

NOMA Minutes  
April 7, 2022

- I. Call to order..Danilo Bach  
In attendance: Danilo Bach, Phillis Dudick, Ann Greenspun, Evelyn Lauchenauer, Bruce Leddy, Elizabeth Lerer, Steven Lissik, Robert Posek, and Sonya Fox Sultan.  
Absent: Nancy Coleman, Victor Fresco, Jeff Brecht, Jeff Gordon, and Todd James
  
- II. Treasurer's Report: \$10,200 in the treasury.
  
- III. Announcements:
  - a. California Incline work is continuing, and will be mainly completed this week.
  - b. Earth Day.... Events include Gardening and Soil Mycology, April 8, 22.
  - c. SMMUSD has an FDAC vacancy, apply by April 22, 22. Once monthly meeting.
  - d. Tricia Crane.... Leading a repeal of Proposition 19. Will have petition to sign on Sunday, April 10, 22 from 1-5 pm at 902 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Santa Monica.
  - e. April 12, 22: Landmark appeal meeting, 2411 29<sup>th</sup> Street, SM
  - f. Santa Monica website posts these meetings.
  
- IV. Santa Monica Library Update: Interim City Librarian Erica Cuyugan and Karen Reitz, Adult Services & Programs Manager
  - a. National Library Week, April 4-8, 22.
  - b. Working on opening up all locations, have restored programs. Fairview opens in the fall.
  - c. Summer Reading program for youth begins June 4, 22. Theme is Oceans of Possibilities.
  - d. Adult book discussion July 23, 22 @ 6:30 pm.
  - e. Monthly calendar is online.
  - f. In 2020 there was a 58% staffing and budget cut. Had to cut hours, but will expand hours when funding is provided. Currently open 80 hours/week.
    - i. Discussion re: the importance of expanding hours and staff...and question as to whether NOMA can help
    - ii. City is in a difficult financial situation for 2 more years.
  
- V. Crime and Safety Update: Suzie Lockwood and Officer Aaron Alpert
  - a. Contact : 310-434-2627
  - b. Most of the crime is occurring in downtown Santa Monica.
  - c. The burglary #s include bicycle thefts.
  - d. Cars are being robbed. People should not leave their valuables in the cars, in plain sight.
  - e. There was a robbery at 24<sup>th</sup> and Alta... woman walking, on phone, was robbed. Suspects were apprehended later. Had also stolen a car.
  - f. There are 221 sworn officers allocated to the dept. but currently there are only 170 officers, partly due to retirements. Would like to have 250 officers.

- VI. Santa Monica Ballot Initiative to Fund Homelessness Prevention, Affordable Housing, and Public Schools: Michael Soloff, NOMA resident and former Chair of Santa Monica Housing Commission, presented the initiative.
  - a. Petition is now being circulated to establish funding by amending Santa Monica Municipal Code, Chapter 6.96 to provide a third-tier transfer tax rate for property transfers over \$8 million and with an eleven-member resident oversight committee.
  - b. Various charts and statistics were presented as part of the presentation, including Income by Cost Burden (Renters Only). Severe rent burden on low income renter households drives homelessness.
  - c. The initiative would create a dedicated, ongoing local funding source for homelessness prevention, affordable housing and the public schools. It would require a majority vote to pass under existing law.
  - d. The funding source is an increase in the transfer tax only on sales or transfers of Santa Monica property worth \$8 million or more. For such high end property transfers, there will be an increase by 5% to 5.6% total.
  - e. There are no new exemptions being added beyond those adopted by Santa Monica voters in 2020 through Measure SM.
- VII. Discussion and questions followed
- VIII. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Minutes submitted by Genevieve Kilpatrick