Culver Crest Neighborhood Association
Minutes of the General Meeting  September 18, 2012

Board members present: Khin Khin Gyi, Jill McKeon, Steve Reitzfeld, Rich Kissel, Mike Bauer, Wena Dows, Rosie LaBriola, Antoine Durr

Board advisors present: John Kuechle,

1. Call to order: 6:50pm, hello and welcome by Khin Khin Gyi
2. Treasurer’s report: $4200
   a. Expenses for meetings, e.g. signs, food
   b. taking suggestions on how to spend money!
3. Neighborhood Watch
   a. Lt. Iizuka, Culver City Police Department
   b. CCPD had open house, thank you for attending
   c. Crime stats:
      i. Part 1, reported to state, e.g. robbery, homicide, arson, burglary, theft, car theft, aggravated assault
      ii. Part 2, not reported, identity theft, simple assaults
      iii. Part 1: Jan-Sep, 11 part 1 crimes, incl. car and residential burglary, car break-in on Cranks, petty theft on Flaxton, robbery on Galvin, garage burglary on Whitburn
   d. Lock and secure homes, don’t offer a crime of opportunity
   e. Solicitors are often casing houses
   f. Distraction burglaries, one guy will knock on door while second guy goes around back; demand ID and Culver City business license
   g. Emergency preparedness, water, food, supplies; don’t keep it in garage, as it may be destroyed in an earthquake
   h. Lindberg Park neighborhood has a NERT program
   i. Culver City Blackboard Connect, a sort-of reverse 911 setup to notify residents of urgent events
   j. culvercitypd.org, NIXLE system nixle.com
   k. Q: Are red light cameras are still active? A: yes, still active, program is productive, and has resulted in decrease in injury collisions
4. Vice Mayor Jeff Cooper and Councilmember Meghan Sahli-Wells
   a. AQMD had all day symposium on hydraulic fracturing; folks from DOGGR attended, plus industry and environmentalists; City attorney and head of public works represented Culver City
   b. Measure Y
      i. Attempting to get budget under control since 2008, early retirement, renegotiating labor contracts, cutting general expenditures by up to $7m
ii. We’ve cut what can be cut without impacting services in a substantial way
iii. Without further revenue, we’re at a juncture where city operations will be distinctly impacted
iv. Previous councils have really taken time to pare down expenses; many attended budget workshops soliciting public input on options for cuts and revenue
v. Since May, council voted unanimously to put a ½ cent sales tax measure onto Nov. 6 ballot. Sales tax will expire in 10 years.
vi. In the next few months, will create a public advisory committee on city’s finances, to keep community involved with revenue issues, efficiency concerns, etc.
vii. If we don’t pass Measure Y in November, we will have to cut services.
viii. Jeff Cooper: many different items on ballot in Nov. will be requesting money; actually did polling on whether ½ or ¾ cent is more palatable; will affect residents and non-residents alike
ix. Renegotiating medical benefits with employees, retirement pensions
x. 80 fewer employees then 1 year ago
xi. State removed redevelopment agencies, ours included, causing loss between $6m to $7m;

xii. People expect high level of service, e.g. police response time, which is exemplary
xiii. Intention is to replace monies we lost by loss of redevelopment agency
xiv. Q: could the CC Measure Y flyer (which contains no advocacy) be sent out by CCNA?
xv. Looking for endorsement from our neighborhood association
xvi. Fundraise: this Friday evening, happy hour at Joxter Daily’s, looking for donations to help the campaign
xvii. Lawn signs, ads, to get the information out there and educate people on this measure
xviii. Q: why 10 years A: 5 years wasn’t enough time to make a difference; emergency funds will be depleted within 2-4 years
xix. Measure has Chamber of Commerce support!
xx. When you start cutting services, things start to fall apart, and you stop having a business friendly atmosphere
xxi. Q: how do you figure that ½ cent = $6m or $7m? A: looks at tax revenues from last several years
xxii. Q: have you factured discouragement, e.g. going to LA Target vs. one in CC? A: polls indicated that ½ cent was not discouraging. Even cities that raised it a whole cent, there was limited noticeable impact

5. CERT, Michael Landau
   a. Informal poll about having taken CERT:
b. CERT is Community Emergency Response Team, opportunity to be self reliant in case of major disaster
   i. Provide for self and family for 3+ days

c. Though Katrina is an example of where things can take much longer
d. Class is held 3x per year, next available class is in March culvercitycert.org or via culvercity.org
e. Michael helps train the medical operations, first aid, splint, head to toe assessment; fire suppression; search and rescue, go into building that’s somewhat unsafe to help find victims and bring them out; how to lift a heavy object (cribbing, training tool is a big concrete chunk from Santa Monica freeway); then last Saturday is drill of putting it all together; ham radio operators are also super useful, and will always get through if you have battery power
f. Being a member of CERT, different activites throughout the year, Dec. 7th drill; California Shakeout, not just about having ‘OK’ signs in windows
g. First aid training at Eco Station
h. Q: hours involved: A: 22-25 hours total over a Tuesday evening and 3 Saturdays
i. City is divided into 3 districts, corresponding to fire stations; each district has 3 groups
j. The Lindbergh park have really come together in their own group, are super well organized; difficulty is we’re hilly vs. on a flat area where it’s easier to get together
k. CERT has 3 districts, within each district there are blocks of neighbors called NERT (neighborhood), and then BERTs (business in area like Raintree)
l. Q: minimum age to attend: A: 16
m. Anyone can contribute; intent is to take you out of need category and into the asset category
n. Red Cross is not involved, it’s supported by the fire fighters of Culver City

6. PXP / CAP update by John Kuechle
   a. John is co-chair of the CAP, the Community Advisory Panel, meets on 4th Thurs. of month
   b. New drilling plan is open for comments available
      i. www.inglewoodoilfield.com
   c. Has made many comments that have impacted what PXP does
   d. 49 new wells planned, more than they’ve ever drilled; settlement agreement entitled them to some bonus wells based on good behavior
   e. they’ve drilled 16 so far this year
   f. most critical item is (as result of settlement) had to do a study of fracking, which is then to be reviewed by independent consultant
   g. Oct. 15th is date of annual PXP meeting
      i. 6:30pm Knotts Presbyterian, they will be bringing specialists, good time to ask super technical questions
h. Q: didn’t settlement agreement trade capping/abandoning for new drillings? A: Ken Kutcher and John pushed for that originally, but it got removed from ordinance, as very few wells are ever truly abandoned

i. Q: suggest/encourage board to pass a resolution to express desire that city pass a ban on fracking, that state pass a ban on fracking A: board needs more information what this implies/entail; we can add this to the next meeting’s agenda

j. State voted it down; proposed legislature bill that did not pass

k. Intent is to show community support for banning fracking

l. Result of conference is on AQMD website

m. Discussion of fracking, webinar

n. Q: this seems like a job for a subcommittee

o. Q: no question that sending out information about what’s happening next door, but let’s make sure that the information is relevant to what’s happening next door
   i. Ron Ostrin will head the subcommittee, John Kuechle will be part of it

New Business:

a. Measure Y: should we send out information? Discuss, agree or not agree to endorse? We have a history of endorsing specific items on rare occasions.

b. Concern about redesignation of large portion of Culver Crest being in a Very High Level Fire hazard zone.

Minutes approved, motion made, seconded, passed.

Meeting Adjourned 8:37pm.