

East Sacramento Improvement Association

Minutes of the November 2, 2015 Board Meeting

Sacramento Room, Clunie Clubhouse

Attending: Rich Clowdus, Tom Griffith, Brian Augusta, Jim Hastings, Brian Holloway, Nick Kufasimes,

Absent: Paul Noble, David Diepenbrock, Ann Murphy, Kyle Mickiewicz

Guests: Greg Lim, former MENA board member and member of the McKinley Park Pond Advisory Committee.

Vice President Rich Clowdus called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm. A quorum was reached at approximately 6:10.

Guest Presentations – *Invited Guests and ESIA members welcome*

1. Developments regarding the McKinley Park Pond, Greg Lim. Mr. Lim was chair of the MENA Parks Committee and is currently a member of the McKinley Pond Advisory Committee. He also serves as the liaison between the City and neighborhood associations on issues related to city ponds, appointed to this role by former Councilmember Steve Cohn. He has been chair of his neighborhood watch group for 30 years and was centrally involved with the McKinley Park playground installation several years ago.

Recent history. In July 2013 Greg was invited to participate with city staff on pond assessment and improvement. He learned of an unpublished report on the condition of the McKinley Pond and the three ponds in Land Park. He requested and was given access to the report and learned that all four ponds were in very bad condition, with McKinley being the worst. He also learned that there was \$225,000 in designated District 3 funds that could be made available to improve the McKinley Pond. Unfortunately, a major portion of this was diverted to salaries for city staff involved in the project, leaving about \$165,000 to work with at this time. The local, three-member McKinley Park Pond Committee recruited a wildlife biologist to join their committee and advise them pro bono. They recommended the City also involve a wildlife biologist. The City publicized a request for proposals to evaluate and *improve the McKinley Pond; they received only three. The proposal from Aquascape was most noteworthy and they were selected.* The results of Aquascape's study of the pond and recommendations for improvement, with cost estimates, were presented in the community meeting convened by Councilmember Jeff Harris on October 19.

Going forward. Rich asked Greg to keep us apprised of developments, perhaps on a monthly basis, and, when appropriate, to remind others of ESIA's unanimous opposition to a fence around the McKinley Pond. We agreed by consensus to ask Greg to urge the city to consider removing the island to increase water volume and thus improve the water quality. We discussed fundraising to enhance the pond but reached no conclusion.

Business Session – ESIA members welcome

2. Minutes. Minutes for the last meeting, October 5, 2015, were approved unanimously – motion by Brian Holloway, second by Tom.
3. Treasurer's Report. Brian Augusta distributed the treasurer's report. Ending balances as of 10/5/2015 are below. The board voted unanimously to accept the report – motion Brian Holloway, second Rich.
Brian also submitted his revised 2014-2016 ESIA Budget, attached.
ACTION: The board unanimously approved the revised 2014-2016 Budget – motion by Rich, second by Tom.

Checking	\$8,083.00
MENA designated	\$7,070.75
Savings	\$9,020.17
CD	\$11,574.98
YTD cash flow	\$4,701.00

Executive Session – ESIA board members only

Old Business

4. Report from Jim Hastings re Sacramento Steps Forward. Jim asked to move this item to the next meeting so there will be more board members to discuss it.
5. Regarding our earlier discussion on increasing membership, Rich reminded the board of the suggestion to arrange for a half page ad in Inside East Sacramento. Jim suggested that we speak with Cecily Hastings about this.
6. Proposal to establish an ESIA Projects and Charities Program. Although Kyle was not at the meeting to present his proposal, members had read it and we discussed it. Some suggestions were made. We were all in agreement that board members should review the Projects and Charities documents for possible changes/additions and that implementation should be discussed at the next board meeting – motion by Rich, second by Jim.
ACTION: We agreed unanimously to establish an ESIA Projects and Charities Program, details to be worked out as per above – motion by Brian Augusta, second by Brian Holloway.
7. Fall newsletter and general meeting. All agreed the newsletter was well put together and went out in a timely manner. Tom reminded the group that we need to get our signs out by this Thursday or Friday to help publicize the meeting the following Wednesday, November 11. Nick agreed to speak with Ann about getting signs to our three new board members.
8. Website development...or lack thereof. Rich reported that current web hosting person, John Marcotte, continues to be unresponsive to requests to provide access to our data for migration to our new web hosting company, Pageweavers. Tom volunteered to call John and ask him to expedite this.

New Business

9. Possible adjustments to the boundaries of ESIA's membership area. Rich distributed a map showing current boundaries and possible new boundaries. He noted several problems with the current boundaries, the most significant being the use of R Street as the southern boundary, appropriate only before Highway 50 was built, the omission of the Alhambra/30th Street corridor, and the omission of McKinley Village. Rich suggested that the boundaries be changed to Business 80, Highway 50, and Elvas Avenue/and adjacent railroad levee. The board unanimously approved this change – motion by Brian Holloway, second by Rich. It was noted that this will be a change in our bylaws and thus requires a vote of the general membership. We decided to do this in the spring in conjunction with the election of officers.

10. Open.

Brian Holloway reported that City Planner, Joy Patterson, has agreed to join the board after she retires this coming summer. The delay is to avoid potential conflict of interest. We *agreed by consensus that Paul should send her an invitation to join the board now rather than waiting for her retirement.*

Brian Holloway also reported that meetings with neighbors regarding the senior assisted living project discussed at the last meeting have gone well. The only concern expressed was the wall.

Speaking of walls, Rich reported that the sound wall on the east side of Mercy discussed in our August meeting is mostly completed. He noted that part of it is nine feet high, a foot higher than the minimum requested by neighbors and reinforced by the board.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 pm.

Tom Griffith, Secretary