

**THE MARINA BAY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 10, 2007 MEETING**

The October 10th meeting of the MBNC was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Virginia Finlay. Other officers present were: Barbara Norrish, Vice President; Pat Kiely, Secretary and Gregg Lustig, Treasurer. As usual, there was a round of self-introductions of all present. The Council is gratified to see the interest and presence of our newest neighbors at Anchor Cove.

**We would like to take this opportunity to remind you once again, especially our new neighbors, that the annual search for a Chairperson of the Nominating Committee for MBNC Officers for the coming year is now**

**1. Beat Officer's Report:** Officer Tod Opdyke reported that we had a very low number of calls for service in September. Twenty calls for service were directly attributed to the Marina Bay area\*\*\*. Also, now that the RPD has officially moved into its temporary new home at 1689 Regatta Boulevard, they have a policy of not turning on sirens and not stepping on the gas in the neighborhood until the police cars get out onto a main street. Regarding the police car window that was shattered and it was widely reported that a gunshot

created the damage; no forensic or ballistic has been found to support the gunshot theory. It is now believed that the window could have been shattered by the roll bar. There have been other incidents of this type of damage occurring in the past to patrol car windows. There were no incidents or problems during the Home Front Festival by the Bay celebration. The RPD is "still down" on the number of officers but fortunately the Marina has been quiet. The American Medical Response business is now headquartered at "The Crossing". Their presence in Marina Bay will increase their response time to the southern areas of the city. Regarding the incident that occurred at Kaiser Hospital; "the officer eliminated the threat" by handcuffing the suspect. The officer shot the fleeing suspect prior to the handcuffs being administered, not after, as was rumored in the neighborhood adjacent to Kaiser Hospital.

**\*\*\*Because of the way RPD calls are logged, and because the RPD is now in the Marina, there is a need to separate RPD calls from Marina Bay calls. If the calls are counted together, the grand total will be much larger than the reality of the neighborhood. We do not want to have an inflated number of service calls credited to our neighborhood.**

**2. Richmond Library Bayview Branch Reopening:** Diane Delara, Bayview Branch Librarian stated that both branches, Bayview and Pt. Richmond, will be opening early next year and will serving the public for about 20 hours each week. They are adding a lot of new things to the newly renovated buildings, e.g., new furniture, wireless internet, dedicated teen areas, weekly story times, magazines, electronic resources, CDs, DVDs, and books on tape in order to fulfill their purpose of "serving the public." They will also be offering monthly workshops and classes, lifelong learning lectures, showing films, plus more programming for Boomers. We can join "Friends of the Library" to raise

money to support the programs. One of the programs needs tutors for homework help with students that are in grade levels 1 through 6. Call Sharon Roy at 620-6590 to volunteer. There will also be programs to help seniors, the LEAP program (literacy), GED and ESL training, as well as math programs. They are hiring librarians now for the Pt. Richmond branch; see the city of Richmond website: [www.ci.richmond.ca.us](http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us) for job listings.

**3. Public Comments Regarding the Home Front Festival:** Virginia commented that over 6000 people attended all the events. She asked for comments from the audience. The following comments were stated at the meeting, were received in written format, or forwarded to the Council website. Herewith:

1. We live in Marina Bay and walked over to the Festival in the Park on Sunday. We stayed for two hours so were able to visit all of the booths, eat lunch, see some entertainment and visit the Potomac.

We thought the National Historic Organization did a great job with all the items surrounding Rose the Riveter, i.e.; USO dance, Potomac and Delphiem boats, and Sea Scout demonstrations. We felt these festivities described and celebrated the military and Richmond's input very well. More of this would be well received.

The Marina Bay park festivities were very nice. The food vendors were good but we could use more, and healthy food. Thank Kiwanis for the car show and we would have entered if there was not a charge. At least in the beginning years until it is more developed, the car owners are "making" the show for Richmond. The Chamber did a nice job with their booth too. We liked the catfish vendor and thought the entertainment was darn good. The other booths could use some help; writing letters to support the troops was great but it would be an improvement to see higher end retail and more artisans.

We were disappointed in the police presence. Though there were quite a few officers, they did not interact with the public at all (except what looked like a few personal friends and when buying vendor food) but only with each other in small groups. Richmond has a record breaking high crime reputation and we think our patrol should look more serious about it on duty to give its public and future visitors to the Festival and Rosie Memorial a feeling of confidence.

2. I thought the event in the park (Regatta at Marina Bay) was a huge disappointment. Several of my neighbors and I went (as a Rosie Museum volunteer I didn't have to pay, but my neighbors did) and were shocked at the dreadful quality of the booths, the low number of booths, and we thought \$5 was outrageous to see so little!

3. I did volunteer on Sunday (I live at The Beach) at the Shipyard #3. This was great and a lot of people came. I thought the food was okay but could have been nicer. Regarding the festival in the park, where the food was, it was mediocre.

Not enough vendors, too many stalls about the City of Richmond, etc. The events were too far apart I think. I was thinking that the food should not have been closer to the events instead of being apart.

4. Needed to have publicity in The Chronicle's *96 Hours* for those who do not get the West County Times. (Ed. Note: In fact, a little blurb did appear the previous week).
5. Needed to have great big signs on the whirley crane, the machine shop and the general warehouse to identify the buildings and give some of the history of their use.
5. Some people took issue with the fence and wondered if the take at the gate paid for the fence? They also noted that the fence not very attractive and was very institutional-looking. The location of the entry was confusing.
6. The free rides on the Alma were great! But clearer signage was needed to locate the ship.
7. Regarding the Sea Scouts: Where were they? No one was available to direct the public as to what they could do.
8. It took forever to find the entrance to the Festival. The fence was not attractive. The Marina Bay parks were so spiffed up but the fence looked institutional.
9. They fenced off more area than needed. There was no entrance on Esplanade and there should have been. It was hard to find the entrance.
10. I was a volunteer at the Ford Building. The Ford Building event was fantastic and successful. The Rosie's were excited. One woman was in her World War II jumpsuit. There was a good segue from the Burns film and the Festival.

Then I walked to the Park. I've been to a million festivals in the Bay Area and this was the worst I have ever been to! Perhaps it is a function of the crime? The booths were atrocious. There were almost no people. The arts and crafts booths were beyond the pale. If we do it again, get better quality art and crafts booths. The City of Richmond's booth was the best.

11. It was a weekend of a lot of other big events; perhaps you can plan a different date for next time. I could hear the music from my home in the Promontory subdivision. I loved the music, it was great. Really good blues, oldies, really good choices, decibel level was good.

12. I heard the music from my home at The Shores. But it was-nice music. Not much seating available. The lack of seating was hard on the older people.

13. I bought food at the Festival but went home to eat it because there was no room to sit down.

13. Two of the highlight of the Festival were the music, especially the Richmond Blues, and the car show – all good.

14. The city did a remarkable job cleaning up on Monday. There was no “aftermath” of the Festival.

15. Good job of traffic direction especially at Seadrift and Regatta (the entrance to the Bayfront subdivision). Bayfront residents were not locked in by the traffic.

16. Additional signs for handicapped parking needed. The signs needed specific directions as to where the parking was located. (Ed. Note: it was there!)

17. There was not a lot of variety on the food. Just catfish and BBQ. All kind of the same but didn’t ruin my day.

18. I thought that the entrance to the Festival was hard to find. That the fencing was ugly. That the quality of many of the booths was substandard. There was not much variety in the food and I could not find a place to sit down to eat what I had purchased. The music was really pleasing. Good variety and not too loud. The festival needed a map handout with locations of the venues, directions and parking instructions at the different locations so that people would know where to go and how to get there.

19. It would have been nice to have a special rate or pass for people who wanted to come on both days of the festival. Maybe \$7. or \$8. for both Saturday and Sunday.

**4. Nominating Committee:** Please call Virginia Finlay at 908-5313 if you are interested in helping recruit volunteers for the MBNC Board.

**5. Old and New Business:** Suggested agenda items for future MBNC meetings: Neighborhood Watch, overpass/underpass, quarterly update on Bay Trail.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM. Next meeting is November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

Respectfully submitted:

Pat Kiely, Secretary, MBNC