

NORTH RICHMOND MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

515 Silver Avenue - North Richmond, CA 94801

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

***Due to COVID-19 the NRMAC conducted a remote meeting that was accessible via Zoom to all members of the public.**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. Board members present were: Annie Meredith-King and Beverly Scott. Absent were: Princes Robinson, Don Gilmore, Lily Rahnema, and Dr. Henry Clark.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES

The agenda and minutes were reviewed by the board members. For lack of a quorum. The agenda and the minutes were not approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cynthia announces that Mrs. Lillie Davis passed away. Her family was one of the co-founding families in the N. R. community. Her daughter Linda Davis works at the Senior Citizen Building on Silver Street in N. R. The NRMAC sends our deepest condolences to the family.

N. R. Missionary Baptist will be hosting a COVID vaccination clinic Thursday. There are a lot of slots to be filled.

Marina Brown says that ambassador's, representing CCC Health Department, were out in the community, making the residents aware of the vaccination clinic.

David Alvarado, Director W. County Wastewater District. David introduces his-self and says that he is glad to be present at the meeting.

PRESENTATIONS and Proclamations

Stephanie Ny, Director/Richmond Love Your Block: Stephanie presents on the Redesign of Shields and Reid Park: Back in October several workshops were held, helpful information, and ideas were presented. In March the application was submitted for the redesign of the park. Seeking funding in the amount of eight million dollars. Shall find out late this summer or in the fall if the funding is granted.

Stephanie shared a video, footage from the workshops, and residents' input. Shield's and Reid is considered as a historic park. Suggestions such as bike riding area, roller skating rink, more picnic tables, gaming tables, public restroom, water drinking fountains, new playground equipment, natural habitat garden of native plants, etc.

Dr. Clark supports the idea of a stage being erected at the park. Marina would like to see black and white pictures around the stage area. Pictures of legendary musicians that once frequented the N. R. community. A tribute to Mr. Reid and Mr. Shield. Elanor asked did some recent development take place at Shields and Reid? Stephanie explained to her about the proposed redesign of the park. Cynthia told Elanor, recently the skylight at the park was cleaned, she is thankful to Stephanie for making it happen.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY/REPORTS

Lieutenant Mollenbernd/RPD: Reporting for the month of March 2021. There is an uptake in residential burglaries and strong-arm robberies, in the Central District.

Crime is down by 4%, compared to last year. The AM/PM located on 22nd and Barrett was robbed. Two arrest warrants have been issued for the suspects.

Marina asks about the sideshows in and around N. R. She says that the sideshows may pop up at any time of day or night. Lt. Mollenbernd says that the sideshows are happening all over the Bay Area. Citations are being issued for reckless driving. Cars can get impounded for 30 days.

An officer of the RPD, has been on leave for two years, after being hit by a car, during a sideshow. The city had put in new street markings on one particular street, over the weekend, a sideshow wiped out all of the freshly painted street markings.

Berta Alvarez would like to know if RPD patrols the Castro Homeless Encampment. The answer is yes, routine patrols are being carried out.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY/REPORTS CONTINUED

Sergeant Wroot/CCC Sheriff's Department: Reporting for the month of March 2021. There were (19) select crimes, and (243) calls for service thru-out the N. R. area. Violent crimes are down. Everything from 911, hang up calls, parking problems, etc. On a whole, the N. R. area has been holding steady, for the last three months.

Cynthia asks if he was reporting for three months? He says yes, for the select crimes

Hector, N. R. resident, says that he has called the police department several times, complaining about illegal parking on his block, 2nd Street. Cars blocking the street, etc. Every time he calls, he is referred to the CHP. Sergeant Wroot says that the department does respond to those types of calls. Although they are one deputy short. They are actively tagging cars that are mainly abandoned or stolen.

Lynetta Cooper asked if the CCC Sheriff's Department patrol the Hilltop Commons. The answer is yes, that is their jurisdiction.

OTHER AGENCY/PROGRAMS REPORTS

Robert Rogers, District Community Coordinator/Supervisor John Gioia's Office: Robert says that the age for COVID-19 vaccinations has been expanded. Youths age sixteen and over are now qualified to be vaccinated. One-half million people in the county have received their vaccinations. Less than 3% that's been tested are positive.

Annie Meredith-King in lieu of Bishop Santiago, Director/REACH Int. Fellowship: In the month of May, REACH will be delivering one hundred food bags for Mother's Day. The distribution will take place the week before Mother's Day. The bags will be filled with cornish hens, dried beans and rice, and vegetables. This distribution will be effective in June. A shoutout from Bishop to Elanor and her group. They did a fantastic job cleaning up the vacant lot located next door to REACH.

PRESENTATIONS and Proclamations Continued

Elanor Thompson/Social Progress Inc.: Speaking of the property that they cleaned up. She talked to Bishop and was not aware that REACH occupied the building next door. Upon taking a tour of the Women's Center she was impressed.

PRESENTATIONS and Proclamations Continued

Eleanor Thompson, Director/Social Progress Inc: Presents on the proposed, State of

the Art - One-Stop Youth Resource Center: Trying to purchase a Las Deltas Vacant Site, to house the program. The program will be a youth one-stop center. Wants to do a feeding program in the morning for children that are on their way to school.

The mission is to empower and improve the lives of the local youths in the community. Training and support to become leaders. She will offer programs that will address youth homelessness. Will address personal independence and teach youths life skills.

Temporary housing, computer training, online high school diploma. Notary service will be made available. Food and clothing will be given away. Will provide scholarships to graduating youths. On-line school diplomas. Music, fitness, and exercise classes will be offered.

The property is located at Fred Jackson Way and 317 and 325 Silver Street.

She is looking forward to planting a small garden in the backyard of the property.

Annie asks Eleanor about the breakfast program. From her understanding Verde has a free breakfast program for children. Eleanor says that her program is focused on youths (18) and over. Anyone will be allowed to use the center.

John Steere, Watershed Planner, and Saddle Wilson, UCB Student/Community Climate

Resilience Plan: The Community Resilience District is a flexible approach using special districts/entities in Unincorporated Communities. The presentation overview is a closer look at Special Districts, which kind of is the core of her study. A new approach to climate adaptation, community empowerment, and restorative justice.

The origins of the C2 Concept: The county is exploring funding mechanisms for green infrastructure & increasing community involvement. A need has been established for new governance tools.

Framing the issue: The effects of climate change continue to worsen in Contra Costa. Vulnerability to climate change is highly unequal and requires local action. We do not have the proper tools to equitably adapt to our communities (lack of local governance & not-extractive funding). Need to redistribute power to local leaders and provide a vehicle for funding local adaptation projects on an ongoing basis. A special district is a unique tool that can tackle these interrelated issues.

PRESENTATIONS and Proclamations Continued

What's so special about a Special District? Appropriate scale for addressing local adaptation. Consolidation funding for capital improvements and O & M. Local governance and community self-determination. Legal authority & powers-Ability to raise funds

Mr. Steere says this is an important tool and will be part of the climate action plan. Annie thanks Sadie for her presentation. She asks about funding and what type? Sadie says referring to the Federal Restructure Program. Annie asks what is the dollar amount? John says that is premature for now. Annie also asks about the board of directors, for this project. When would that be put in place? How does that work? Sadie says after she finishes with her studies, then the board will be put in place. It's up to the community. John says that they are hoping that the NRMAC could give them support.

Robert says they are talking about better shoreline resilience. Robert asks Sadie if she was aware of the levee project. Sadie says that she understands that WCWWD is going forward with that project. John says several agencies are involved in the existing levee project. Valerie Jamerson/Richmond Land: wants to know the length of time to initiate this project? Answer: For special districts (can be quick or can not.) Currently, the project is in need of resources. David of WCWWD will try to get staff to answer questions.

Milan Sanders, CCC Public Health Department: Announces the upcoming COVID vaccination clinic to be held at North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church this coming Thursday. Clinics will be held simultaneously at various churches throughout the area.

Questions and opinions concerning the community: Eleanor says that Janie said that they will no longer be doing cleanups. Annie says she will address the issue at the next Mitigation meeting. Supervisor Gioia does not favor homeless encampment in N. R. Leticia Chavez is concerned about the homeless encampment on Castro.

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

NEXT MEETING, MAY 4, 2021 - 515 SILVER ST, N. RICHMOND, CA 94801 - 7:00 - 8:00 P.M.

