

# **North of Montana Association**

## **Thursday, February 2, 2012, Santa Monica Public Library**

### **Minutes**

The February NOMA meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Albin Gielicz, Interim Chairman, began the meeting by introducing board members Victor Fresco, Treasurer, and Mary Jo Stenger, Secretary.

#### **Police Report**

- Officer Scott McGee, Neighborhood Resource Officer, and Suzie Kim, Crime Prevention Coordinator, talked about being a team with NOMA for long term problems, questions and concerns. Presently, they are working on safety programs for bikers and pedestrians. Emergency preparations are also a focus.
- There was a cluster of auto break-ins in our neighborhood. Three people were arrested and are now in custody. It is important that residents keep their eyes open, leave nothing of value in their cars and, if they see something strange, call the police.
- SMPA and ADT have good communication with the police department.

#### **Neighborhood Concerns**

Interim Chair Gielicz asked the participants what issues they would want to work on as a NOMA member.

- Over-development in City
- Development on Montana Avenue
- Vacancies on Montana
- Urban design
- More open spaces and small parks
- Palisades Park master plan (park is a landmark)
- Urban Forest planning and trees in general
- City's negative response to tree problems
- Traffic
- Parking issues
- Expo line
- Airport
- Quality of life
- NOMA's recent lack of communication

## **NOMA Admin**

- Group decided that meetings should be once a month. Notification will be on the web site and occasionally by flyers.
  - Next NOMA meeting: Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.
    - Address the Miramar redevelopment project
  - Standing meeting dates – first Thursday of the month at 7PM
- Neighborhood Council meets monthly at the Ken Edwards Center. NOMA is presented by Interim Chair Gielicz.
- Neighborhood Groups meet with David Martin, Planning Director with the City regarding future development.
  - NOMA needs to appoint a representative.
- Victor pointed out that the members need to get involved with the issues in the neighborhood. In the past, everyone goes away once the issue is resolved. NOMA should be a social and activist group and having fewer issues are more effective than many.
- NOMA will regularly:
  - Share concerns and information with Wilmont and the other neighborhood groups
  - Inform all NOMA members of activities and issues in City
  - Have both sides of an issue represented at meetings
  - Invite City Council members to meetings

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Albin Gielicz, Interim Chairman