law enforcement's view it was best for residents to somehow acknowledge doorbells rather than ignore them when someone was outside ringing the doorbell. **Robert von Schneidau** asked if he had observed any changes now that school was out of session, and the Captain replied that there were not changes seen so far but that his department would issue a press release about the need for the public's extra watchfulness generally during school vacation. **Michael Paule** inquired about graffiti, and the Captain said that no uptick in incidences had been seen. He also shared with the Captain that evidence of beer bottles and partying had been found along the Oak Canyon water tank access road, and the Captain said that deputies would be checking on this area. **Alon Glickstein** commented on car burglaries in his neighborhood, saying that leaving doors unlocked had been a factor and cautioning residents to secure their property. **Mike Green** said that the strawberry seller parking on Oak Park streets was back and now properly permitted.

**CHP Community Alliance Officer Gregg Musgrove** spoke about RV parking issues, and when reminded by **Michael Paule** that Kanan Road would soon be repaved, he commented on the outstanding job done with traffic safety measures by the County's street paving contractor Toro Enterprises during other recent street projects in Oak Park he had observed. **Mike Green** said that the school district had not uncovered the no parking signs on Kanan Road by the high school after graduation was over.

## **7. Information items**

### **a. Recognition of Ed Hayduk for his contributions to Oak Park, in light of his upcoming retirement from the Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District**

Supervisor Parks presented Ed Hayduk with a Resolution from the Board of Supervisors which highlighted some of his major achievements during his eighteen years with the Park District and thanked him for his exceptional dedication and energy as a parks planner and manager.

**Ed Hayduk** recounted interesting anecdotes about his early career challenges and accomplishments, and he provided background information about the design and creation of beloved Oak Park sites. He said that he considered Oak Canyon Park and the Community Center to be the most beautiful in Ventura County. **Mike Green** said that in his experience Ed Hayduk had always been supportive of good ideas, and provided as an example of his thoroughness the booklet on Oak Park parks he had created for the June 23 tour. **Robert von Schneidau** commented on the great use of natural vs. created parks areas in the planning done by RSRPD, and on how in his opinion all the best features of Oak Park from his youth in the 1960's had been thoughtfully preserved. **Alon Glickstein** also expressed his deep appreciation for the work of Ed Hayduk, and he commented on how committed to excellence the RSRPD staff was. **Michael Paule** said that at first sight he had fallen in love with the beauty of Oak Park, especially the parks, and that he commended all the staff at RSRPD for this. He thanked Ed Hayduk on behalf of everyone in the community, and said that he would be greatly missed but hopefully would stay in touch with Oak Park.

### **b. Presentation from County of Ventura Building and Zoning Code Compliance Division, with Deputy Director Jim Delperdang**

Mr. Delperdang gave an overview of his department's work, explaining that its investigations were complaint-driven, that there were seven officers reviewing complaints and visiting sites, and that the most common code compliance complaints involved unpermitted construction, open storage at residences, illegal RV parking, excessive numbers of animals kept at a property, and illegal trimming of protected trees. He answered questions and provided forms and materials to illustrate the work of code compliance.

### **c. Update regarding Kanan Shuttle**

This topic was covered under agenda item #5.

## **8. Public Comments**

**Glen Wilcox** commented on the increasing numbers of renters in Oak Park homes, and expressed his desire that the MAC could address inadequacies in the service AT&T provides in Oak Park.

**Janna Orkney** spoke about the uses of recycled water in Oak Park.

## **9. Council Comments**

**Alon Glickstein** reported that he had participated in the June 1 TSD watershed tour and that he appreciated it very much.

**Mike Green** said that the concert in the park held in Oak Canyon Park on June 22 was an unbelievably wonderful event. He said that he also appreciated the Oak Park Parks and

Recreation Planning Committee tour of the parks on June 23. He added that he would begin a Volunteers in Policing (VIP) course on July 16 in Thousand Oaks.

**Robert von Schneidau** commented on some instances of graffiti on a subdivision monument sign that he was made aware of. He said that the high school graduation event was seamless, and that he hoped community youth would be able to settle down for the summer.

**Michael Paule** commented that **Mike Green** had been volunteering with the Red Cross in Oklahoma in the wake of the tornados there. He also spoke about Triunfo Sanitation District Board news, including satisfaction over the completion of the new water tank, the removal of the old one, and the relocation of cell tower facilities to a temporary site at the old Conifer location. He said that the HOA near the Conifer site continued its negotiations with Verizon regarding obtaining an easement that would allow Verizon to join the other carriers there. He said that it was anticipated the TSD project on Falling Star would be done by July 9.

**Derek Ross** was present, and he commented on the Oak Park Parks and Recreation Planning Committee tour of the parks on June 23, giving an update to information provided then. He said that no smoking signs would be posted in the parks, that Deerhill Park would get new benches, and that there would be upgrades at Mae Boyar. He added that with the upcoming retirements of Ed Hayduk and Larry Peterson from RSRPD, there would be hard work in order to bring new staff up to speed on Oak Park related issues.

#### **10. Written Communications**

**Michael Paule** noted e-mails from **Principal Benioff** expressing satisfaction with the new restricted parking on Hollytree Drive during Medea Creek Middle School drop-off times, and from the City of Thousand Oaks about plans to add turn lane stoplights to the stoplight at the intersection of Lindero Canyon Drive and Rockfield Drive.

#### **11. Advisory Matters**

##### **a. Standing Landscape Committee update and recommendations**

A meeting had taken place that month, reported **Michael Paule**. Attached is his summary of topics addressed at the meeting.

##### **b. MAC recommendation, support for efforts to use alternative products and practices for weed control and fertilizing in CSA #4 maintained landscape areas; presented by Deena Parry and Anthony Knight**

Attached is a letter from **Anthony Knight** on the topic, read aloud by **Deena Parry** at the meeting. The MAC discussed options for introducing changes to the CSA #4 maintained landscaping strips in Oak Park, and there was informal MAC agreement that any changes in landscaping practices be needed to be done together with the Parks District which represented much bigger land areas than road medians and roadsides, and that the topic could be brought up at the upcoming Oak Park Parks and Recreation Planning Committee meeting on July 11. There was one speaker card, from **Janna Orkney** who commented that Oak Park's landscaping was more traditional and not waterwise, and that test areas free from chemicals should be introduced.

##### **c. MAC recommendation, MAC meeting dates for OPHS room G-9 in 2013 fall semester: September 24, October 22, November 26, December 17**

On a motion made by **Mike Green** seconded by **Alon Glickstein**, the MAC voted 4-0 to plan for these meeting dates.

#### **12. Adjournment to July 23 meeting in the Oak Park Library**

**Chair Paule** adjourned the meeting at 9:12 PM.

## **Recommendations of the Oak Park Landscape Committee - June 2013**

### Oak Park Budget/Infrastructure Updates

- 1) CSA budget passed this month - contains increased allocation for water.
- 2) Enhanced Landscape Management is applying for second contract with Oak Park - first contract expires this year.
- 3) In July Kanan to be repaved.
- 4) Road repair due to water tank construction done except Falling Star section.
- 5) Sidewalk repair was achieved at much reduced rate due to piggybacking with other projects.
- 6) Water supply adequate for this year.

### Use of Roundup in Weed Abatement

- 1) Roundup use in community discussed. Roundup is not used at Oak Park schools; however since there are few environmentally safe alternatives, weed abatement is primarily done manually. Since only two groundskeepers in school district, weed control is problematic. One safe alternative being tried by the school district is "Weed Attack".
- 2) Enhanced Landscape (EH) uses Roundup in weed abatement. Suggested that EH submit two contract proposals to the County, one using Roundup, second using alternative weed abatement methods. EH is willing to submit the two proposals.
- 3) Suggested that discussion of Roundup use be placed on Oak Park MAC agenda with possibility of formulating a statement to County Board of Supervisors encouraging use of organic weed abatement methods in all county weed control programs.
- 4) Also recommended that a city-wide coordinated effort between MAC, Oak Park school district and Oak Park Recreation and Parks Committee generate statement of encouragement to County Board of Supervisors.

### Community Event Planning

- 1) Date/Time: Saturday, September 28, from 9 am to noon
- 2) Place: Oak Park Community Center
- 3) Topics: Waterwise Landscaping/Firescaping
- 4) Events:
  - a) Rain Barrel raffle
  - b) Vendor displays
  - c) Possible speaker - James Dean, Landscape Architect for Caruso developments.
  - d) Children's events such as face painting, seed planting. Suggested having Rancho Simi counselors entertain the kids during speaker's seminar.
- 5) Funding: Suggested Oak Park Community Foundation be used to fund if necessary; Calleguas and Triunfo water districts may also help fund.
- 6) Need to develop three hour schedule for community event before next meeting, Wednesday, July 24.



June 24, 2013

To: The Oak Park MAC (Municipal Advisory Council)

The Oak Park Unified School District has ceased using the herbicide *Roundup* for more than five years ago. This was done in order to keep toxic chemicals away from our children and employees and to help protect the local watershed. It was part of a process to go 'chemical free' districtwide.

We have subsequently abandoned the use chemical fertilizers and instead use a product called *Sustane*. An integrated pest management system is also in place where no harmful insecticides are used. To address the issue of weed abatement on campuses, the two groundskeepers hoe, rake, and pull the weeds. Also, as new landscape projects are completed, drip irrigation systems are utilized to reduce the growth of weeds and make them much easier to control.

We have recently started to conduct tests of the stream water in Medea Creek as part of a student project at Oak Park High School. The most recent tests this month show very high levels of phosphates in multiple locations in the creek. These are as high as 1.0 ppm. Ideally, they should be 0. High phosphate levels in fresh water ecosystems are the results of algae blooms, which are evident throughout the creek. It would be beneficial for the riparian ecosystem of Medea Creek if less nitrogen and phosphorus washed into the creek.

Glyphosate is the main ingredient in *Roundup*. Currently the EPA is testing the safety of this chemical because of recent studies, one at Purdue University and the other at the University of Caen, France, have indicated that the chemical can cause death of amphibians and human cell destruction and disease. The results of these tests are expected in 2015. There are other ingredients in *Roundup* such as surfactants that are also of concern because they remain on the leaves of the weeds and then wash in to the creek with irrigation or rain and these are also associated with stream pollution problems.

Oak Park USD was recently named a National Green Ribbon School District by the U.S. Department of Education and the EPA. We are one of fourteen school districts

in the United States so named this year. We were commended for our 'chemical free' practices as part of the award recognition.

As our children use the parks and other areas throughout the community, it would be remarkable to help make the community 'chemical free' as well. We could improve the health of our local watershed and ensure the safety of our population, especially the children who make more contact with turf and plants in public areas.

We would like to offer to be a partner with the MAC and the County of Ventura in any pilot program that might be considered, providing educational resources to the community about sustainable landscape and going 'chemical free.'

Sincerely,

Anthony W. Knight, Ed.D.  
Superintendent