

# Mediterrannia Homeowners Association



Rancho Palos Verdes  
Minutes of the March 11, 2014, Board Meeting

Viviana Pichler, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:40pm.

**1. In Attendance:** Mort Bauchman, Pat Carroll, Lois Karp, Joyce Kochanowski, Carol Morris, Don Ott, Viviana Pichler, Alice Snyder, Jack Walston. **Guest:** Susan Estes

**2. Approval of Minutes:** Pat Carroll advised that the Minutes need to reflect that Mr. Bauchman's name was misspelled. With that correction, and upon a motion by Mort Bauchman, seconded by Joyce Kochanowski, the Minutes of February 11 were approved.

**3. President's Report:** Viviana Pichler reintroduced herself and advised of how and when her family made their way to RPV, and Mediterranean. Many things were considered before the move, including a reputation of a very good school district.

**4. Vice President's Report:** Alice Snyder stated that she and Ed have lived here for 40 years now, with him content in a commute to Irvine each day (knowing that he gets to come home to RPV). She is currently doing volunteer work for the local school district.

**5. Treasurer's Report:** Mort Bachman advised that we currently have 34 paid members, which is entirely normal right now due to many needing a gentle reminder that dues are usually paid at the beginning of the year. Historically, when the first Newsletter of the year goes out, with the plea for updating dues status, we get flooded with upwards of 100+ checks.

**6. Arts Jury Report:** Carol Morris reported that the campaign to get trash cans off the street the day of pickup is working well. On a similar subject of property upkeep, most owner-residents are diligent in keeping theirs in attractive and clean appearance. Renters, not having the same vested interest, may tend to let upkeep slide.

Regarding parked cars not being moved (72-hour rule), a violation can be voided if the owner merely moves the car a few inches.

Trees blocking a neighbor's view should be attended to, if for no other reason than being neighborly, however, having to resort to legal means in order to affect that can be expensive, and the MHOA has no legal right to enforce such a topic.

Motorcycles careening southbound on PVDE towards "The Switchbacks" on Sundays have become a) a noise nuisance, b) a safety threat, and 3) speeding. Residents are advised to call the Sheriff's Dept. and "request a patrol car" at the outset of this occurrence. It's also requested that perhaps a "decoy"

patrol car might be stationed just prior to the first curve. Might slow them down – momentarily. A similar Sheriff's call can and should be made regarding Ganado speeders and/ or skateboarders.

**7. CHOA Report:** Alice Snyder reported that RPV-CHOA has 60 member-HOA's, with an overall purpose of mutual cooperation in making the quality of life good for all. Our annual dues were paid. At the recent CHOA meeting:

Council Member **Susan Brooks** addressed a) the San Ramon status, b) the Sheriff's increase of patrols, c) camera surveillance at RPV exit points, and d) searching for a new City Manager. **Lisa Pinto** of Congressman Waxman's office discussed the dangers of the LPG facility in San Pedro. **Susan Cordone** of CA Water Svc Co discussed water conservation issues due to our drought.

As this point a roundtable discussion ensued regarding the water drain-off from Rolling Hills homes down onto the PVDS area and adjacent homes. There appears to be a legal issue here in that a property owner may be liable for anything emanating from his/her property onto another's property. RPV may be soon entering into a discussion of this issue with Rolling Hills.

Jack Walston asked if the Mediterranean entrance signage could be changed to reflect a more "showy" image. Many expressed their opinions, pro and con, with some stating that "our side of The Hill" has always taken a rather low key approach. The Ladera Linda and Mira Catalina entry signage were discussed. Mr. Walston stated that he'd gladly get samples and necessary info to bring to the next Directors meeting for further discussion.

**8. Newsletter Report:** Pat Carroll related that he studied past Newsletters and determined that being printed in three-column, "portrait mode" caused more eye strain on the reader due to more lines to read. For instance, an identical report on Marymount was 46 lines as opposed to 24 lines in one-column of "landscape mode." Because of this he recommended changing the Newsletter to all landscape mode.

In addition, there had been requests to make the issues more reader friendly so more informal text and prose will be used.

Finally, he received a quote from a local printer for a change in format whereby we could incorporate a few color pages for a modest increase in price. This was agreed to by all as worth the cost, and that perhaps an overhaul of the Newsletter might produce more members. The next issue will include an attached envelope for dues remittance.

**9. Newsletter Distribution:** The list of streets and those who'll be distributing was given to Joyce Kochanowski, coordinator for the effort. All copies are hand-delivered since they can no longer be placed in a mailbox but are, instead, left on the front porch.

**10. Traffic & Public Works:** Jack Walston brought the Board up to date on two important issues:

1. The PVDE Roadway Surfacing Project will start in April, take about 4 months to complete, and will include major utility upgrades and relocation; roadway crack filling and asphalt removal and replacement; tree removal/trimming and root pruning; La Vista Verde realignment; retaining wall construction; Crownview Intersection improvements; guardrail repair; and roadway resurfacing.

2. The San Ramon Project, the final phase of which will be plant replacement, beginning in the summer period. Following the plant replacement there will be the "establishment" period to make sure that the planting has taken hold.

**11. Streets & Landscaping Report:** Don Ott reported that Bennett Landscaping is to give a bid on pruning, planting, and landscaping of the entry area. He further stated that trees and other plants along the barren side of Ganado at Floweridge are at the mercy of rainwater since not much else is available. Neighbors along Ganado can help by occasionally watering the Oleanders across from them. Gophers are responsible for some of the vegetation destructions.

**12. Other Business:** Lois Karp advised the Board of Marymount's activities regarding the athletic field, the temporary parking lot, the San Ramon neighbors being slighted, the Mira Catalina neighbors growing angst, and the "temporary" sandbags placed along PVDE that broke.

**13. Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35pm.