



## Mar Vista Community Council



**MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Tuesday, February 10th, 2015, at 7:00 P.M.  
Mar Vista Recreation Center Auditorium  
11430 Woodbine Street, Mar Vista, CA  
90066

### AGENDA

1. **Call to order and Welcome** – Chair (1 min)
2. **Presentation of flag and Pledge of Allegiance** (1 min)
3. **Approval of January 2014 Minutes** (public comment permitted) (1 min)
4. **Public Comment & Announcements** - for items not on the agenda (max 1 min each unless waived by the Chair)
5. **Elected Officials and City Department Reports** (max 1 min. each unless waived by the Chair)
  - a. CD 11 – CM Mike Bonin, rep. by Field Deputy Len Nguyen [Len.Nguyen@lacity.org](mailto:Len.Nguyen@lacity.org)
  - b. Mar Vista Recreation Center – Jason Kitahara, Director
  - c. CD 5 – Paul Koretz, rep by Joseph Galloway [joejdg92@gmail.com](mailto:joejdg92@gmail.com)
  - d. US 36 – Janice Hahn
  - e. CA Assembly 54-Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, rep by Scott Malsin [scott.malsin@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:scott.malsin@assembly.ca.gov)
  - f. Congressman – Ted Lieu, rep. by Robert Pullen-Miles [Robert.Pullen-Miles@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Robert.Pullen-Miles@sen.ca.gov)
  - g. CA Assembly 47
  - h. CA Assembly 62
  - i. 2nd Dist. L. A. County Board Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas, rep. by KarlyKatona, [Karly.Katona@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:Karly.Katona@bos.lacounty.gov)
  - j. Mayor of Los Angeles – Eric Garcetti, rep. by Daniel Tamm [Daniel.tamm@lacity.org](mailto:Daniel.tamm@lacity.org)
6. **Officers and Liaison Reports** (Action items included with public comment permitted, 1 min per speaker)
  - a. Chair-Bill Koontz
    - i. Follow up on ethics training and code of conduct policy signatures
    - ii. Process for policy motion letters (see Addendum A)
  - b. First Vice Chair – Mitchell Rishe
  - c. Second Vice Chair – John Kuchta
  - d. Secretary –Melissa Stoller
  - e. Treasurer-William Scheduling: NOTE: All funding motions must conform to all Empower funding guidelines and must be funded and paid in fiscal year 2014-15 or they will expire. All NPG and CIG grants approved by the Mar Vista Community Council are restricted funds according to Department of Neighborhood Empowerment regulations and must be used for the exact purpose approved by the MVCC. All Neighborhood Council Funding reports are available online at <http://done.lacity.org/onlinefunding/ncfunding.aspx>
    - i. **APPROVAL** of December MER
    - ii **APPROVAL** of January MER
    - iii. **Funding Motion: Spring GGS Newsletter, Layout Of Camera Ready Copy**  
Tickled Plum, not to exceed \$375 (15 hours at \$25 per hour)
    - iv. **Funding Motion: Spring GGS Newsletter, Printing**  
Pacific Rim, \$4000

- v. **Funding Motion: Spring GGS Newsletter, Distribution**  
CBS Adv. Distributors, \$1700
  - vi. **Funding Motion (Green): Green Garden Showcase**  
The Mar Vista Community Council authorizes \$300 in support of the Mar Vista Green Garden Showcase for the following expenditures -
    - \$50 - Bamboo poles (for flags)
    - \$150 Food, paper goods and utensils for Garden Hosts Welcome Event
    - \$100 Marketing materials
  - vii. **Funding Motion (Green): portable laptop battery charger**  
The Mar Vista Community Council authorizes the expenditure of up to \$350 to purchase 17W Solar Charger Kit (<http://www.voltaicsystems.com/17-watt-kit>) and a 10' extension cord from Voltaic. The kit includes a solar panel and battery capable of charging laptops and tablets. It will be used for presentations/displays at the Green Tent as well as at Showcase Central. And be available for use by other MVCC events.
  - viii. **Funding Motion (EXFIN): Budget Fund Transfer**  
Transfer \$3000 from the Community Improvement budget to Community Purpose Grants
  - ix. **Funding Motion (EAC): Venice High School Community Purpose Grant**  
Wireless printer and ink for mobile language lab, \$360.69
  - x. **Funding Motion (EAC): Beethoven Elementary School Community Purpose Grant**  
\$2000 to encourage STEM:
    - Storage unit for specialized science program, "Trash for Teaching," materials: \$1250
    - Professional development materials, \$750
  - xi. **Funding Motion (EAC): Walgrove Elementary School Community Purpose Grant**  
"Seussical" production costs: \$1,640
  - xii. **Funding Motion (EAC): Mar Vista Elementary School Community Purpose Grant**  
Purchase and processing of 55 library-bound books for school library, \$980.20
  - xiii. **Funding Motion (EAC): Palms Middle School Community Purpose Grant**  
Irrigation installation and repairs for large garden project, \$2,000
  - xiv. **Funding Motion (EAC): Mark Twain Middle School Community Purpose Grant**  
Portable PA system for use at school and community events, \$1,000
  - xv. **Funding Motion (EAC): Richland Elementary School Community Purpose Grant**  
Six thermoplastic benches, \$3000
  - xvi. **Funding Motion (Outreach):**  
Four ads in the Mar Vista Neighborhood Association newsletter over the course of 2015, \$120
- f. Mar Vista Bi Monthly LADOT/CD11/LAPD Traffic Committee Liaison - Linda Guagliano
  - g. DWP MOU/LANCC Liaison-Open
  - h. DWP Recycled Water Liaison-Christopher McKinnon [www.ladwp.com/recycledwater](http://www.ladwp.com/recycledwater)
  - i. Fall Festival Liaison-Albert Olson/Yvette Molinaro
  - j. City Budget: John Kuchta
  - k. Recode LA: Sharon Commins
  - l. Mar Vista Chamber of Commerce: Sarah Auerswald
7. **Zone Director Reports** - may include motions to refer action items to the appropriate MVCC committee where desirable; Public comment permitted)
- a. Zone 1 – Ken Alpern
  - b. Zone 2 – Brad Wilhite

- c. Zone 3 – Bill Scheduling
- d. Zone 4 - Michael Millman
- e. Zone 5 – Michelle Krupkin
- f. Zone 6 – Valerie Davidson

8. **Committee Reports & Consent Calendar** - Actx where desirable(public comment permitted, 1 min per speaker unless waived by the Chair); items may be received and filed by consent if no discussion or public comment

- a. **Executive & Finance Committee** - Bill Koontz, Chair
- b. **GGs 2015 AD HOC Committee** - Shelley Wiseman, Chair
- c. **Recreation Open Space Enhancement Committee** – Jerry Hornof & Tom Ponton, Co-Chairs
- d. **Green Committee** – Melissa Stoller, Jeanne Kuntz and Sherri Akers, Co-Chairs

- i. **Motion supporting Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones**

The Mar Vista Community Council supports Councilmember Filipe Fuentes and Curren Price’s Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones motion (Addendum B). In addition to encouraging productive uses for vacant land, the implementation of Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones in the city would also increase access to fruits and vegetables in areas that currently lack fresh foods. *The Mar Vista Community Council requests that the motion be amended to strongly encourage the use of organic and sustainable growing practices and that it require that GMO seeds and plants be banned.*

- ii. **Motion regarding Sustainable Landscaping at LADWP and LA City facilities**

The Mar Vista Community Council notes that the lawn at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) facility at the intersection of Venice and McLaughlin has been replaced with artificial turf, non-native plants and without any grading for rainwater capture. As recent news coverage of L.A. rains showed, one inch of rain generates 8 billion gallons of runoff in the City. This urban runoff is the #1 source of ocean pollution, and could be a valuable source of irrigation, groundwater recharge, and enhancing stream flows. Also, landscapes with living soil can help sequester carbon ([http://e360.yale.edu/feature/soil\\_as\\_carbon\\_storehouse\\_new\\_weapon\\_in\\_climate\\_fight/2744/](http://e360.yale.edu/feature/soil_as_carbon_storehouse_new_weapon_in_climate_fight/2744/)). Artificial turf compacts and kills soil microbiology, generating runoff and providing no carbon sequestering benefit. It also creates rather than mitigates the heat island effect caused by the changing climate. LADWP’s own turf replacement rebate ([https://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/faces/ladwp/aboutus/a-water/a-w-conservation/a-w-c-landscap?\\_adf.ctrl-state=qhcmd28t2\\_4&\\_afLoop=1033234959869636](https://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/faces/ladwp/aboutus/a-water/a-w-conservation/a-w-c-landscap?_adf.ctrl-state=qhcmd28t2_4&_afLoop=1033234959869636)) “encourages” use of “California Friendly© plants, mulch, and permeable pathways,” though does not require grading for rainwater capture as well as use of climate-appropriate plants, mulch and efficient irrigation. Native plants provide a much needed habitat for local birds, pollinators and wildlife which should be encouraged.

The Mar Vista Community Council requests that as lawns are replaced at LADWP facilities, and all other LA City facilities, they be required to retrofit following the watershed approach. The watershed approach:

- Uses rainwater as a source of irrigation;
- Creates permeable, living soil using natural woodchip mulch or leaf litter, and permeable hardscaping;
- Utilizes climate-appropriate plants and drip irrigation.

While the City is urging homeowners and businesses to replace turf lawn with sustainable alternatives, it is imperative that the LADWP and the City of Los Angeles utilize this opportunity to set an example by re-landscaping to conserve and capture water while creating a habitat that fosters the pollinators needed to support our ecosystem. Such landscaping will serve to promote environmental awareness and responsible landscaping choices by others in a highly visible setting and will ultimately save the city money in water usage, maintenance, and prevention of storm water runoff fines.

We stand ready to provide contacts and resource information as needed for assistance.

- e. **Transportation & Infrastructure Committee** – Ken Alpern & Michelle Krupkin, Co-Chairs
- f. **Planning and Land Use Management Committee** - Steve Wallace & Mitchell Rishe, Co-Chairs, Michael Millman Vice-Chair
- g. **Education, Arts and Culture Committee** – Brad Wilhite, Co-chair Sara Roos, Co-Chair
  - i. **Motion Supporting a French Immersion Program at Richland**  
 In order to cultivate political support for Mar Vista's reputation among young families as a community with excellent public education, the Education, Arts and Culture Committee, working with Richland Avenue Elementary School principal Gerard Granade, shall draft a letter to Steve Zimmer, LAUSD Board of Education member for District 4, and Mike Bonin, Los Angeles City Council District 11 councilmember, articulating a public interest in supporting a French Immersion program at Richland.
  - h. **Santa Monica Airport Committee** – Valerie Davidson, co-chair Martin Rubin, Co-Chair
  - i. **Safety and Security Committee** – Rob Kadota, Chair
  - j. **Historic FS 62 Ad Hoc Committee** – Rachel Swanger & Roy Persinko, Co-Chairs
  - k. **Community Outreach Committee** – Sarah Auerswald, Co-Chair, John Kuchta, Co-Chair
  - l. **Elections and By-laws**- Bill Scheduling, chair
  - m. **Great Streets Ad Hoc Committee** – Michelle Krupkin, chair
  - n. **Aging in Place Ad Hoc**- Sherri Akers, Co-chair, Robin Doyno Co-Chair
- 9. **Discussion Calendar**
- 10. **Unfinished Business** - Action items held over from previous meeting (Public comment permitted)
- 11. **New Business** -(Public comment permitted)
- 12. **Grievances**, if any, received
- 13. **Future agenda items**
- 14. **Public Comment**
- 14. **Adjournment**

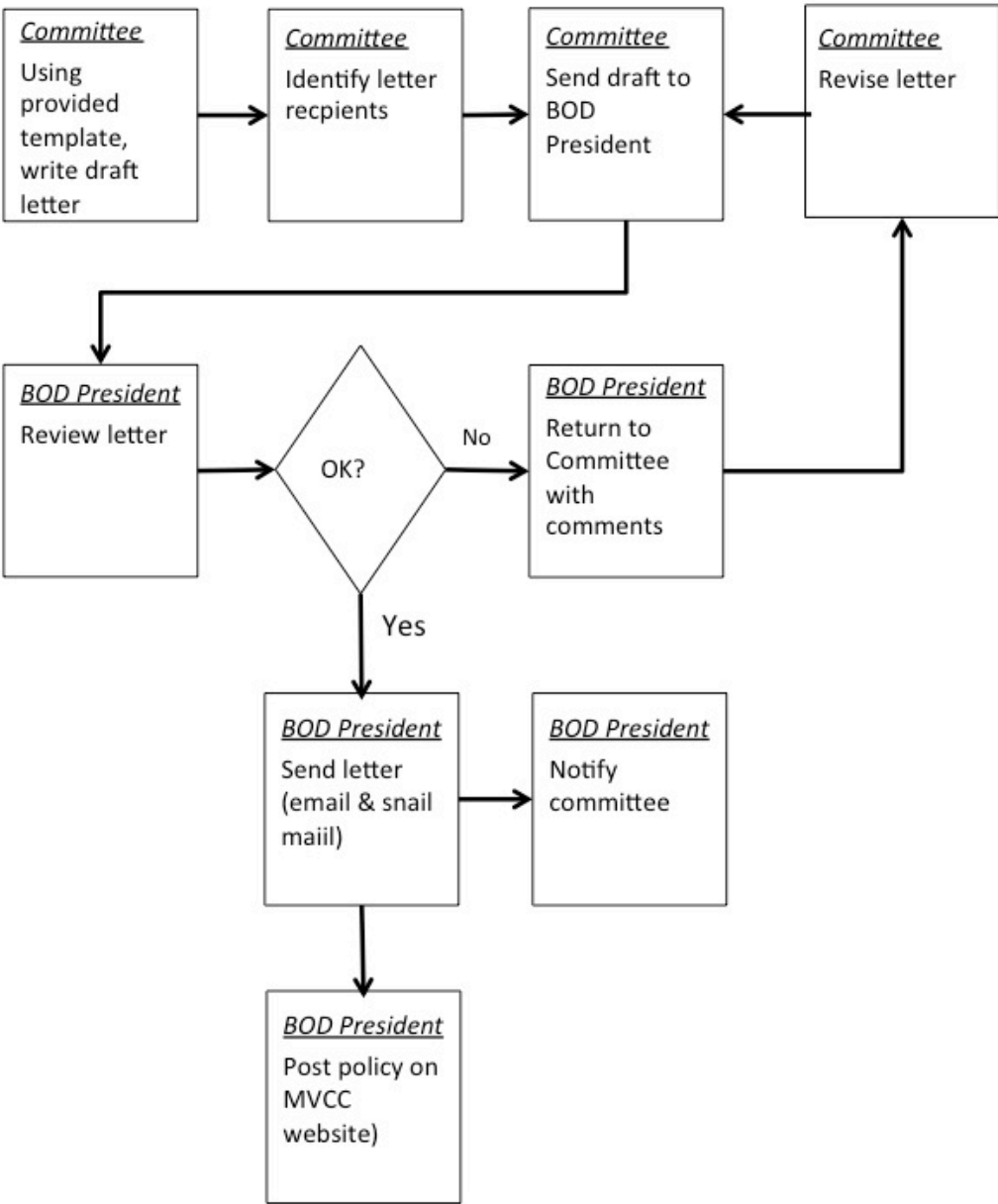
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\* *In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at <http://www.marvista.org> or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact [secretary@marvista.org](mailto:secretary@marvista.org).*

\*\* *As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or any auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting [chair@marvista.org](mailto:chair@marvista.org).*

**Addendum A**

**Policy Motion Process**



**Addendum B**

14-1378

**Motion**

PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT

The *Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones Act*, AB 551 (Ting), encourages the development of vacant, unproductive land for growing food.

AB 551 allows cities, with approval from the county board of supervisors, to designate Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones. Within these zones, property owners who allow their land to be used for agriculture purposes for a minimum of five years can receive a property tax adjustment; their land would be reassessed at the average statewide irrigated agriculture lands rate.

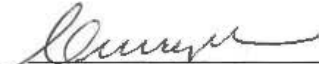
The property tax adjustment is intended to incentivize landowners who are not utilizing their property to make it available for urban agriculture. Parcels would be eligible for the incentive if they are between 0.10 and 3 acres in size, dedicated to agriculture or animal husbandry, free of dwellings not intended for agriculture or educational purposes, and located within a zone that allows for agricultural use.

In addition to encouraging productive uses for vacant land, the implementation of Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones in the city would also increase access to fruits and vegetables in areas that currently lack fresh foods. More than 40% of low-income adults in Los Angeles County are food insecure and more than 60% of adults are obese or overweight, according to the Los Angeles Food Policy Council's October 2013 Los Angeles Food System Snapshot.

**I THEREFORE MOVE** that Council instruct the Department of City Planning and the Department of Building and Safety, in consultation with the City Attorney, to prepare and present an ordinance establishing Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones, and which includes the following:

1. Designate the boundaries of one or more Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones within the city and clarify zoning where food growing operations are allowed.
2. Develop a process by which the City can determine property owners' eligibility and by which property owners can apply for the incentive.
3. Develop an enforcement mechanism to ensure property owners are following local, county, and state regulations for Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones.
4. Coordinate with the County of Los Angeles the approval, establishment, and implementation of Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones as required by AB 551 (Ting), the *Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones Act*.

PRESENTED BY:   
FELIPE FUENTES  
Councilmember, 7<sup>th</sup> District

  
CURREN PRICE  
Councilmember, 9<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

  
OCT - 8 2014

ORIGINAL