

RPCC general meeting - April 9, 2018

Board Members present:

Co-presidents Lynn Edwards and Sonia Lang

Co-vice president Kathryn Kern

Cosecretaries Judy Fleischman and Audrey Ledesma

Members at Large Tom and Ellen Mester

Community representatives present: Katie Sadd from Myrtle Cole's office, Myrtle Cole, Lauren Timmons, Redwood Village Community Council President, Jessica Pool from Susan Davis' office, Chevelle Tate from Toni Atkins' office

Sonia called the meeting to order and reminded the community that the minutes from our meetings can be viewed on the RPCC website.

Lynn did the Treasurer's report. We are up to 39 members, 9 of them are new with \$809.64 in donations and \$504.00 in dues. She mentioned that the proclamations that our community received at the banner celebration were on display in the back of the auditorium for those who wished to see them. She also mentioned that Garden Kitchen needs neighborhood support in their efforts to expand their restaurant.

Lauren Timmons came to see the Homeless Outreach Team (H.O.T) presentation and mentioned that she sees that our communities have similar issues. She congratulated us on becoming a banner district and invited us to attend the RVCC breakfast meeting. She said that they are looking to expand their membership and their officers.

Katie Sadd said she was glad to see our communities coming together for this meeting. She reminded us about the upcoming 4/21/18 Creek to Bay cleanup. She said that the damage on College Ave. is being followed up on and will be repaired the weekend of 4/22/18. She also mentioned that the 'goat trail' along College Ave. is still scheduled and that retaining walls had been added to the design. There are plans to keep up on the landscaping to ease walkability and safety in the

meantime. The joint-use park planned for Rolando Park Elementary has been included on the 2018 list of priority projects and Katie will notify us if/when there are any council hearings regarding this project.

Myrtle Cole talked about possible traffic-calming signs in RP as well as the College Ave. repair. Audience members asked that the 'smart' signal on College Ave. be synced better to improve traffic flow. Lauren Timmons mentioned the Phase 1 fixes done on Streamview and she requested that further funding be a priority. She also mentioned that a Chollas Triangle Park that borders Redwood Village, Oak Park, and El Cerrito is needed and is on the Eastern Area Planning Commission list. There are homeless encampments there although the Quality of Life team has been actively working on getting RVs towed from the area. She expressed appreciation of the SDPD for their involvement and assistance with this issue. Ms. Cole said she has sent a letter of support for Streamview and that Katie Sadd will follow up on the Triangle Park issue.

Jessica Pool from Susan Davis' office distributed newsletters. She said that Congress has passed a budget for the rest of the year. She mentioned a few budget items-3 Billion for the National Institute of Health, 2.4 Billion for Community Development, and 1 Billion for transportation infrastructure. She also reminded us about the Rep. Davis' upcoming forum on North Korea on 4/21/18.

Chevelle Tate from Toni Atkins' office also distributed newsletters and said that on 3/21/18, Sen. Atkins was sworn in as the first female President Pro Tempore in California history. She stated that the Senator has a light legislative package this year due to her new duties but that she is working on human trafficking and affordable housing issues. She also invited those present to a local swearing in ceremony for Senator Atkins on 4/13/18.

Community Service Officer Terry Hoskins announced that the crime mapping report is available to the community every two weeks by sending him an email. He said that there is a new captain and other shuffling of duties being done with the SDPD. In response to an

audience member, he stated that the oversized vehicle ordinance is complaint driven but that there is low enforcement due to staffing.

Lt. Bautista and Lt. Lara from the H.O.T. announced a new neighborhood policing division that was just created. It has 6 full-time and 4 part-time officers. This new division has brought services and providers together to deal with homelessness issues such as addiction, mental illness, and affordable housing. There are 24 city-wide Psychiatric Emergency Response Teams (P.E.R.T.) also available consisting of one officer and one clinician to determine need and make available appropriate resources for homeless people. Even though 80-90% of the homeless are resistant to or refuse services, the goal of this new division is to build trust over time to encourage the homeless to access services. The officers stated that homelessness is not a crime but it can be corrosive to the quality of life in a community.

They encourage the community to send a problem description (visibility, amount of trash, number of people) when reporting homelessness issues. At this time, the best way for the public to report is through the city's 'Get It Done' website. The best bullet point to use is 'Other' or 'Illegal Dumping'. The problem will then be directed to the appropriate city department.

They said that there is also a Navigation Center in the works that purports to be a one-stop shop for city resources for the homeless.