

# THE EL RIO /DEL NORTE MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

*Serving as Advisory Council for recreational activities in the El Rio, Nyeland Acres, Strickland and Agricultural Areas or El Rio/Del Norte area, including advisory recommendations for the El Rio Roger Jones Community Center and the Nyeland Acres Community Center*

## Summary Minutes for the Thursday March 21, 2024, 7:00 pm

Roger Jones Community Center  
2864 Jourdan St. Oxnard, CA 93036

**I. Pledge of Allegiance**

**II. Roll Call**

Regular Members

**David Souza (Vice Chair) (Nyeland Acres)**

Present

**Bonnie Bernal (Cloverdale)**

Present

**Julie Hupp (Strickland)**

Present

**Loraine Bailon (Rio Plaza)**

Present

At Large Members

**Mike Barber (Chair)**

Present

**Aaron Wedemeyer**

Present

**Brenda Heredia**

Present

Alternate

**Michael D. Stubblefield**

Absent

**III. Approval of Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2024, and Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2024.**

Brenda Heredia motioned to approve minutes. Aaron Wedemeyer seconded Brenda's motion. David Souza and Julie Hupp stated that they were not present for the February meeting and would abstain from voting on February's minutes. All other present

**IV. Public Safety Updates**

Ventura County Sheriff's Department, CHP, Oxnard PD

No Public Safety update

**V. Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda**

Tim Furgal, Ventura County Library Librarian. Provided an update on the mobile library stop at Nyeland Acres. Tim stated that flyers would be distributed to advertise the mobile library event. Tim also mentioned that there will be a summer reading prize of 4 tickets to Disneyland.

Dina Ontiveros – requested that signs be installed along paths to indicate that the path serves as a horse riding path. Dina also shared that there needs to be a pedestrian path over Vineyard Ave for safety purposes.

Maryanne Rooney – Garden Acres Mutual water company is building a back up well. Request for Parks to provide the MAC with new community center architectural and site plans in advance of the meeting presentation.

**VI. Council Member Comments**

Lorane Bailon– confirm that emails were sent to public safety regarding the March 21, 2024 MAC meeting. She stated that the MAC needs public safety representatives at every meeting. Lorane also stated that she didn't receive an email with the agenda. Visibility of meetings. Requested that Supervisor Long Office create a MAC meeting flyer similar to one created by Supervisor Gorrell's office. Manuel Minjares replied that due to being short one staff member, a flyer will not be created by the next scheduled meeting. Manuel asked if any member of the board would be willing to work on this flyer. No MAC board member volunteered to work on the flyer.

**Business Items**

**VII. Graffiti in El Rio – specifically on the main entrance of Simon Way**

Lorane Bailon – graffiti on large white wall in El Rio, at main entrance to Simon Way, off of Rose Ave. This area should be a welcoming place. There used to be a graffiti removal program. Graffiti is an eyesore to the community.

Maryanne Rooney recommended that the graffiti removal program be brought back.

Brenda Heredia motioned for the graffiti removal program should be placed on the April MAC agenda for discussion. Mike Barber seconded Brenda's motion. MAC voted unanimously on Brenda's motion.

**VIII. Rose Avenue walking path – unsafe conditions**

Lorane Bailon – there is no sidewalk from Simon Way to Rose Ave and is not safe for pedestrians, including kids walking to and from school. Request that Public Works Streets and Roads Director Anitha Balan be present at May MAC meeting to provide an update on public works projects in the area and also to answer questions from the MAC and the community.

**IX. Need for sidewalk – Simon Way to Rose Avenue**

Aaron Wedemeyer made a motion to request a study on Simon Way to Rose Avenue. David Souza seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**X. Code Enforcement issue – 3380 E Vineyard Ave – Parking of Semi-trucks lot**

Bonnie Bernal – issue with semi-trucks parking on Simon Way and Vineyard and in supermarket parking lot obstructing views of traffic causing unsafe driving conditions. Request for code enforcement to look into the issue.

There is also an issue with semi-trucks parking in residential areas. Need for signage limiting vehicles by weight. Concerned with damage to streets and overhead utility lines. Speeding on Stroube is also an issue.

Mike Barber – county says no too much and suggestions fall on deaf ears.

David Souza – signs get knocked down and don't get replaced.

Aaron Wedemeyer – give public works a heads up on these issues in anticipation of their May visit to the MAC.

**XI. Status of Community reminders of MAC meetings for El Rio Meetings**

Brenda Heredia – Does Supervisor Long have a newsletter? Manuel Minjares responded stating that her office does not publish a newsletter but does publish items of importance on the Supervisor’s social media pages (Facebook and Instagram).

Bonnie Bernal – concerned about retail cannabis shops opening up all over the City of Oxnard and the county losing tax dollars by not allowing retail cannabis sales in unincorporated Ventura County.

Julie Hupp – frustrated by the presence of the retail cannabis shops.

Aaron Wedemeyer – Port Hueneme has not observed an increase to crime since it allowed for the retail sale of Cannabis, contrary to popular belief.

Brenda Heredia – Resource fair on March 23. Easter egg hunt.

**XII. Adjourn:**

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm

**XIII. Next Meeting: April 18, 2024 @ 7 PM / John C. Zaragoza Community Center**

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