

OAK PARK MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
of an official Meeting, October 23, 2018
The Oak Park MAC held an official meeting
on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 7:00 PM
Oak Park Library, 899 N. Kanan Road, Oak Park

1. Call to Order of the meeting

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Drew Fountaine** at 7:00 PM. **Alon Glickstein, Chris Chapman, Seema Chandra, Jane Nye**, and Student Representative **Hannah Gates** were also present.

2. Flag Salute

Boy Scouts of America Webelos Troops 3755, 3756, and 3766 were in attendance, and a Scout led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The MAC voted 5-0 to adopt the agenda, with **Alon Glickstein** making a motion that was seconded by **Jane Nye**.

4. Approval of the Minutes of July 24, 2018

Jane Nye made a motion to approve the draft minutes, seconded by **Seema Chandra**, and passed 5-0. The September MAC meeting had been canceled.

5. Public Safety reports

Ventura County Sheriff's Sergeant Alan Hartkop reported on the previous months' criminal activity in Oak Park, including the theft of a wedding ring by a cleaning crew on Cardinal Way, the theft of a package from a porch on Spanish Oaks in July, September residential burglaries at a home bordering open space in which a front door was broken, at a home on Pathfinder in the nighttime in which softball equipment was taken from a garage, and a morning burglary on Basswood Avenue in which a rear glass sliding door was used to enter and ransack the residence. He also listed the theft of a purse from a locked car parked at Oak Canyon Park in which a rear window was broken. He noted the recent arrest of seven individuals from Los Angeles responsible for numerous residential burglaries. He said that his department was investigating their possible involvement in criminal activity in Oak Park. Finally, **Sergeant Hartkop** said that the Ventura County Sheriff's Office recommended the use of the app "RING" for residents who wanted to help combat crime in their communities.

CHP Community Liaison Officer Ben Susanka shared information that was read at the meeting, about 32 hours of grant funded Oak Park special enforcement activity that the CHP had provided in support of school and pedestrian safety on September 5 and 14, at crosswalks. At the crosswalk at Churchwood and Los Arcos the CHP made 17 traffic stops and issued 12 tickets for drivers not stopping at stop signs. At the crosswalk at Kanan and Doubletree, the CHP made 19 traffic stops and issued 14 tickets to drivers for failing to stop. He also conveyed the information that a radar trailer for reminding drivers about speed limits would be placed in Oak Park in November.

6. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

Supervisor Parks shared information about the County Public Works app "VCPWA Connect!" used for reporting complaints dealing with potholes, downed road signs, and graffiti, and more. The information could be accessed at VCPublicWorks.org. She mentioned that the Board of Supervisors was expected to vote on the contract for Volunteers In Policing (VIP) services to Oak Park in early December. She said that property owners could pay their property tax in person at her office in Thousand Oaks the week after Thanksgiving. She said there would be a special

promotion event October 28 for adopting cats at the County Animal Shelter in Camarillo and that flyers about the event were on the table. She added that Ventura County had one of the few no-kill animal shelters in the nation. She noted that the Board of Supervisors had appointed three Oak Park MAC members in lieu of election the previous week, **Alon Glickstein**, **Enzo Diaz**, and **Janice Smets**. She introduced **Janice Smets**, who was present. Their official swearing in and first meeting was set for the January MAC meeting. Regarding agenda item #12.a. she commented that replacing turf with drought tolerant plantings would save water and the rising cost of irrigation, so she encouraged doing so. She said that she was hopeful new legislation could enable local jurisdictions to put limits on the use of toxic herbicides. Regarding the agenda item 12.c. about the parkway project on Joshua Street, she said that she wanted to try to have the encroachment fee reduced to a small amount, and that MAC support would be helpful.

7. Information items

There were none.

8. Council Comments

Seema Chandra commented that the new bus shelters for the Kanan Shuttle bus stops looked great, and were much appreciated.

9. Public Comments

There were none.

10. MAC Member Liaison Reports

Jane Nye reported on the Oak Park Unified School District (OPUSD) board meeting, saying that there had been a smooth transition to the School District taking over the AM/PM program from the Park District, and that the enrollment of 700 students represented a doubling of the program. **Alan Rosen** from the OPUSD Board noted that a proposed school bus program had been abandoned after only nine families signed up for it. **Jane Nye** reported on construction projects at the Oak Park schools, and she said that recent good test results were the result of a decade of investment in the school district.

Drew Fountaine asked for support when he would run for a seat on the Parks and Recreation Planning Committee during the January, 2019 MAC meeting's Committee elections. He reported that the Committee was concerned about maintaining the condition of the parks in Oak Park, and that with regard to the Mae Boyar Park building project, he was working to maintain access to funds from the sale of the Rancho Simi Recreation and Parks District (RSRPD) building in Simi Valley.

Hannah Gates reported on events coming up in coming weeks, such as a meeting about District of Choice applications, a football game, a blood drive, and a rummage sale to benefit athletics programs.

11. Written Communications

There were none.

12. Advisory Matters

- a) **MAC recommendation, proposal from Enhanced Landscape contractor to remove and replace turf in Community Services Area #4 (CSA #4) maintained area at the Kanan Road/Smoketree Ave. center island, to cost \$17,735**

Jane Nye made a motion seconded by **Chris Chapman**, and passed 5-0, to reject the project and to recommend tree planting instead. The vote was taken after **Greg Epstein** of Enhanced Landscape said that he recommended leaving the grass in place there and adding a tree, and

instead doing a turf replacement project by Lindero Canyon Road where potable water is used for irrigation.

- b) MAC recommendation, proposal from Enhanced Landscape contractor to remove twelve trees in Community Services Area #4 (CSA #4) maintained areas, to cost \$22,099***

Jane Nye made a motion seconded by ***Alon Glickstein***, and passed 5-0, to accept the project on the basis of information provided by ***Greg Epstein***. Residents ***Kareen Weidenfeller*** and ***Ian Greenberg*** spoke in favor of removing pine trees due to damage to backyards from pine needles. ***Chuck Alvarez*** from Ventura County Real Estate Services said the trees could be removed if they presented liability issues to the County, not because they dropped needles.

- c) MAC recommendation, encroachment fees charged to property owner for the parkway project at 6443 Joshua Street***

Alon Glickstein made a motion, seconded by ***Chris Chapman*** and passed 5-0, to recommend reducing the fees to under \$100.

- d) MAC recommendation, OPUSD request for the addition of a new crossing guard position, at estimated \$10,817 annually (continued from July meeting)***

Alon Glickstein noted that the traffic signal timing changes made at the Kanan Road area in front of Oak Park High School were working very well. He made a motion, seconded by ***Chris Chapman***, to approve paying for the second crossing guard there requested by the school district. The motion failed, with the other three MAC members voting against it. ***Chris Chapman*** emphasized that the interests of children should come first. The item was continued, with ***Drew Fountaine*** saying that he wanted the requested expenditure to be part of a larger group of expenses that needed to be discussed together with ***Supervisor Parks*** at the next MAC meeting.

- e) MAC recommendation, appointment (effective December 8) of MAC member as Liaison to the Oak Park Parks and Recreation Planning Advisory Committee to participate in its January 10, 2019 meeting***

Jane Nye was chosen to represent the MAC at the January meeting.

12. Adjournment to November 27 at 7 P.M. in the Oak Park Library

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.