

Minutes of the Marina Bay Neighborhood Council

The November 14, 2012 meeting of the Marina Bay Neighborhood Council was called to order by MBNC President, Stan Anderson, at 7:35 p.m. Round-robin self-introductions were made.

Miscellaneous Announcements: Stan mentioned the opening of the Meade Street Bypass Road; he reminded everyone that the 2013 membership drive is underway and that checks and cash would be accepted at the membership table set up at the side of the room, after the meeting; the 22nd Annual Holiday Potluck will be December 10; there is a Richmond Preparedness Expo on 11/17, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Craneway Pavilion; the Boiler House Restaurant is closing for 3 months of remodeling and is changing its name.

Beat Cop Report: Officer David Longacre, our “Beat 1” Beat Officer, reported that in the last month, there was one residential burglary on Southwind Circle (The Breakers); one grand theft at The Shores (\$7,000 in items stolen from a car); a total of seven (7) bike thefts reported to the police for The Cove, The Shores and Marina Bay Community Assoc. condo complexes (there were apparently several more that were unreported). Officer Longacre noted that of all these thefts several bikes were just left on residents’ patios and the fences were hopped over to take the bikes. NOTE: on the residential burglary, it is thought that the burglary was committed by an ex-boyfriend. The Peeping Tom person has been detained on several occasions but all residents should try to limit visibility by using window coverings (especially if the residence backs up to the Bay Trail).

Dredging in the Harbor: Robert Stevens, Port Consultant and Associate/Vice President at BKF Engineers, provided a short report on the 24-hour/day dredging project currently underway in our harbor. Dredging has to be done regularly by the Army Corps of Engineers, and the current project will be completed by mid-December. Mr. Stevens will return in January to give us a more detailed report.

Lawrence Berkeley National Labs (“LBNL”): Sam Chapman and Julie Sinai were the two speakers and provided an excellent PowerPoint providing some history and details about the project, including long-term future plans.

The project is a partnership of LBNL and UC Berkeley; it is NOT associated with Lawrence Livermore Laboratories (they are two different entities). LBNL does NOT do classified research (which is done by LLL). Note: there are ONLY 17 national laboratories in the entire United States doing BIG science, BIG research. These labs are considered the “crown jewels” of the country’s laboratories.

Chapman and Sinai provided a short summary of the areas of science engaged in by LBNL and summarized 29 major breakthroughs and addressed the cross-disciplinary work they are doing on climate change, science education in high schools, and mentioned they are committed to bringing science education programs to Richmond’s high school program as well. The plan for the project here is to consolidate several (six) facilities currently located all over the East Bay into one unified facility here in Marina Bay. The location is spread across 195 acres which includes marsh area. Not counting the marsh but only counting upland acreage, there are 136 acres currently supporting 81 structures, with 300 employees.

We were informed that Richmond is considered a “preferred site” and that this is NOT a done deal yet! They are currently going through an environmental review which will lead to a **final** EIR (Environmental Impact Report). The current site has 1 million square feet and will need \$25,000,000 in remediation work

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across all the acreage. UCB sees this project as an opportunity for expansion of its cross-disciplinary work and an opportunity for business development in the community. Should the EIR be approved, the plan is a forty-year plan to be developed in multiple phases.

2013: The first area to be developed is a small area of 16 acres at the south end of the property, and this would expand the number of employees working there to 800.

They hope to finish the EIR by December 13, along with the conceptual design process. The Conceptual Design Development, IF THE SITE IS SELECTED AND CONFIRMED, would then go to the Regents for funding.

2014-2017: if everything is approved, then design and construction will begin on the aforementioned first 16 acres.

2017-2018: move-in and "fit-up".

2018 and beyond: future phases.

FUNDING IS **NOT** IN THE BANK AT THIS TIME!!!

For more information go to www.lbl.gov and click on the Richmond Bay links. **Chapman and Sinai strongly encouraged everyone who cares about this project becoming a reality to attend as many of the public meetings as possible.** The audience responded enthusiastically.

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The next regular Marina Bay Neighborhood Council Meeting is December 10, 2012, and will be the 22nd Annual Holiday Potluck.

Please check the home page of our website for additional agenda information, news, past minutes, calendar items, articles, etc. See also <http://ca-richmond2.civicplus.com/index.aspx?NID=2013> for general information about Richmond.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
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Marina Bay Neighborhood Council