

Mediterrania Homeowners Association



Rancho Palos Verdes
Minutes of the May 13, 2014 Board Meeting
Called to Order: 7:34pm

1. In Attendance

Mort Bauchman, Pat Carroll, Lois Karp, Joyce Kochanowski, Carol Morris, Don Ott, Viviana Pichler, Alice Snyder, Amy Sulkowski. **Host/ess:** Viviana Pichler.

2. Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion by Ms. Kochanowski and seconded by Ms. Sulkowski, the Minutes of April 8 11, 2014 were unanimously approved.

3. Officers' Reports

President:

- a. Viviana Pichler advised of the recent problem concerning peafowl on The Hill. Many reports indicate that they're being killed by various means, including poisoning. We're asked to be on the lookout for any suspicious activity and to report same to the SPCA Cruelty Tip line 800 540- SPCA or Sheriff's Department
- b. Mira Catalina Elementary School has received a prestigious Distinguished School Award.

Guest:

- a. Lois Karp indicated that she had recently noticed an individual assessing/measuring/etc. at the area of Ganado and PVDE for another cell tower. According to RPV Public Works, no permit for such installation has been requested, although a survey does not require a permit. If the cell tower project moves ahead, a line would be taken from the Ganado/Floweridge cell tower to give power to the proposed cell site on PVDE and Ganado. This would mean digging a line in the street from Ganado & Floweridge to PVDE.
- b. Mayor Duhovic has been advised of the continuing problem with speeding bikers on The Switchbacks, and that Officer Knox had been reassigned to the other side of The Hill. His presence at/near The Switchbacks had deterred speeding. He might be relocated in the near future.
- c. Traffic-calming on Ganado continues to be problematic. Consensus agrees that speed bumps and the like would be ineffective and perhaps dangerous.
- d. RPV has been notified, again, that the sandbags on Marymount's property along PVDE have exceeded the time allotted for their use (flood control) and need to be removed.
- e. Marymount's athletic field proposal may be encountering problems:
 1. The price tag is now around \$5-6 million.
 2. The MND has expired and needs to be renewed, not an expeditious process.
 3. Miraleste Intermediate's field could be made available and is more suitable to Marymount's needs.
 4. The Ponte Vista project has been approved by L.A. City for 676-700 units. Western Ave. traffic will have to be addressed as it's already suffering from congestion issues.

f. There's still a possibility of cameras positioned at 6-7 RPV entry points to help deter individuals migrating to the Hill for criminal purposes.

Vice President's Report

- a. Alice Snyder addressed matters being discussed at the CHOA level, including Common Core. While there are two sides to the issue, CHOA is staying in the middle
- b. RPV's search for a City Manager is still on and may take a year to complete.
- c. RPV may consider going out-to-bid for legal and I.T. services.
- d. More information is needed re: the LPG storage facility near Home Depot in order for a determination as to the potential danger it represents to surrounding homes, including Eastview.

Treasurer's Report

- a. Mort Bauchman stated that nine additional members have submitted their annual dues, bringing the total member to 80, a number far below normal at this time. Those in attendance discussed various ways in which membership numbers could be increased.
- b. After paying for the March Newsletter costs, the current Net is still above \$5000.00.
- c. A revised Member List will be available to again publish and thank paid-up-members in the Newsletter.

4. Committee Reports

Arts Jury:

- a. Carol Morris stated that efforts are working to take trash cans off the streets the same day as trash pick up.

5. Streets & Landscaping

- a. Don Ott advised and agreed that the initial bid (over \$400) from Bennett Landscaping for trimming various trees and shrubbery Mediterrania's entrance was excessive.
- b. He has secured another bid (\$200+) from an individual who has a landscaping business. Upon a motion by Ms. Kochanowski and seconded by Mr. Bauchman, it was agreed to pursue this bid.
- c. The sprinklers have all been fixed.
- d. Gophers are still a problem on the west-facing hill along Ganado. Poisoning may be the best & only solution, and even though the hill is private property, it's doubtful the owners would object to this solution.

6. Traffic/Public Works

- a. Amy Sulkowski advised that more work will be done on PVDE north of us, including widening and making safer turns.
- b. It's anticipated that the San Ramon work will be done by the end of June, which is good timing inasmuch as there's a 70%-80% chance of an El Niño weather pattern in late Summer or early Fall.
- c. PVDE is also under construction for long-overdue resurfacing. It'll remain under construction for both widening and resurfacing through October 2014.

7. Newsletter

- a. Pat Carroll mentioned talking to the two people responsible for RPV's quarterly newsletter in order to get tips on how to make ours better. He suggested we publish quarterly (March, June, September, December), even if only 2-4 pages, as this will keep the HOA in the mind of the residents and show them what all is being done on their behalf by 1) a \$20 annual dues, and 2) volunteers.
- b. Self-addressed envelopes will be used/inserted in the Newsletter, either by stamp or printed address label.
- c. He stated that the March issue listed those who have paid, and asked if the next issue should list those who haven't paid. Consensus was to avoid that approach, stressing only those who continue to support MHOA.
- d. He asked if we should offer a "half-price" dues fee for those opting to pay for a half year. Consensus was to keep the \$20 fee, regardless of date paid.
- e. Committee Chairs were asked to submit a brief article for inclusion in the June Newsletter.

Upon a motion by Ms. Snyder, seconded by Mr. Bauchman, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm.