

MENLO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Minutes

October 18, 2018

ITEM	ACTIONS
Board Members present	Zach Yentzer-President, Wendy Sterner-Vice President, Liza M. Grant-Secretary, Isabel Doe-Treasurer, and Steve Brown-Parliamentarian
Potluck	Great food shared and enjoyed!
Introductions	New board members were introduced to the attendees. Attendees introduced themselves to the group.
September Minutes	Stan motioned to accept the minutes. Gene seconded the motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed by majority vote.
Treasurer’s Report by Isabel Doe	\$1,136.46 balance
	\$100.00 donated to Gentrification Workshop
	\$10.00 month fee to maintain bank account
2018/19 MPNA Vision presentation by Zach Yentzer	<p>Zach identified they key issues of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education and Information. The pace of change in our neighborhood is fast. We have to focus on being effective. 2. Outreach efforts. Our neighborhood is diverse and can be described by 3 sections defined by generational history, socioeconomic status , and cultural diversity. However, we have common goals for our neighborhood as a whole. 3. 10 focus areas identified as basis for forming focus groups to capture each member’s passion to work towards forging a stronger neighborhood. The report of the 10 focus areas were passed out as each was reviewed. The membership was asked to identify which focus area they were interested in participating with.
	<p>10 Focus Areas were presented as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transportation and traffic 2. Development and preservation and use of open land—It will cost 22 million to remove the landfill and approximately 13 million to refill the area for a total cost of 35 million dollars 3. Housing affordability and gentrification 4. Children, youth, and families—Menlo Park Elementary School status and the number of school aged children in the neighborhood should be addressed. 5. Water and environmental sustainability—especially with the Santa Cruz River. Concern was raised over possible cancer cluster cases in landfill area. The El Paso Gas/Kinder Morgan gas line runs under the river through the landfill under Grande and through the neighborhood. City is testing water well in the area for contamination. 6. Development of a neighborhood plan—It’s a process that we will work on. 7. Team Work—engagement and outreach 8. Fund Raising 9. Events in our neighborhood—Dia De San Juan as an example 10. Menlo Park “Clean and Beautiful”—Organization of neighborhood clean-ups, helping neighbors, and/or identify who has responsibility for the maintenance of different aspects of the neighborhood
Neighborhood Plan presentation by Wendy Sterner	<p>Wendy recapped the September presentation by Rebecca. Every 10 years the City generates a General Plan. The Neighborhood Plan can be part of the General Plan. We do not have a Neighborhood Plan. We are only part of the Santa Cruz Area Plan which does not address our needs as a neighborhood. In order for us to have a voice in everything that is happening we need to have a proactive presence; a seat at the table.</p> <p>Alice motioned that MPNA pursue the development of a neighborhood plan. Stanley seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote.</p>

<p>“A” Mountain Landfill presentation by Diana Hadley</p>	<p>The landfill is located south of Mission Gardens. And was utilized between 1950-1960. The area along the river is considered the longest continuously farmed land in the U.S. There are 3 parties involved in the dredging of the Santa Cruz River: Tucson Water and the Heritage Water Project will supply reclaimed water to the river that will support a riparian environment. Pima County Flood Control wants the river space to be larger to accommodate the water and the rains. And it is Rio Nuevo property.</p> <p>It was asked of the MPNA to support the preservation of the area as open space and as a wildlife corridor. In order to accomplish this, the area needs to be capped. If it is capped the area will not be stable enough to support buildings or traffic, thus preventing commercial development. There is urgency to MPNA taking a stance. The dredging of the Santa Cruz River will take place soon so that it does not interrupt the nesting of migratory birds. The dredge material can be used to cap the landfill. There will be 4 feet of material that is sculpted such that it will capture rain water and support natural vegetation. There are examples of successfully capped projects such as the Cave Creek landfill and the Chandler landfill. Additionally, there are plans for the City to provide “landmark status” in the preservation of the area.</p> <p>Discussion ensued to invite the 3 stakeholders to the MNPA meetings on a regular basis. This is related to #2 of the Focus Areas presented to MPNA.</p> <p>Dan made a motion to submit a statement to Rio Nuevo that affirms our position statements to maintain the use of the A Mountain Landfill as open space and the MPNA accept the dredge material to cap the landfill. Diana seconded the motion. After much discussion The motion passed by majority vote as an “overarching motion”.</p> <p>Stanley made a motion which was seconded by Gene, that a letter be presented at the next Rio Nuevo meeting on 10/23/18 that MPNA stating that MPNA accepts the dredge material from the Santa Cruz River to cap the A Mountain landfill. A more detailed letter that would delineate specific uses will be presented at a later date to Rio Nuevo. The motion passed by majority vote.</p>
<p>At call to audience</p>	<p>Katie Hutchinson reported a lot adjacent to her home was sold to a developer with building-specific limitations included. The agreements were not being honored by the developer and would impact the neighborhood landscape as well as her living environment. She requested support from the MPNA. She will provide Zach with the exact information.</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>November 8, 2018</p>