

OAK PARK MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
of an official Meeting, August 27, 2019.
The Oak Park MAC held an official meeting
on Tuesday, August 27, 2019 at 7:00 PM in the
Oak Park Library, 899 N. Kanan Road, Oak Park.

1. Call to Order of the meeting

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Seema Chandra** at 7:02 PM. **Jane Nye, Alon Glickstein, JL Diaz** and **Janice Smets** were also present, along with Oak Park High School student representative **Logan Prince**.

2. Flag Salute

Logan Prince led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

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

4. Approval of the Minutes of June 25, 2019

Jane Nye made a motion to approve the draft minutes seconded by **Seema Chandra**, and passed 5-0.

5. Public Safety reports

Ventura County Sheriff's Senior Deputy John Chiaromonte said that in the past two months there were several thefts from unlocked vehicles, cases of license plates stolen, and an incident involving approximately \$40K worth of jewelry and coins reported missing from a home in which contractors had been working. There existed a family relationship between the contractors and the homeowner. He also reported that there was an assault with a deadly weapon at a home on Smoketree Avenue involving the stabbing of a female victim.

Alon Glickstein asked if there were any news about the smoke shop in Oak Park, and **Senior Deputy Chiaromonte** said that there was not. **Deputy Chiaromonte** mentioned that the new Volunteers In Policing (VIP) program participants had already logged more than 400 different tasks completed in Oak Park. He said that residents interested in scheduling vacation home checks with the VIP's could arrange that by calling (805) 654-9511.

CHP Officer Jed Johnston introduced himself and he also conveyed greetings to the MAC from the **Moorpark CHP Station Acting Commander Michael Logie**. He said that recently on his first occasion working in Oak Park he had written seven citations in ninety minutes. He said that he would be patrolling in Oak Park on weekdays around the times when schools let out. He announced that funding had been secured by **Community Liaison Officer Susanka** for a special traffic enforcement detail project in September. One of its objects would be enforcement action against vehicles not yielding to pedestrians.

Janice Smets asked whether electric scooters were legal, and he responded that they were legal and required to follow the same rules of the road as vehicles. A resident commented that the stop signage on Rockfield near the elementary school could be improved with features like flashing lights. **Jane Nye** said that she would ask County Transportation about providing that.

6. Comments of Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks

Speaking on behalf of **Supervisor Parks** her assistant Jan Osterhaven noted that an after action report on the Woolsey Fire would be presented later in the year at a Board of Supervisors meeting held at City Hall in Thousand Oaks. She said that the Board for the Oak Park Unified School District (OPUSD) had voted to contribute \$25K towards the Kanan Shuttle fiscal year expenses,

and that the Agoura Hills City Council had voted to contribute \$35K for the Shuttle. She said that the September MAC agenda would include a hearing on a new Verizon cell tower proposed for east of the Kanan Road and Churchwood Drive intersection, an update on CERT in Oak Park, and a proposal for replacing turf on a section of the Lindero Canyon Road median north of Kanan Road. **Jane Nye** asked about a planned September Board of Supervisors' agenda item on the use of glyphosate in County maintained landscaping, and she responded that she had heard the item had been postponed to October.

7. Information items

There were none.

8. Public Comments

Marcia Haber expressed her opposition to the proposed new Verizon cell tower planned on Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District (RSRPD) land near Kanan Road and Churchwood Drive. She said that it would be a 55' tower in her backyard. Other neighbors also expressed opposition to the proposal's aesthetic and safety impacts, and to their lack of knowledge about it before this summer. The residents were **Shadee Haber**, **Shane Nejael**, and **Danya Haggart**. They had believed the current MAC meeting would have the project on the agenda.

Jan Osterhaven said that the project planning was on meeting agendas publicized by the RSRPD Park District for several years, and that after the September MAC meeting's agenda item on it with the project applicant and with County Planning staff, the latter would compile a written report for the County Planning Director's public hearing on the application. It was important to provide input to the planner for this staff report. She said that according to County Planning staff Verizon had dropped the idea of storing fuel and using a generator at the proposed project site.

Alon Glickstein noted that many residents supported the most up-to-date wireless service, and **Jane Nye** encouraged residents to contact Oak Park Unified School District Superintendent **Tony Knight** to garner opposition to the cell tower.

9. Council Comments/Liaison Reports

Logan Prince reported on the schedule for the upcoming first home football game of the season, with its tail-gating event, and the future homecoming game and dance. It was now the fourth week of school for OPUSD students. He noted that a fight between freshman and sophomore students had taken place, and that school administration had taken action to discipline students involved in it. **Janice Smets** expressed her disapproval of the lack of information about it during the MAC's "Public Safety Reports", while others commented that it was a matter for the school administration to handle.

Janice Smets said that 34 turtles in the pond at the Community Center had been removed with the help of the RSRPD Park District in the past month, and she showed a newspaper article about it. She noted that there were discussions about how best to address the damage to the pond generally, and that the Park District was waiting for the State government to act in regard to insurance coverage that could include the pond. In the meantime she had met with the RSRPD Park District to introduce a lawyer and to encourage the Park District to initiate a lawsuit against Southern California Edison. She gave packets of information including her long-range landscaping proposals to the other MAC members and to Supervisor Parks' office. **Seema Chandra** noted that with the September MAC agenda already quite heavy, it might be best to schedule in October a discussion about Oak Park's longer-range landscape planning.

Alon Glickstein said that he was happy to be back with the MAC but disappointed in the June vote against funding the 13th crossing guard requested by the OPUSD School District because he believed that safety should outweigh every other consideration. He said that he would like to have the 13th crossing guard funding put on the October Oak Park MAC agenda. **Seema**

Chandra expressed her disagreement that not agreeing to fund this crossing guard implied a lack of concern over safety. There was not consensus among the MAC members about the legality of bringing back the topic for reconsideration, and Jan Osterhaven offered to ask Supervisor Parks for guidance.

Seema Chandra noted that she received some e-mails about the proposed Verizon cell tower, and she expressed sadness over the recent closing of Stevenson Fitness in Oak Park.

Jane Nye reported on attending an OPUSD School Board meeting at which 100 parents spoke in public comments about a new gender identity curriculum. She said that the proposed Verizon cell tower was also mentioned there in public comments. She said she would be looking at the possibility of more partnerships for funding the Kanan Shuttle. She said that the School Board did not want to commit to increasing its share of the Shuttle expense when the RSRPD Park District was not a partner. She said that she had received a message from **Eric Berg** at the Calleguas Water District saying the interconnection project work was scheduled to begin in May of 2020.

JLDiaz reported that he had attended his first meeting of the Triunfo Water and Sanitation District Board as MAC Liaison, and that there would be a study done about the rates that customers pay. It was an eye-opener for him that the Board members received compensation for their service, he said.

10. Written Communications

There were none.

11. Advisory Matters

a. Reaffirm MAC recommendation of 3/27/2012 regarding crossing guard contracts and budgets

The MAC's voted recommendation on March 27, 2012 was "...that in the future OPUSD submit invoices for CSA #4 reimbursements on a quarterly basis, submit future changes in the crossing guard contracts to the MAC before OPUSD agrees to the changes, and that the current FY reimbursement from CSA #4 not amount to over \$70K, i.e., not go over the current agreement previously approved by the MAC."

Real Estate Services Director Charles Alvarez said that his preference was for the agenda item to be considered as an information item, and there was no vote taken by the MAC members. He clarified why the Community Services District #4 (CSA #4) draft budget reviewed in May by the MAC had included funding for a 13th crossing guard. It was to allow for the flexibility of funding the guard if the MAC decided later in the year to do so, despite the multiple conflicts such an action would create given the County's Agreement with the OPUSD School District about procedures for funding crossing guards. **Jane Nye** said she was confident that the School District administration did not know about any such Agreement.

12. Adjournment to the September 24 meeting

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:30 P.M.