



Minutes - Regular Meeting Thursday, June 5, 2014

Social- 6:30; Meeting 7-8:55 PM

Montana Branch Library

- 1.) The June 5, 2014 meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM. A quorum was present. Attending Board members were: Danilo Bach, Victor Fresco. Albin Gielicz, Todd James, Jane Koehler, Carol Landsberg, and Meyera Robbins. Absent were Patricia Bauer and Evelyn Lauchenauer.
- 2.) Approval of the Minutes from the April 3, 2014. The minutes were unanimously approved, as written. Todd James-move; Meyera Robbins-second.
- 3.) Reports: Treasurer's Report: Victor Fresco. Current Balance \$8,000. We have received our IRS letter of reinstatement which is retroactive to the date of revocation.
- 4.) NOMA Leadership Change: Our new Chair is Danilo Bach. Albin Gielicz will remain as a NOMA Board Member. We thank Albin for reviving NOMA and bringing life and vitality back into our organization. Founding and Emeritus board members Doris Sosin and Mary Jo Stenger presented Albin with a gift certificate in appreciation for his effort on NOMA's behalf.
- 5.) Joe Trujillo, Division Manager, City of SM Code Enforcement Division, This City division has undergone a lot of change in the last few years- it is no longer under the Building Department, but now in the Planning and Community Development Department. It is in charge of municipal code violations: residential and commercial building, zoning, health and safety - not animal control or vehicles. They have 300-320 cases open at any time. Homeowners are responsible for the parkway. Call Robert Trejo (310) 458-4984 if you see: leaf blowers; water wasted; parkway trees not being watered, weeds, or litter at an active construction site. Leaf blowers, sprinklers going into the streets, vendors, trainers and performers in Palisades Park are the biggest complaint in the NOMA area. First, a warning is issued and then a citation if no compliance. Budget for reinforcement of rules and regulations is now \$1.2 M- standards and needs are being assessed right now. You can log a complaint at GoSantaMonica- free app.
Joe.trujillo@smgov.net (310) 458-4984- ext. 5367.
- 6.) Santa Monica Police Department Update: Our new Resource person: Michael Cveyich, SM Community Affairs/Crime Prevention. From May 1to present there's been 16 residential and 11 vehicle burglaries- worse in hot weather when windows are open. 50-60 % occur between Wilshire and Montana. Some apprehensions have been made. It is best to respond through the door if someone knocks so they know you are home. NextDoor is a good program- allows neighbors to communicate with each other and the Police Department. In a parking garage, wait for the door/gate to close behind you before parking. The best defense in any area is a Neighborhood Watch group- members report suspicious activity right away. You can also request a free, home security survey- 310-

434-2627. They will walk through your home and give suggestions to strengthen your security. The motto: IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING. This program is also good for emergencies of all kinds, such as severe weather, earthquakes, or attacks- call (310) 458-8491. mike.cveyich@smgov.net Phone is (310) 458-8421.

- 7.) NOMA participation in the 4th of July Parade: Albin Gielicz. NOMA is a sponsor of the parade, and NOMA will have an entry, All members, families, including grandchildren are invited to be in the parade- lots of fun!
- 8.) Make Music- LA; Phil Brock, Chair Recreation and Parks Commission; Musicians perform for free; 500 cities around the world are participating. They will be performing in the Santa Monica Parks. Website is makemusica.
MOTION: Victor Fresco: seconded by Jane Koehler: NOMA will sponsor music in Palisades Park by sending out notices to members.
- 9.) NOMA Land Use Committee Update:
- a. Draft Zoning Ordinance: Jane Koehler: The Zoning Code is being revised' It will determine the way our City will look and feel far into the future. It is *very* important that we stay informed and take action!! The numerous Issues are varied and complex and will directly affect our quality of life in NOMA.
We had a big win- the Hines Project was stopped. Immediate concerns right now:
- A-Lots where residential lots were converted to commercial lots in the Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE) without any public input- no one seems to know who did it,
 - sidewalk setbacks,
 - Bed and Breakfast in R-1: only allowed in City-landmarked buildings operated by resident owners, not caretakers.
- b. Bergamot Station Art Center: Jane Koehler: There was a public meeting on May 6 where 3 contenders for the redo of the Art Center (on public land) presented their ideas of how it should be built out for the arrival of EXPO. All 3 had a hotel and underground parking. Lots of community interest and concern. A representative for the gallery owners said they are very worried about survival because of the loss of business for this redo as it will take a prolonged period of time to complete.
MOTION: Carol Landsberg; seconded by Jane Koehler: NOMA should support the gallery owners.
- c. Pico Neighborhood Association: Carol Landsberg. Condo projects in the Pico neighborhood are demolishing court yard, rent controlled apartments. The Pico Neighborhood Association is convening a Town Hall meeting on June 15th to discuss this issue and identify solutions. NOMA has been asked to join other neighborhood groups in supporting the Town Hall.
MOTION: Carol Landsberg; seconded by Jane Koehler: NOMA will support the Pico Neighborhood Association Town Hall Meeting on June 15, 2014 by sending out an announcement of the meeting to NOMA members.
- d. The Plaza at SM: Carol Landsberg. Public meeting was sponsored by the developer. Mixed use project on public, resident-owned land at 4th Street and Arizona. Majority of time and all 3-D visuals were of the 148 foot option. Very little time spent on 84 foot

option. Hotel part was dictated by the City Staff, not the developer. Audience members said 84 foot option was not well done- could be much better- and the parking was inadequate. The idea of a park there was offered- it is resident land and residents like the idea of a park. Carol Landsberg

10. Actions of the NOMA Board since the last meeting: Carol Landsberg
4 Letters to the Planning Commission regarding: size of housing units, community benefits, demolition of rent controlled apartments for condos, and 2301 Wilshire. Letter to City Council asking them to revoke the Hines Development agreement.
5 notices to NOMA members and Friends: Commercial trainer survey, "It's your Call" program, rate increase for trash collection, notice of the Bergamot Station Art Center Public Meeting and notice of the Plaza at Santa Monica (5th and Arizona) public meeting. Held the election of NOMA Officers: Chair: Danilo Bach; Vice Chair: Evelyn Lauchenaue; Treasurer: Victor Fresco; Secretary: Carol Landsberg.
Received the IRS Letter of Reinstatement retroactive to the date of revocation.

*Hine update and the Airport were not discussed because of lack of time.

.11.) Announcements:

- *July Meeting- July 3, 2014- possible change or cancelation because of the holiday the next day.
- *NOMA Outreach:
 - *June 14- Santa Monica Festival
 - *July 17- Montana Avenue Merchants Art Festival 4-9. Artists are needed..
 - *Beautification Committee of MAMA (Montana Avenue Merchants Association) will be hanging vertical banners from light posts in the 7th to the 17th blocks of Montana Avenue. The banners will say "Shop" , "Dine" , "Enjoy"

12.) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM

Nina Fresco was unable to attend and speak about Landmarks and the Zoning Ordinance Update.

Carol Landsberg, Secretary