Ocean Park Association Monthly Meeting

When: August 14, 2023

Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Where: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87041077301](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87041077301&sa=D&source=calendar&usd=2&usg=AOvVaw1l-7gLU2b2DCTcGElquo4o)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Sean Besser, Robbie Leer, Patty Godon-Tann, Judy Abdo, Ian Novos, Jeff Jarow, John Prindle, Nick Rolston, Christina Allen, and Will Burrington

NOT PRESENT: Chris Morgan

**Call to order:** 7:00 p.m.

**Intro & Welcome/Sean**

1. **SMPD/NOA Update** – Officers Halima Barreto and Edgar Navarro discuss crime trends in Ocean Park.
   1. Thank you for National Night Out participation
   2. Beach – homicide (transient on transient violence), stabbing near restrooms, arrest made soon after
   3. July 30 attempted murder on Neilson Way – open investigation
   4. August 9 at Ocean Park Library – attempted homicide, badly beaten, arrest made 3 days later
   5. Pick pocket at the Jameson’s and Victorian – Special Problems Unit
      1. Add hooks for purse, don’t keep phone in back pocket
   6. 4th of July Parade – report on incident, intruders infringing on parade; in future uniformed personnel will be there for security reasons
   7. If you want a police officer to come and are denied by dispatch then ask for a supervisor
2. **Guest**: Erika Cuyugan (Director) and Susan (Branch Operations): Santa Monica Library
   1. 50% of staff laid off during COVID, new funding is extending hours, opening the Main library on Saturday, looking to add services to Fairview and Ocean Park,
   2. sign up for library newsletter
   3. sign up for library card digitally

***Judy wants to start a Library taskforce/committee – Francis and Judy, asking for volunteers to join***

1. **Guest**: Anastasia Foster: Commissioner, Santa Monica Rent Control Board
   1. September 1 is the annual rent increase
   2. 70% of keys are to an apartment
   3. Last year renters got 6% increase but historically the average is 2%
   4. The new rent increase cap is 3%
   5. This year the increase is 2.8%
   6. Barrington Towers (Shores and other building are owned by the same group) – lawsuit filed to define The Elis Act
   7. Ballot Measure statewide to repeal Costal Hawkins act that eliminated strict rent control on November 2024 ballot, stagnation in rental units
2. **Guest**: Ruthann Lehrer: Former Landmarks Commissioner
   1. Civic Auditorium, closed in 2013 for ADA compliance and seismic issues
3. **Committees**:
   1. Executive (Sean/Chris/Robbie/Patty/Christina)
   2. Communications (Sean/Judy/Robbie)
      1. “OPA Update” E-Blast, Website, & Social (Sean) – 130 people signed up to be added to the newsletter; ***Jeff suggested charging a small fee or including the newsletter in membership, Kathleen suggested asking for donations***
      2. Community Outreach (Robbie)
      3. OPA Connects (Judy) – every Wednesday at noon
   3. Member Engagement / Events (Chris/Robbie/Patty/Joey)
      1. Member count: (Quarterly @ January, April, July, October meetings)
      2. Events: Upcoming/Planning
         1. Sharing an Open Main Street: Aug recap & Sept planning (Robbie, Sean) - Thanks for dedicated volunteers, need more volunteers for September and October. Little negative feedback is that the garbage was too full on Sunday. So far, 50 responses from the survey, debrief with Jenny and Hunter from Main Street Merchants. Request to see the financial records of Main Street Merchants. North of Strand businesses felt left out even though they pay fees.
      3. No Report: Asset Management and Bylaws
4. **Task Force Updates & Announcements**
   1. Main St. (2022: Robbie/John/Judy/Sean)
   2. Arts (Nick/Chris/Mark Flaisher) – feedback from survey on ideas for the walking tour theme
   3. Diversity (Ian/Nick/Judy) – Possible stipends available, July 18 City Council meeting got a memo from DEI… the city is going to ask for feedback from city groups
   4. Renters (Robbie/Nick/Lex)
   5. Homelessness (Nick/Robbie/Erin) – John asks what the percentage of homeless-on-homeless crime? The next meeting is Monday night in two weeks at Stella Barra. The Exec board will discuss mailing the magnet out on Friday.
   6. Education (Christina/David Auch/Virginia/Margaret/John P/Mila) – school starts August 24 please drive slowly and watch for students, Chamber of Commerce is introducing the new Superintendent to the business community on Wednesday night, the district released the Civic Center feasibility study, reach out to the school board and let them know your thoughts on the Civic Center
   7. No Report: Emergency Preparedness, 4th of July, Real Estate/Zoning/Housing, Neighbor2Neighbor (Kathleen)
5. **Special Agenda item(s) or announcements**
   1. Storage space – new space needed
   2. AIDS Lifecycle

**MOTION: Judy Abdo moves to write a letter in support of the AIDS Lifecycle to the city council. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

* 1. Veo – the city did not renew their contract, Veo asks to come and speak at OPA and requests a letter of support

1. **Treasurer’s Reports**
2. **Minutes Review/Approval:** July 2023

**MOTION:** **Jeff Jarow moved to approve the July 2023 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

1. **Outstanding Items & Adjournment**

**MOTION:** **Jeff Jarow moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**