

**Marina Bay Neighborhood Council
Minutes of the Meeting of June 13, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by President Virginia Finlay. All other MBNC officers were present: Barbara Norrish, Vice President, Pat Kiely Secretary and Treasurer Gregg Lustig. As usual, there was a round of self-introductions, and the Vice President reminded the gathering that it only costs \$10 per person per annum to become a member of the MBNC.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you, especially our new neighbors, that in October the MBNC will be announcing the annual search for a Chairperson of the Nominating Committee for MBNC Officers for the coming year. Not only that, we would like to see some “new blood” on the Council so, all of you who are already members, attend the meetings and read these minutes, are invited to think about becoming a little more active in your neighborhood association by volunteering to run for any of the offices mentioned above. Please feel free to talk to any of the incumbents who would be happy to share a more complete idea of their volunteer duties with you. It probably takes fewer hours than you think, so please inquire and PLEASE THINK ABOUT HOW YOU MIGHT HELP OUT! Thank you.

1. Beat Officer’s Report: Officer Tod Opdyke informed us that there were a total of 85 calls last month, but only 23 of them were police calls for service (including medical calls). He also stated that we are having “a little bit of an issue with burglaries again, but that the Marina is still in great shape”. There were auto burglaries (break-ins not auto thefts) at The Shores on Shoreline, at The Beach on Commodore, two near Salute’s on Esplanade, as well as Marina Bay on Bayside. He also reported a door being kicked in and noted that computer equipment was stolen from the condo. Apparently house thefts happen during the day and car theft and burglaries occur at night. If any of this concerns you, he suggested that you might want to consider getting an alarm. He also reminded us that we should call 233-1214 to give details if we see anything that is suspicious or that “doesn’t feel good” to you. “It’s good to be a nosy neighbor! Gut feelings are important.” And lastly, he pointed out that there is no difference in crime stats between gated and ungated communities.

2. Development Plans for The Cannery: Barbara Fortini Medwadowski of Cannery Vintners presented plans (they don’t own it yet) for developing a custom crush/shared-use wine facility, tasting room, restaurant and commercial events kitchen at 1200 Harbour Way South. The grapes would arrive between 8PM – 3AM, and individual winemakers would be making their own blends. Plans calls for wine tastings and food pairings right here in Marina Bay! In the interest of expressing community support for the conditional use permit required for such an operation, a motion of support was made, seconded and carried with 28 yes votes, zero no votes and 2 abstentions. In the meantime, doors are open now from 9:30 AM to 5PM.

3. Marina Bay Parks and Trails Oversight Group: Allan Wolken and Jim Branch of the Richmond Redevelopment Agency, Tony Norris of the City's Park and Landscaping Department, Marcia Vallier of Vallier Design Associates, and Bill Davis of Ghirardelli Associates formed the team that prepared the Marina Bay Landscape Management Plan. The goal is to repair/replace infrastructure elements in order to provide the City with a fully functioning system upon termination of the Master Developer Agreement on December 31, 2009. A plan was drawn up to inventory all of the elements of the parks, create standards, and replace and rehabilitate the components that make up the parks and trails at Marina Bay. Much progress has been made to date. The inventory and evaluation has been done on existing lights, benches, bollards, tables, trash receptacles, landscape, irrigation system, sidewalks, trails and riprap. Where applicable, improvements will have to be ADA approved. Representatives on the committee from the Marina Bay community were Gilda Waldman and Geri Brown of Sunset Pointe, Diane Hedler of The Beach and Virginia Finlay of the Marina Bay Northshore Condominiums, all of whom were roundly applauded for their work with the committee. The projects have been prioritized and approximately \$2.5 will be spent on replacement, refurbishing or upgrading of these items. Prior to the termination of the Master Developer's Agreement the group will come back before the MBNC to initiate the discussion of the formation of a Landscaping District in the Marina Bay neighborhood. The purpose of the "District" would be to levy a tax on parcel owner's to fund the cost of the higher level of maintenance in the parks that had been called for by the Master Developer's Agreement, funded by the Richmond Redevelopment Agency and paid to the City of Richmond.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Pat Kiely,
Secretary, MBNC