

# Minutes of VNHC

Monday March 8<sup>th</sup> 2010 @ Vera Davis Center 8.30AM

In attendance: Linda L, Nancy F, Michael S, Renee G, Caroline Rios, Bill B, Robin R, NHC, Lula Boyland, Cliff McLain, Ivan Spiegall.

Absent: Adam G, Maxine L, and Lynne N.

1. Caroline Rios reported on continued pressure to make a dog park of part of the Oakwood Recreation Park by taking away picnic tables. This subject was not voted on, but the feeling of the group was that this is not a good idea.
2. Everyone was reminded that the city is going through heavy budget cuts and we should expect the worst.
3. Reminder that NC elections are coming up on April 11<sup>th</sup> and that as many stakeholders as possible should be involved
4. The Post Office clean up has been a positive success
5. There are ongoing parking problems on Abbot Kinney and Washington and the legality of the posted signs was brought into question. Ivan reported that Carol Tantau was looking into the situation on Abbot Kinney. Follow up is needed as to how the valet services actually work
6. "Let There Be Light". It was felt that this is something that the stakeholders can become involved in. There are several outlets in the Venice area that stock both solar and wired movement lights and this was considered a proactive step to take for the residents. Various suggestions were made including approaching the outlets for discounts and using such services as Handyman and Youthbuilt. Ivan mentioned that we would need to name at least three outlets in any handouts that we created or put on the web site.
7. Ivan spoke about the process for the applications for Community Project funding. It was noted that the very popular Masters of the Chapel had failed to get their application in on time. The committee will disburse 2/3rds of the available money; the remainder will be at the discretion of the Board. Last year there were only 11 applications whereas the year before there were 32.
8. Cliff McLain reported that the Vera Davis Center is safe until September, which is good news. LL asked if there might be some office space available for VNC members to be able to hold meetings with the stakeholders. Cliff opined that there probably was.
9. Robin R reported on the Nixle system for community information. A lot of information was dispersed and it was decided that all the present members would give it a try for the next month and report at the next meeting

10. NHC reported that the first steps in an outreach with the Red Cross was taking place on March 27<sup>th</sup> when a full day's training in shelter operations will take place in conjunction with the Villa Marina community. As many members of the committee as possible should participate.
11. Bill B asked about DAC training and NHC has undertaken to find out available dates in the next month or so when an LAFD instructor can come and give the course.
12. The Pedal people did not come and give a talk.
13. Nancy of the OFTF give her report in writing
14. There is a need to replace Lynn N in the Oxford Triangle due to ill health
15. Silver stand is becoming very active with block captains
16. NORO still has problems with parking from Whole Foods and the majority against any liquor being sold at CVS
17. A note was made concerning late afternoon bus pick ups at Westminster Dog Park for homeless people.
18. Michael S reported that the schools in East Venice were unhappy with the proposed teacher cuts and class size increases.
19. A discussion was had on proposing that the OFTF be folded into the VNHC and not remain a standing committee.
20. A brief discussion was had on St Joseph's request to expand it's permitted use slightly. The Chairperson felt strongly that this would be beneficial and not affect the neighbors adversely. Ivan pointed out that there was an inherent fear amongst the local residents that this might mean more homeless people.

The meeting adjourned at 10.35