

OPA Draft Minutes 4/01/13

Jim Lawson called the meeting to order at 7:08.

Board Members in Attendance

Pauline Bohannon, Andrew Gledhill, Patty Godon-Tann, Sadat Huq, Jeffrey Jarow, James Lawson, Jan Ludwinski, Mary Marlow, Evan Meyer, Lori Nafshun, Michele Perrone, Thane Roberts, Jodi Summers, Roger Swanson, David Tann, Marcy Winograd

Noticed Board Member Absences

David Auch, Bob Taylor

Announcements

Jim L. : David Auch wants to thank everyone for sending their condolences on the passing of his mother.

Roger: Earth Day, April 20, 11-2, the Lincoln Blvd. Task Force, together with other community groups, will host a Lincoln Blvd. clean up street event, 11-2; after party at TRP with live music.

Katherine King: Church in Ocean Park Bonedaddys concert fundraiser, Rusty's Surf Ranch, Santa Monica Pier, Sunday, April 28, 6 PM dinner & show; 8:30 PM show only; buy tickets at churchop.nationbuilder.com. Katherine, a board member of the Church of OP, said she would like to see closer pollination between the church and OPA.

Patty: The flea market at John Muir School is being discontinued because it is too labor intensive.

Actions Taken Since Last Board Meeting

Patty reported she renewed the storage locker for the next year. The cost was \$600.

Approval of Minutes

David T. moved to approve the 3/04/13 minutes; Mary seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously with one minor correction.

Treasurer's Report

Patty reported there is \$3,049 in the General Account (\$1200 insurance payment is due in May.) and \$15, 462.50 in the Special Events Account.

1st Quarterly Report – General Account beginning balance: \$5,157.17

Total income: \$691.74

Expenditures: \$2,799.85

Pony League expense outstanding: \$300

The city has sent out its flyers, so the board can expect renewals.

Report from 3/16/13 Neighborhood Council Meeting

Mary: The last meeting (3/16) focused on the new Toyota dealership (15th and Santa Monica Blvd.) and the need to push back on the many proposed Development Agreements.

Airport Committee Report/ Thane: Mon., April 1st, is the “Special Meeting” of the Airport Commission as the Phase III Airport Visioning Workshop. The meeting will be at City Hall, scheduled to start at 7:30PM.

City Staff and the IBI consultant team will present a report discussing various concepts designed to enhance the non-aviation areas located on the south side of the Airport that were explored during the Phase III process. Staff will also present initiative and studies focused on addressing operational issues of aircraft operations on the surrounding community.

Public concerns raised during the Visioning Process from the community were:

- Concerns over transparency, communications and trust.
- Transform Airport a model “green” airport (however, SMO is excluded from City’s Sustainability Plan).
- Make Airport a better neighbor with real “community benefits.”
- Evaluate design improvements for non-aviation land (IBI Consultants study).
- Ongoing FAA dialog to assess possibilities for voluntarily reducing adverse impacts of Airport operations.

April 30th will be the final Citywide Phase III Airport Visioning meeting regarding the airport with the City Council.

Santa Monica Office of Sustainability and the Environment has put forth an ambitious plan to cut SM’s greenhouse gas emissions by 15% by 2015, and 30% by 2030, ***but has conspicuously omitted SMO from the latest greenhouse gas reduction considerations, all due to an allowance in State law to not have to consider reductions at local airports.***

Development Presentation

Mary Marlow, chair of the General Plan Committee, made a presentation on the scale and scope of private development and city projects planned or underway this year. The list includes 36 Development Agreements with buildings that exceed zoning standards seeking approval; Area Plans for Downtown and the new Bergamot Mixed Use districts that will include design standards for buildings, open space and the street network, land use, circulation and parking, and art district preservation and culture; California Incline reconstruction; Planned 2016 Santa Monica Pier Bridge reconstruction; and a complete Zoning Code update for the entire city both commercial and residential. For more information [click here](#) to see information on General Plan Committee updates".

Projects include the MiraMar's (Ocean & Wilshire) renovation & 21 story building proposal, as well as the Ghery Building's (Ocean & 2nd) 22-story project.

Mary: Although the Downtown Specific Plan (DTS) sets a height limit of 84 feet in the LUCE, "opportunity sites" have no limit, with no public input required – and 19 Development Agreements are under consideration for the DTS.

Opportunity sites include: 1) Expo Station (4th & Colorado); 2) Sears; 3) Miramar; 4) Gehry; 5) Holiday Inn (Ocean & Colorado); 6) Ice rink (4/5th & Arizona); 7) Big Blue Bus Yards

Bergmote Area Plan Draft

Transit Village: sets height at 84 feet; complete rezoning of industrial area; largest growth area in the city; involves 4 Development Agreements

Major Concern: No parking for residents to leave their cars at the Expo Station.

Role of Neighborhood Groups: write joint letters; meet with planning staff, planning commission, council members; demand facts & transparency; demand DA's with penalties

Participation Results: Development Agreements include priorities of neighborhood groups; impact fee passed; community workshop on height & density; parking plan may be delayed for more input.

Following Mary's presentation, OPA member Judy Abdo suggested OPA scrutinize proposed Ocean Park zoning changes, since the initial zoning was established because of grassroots pressure to curb development in Ocean Park. Marcy W. proposed OPA host a panel on the proposed changes; Lori N. expressed interest in pursuing this.

Protocol for Approving Letters on Line: Patty urged OPA to establish a formal protocol for approving letters on line. For a letter to be approved, 2/3rd of the voting members must approve. Marcy volunteered as OPA secretary to record the votes as they are cast on line. Jan and Patty volunteered to write up the protocol for formal board approval.

July 4th Report:

Lori N. said she found someone – an organizer of the Abbot Kinney Festival -- to hire to organize the OPA July 4th parade. Jan and Mary urged her to get multiple quotes from various applicants, though the board consensus was to allow Lori to go ahead and hire the individual for this year.

[Ciclavía Presentation](#)

Cynthia Rose, Director of SM Spoke and Transportation/Pedestrian Subcommittee Chair of the LBTF, discussed the first ever CicLAvía from Venice Beach to Downtown Los Angeles on Sunday, April 21st, 10 am- 3 pm. Venice Blvd. will be closed to westbound vehicle traffic from Crenshaw to Venice Beach and fully closed for vehicle traffic from Crenshaw to downtown. Ciclovías started in Bogotá, Colombia, over thirty years ago as a response to the congestion and pollution of city streets. Now they happen throughout Latin America and the United States. Cynthia said that hopefully next year participants will be able to ride through Santa Monica with the required permits. To learn more, visit ciclavia.org or smspoke.org.

Jim L. adjourned the meeting at 9:15.