

MEAD VALLEY MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

August 13, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

MEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

Rider Street, Mead Valley, CA 92570

MINUTES

0.0 Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

1.0 Roll Call: Tony Davila (Chairperson), Paz Trevino (Vice-Chairperson), Tania Garcia (Secretary), Ali Mazarei (Member), Charles Romero (Alt), and Rogelio Rawlins (Alt) – All Present

2.0 Approval of Minutes: May 14, 2014– Moved/Seconded/Approved

3.1 Public Safety Updates:

3.1 Riverside County Sheriff's Department: Lt. Charles Whilhite

- I am a 20 year Veteran of the Sheriff's Department.
- Overall, last month there was a slight increase in crime. Especially crimes of opportunity (i.e. windows, doors left open).
- Jim Hatfield, Resident: *Question*-Is the Marijuana that is being grown here related to the LA gangs? *Answer*-I can't say for sure. But it is believed that most of the Marijuana grown is related to the international drug trafficking organizations.
- MAZAREI: There is an increase in shoplifting at my facility. *Question*-Do you have to file a trespassing letter every year? *Answer*- Yes. To make it clear the trespass letter (penal code 602) gives our deputies the right to make an arrest when someone is trespassing at your place of business.
- DAVILA: There is a lot of Marijuana being grown here. Some residents have told me if it is legal and going to the dispensaries it is fine. Others want nothing to do with it and don't want it anywhere near them. Some residents have come to me and said that they have been approached by people that want to rent their property to grow marijuana. The residents do not want any trouble, but they want to know if they are allowed to grow on their property right now. *Question*-How are you dealing with this issue until the new ordinance is put in place? *Answer*-First of all, if anyone tells you they know the status of Medical Marijuana in California, they are lying. The courts have not made it very clear. As it stands right now, the residents of California have authorized Medical Marijuana. If you are a patient or caregiver and have a recommendation letter, you may grow Marijuana. At one time there were limits set as to how much could be grown. Then the California Supreme Court struck down those limits because they said it is up to the doctor to determine how much a patient needs. Ever since I have seen recommendation letters stating, "The legal guidelines are not sufficient for this patient's condition". This means that they can grow as much as they would like. In essence, when people have this recommendation letter the Sheriff's Department is powerless. I can tell you almost everyone in Mead Valley has these recommendation letters. Until legislature tells us where we are going, we are at a standstill.
- Resident: *Comment*-I don't think that a recommendation should allow for 5 acres of Marijuana to be grown. *Response*-I agree with you.
- ROMERO: *Request*-Could we get your number? *Response*-Desk # (951)210-1083 If someone is breaking into a home don't call me, call 911.
- Corrin Condran, Resident: *Comment*-We were told a while back that if you call 911 from a cell phone that it gets routed to the CHP and it takes longer to get a response. So when using a cell phone is it better to call the Sheriff's dispatch? *Answer*-No, I prefer people to call 911 because once the call is connected, in well over 95% of the cases, we know your location. Knowing your location is key to getting you help fast. Something that can't be done if you call the Sheriff's dispatch, it only works when you call 911.

3.2 Riverside County Fire Department: Absent (Excused)

3.3 Code Enforcement: Officer Cruz

- There is no real update but I will stay until end off meeting to answer any questions.

4.0 New Business:

4.1 October Town Hall: Tom Ketcham

- We are the changing style of Town Hall meetings this year. There will be a brief introduction and a short Q&A. Then the residents can visit the displays outside and talk to the individual departments that interest them.
- There will be no MAC meeting in October.
- The official date of Town Hall meeting will be announced as soon as it is decided.
- Giovanna Sedgwick and Tomas Rivera Middle School will be working together to combine Health fairs.

4.2 Halloween “Trunk or Treat” event committee

- Loteria night was a success. We raised \$635.
- We plan on doing more nights like this. When we figure out a date we will let everyone know.

5.0 Public Comments:

- Anne Fox, Mead Valley Librarian: We just wrapped up our summer reading program. There was an increase of people that signed up this year compared to last. New programs will begin in September. They include teen book club, craft club, English and bilingual story time, family and teen night, computer and Spanish classes. I also want to remind everyone that we have a Veterans Resource Center and still need volunteers to staff it.
- Marco Santana, Resident: I am here to inform you that Funerales Santana is here to serve the community with funeral services. We are located by Rider and Indian. We have competitive prices and special rates for veterans.
- Gerardo Avila, Resident: What is happening with the issue regarding containers? I believe containers are a good thing to have to store stuff in, especially if someone does not have a garage. DAVILA-send letters to your supervisors to let them know you want them, because right now they are banned. TREVINO-continue to bring up the container issue so that it can be recorded in the minutes. If you don't show up and nobody mentions this again, then it will just disappear.
- Eva Herrera, Resident: I was renting a container and now the owner wants it back. My house has water damage and therefore I need a container on my property. I do not want to take my stuff to a storage facility. I am mad because a container was, and is still needed. I don't know who to talk to about this, so I am talking to you guys. DAVILA-you can contact Britt Starkweather from Code Enforcement and Tom Ketcham or Jeff Green from Supervisor Jefferies' office. TREVINO-Another thing you can do temporarily is put a trailer with tires on your property.
- Francisco Pacheco, Resident: I live by Hunter and Brown and am in the business of renting containers.
- Phyllis Manarcen, Resident: I live by Seaton Ave. and I am here to ask for your help on stopping the construction of a warehouse. On September 9th, 2014 the Board of Supervisors will vote on the construction of the Majestic Center (warehouse transportation center). This development will bring an increase in crime, prostitution, and drug trafficking. If you would like more information, I will stay until after the meeting.
- Giovanna Sedgwick and Daniel Rosales: We are going to have an immigration forum on August 15th and a free Immigration Clinic on the 25th right here at the center. We are also looking for volunteers for this event. No requirements to volunteer.
- Yolanda Williams, Resident: I would like to bring up a situation regarding senior lunches. When the Parks and Recreations lady is here, we get served well. As soon as she

is not, the food is not the same. One last thing, can you give an update or some information on the Mead Valley YAC?

- Pepe Del Rio, Resident: Water is being stolen from the water station on Salter Rd. Something needs to be done about this. I see big trucks go up there and steal the water.

6.0 Report from Supervisor Kevin Jeffries' office:

6.1 Thomas Ketcham, Legislative Assistant to Supervisor Kevin Jeffries

- Mead Valley Clinic: Celia Almeida, Office Supervisor
 - If you have any questions concerning the clinic ask her.
- If you guys have any questions about the center you could ask Ron and if he is not there let Inez know you want to speak to him.
- 3 bulletin boards are going to be installed within the next couple of weeks.
- 3 T.V.'s are going to be installed in the center soon. We are also working on the acoustics of this room.
- There is going to be a microwave and fridge installed in the senior room.
- Loteria night: We raised \$635 and Lincoln Cooper was there to help us collect the money. The money we are raising with these Loteria/Bingo nights will be used for a Halloween event for the kids.
- I invited the Eastern Municipal Water District to come to the next meeting.
- Hugo Chica, a Mead Valley resident, received a \$500 scholarship.
- Storage Containers: We are in the process of revising Ordinance 378. Kevin has proposed one 40 ft. container per acre and one 20 ft. container per ½ acre. I have invited Planning and Building out to drive around with me, so they can see for themselves that the containers are needed. Kevin is trying but he is only one vote.
- Roads: Just because a road has a name, does not mean its County property. There is a process to go through for roads to become County property. At least 20ft of road has to be donated or sold and if one person does not want to do this, the road cannot be accepted into the County system. If a road can be accepted by the County, then you might be able to get it leveled. Paving it will be a whole different battle. Building and Planning can help with information on paving roads.
- Senior Lunches: Frozen lunches used to be served and now lunches are freshly made. We are the only district in Riverside County to have this. If you guys have any issues with the food, tell Smooth Transitions. Beginning September 1st lunches will be federally funded. There will be a nutritionist on staff and several other changes.
- Marijuana: A revision of Bill 1262 came out today. This Bill covers everything. There are 3 different divisions—grower, transporter, and dispensaries.
 - In Riverside County, our current ordinance says Marijuana growth is illegal. So Code Enforcement can give tickets. What we really want to do is go after the people that are making this a business.
- Warehouse: Majestic presented their plans here and we asked them to be conscious of the community. America's Tire is the new standard for warehouse development. Other warehouses will have to at least meet this standard.

7.0 Mead Valley MAC Board Members Comments:

- Ali Mazarei: Thank you for coming.
- Paz Trevino: Encourages everyone to talk more. If somebody says something you agree with, speak up. This will reinforce the issue. It will be recorded in the minutes and that way the Supervisors can find out what kind of concerns the community has. Keep up the good work. I appreciate the turn out.

- Tania Garcia: Thanks everyone for coming.
- Charles Romero: Talk to your neighbors. We need more seniors for senior lunches. It is free Mon-Fri. Thanks.
- Tony Davila: Thanks Mr. Romero for his volunteer service at the senior lunches; not only does he volunteer his time at the MAC and the Veterans Center at the Mead Valley Library, but he puts in an hour and a half Monday through Friday to help Smooth Transitions feed his fellow seniors. Would also like thank Chef Trevor from Smooth Transitions for trying the best that he can to create good lunches on a tight budget. I would like to thank Inez and Jerry from Parks for their continued service to the Mead Valley Community, and should you have any problems or concerns feel free to contact them, you'll find that they are very good listeners. Thanks to Tom Ketcham and Supervisor Jeffries for replacing the windows of the senior's room after they were vandalized. Also would like to thank the Supervisor's office for working with the Dept. of Transportation and Columbia Elementary to add the left turn lane going into the school, preventing further traffic ticketing to parents, and making the school and surrounding streets safer for all. I want to thank Tom Ketcham for all the time he takes to deal with our issues. It seems the complaints are many and the Thank You's are few and far between. I would also like to thank the Supervisor for listening to the residents and voting appropriately. He voted against a recent issue that didn't make him any friends with the County, but was what the people asked for and was best for our district. I would also like to thank every member of the MAC board for their time and commitment. Finally thanks to all of you residents for coming to our meeting and being so involved in your community. Try to get your children and grandchildren to come to these meetings because they will become the next generation of MAC members and meeting attendees.

8.0 Future Agenda Items:

Public Suggestions

- Code Enforcement: Bring Supervisor Britt Starkweather
- Local business (update on markets)
- Transportation
- Perris Valley Chamber of Commerce
- RCTC

Date of proposed next meeting, September 10, 2014 6pm @ Mead Valley Community Center

Adjournment time: 8:00 pm

Attendance: 34