

Marina Bay Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes for August 12th, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Virginia Finlay. Other officers present were Barbara Norrish, Vice President, and Pat Kiely, Treasurer. As usual, self introductions of those in attendance were made.

1. **Beat Officer's Report:** Due to scheduling requirements, Officer Krug was unable to join the Council meeting.

2. **Richmond Main Street Project:** Amanda Elliott, Executive Director of the Richmond Main Street Project and Arnold Kasendorf, a member of their Board of Directors and resident of The Breakers subdivision at Marina Bay, spoke about the project. This is a non-profit initiative and is part of the national Main Street Project which is dedicated to revitalization of downtowns all throughout the country. They have a four-pronged approach: Economic Restructuring (working with business, government and the police); Promotion (of events); Design and Clean and Safe Environments. The organization is holding their first fundraising event on Sunday, September 20th, 2009 at the Craneway Pavilion located at 1414 Harbour Way South in Marina Bay between Noon and 5:00 PM. This event will be a Wine and Jazz Festival featuring Pete Escovedo, Ray Obiedo and Lloyd Gregory. General Admission is \$25.00.

3. **Hilltop Family YMCA:** Linda Cook, Executive Director of the Hilltop Family YMCA presented an overview of the facilities, programs and membership programs currently being offered by this family fitness and sports center located in the Hilltop neighborhood in Richmond that serves the entire West Contra Costa County community. The facilities and programs include weight and fitness machines, a cardio fitness center, a full size pool, handball courts, sauna, aerobics classes, yoga classes, softball and basketball programs, a kinder-gym for small children as well as a coffee bar and free parking for members and guests.

The YMCA has been a part of Richmond for 80 years and relocated at the current Hilltop site at the Richmond Parkway and Lakeside Drive for the past 17 years. They have just completed a five month long renovation project that will give them a greatly expanded capability to serve the public. There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony and pancake breakfast to celebrate the completion of the renovations on September 19th, 2009. Additionally, the "Y" will be sponsoring a 5K race during the Home Front Festival that will be held on October 3rd beginning at 9:00 AM. You may register for this event at www.onyourmarkevents.com. The run will start at the Ford Building located at the foot of Harbour Way South.

Currently, 25% of the membership costs and 40% of the cost of the children's activities are subsidized. The amount of dues paid by family members is based on the ability to pay. Seniors also have discounted membership fee programs available. Ms.

Cook kindly passed out flyers, coupons and free passes to the audience to encourage them to visit the YMCA and enjoy the amenities.

- 4. Old and New Business:** The planning for construction of the Meede Street Bypass is proceeding. Upon completion, work will begin on the Marina Bay Parkway Grade Separation, hopefully in 2010. Both projects are being developed by the Richmond Redevelopment Agency.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Zablotsky,
Acting Secretary for the Marina Bay Neighborhood Council