OAK PARK MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES of an official Meeting, March 26, 2019. The Oak Park MAC held an official meeting on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 7:00 PM. Oak Park High School Room G-9, 899 N. Kanan Road, Oak Park

1. Call to Order of the meeting

The meeting was called to order by *Jane Nye* at 7:03 PM. *Alon Glickstein, JL Diaz,* and *Janice Smets* were also present along with Student Representative *Hannah Gates*. *Seema Chandra* was absent.

2. Flag Salute

Hannah Gates led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

The MAC voted 4-0 to adopt the agenda, with *Alon Glickstein* making the motion seconded by *JL Diaz*.

4. Approval of the Minutes of February 26, 2019

Janice Smets made a motion to approve the draft minutes seconded by Alon Glickstein, and passed 4-0.

5. Public Safety reports

CHP Community Liaison Officer Ben Susanka said that in the past month his agency had dealt with numerous parking violation complaints. He mentioned that curbs in school zones had been painted red on March 11 to improve safety by the schools.

Ventura County Sheriff's Captain Renee Ferguson and Senior Deputy John Chiaramonte

reported on the previous month's criminal activity in Oak Park, highlighting several burglaries. On March 12 nine computers worth \$5K were stolen from Brookside Elementary School during a break-in, and between March 12 and 15 a home adjacent to open space was also burglarized. *Capt. Ferguson* said that Volunteers in Policing would soon begin serving in Oak Park, and that would be helpful. She anticipated introducing an agreement on the services bewtween the Oak Park MAC and the Sheriff's Office at the next MAC meeting. *Sr. Deputy Chiaramonte* noted that there had been four arrests in the past week, with the identification of one burglary crew leading to other suspects in the crimes. He said that lately burglars had been breaking glass to enter homes, and that residents should consider adding windows to their alarm systems. There appeared to be four different groups responsible for recent burglaries locally, each with different techniques and preferred times of the day/night for their criminal activity. Some were local, some operated more regionally, and there were also foreign nationals involved. He said that the number to call for non-emergencies was (805) 654-9511. He urged people to call in any sightings of suspicious activity.

6. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

Supervisor Parks said that several County departments had new directors. She summarized the results of the wildlife corridors ordinance hearing held by the Board of Supervisors on March 12. She mentioned that property taxes could be paid in person at her office for the next week and a half. She said that on April 13 in the OPHS parking lot, the annual County sponsored drive-in recycling event would take place. She said that the cost of operating the Kanan Shuttle would increase. She said that in the month of April there would be an amnesty on fines for people getting Ventura County dog licenses. Finally, she mentioned an upcoming dinner event she was hosting with a speaker on the topic of artificial intelligence.

7. Information items

a. Planning Division staff will provide an update on the 2040 General Plan project Planning staff members Susan Curtis and Clay Downing gave a presentation about the work in progress; their power point is attached here.

b. Transportation Department's review of the street crossing areas that fall between connecting park trails in Oak Park (continued from the February meeting)
The MAC members had no further questions about the study.

c. April 13 County recycling drive-in event, at Oak Park High School parking lot

8. Public Comments

Scott Anderson spoke about residential burglaries in Oak Park. He said that he felt one assigned deputy shared with Bell Canyon was not enough protection for Oak Park. He said that he was a 29-year resident in the community and that he had seen a rise in crime there in the past four years, but no increase in the number of deputies present. Supervisor Parks said that the Thousand Oaks Police Department provided excellent back-up to the deputies in Oak Park. Jane Nye asked about holding a special town hall meeting about the burglaries, and Supervisor Parks answered that there would be a town hall in a few months. Alon Glickstein commented that a neighborhood near Red Oak Elementary School had organized a successful Neighborhood Watch program with some financial backing from the MAC.

Cheri Gerson spoke about wanting to stop the opening of a smoke shop in the Oak Park shopping center at the southeast corner of the Lindero Canyon Road/Kanan Road intersection. She mentioned its use of flashing signage, and prominent use of the word "vape". She said it could contribute to drug use.

Al Rosen spoke about the OPUSD Board's adopted goals, and how the opening of the smoke shop would be in opposition to these goals.

Michael Shulman spoke about the need for local oversight over businesses like the smoke shop, and he pointed out that its flashing signs were an example of mistakes made by the business.

Kelly Mills gave an update about the Deerhill tennis courts issue, saying that the RSRPD Board would meet and discuss the topic on May 2 in Oak Park. She said that she supported the new crossing guard at Deerhill Road. She said that there were many pedestrians waiting to cross Kanan Road from Deerhill Road, and she wondered whether an arrow would help for the right turn from Deerhill Road onto Kanan Road. She also asked that MAC items be added to Next Door. *Janice Smets* said that she had asked for a traffic study at Deerhill Park, and for information on pickleball use data.

Bing Xu Liu asked that a MAC member attend the RSRPD Board meeting, and asked about the high school tennis courts.

Jane Nye explained that the school district was working with the park district again to keep the courts open to the public and maintained. **OPHS Principal Kevin Buchanan** explained further that tennis leagues use the high school courts, and that the Park District gives tennis lessons there as well.

Pancheng Wang asked for the MAC's support at the May 2 RSRPD Board meeting, and expressed uncertainty about the purpose of the meeting.

Chair John Watts of the Oak Park Parks and Recreation Planning Advisory Committee apologized for the hurt and confusion caused by the Deerhill Park tennis courts' controversy. A speaker said that the true cost of creating new pickleball courts was half of the RSRPD estimate.

Sheldon Wu asked about the RSRPD budget.

Inga Jones commented that the Deerhill Park decision was the result of a bad process.

James Ebert stressed that the tennis courts decision had been a mis-step, and that the park district wanted to make amends for it. He pointed out how much was lost during the Woolsey Fire in Oak Park, and how the park district stepped in to replace things. Oak Park benefitted greatly from the association with RSRPD.

Another speaker said that the RSRPD staff had been rude and dismissive to the public about the tennis courts. It was also mentioned that RSRPD may decide to move its planned May Board meeting to Simi Valley from Oak Park.

9. Council Comments

Hannah Gates said that she was working on ways to improve communication about MAC issues.

Jane Nye reported on the March 19 OPUSD school board meeting. Her notes are attached.

10. Written Communications

There were none.

11. Advisory Matters

a.OPUSD request for the addition of an additional, 13th crossing guard position, at the intersection of Kanan Road and Deerhill Road; for an estimated \$10,817 annual cost in 2018/19, and \$11,606 annual cost beginning in 2019/20 The item was continued to the following MAC meeting.

12. Adjournment to the April 23 meeting

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:09 PM.









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Notes from Mar 19 OPUSD Meeting

- Distinguished School awards 2019 for MCMC & OPHS
 - California Exemplary Districts Award 2019 18/953 in state
 - Recognizes outstanding education programs and practices in middle and high schools
- OPHS Career Technical Education award only 9 schools in CA recognized
- Summer school some glitches w/new online process for OPHS, so will go to a lottery, results posted Apr 19
- Safe Kids Task Force
 - Staff has weekly meetings with Sheriff
 - 7am
 - Alarming number of kids are considering suicide and show anxiety
 - Even in the elementary schools
 - Double the number from last year
 - Tough year fires, Borderline shooting, etc. (more tragic events on top of regular death & divorce issues)
 - Bullying is also up
 - Jump in chronic sadness
 - Connectiveness gap very concerning
 - Recommendation to focus on elementary schools
 - Add counselors
 - Add campus supervisors
 - Why is this happening?
 - Need more analysis done
 - What actions
 - Set goals
 - Work with Palo Alto school district to see what they did
 - Add small student focus groups
- Technology update
 - Chromebook pilot very successful w/6th graders
 - Equity and access to curriculum
 - Students more engaged
 - 95% of teachers are using computers in classrooms