

NOMA Annual Meeting
Saturday, January 27, 2018

Aero Theater
1328 Montana Avenue
Santa Monica
Reception 2 p
Meeting 2:30 p

Minutes

- 1. Samohi Jazz Combo provided pre-meeting entertainment.**
- 2. Call to Order: NOMA Chair Nancy Coleman called the meeting to order at 2:45p. A quorum was present. Attending Board members were: Nancy Coleman, Danilo Bach, Victor Fresco, Phillis Dudick, Steve Lissik, Caryn Marshall, Evelyn Lauchenauer, Jane Koehler, Jeff Gordon, Sonya Fox Sultan, and Todd James; absent was Jim Williams on a previously announced commitment.**
- 3. Acknowledgments: Nancy Coleman thanked the local business donors who generously provided food or services for the reception: Ingo's Tasty Diner, Margo's, Marmalade Café, Pavilions, Peet's Coffee, Whole Foods, and Evelyn Lauchenauer Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Santa Monica. Thanks were also extended to the Aero Theatre for the annual venue. Santa Monica City Council members acknowledged in attendance were: Mayor Ted Winterer, Kevin McKeown, Gleam Davis, and Sue Himmelrich.**
- 4. Mayor Winterer offered welcoming remarks, including general comments on the community process in Santa Monica and the importance of civility in discussing issues that impact our community and neighborhoods.**
- 5. Video: Nancy Coleman introduced a short video by Tessa Fresco that offered perspectives on the NOMA neighborhood.**
- 6. Pedestrian Safety: Nancy Coleman noted that NOMA has been successful in getting a dedicated pedestrian crossing signal at 15th and Montana. She introduced a City PSA video on pedestrian safety, followed by comments from Lauralee Asch, SMPD crime prevention coordinator, who underscored the importance of common-sense pedestrian safety guidelines, commented on increasing bicycle traffic and its impact on road safety, and noted that the newly introduced motorized scooters (Birds) were creating problems for road safety. Bird riders are required to ride on the roadway, have driver's licenses and wear helmets. SMPD has initiated outreach to schools on this matter.**
- 7. Treasurer's Report: Victor Fresco reported on NOMA's healthy financial status, and underscored how NOMA is supported entirely by member contributions, with the exception of a \$400 grant from the**

City for Make Music Day in June. Revenue for 2017 was \$10,786; expenses were \$7,780, for a balance of \$12,593 as of 12/31/17.

8. Board Elections: Evelyn Lauchenauer, chair of the Nominations Committee, reviewed elections procedures, as detailed in NOMA's By-Laws. Standing for re-election for a two-year term to the Board were Danilo Bach, Nancy Coleman, Phillis Dudick,, Jeff Gordon, Jane Wiedlea Koehler and Jim Williams; and Jeff Brecht, newly nominated for a two-year term. Mary Marlow from the Transparency Project served as the official inspector of elections. The slate was elected by a unanimous vote of NOMA members present.

9. Program: Preserving Santa Monica's Residential Neighborhoods. Nancy Coleman introduced the program topic, referencing background, including a 2017 neighborhood survey regarding residential development trends in R-1 neighborhoods and distributed in NOMA, Sunset Park, and Northeast Neighbors. She introduced the panel: David Martin, Planning Director of the City of Santa Monica; Robert Posek, NOMA Land Use Committee member; and Zina Josephs, Chair, Friends of Sunset Park. Posek provided background and context: NOMA was organized in 1998, in response to the accelerated pace of demolitions and oversized home construction; as a result, the City revised R-1 development standards. Now, the issue is once again of general concern, as validated by the 2017 survey, and on January 23, 2018, the City Council passed an Interim Zoning Ordinance (IZO) to further refine development standards for R-1 neighborhoods; NOMA members are urged to stay involved. David Martin noted that the R-1 revisions have become a priority for the City, and while the proposed IZO addresses massing, height and lot coverage, it does not address incentives for remodeling; the IZO expires on May 15, 2018, and plans for neighborhood workshops are underway to encourage public participation to fine-tune the ordinance for adoption once the IZO expires. Zina Josephs described the impacts on neighborhood character as a result of the new residential construction and supported the development of incentives to remodel vs. outright demolition to preserve neighborhood scale and character. Questions and comments were offered by members of the audience, including questions on how Additional Dwelling Units (ADUs) would be affected by the IZO, and comments on the impact on property values and concerns about their potential decrease, and market demand for large-scale residential properties.

10. Adjournment: Nancy Coleman thanked the panelists for their participation. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Our next meeting will be March 1, 2018, at 7 pm at the Montana Branch Library, with reception at 6:30 pm.