

# Minutes of the Marina Bay Neighborhood Council

---

The October 12, 2011, was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Stan Anderson, President of MBNC.

Self-introductions were done in the usual round robin manner.

**Announcements:** Home Front Festival this coming weekend; Rosie the Riveter Dance; HOA board member mixer at Boilerhouse for all eleven subdivisions (1<sup>st</sup> wk of November).

## **Beat Report:**

Officer David Longacre provided the monthly Beat Report with neighborhood crime statistics.

- Since the last report, on Sept 15 there was a car scratched or keyed at Melville Square.
- There was an auto theft on 9/28 at The Shores in the 100 block of Lakeshore Drive.
- In early October, also at The Shores, in the 100 block of Shoreline Court there was a dirt bike theft.
- Finally, also at The Shores, in the 100 block of Lakeshore Court. there was a sexual assault in late Sept. The investigation is still underway and Officer Longacre said the report has some inconsistencies; he will report more next time.

## **Featured Speaker of the evening, County Supervisor John Gioia, Parcel Tax Measure J:**

John also is on the Board of Doctor's Hospital so he was uniquely positioned to speak about the Parcel Tax Measure J that we will all be asked to vote for in the coming weeks. Doctor's Hospital is one of only two public hospitals in West County. Doctor's has 25 E.R. beds (while Kaiser has only 15). Doctor's has been financially troubled for about two decades. Doctor's Hospital has a full service E.R. and specializes in cardiac and stroke care. Even if someone is a Kaiser member, if they had a stroke or heart attack they would therefore be brought to Doctor's.

However, if Doctor's closes due to financial factors, there will be a critical shortage of E.R. beds in West County. The 15 beds at Kaiser would be the only option and that can mean waits of several hours.

An 11 member board runs Doctor's Hospital. Currently they have an \$18 million financial shortfall. Kaiser has actually been helping to keep it open because they (Kaiser) are directly affected. John Muir has also been contributing money to Doctor's for the same reason.

The \$47/year Measure J Parcel Tax is one possible solution to making up the shortfall and helping to keep Doctor's open. This parcel tax proposal has a sunset provision built into it. It needs a 2/3 vote to pass. If it fails, Doctor's will likely close. The ballot is mail-in only...no polling places. Please use a first class postage stamp to mail in your ballot. The parcel tax has no CPI inflator built into it. It is a flat dollar amount that will not change (it will stay at \$47/year); however, should the hospital fail, then the tax

## Minutes of the Marina Bay Neighborhood Council

---

goes away. All homeowners, regardless of detached home status or town home or condo status or square footage, will pay \$47. Commercial properties will pay much more. Currently homeowners pay \$52/year from a much earlier parcel tax that was designed to generate \$5 million for Doctor's Hospital. The new \$47 would be added on bringing it to \$99/year per residence. The parcel tax will help keep all 25 beds in the E.R. available.

Doctor's is patronized as follows: 10% have no insurance; 10% are commercial payers; 80% are Medicare and Medical payers. So this issue directly affects retirees and other seniors.

Other points: Doctor's Hospital needs to be seismically retrofitted. Kaiser & John Muir are talking about a future partnership. Kaiser has been paying \$4 million/year for the last 4 years to keep Doctor's afloat; as stated above, this alleviates the strain on Kaiser's limited E.R. bed count.

For additional information please go to the county's website: <http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/>.

### **Next speaker: Joshua Dowdie**

Joshua spoke about the "Circular Shuttle" <http://www.richmondcircularbus.com/>, that has been funded with grant money and operates Monday thru Friday and on holidays. He provided maps, schedules, etc. Please refer to the website provided here for more information.

### **Impromptu Speaker: Richard Poe (the original master developer of Marina Bay)**

As time was available, Council President Anderson invited Mr. Poe to speak to the group. He discussed plans for the area including the plans for Lawrence Berkeley National Labs that we are competing against Emeryville to obtain in our backyard (on University owned property north and east of Marina Bay). One thing Poe said was that Richmond has offered LBNL a \$30 million tax break but they countered with \$100 million (that they want). Poe discussed the pros and cons of Emeryville vs. Richmond. One of the pluses of Emeryville: extensive commercial development already there, and pre-existing state of the art laboratory space that is ready to be utilized and requires no construction down time. Other plans in the works: Berkeley Bionics, various commercial developments near Salute Ristorante.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Next Meeting will be November 9.

Please check home page of our website for additional agenda information.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ruth Zablotsky, Secretary  
Marina Bay Neighborhood Council