**Minutes for February 8, 2016**

**OPA General Meeting**

**7:00 – 9:00 PM Joslyn Park**

**633 Kensington Road**

**Santa Monica CA 90405**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Judy Abdo, Mark Gorman, Sadat Huq. Zachary Gaidzik, Jim Lawson, Evan Meyer, Mike Salazar, Jodi Summers, Roger Swanson, Patty Godon-Tann, Dave Tann, Jeff Jarow.

Absent: Mary Marlow, Kate Kennedy

1. Introduction to OPA (Andrew Gledhill – 1 minute)

* Called to order at 7:04pm

2. Actions Taken Since Last Board Meeting

* Patty noted that:
  + Federal and state tax forms filed.
  + Storage Locker renewed.
  + Grant application completed.
  + Application for 501c(3) Non-profit certification delivered.
* David – Team OPA needs to be defined - Zach and Jodi will help.
  + David read and passed around a letter sent from Heal the Bay.

3. Approval of Minutes from January 11th

* Mark Gorman – approved.
* Zach Gaidzik – 2nded.

4. Committee Reports:

1. Lincoln Boulevard Task Force (Roger Swanson – 5 minutes)

* Looking for historical points on Lincoln.
* Utility Boxes – Artwork not up to expectations.
  + Evan – The art was childish. Project is getting more difficult.

5. Community Comments/The Neighborhood Voice: Public Inquiries, Questions, Concerns (5 minutes)

* + No comments.

1. 4. General Plan (Jodi Summers – 5 minutes)
2. The Downtown Specific EIR as well as the Downtown Community Plan have just been released.
3. The General Plan Group will meet to review the EIR as well as the Community Plan.
4. OPA’s focus will be traffic.
5. Civic Work Group is going to City Council February 9th.
6. Nina Fresco, Chair of the Civic working group was in the audience and briefed us on the plan being proposed to Council and the addendums.
7. Santa Monica Airport (Mike Salazar – 5 minutes)
8. City Council voted to approve Mark Rios and Rios and Clemente Park Architects to plan the 12 acres of parkland that will be converted from current aircraft tie downs, which are not on the aviation parcel.
9. Milestones are being set. Based on other factors, the City plans on opening the east side for resident use, hopefully by autumn.
10. Commission is looking into current flight activity.
11. Neighborhood Art (Evan Meyer – 5 minutes)
12. Volunteer paint day - Bubble Beach – February 21st.
13. 3 locations on Main St. have pending murals.
14. Brixton on Pico.
15. Montana Ave. Merchants have sent out support letter.
    * Main St. Merchants will follow suite.
16. Most loved Santa Monica – Vote for the most loved mural.
17. Edison Power Plant – trying to get some traction.

5. The argument for Electoral Districts – Kevin Shenkman, Maria Loya, Oscar de la Torre (15 minutes)

* Pico Neighborhood representatives Maria Loya and Oscar de la Torre, flanked by attorney Kevin Shenkman presented their reasons why Latinos and the Pico Neighborhood were under-represented in Santa Monica.
* They emphasized denser construction projects.
* They felt going door –to-door in a district was easier, and it allowed councilmembers to better represent the needs of the neighborhoods.

6. The argument against Electoral Districts – Michael Feinstein (15 minutes)

* Michael noted that the city council members came from a variety of neighborhoods.
* City Council is currently more than 14% Latino – which is greater than the percentage of Latinos in Santa Monica.
* He also noted that Latinos were well represented on school boards and didn’t see a discrimination issue.

7. Responses (3 minutes each)

8. Q & A (10 minutes)

* Jan – What is the problem we’re trying to solve here?
* Judy – If a neighborhood had a chance to vote for only one person – would they vote for that one person? It’s a different world when you get to vote for 3 at a time.
* Jodi – How many more city staff would be needed?
* Zach – If I’m a developer is all of a sudden me and my friends buy homes in the neighborhood, then they can start to dominate a district.
* Dave – Michael - Did you have money behind you?
* Mike – Compared to Pasadena or a like city. Get elected by plurality. Majority vs. multi-seat elections.
* Treasurer’s Report/Grant Update - (Patty Godon-Tann – 10 minutes)
  + $1,026 in General account.
  + We paid our storage fees.
  + Waiting on the grant, purchase a digital projector.
  + Michael Feinstein volunteered his projector until we purchase one.
  + Judy moved that we move forward with projector research.
* Newsletter requirements and timing – discussion (Patty Godon-Tann/Zach Gaidzik – 10 minutes)
  + Rules and regulations were shared.
  + Content due by February 22nd.

11. Discussion of needs for OPA branded items (Sadat Huq – 10 minutes).

* This matter then to be reviewed before March meeting by Membership Committee.
* Sadat and Zach will put together a merchandising proposal.

12. Discussion of means of communicating with the public (Zach Gaidzik – 10 minutes).

* To be postponed to the next meeting because key members of the Communications Committee were not present.

13**. Action Item** – Proposal to change default OPA URL to oceanparkassociation.org (Evan Meyer – 5 minutes)

* Dave made the motion.
* Zach 2nded.
* Unanimously passed.
* Zach will transfer the ownership from Evan to OPA.

14. Committee Reports:

• Parade (Jeff Jarow – 5 minutes)

* More music needed.
* Donna will be doing the PR again.
* Lori will do the decorations.
* Will set up a meeting.
* Sadat – we need high school volunteers early.
* Fundraising.

15. Ocean Park Zoning (Judy Abdo – 5 minutes)

* Electrical report – Edison Power outage on Santa Monica Blvd. and the ongoing power outages in Ocean Park.
* Edison has a map.

16. Patty made a motion to continue the meeting. Jim seconded.

17. Main Street Committee (Mike Salazar – 5 minutes)

* Dog Eared coming back to 2909 Main St. Open in April.
  + They are a B. Corporation – have to give away 20% every year.
  + All employees have to volunteer.
  + Get them involved in OPA.
* Open Streets Day – community celebration of the Expo – scheduled for June 4th.
* They’re going to close Main St.
* Close Colorado and part of Ocean.
* Concert on the Pier 4 @ p.m.
* Main St. Merchant’s Mainopoly game may be done on that day.

18. OP 125 (Mike Salazar – 5 minutes)

* + - That’s when Abbot Kinney came here.
    - Shotgun House Party.
    - Patty suggested we get together ideas of things we’d like to do at the Shotgun House and pickup with the SM Conservancy.

19. Tree Committee (Andrew Gledhill – 2 minutes)

* 4 new trees put in along Ocean Park Blvd.

20. Membership (Sadat Huq – 5 minutes)

21. Communications (Zach Gaidzik – 5 minutes)

* Bianca acknowledged.

22. Motion to Adjourn.

* Proposed by Jim.
* 2nded by Dave.

Meeting ended @ 9:17.

*Refreshments March: Kate*

Next meeting is on Monday March 14, 2016 from 7:00 – 9:00PM at Joslyn Park. Special Guest – Rick Cole.