

DEL REY HOMEOWNERS & NEIGHBORS ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING OF JUNE 2, 2008

Italicized remarks concern developments that occurred before or after the board meeting.

Roll Call and Introduction of Guests: Janice Santos, Parliamentarian; Chris Nevil, President; George Gross, First Vice President and Webmaster; Wendy Averill, Second Vice President; Elizabeth Pollock, Recording Secretary; Tobyann Mandel, Corresponding Secretary; Casey Anderson Gross, Director and Membership Chair; Mary Anderson, Director and Newsletter Editor; Marlene Savage, Director; Aaron Bernardin, Director.

Guests: Gail Sharp of the Venice Japanese Community Center; David Hochman and Don Dombrowski, Del Rey residents; Senior Lead Officers (SLOs) Drake Madison and Heidi Llanes; Nicole Velasquez, Council District 11.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the May 5, 2008 board meeting, updated to include developments through June 1, 2008, were reviewed, approved and can be posted on the DRHNA website.

Treasurer's Report: Before the meeting, Treasurer Michelle Rudo circulated a Transaction Detail Report for May 1 through May 31, 2008, which was approved as submitted.

Police/Crime Report/Pacific Division Update: SLO Drake Madison covers the area east of Centinela; SLO Heidi Llanes covers the area west of Centinela. Both SLOs have been working with various task forces in recent months. Madison is most interested in programs to reduce criminal conduct by young people. Most recently, a Multi Agency Truancy Task Force made 42 arrests of children out of school between 8 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.. According to Llanes, a disproportionate number of the truants are from continuation programs. The young people are given citations, and their parents must pick them up. Next time, agencies that provide social services, e.g. Mar Vista Gardens housing, will be included more.

About 45 youth are participating in Pacific Division's Explorer program.

There have been no clusters of crime in Del Rey other than at the Ballona bikeway access just east of the 405 freeway. Both SLOs urged that residents not leave anything (petty cash, garage door openers, clothing) in parked cars. Someone is breaking into parked cars in the streets east of Inglewood, between Culver and Jefferson Blvds.

There have been two homicides on Slauson Ave. during the past two months, and the **National Night Out** on August 5, 2008, will be based at the Mar Vista Family Center, 5070 Slauson. The event will focus on the neighborhood's struggle against violence. A group ride on the bike path also will be held. *A year ago, a bicyclist was attacked and left for dead just below Slauson Ave. The man is still in a coma.*

Both SLOs want residents to set up Neighborhood Watch programs. They work 28 day deployment periods, so they need about one month's notice to schedule attendance at a Neighborhood Watch meeting. However, even a small group (six people) will help to increase awareness.

This year, the police are authorized to confiscate all fireworks and give a receipt without writing a citation. Because fireworks are explosives, the Bomb Squad is called for all fireworks incidents. It is a felony to possess an M-80 firework.

DRHNA MINUTES

June 2, 2008

Page 2

Each SLO is supposed to have eight cars patrolling on each shift. Los Angeles Police Department has two new divisions to staff and also is having trouble hiring recruits. However, police are being shifted from specialized units to patrol.

Newsletter: Mary Anderson has an article on disaster preparedness for pets. Planning for the next issue has not yet started.

General Meeting: Bill Rosendahl has said he would like to be involved. Possible topics: (1) parking enforcement; (2) a town hall on local development; (3) a debate between Bernard Parks and Mark Ridley-Thomas, the Los Angeles County Supervisor candidates for the area.

Membership: New membership checks will be sent to Treasurer Michelle Rudo.

Website: The board moved and unanimously approved reimbursement to webmaster George Gross for the website's annual hosting fee, which is in addition to the domain renewal fee that was approved in April.

Del Rey Neighborhood Council: This month's meeting will be on Thursday, June 12, 2008, at 7 p.m. at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, 13480 Maxella Ave., Marina Del Rey, CA 90292, tel. (310) 822-8555. Marlene Savage, who is a DRHNA director and DRNC's Outreach Coordinator, advised that 50 – 60 people attended a meeting to discuss the project at 12449 Louise Ave., where an R-3 project is being built by right with a 35% density bonus and only 25 parking spaces for 24 units. The property abuts two similarly zoned parcels.

DRNC is beginning work on the 2009 review of the Del Rey/Mar Vista/Palms Community Plan. The General Plan for the City of Los Angeles is also being reviewed.

Alex Fay, Councilman Rosendahl's environmental deputy, is working on how to reduce water usage in Los Angeles. (A drought condition has been declared.)

Council District 11:

1. Parks. Nicole Velasquez attended a meeting with the Community Parks Advisory Committee, which has about \$4 million for parks improvement in Del Rey. The official priority is to get a new recreation center at the Culver Slauson Park. However, the parents want a new soccer field at that park. The DRNC is advocating improvements at Glen Alla Park. Should there be a dog park at Glen Alla?

***We need to poll the Del Rey community to find out what they want first.

There is an issue with Quimby Funds allocation. Money can be spent for a "neighborhood park" within one mile of a development. The money can be spent within two miles for a "recreation center/regional park." Westchester is a regional park, so \$750,000 of Quimby money from Glencoe/Maxella was going to be used for a skateboard park there until Nicole Velasquez challenged the allocation.

***The Councilman needs for the community "to be louder" about what it wants.

DRHNA MINUTES

June 2, 2008

Page 3

2. DASH line for Del Rey. Jim Lefton, chief of transit for the Los Angeles Department of Transportation has proposed that instead of a DASH route, there be a fixed City Ride route that people can use to start. The City Council has been asked to approve \$50,000 to hire a consultant to determine what route should be followed.
3. Change of Deputy. Nicole Velasquez is leaving her post as Del Rey deputy to join the Community Redevelopment Agency, where she will work on housing issues. We do not yet know who will succeed her.

Before the meeting, the board had voted to make a donation of Twenty Five Dollars (\$25) to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals as a commemoration of her service to Del Rey. She was also given a going away card and a Certificate of Appreciation prepared by Chris Nevil.

Don Dombrowski thanked Nicole for her efforts to increase contact between the Slauson Avenue and Mar Vista Gardens communities and other parts of Del Rey.

Strategic Planning Meeting: Will go forward on Saturday, June 7, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m..

Starbuck's at Centinela and Jefferson: The circulation plan for the project did not provide for a one way alley, and the Department of Transportation has said a one way alley is not justified. The attachment to the agreement between the owner and the neighbors did include a site plan with information about the signage to be posted, but so far, the only signs have been posted on private property.

Nicole Velasquez urged us to get a letter from the school protesting two way use of the alley. Casey Anderson Gross will try to contact the school.

Archstone Project: The draft environmental impact report probably will be out and ready for review at our July board meeting.

Entrada Project: On May 16, 2008, United Neighbors of the Westside filed a writ challenging the approval of the project under the California Environmental Quality Act. Chris Nevil will talk to the plaintiffs and find out when they think the writ might be decided and if they are planning to appeal if the writ is denied.

At the July board meeting, DRHNA needs to decide: (1) if we will contribute money to the lawsuit; (2) if we are exposing ourselves to liability if we participate; (3) if this is how we want to spend the group's money.

Marina del Rey Middle School Scholarships: The board voted to approve purchase of one hundred dollar savings bonds for up to five class valedictorians. (Last year, there were three.)

Board Meeting Attendance: Tabled until July. (Consideration of establishing minimum standard for voting Board member attendance at DRHNA meetings or other methods of maintaining robust attendance and quorum).

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, JULY 7 OR JULY 14, 2008. (Decide on June 7, 2008).

ADJOURNMENT: 9:10 P.M.