

Midtown Neighborhood Association (MNA)
March 10, 2016
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present: Angela Tillotson (Chair), Matthew Piner (Immediate Past Chair), Danny Yost (Vice Chair), Bill Rothwell (Treasurer) and Betsy Rothwell (Secretary). Approximately 47 guests and neighborhood residents attended the meeting called to order at 6: 05 p.m., and held at the Midtown Business Association (MBA) office @ 919 20th Street.

The code of civility was briefly reviewed to remind members the importance of being respectful and courteous while others are reporting or sharing their thoughts and ideas. It was suggested that comments made during discussions be held to one minute in an effort to cover all agenda items in a timely fashion.

REGULAR REPORTS

- **Sacramento Police Department Updates:** Jason Bassett, Lieutenant in charge of Midtown, reported he can best be reached via email: jbassett@sacpd.org. He checks his email frequently and this is the easiest method to get in touch with him. He gave an update on the high concentration of crime incidents occurring in the area from J to L Street & from 19th to 24th Street. The high activity is most likely due to the concentration of a large number of night life venues in the area.

Lt. Bassett mentioned that Sac PD is launching a promotion to get the word out to the community about the hazards of “J- walking” in the city. He mentioned to be especially mindful about “J-walking” on J Street, the main east/west corridor through Midtown, as after the initial promotional campaign police will begin issuing tickets.

Lastly, he shared that the SPD Detective Unit in conjunction with Women Escaping a Violent Environment (WEAVE) will hold a sexual assault prevention night this weekend, highlighting awareness techniques such as “Stranger Danger” and “Don’t be a Victim” tips for community members who want to enjoy continued safety. Lt. Bassett took a few questions from the audience and then thanked the membership for the awesome turn out.

- **Council District 4 Updates:** Jameson reported that District 4 is busy with Mayoral re-election campaign issues. The City’s Waste Management Committee is working on the single vs. multiple company hauler issue and has made progress in setting benchmarks, a step in the right direction. Another major project the City will be working on over the next year is the Street Lighting Master Plan, where the focus will be to analyze all lighting throughout the Central City and the Handle District. A joint effort with SacPD will develop a map overlay of the area’s crime to assist in determining the best placement for new and/or additional lighting.

Jameson shared that several neighborhoods are hosting Easter Egg hunts: South Side Park N will be on Saturday, March 19, @ 2pm, hot dogs and eggs provided, Land Park's will begin at 10am but he wasn't sure about the Natomas start time. However, you can check the website or call Jameson's office for that information.

- **Treasurer's Report:** Bill stated the treasury has a balance of \$1,853.62 with debts running around \$1,000. The Midtown Neighborhood Association was filed as an unincorporated association with the Secretary of State and an application for a Tax ID number was filed with the IRS. Once both of these items are secured, the MNA will be able to establish a bank account. At that point, accounts payable will be able to be paid and a more in-depth accounting report will follow.
- **Chair's Report:** Angela announced that a neighborhood business has pledged \$1,500 dollars to the MNA. Upon receipt of the donation, a thank you note will be sent to show our gratitude.
- The Chair reported on the latest developments regarding: the February 8th infrastructure meeting, the February 10th Alhambra Special Corridor meeting, the Mayoral Candidate Forum held on February 18th, and the Sacramento City Unified School District board meeting re: reuse of vacant Jefferson and Marshall schools, the MNA sent a representative to the Safeway/R Street hearing on March 9th, and the CAP Radio Pop-Up Project meeting was held on March 9th as well.

FUTURE ITEMS

- **Upcoming items, projects, and events:**

Members were reminded that if they have interest, join the group and get involved in the upcoming events:

- MNA mixer on March 31st at Kupros
- Neighborhood Alliance stakeholder marijuana cultivation regulation meeting on March 22nd
- MNA/MBA Farmers Market on April 2nd
- MBA/MNA/FFP Saber Light Battle at Freemont Park May 4th
- League of Women Voters/Neighborhood Alliance mayoral forum on May 7th

DISCUSSIONS

- **Previous Meeting Minutes:** The minutes of the February 4, 2016, MNA Board Meeting were **Approved** as read.
- **Membership and Dues:** It was brought to the attention of the Board that a local resident contacted the MNA and asked for approval to join our association because she lives across the street from the MNA boundary and there is no association representing her area.

A motion was made to allow residents living on the West side of 15th Street, which is outside of the MNA boundaries to become MNA members if they do not have an active association representing their address. **Corrected Motion approved.**

The MNA membership dues will remain at \$15 per member for the 2016 year.

- **Elections:** Thirteen of the seventeen candidates for the Board submitted written statements. One candidate made his statement verbally. The candidates were all given an opportunity to briefly share their background with the group, and their written statements will also be posted on the MNA website. Once you log on to the site, complete your application and pay your dues to register as a member. You will then receive a reference number which will enable you to vote for up to 15 candidates of the 17 nominated. Voting is open until March 31 at midnight. You may cast your ballots by mail, in person, or on the MNA website, but due must be paid in order to vote.

YAMANEE DEVELOPMENT @ 25th & J ST.

- **Developer's Presentation:** The developer, Ryan Heater, presented an outline of his Yamanee development to the attendees. The project is a multi-story mixed used condominium building that proposed approximately 14,134 sq. ft. of ground floor and mezzanine space for community uses and 134 for sale residential units. Yamanee is located at the southeast corner of 25th and J Streets in Midtown. The project will house environmentally friendly space for retail and restaurants and provide diverse options for transportation, with on-site parking, bike racks and pedestrian walk ways.
- **Community Q&A w/ Developer:** The chair explained prior to Ryan's presentation that questions about the project should be written on the MNA question cards and that they would be answered following his briefing. The chair read each question and the answered proceeded.
- **Board Dialogue w/ Community:** Vice Chair Yost motioned that the Board write a letter to the City which outlines the neighborhood's views including both the positive and negative points collected during the meeting and MNA's resident outreach efforts. **Motion approved with Matt Piner abstaining.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm