Culver Crest Neighborhood Association Minutes of General Meeting May 22, 2012

Board Members Present: Rosie LaBriola, Steve Reitzfeld, Rich Kissel, Howard Lichtman, Antoine Durr, Jill McKeon, Wena Dows, Khin Khin Gyi

Board Advisors Present: John Kuechle, Suzanne De Benedittis

- 1. Call to order: 6:46pm
- 2. VP Wena Dows instroduced new neighbors
- 3. Minutes
 - a. Motion to adopt minutes as is, seconded/approved
- 4. Report from Culver City Council: Meghan Sahli-Wells, Culver City Councilmember
 - a. Acknowledged the Candidates' Forum at our prior meeting
 - b. Has been involved with neighborhood activism, is how she got involved in public service (has kids now 7 and 10 enrolled in CCUSD)
 - c. Proposed budget (volume 1) is the main thing that is going on right now (volume 2 are the capital improvements), presented the audience a huge 3-ring binder labeled *volume 1*
 - d. Budget is sobering: we had a great development tool (redevelopment) but that is now gone as of Feb. 1st; Budget was very dependent on redevelopment funds
 - e. Previous council brought \$9M deficit down to \$4M
 - f. Handout: General fund 5 year forecast one-sheet
 - g. All surplus will disappear in 2017 at current rate
 - h. Budget presentations at city hall on June 4 and June 5
 - i. Informal poll: interest in participating in budget committees or budget workshops
 - j. Recognizing that people moved here for quality of schools, streets, safety, fire prevention, etc
 - k. Meghan.sahli-wells@culvercity.org is her email; proposed budget is also on culvercity.org
 - i. O: successor agency?
 - ii. A: there is a body to versee how redevelopment is winding down; has city, conty, comm.. college representation, school representation, etc.
 - iii. Q: is state honoring existing programs?
 - iv. A: anything without ground broken is up in the air;
 - v. Q: how does the city finance the shortfall?
 - vi. A: the reserve
 - vii. Q: as far as parcel B?
 - viii. A: is a question mark right now; things are happening, but no news; city will certainly fight to have that go on; would love to find interim uses, e.g. park, to have it live a little bit while we're ending this funeral that is redevelopmentCity has cut 10% of its employees in the last year, and proposed budget is \$30M less than one from last year
 - ix. Q: have noticed a lot of new construction, e.g. old Continental Graphics, Culver Blvd. near Centinela, Albertsons Oldsmobile lot
 - x. A: don't forget Expo line
 - xi. Q: trolleys to other parts of CC from expo line end station?
 - xii. A: Would be public/private partnership

- 5. Neighborhood Watch Rich Kissel (standing in as Lt. Iizuka was out on training)
 - a. Telefson burglary about 4 weeks ago, knocked on doors until they found vacant house, kicked front door in, middle of day (most happen between 10am and 3pm)
 - b. Reminder: always ask to see their culver city business license of anyone soliciting
 - c. Jeff Cooper: people who rifle through recycling cans are stealing from the city, and could be perpetrating identity theft
 - i. Q: can we reinstate neighborhood walkarounds?
- 6. Treasurer's Report
 - a. We have \$4200 in account
 - b. We have a voluntary \$60/year contribution
 - c. Checks made out to CCNA, Steve Reitzfeld will collect
 - d. Treasurer can tell you when you last paid your dues

7. Smart Meters

- a. <u>www.turn.org</u> a public service
- b. Currently, we cannot opt out without a fee
- c. You are at greatest danger if you're 1 foot from meter
- d. Greatest exposure actually comes from cel phones
 - i. Q: during installation of meter: a surge fried most of the surge suppressors in the house, two outlets were destroyed, power supply
 - ii. Meter was changed while out on vacation
 - iii. Had issues when they tried to change out meter at work location, turns out was incompatible with old fuse system
 - iv. Recommend having all computers unplugged from the wall before they switch the meters
- 8. PXP Oil / Fracking: John Kuechle
 - a. Public hearing on June 12th r.e. fracking, urge to attend
 - b. Following evening in CC democratic club also discussing fracking
 - c. CAP meeting this Thursday (Community advisory panel); Have met twice in last 3 months with head of conservation (parent to DOGGR)
 - d. They don't know how many wells are employing fracking
 - e. State legislature is considering issues with the intention of regulating fracking
 - f. Before that, get community input, which is what June 12th meeting is about
 - g. There are different kinds of fracking in different regions, east coast vs. west coast
 - h. Were originally only going to look at the 24-48 hours during the actual fracking process, but ignore what happens over the next 10, 20 years
 - i. Q: are there two issues? Contamination of groundwater and/or causing earthquakes?
 - ii. A: cracks let not just oil go in, they let other stuff go out
 - iii. A: Our drinking water is not affected, as we source our water from elsewhere
 - iv. A: by cracking the rock, evidence points to increase in earthquakes
 - i. Third concern: what happens in atmosphere? Bad chemicals go down (solvents) then come back up and may go into the air
 - j. Oil companies need to capture the gasses and mitigate, rather than just let them go into atmosphere
 - k. Paul Ferazzi: EPA found wells contaminated with fracking chemicals in Wyoming;
 - 1. New DOGGR and conservation department officials, have received additional funds for staff to manage this information and write legislation
 - m. Fracking is a well stimulation technique, not a well producing technique

- i. Q: since we're on the Inglewood fault, does it destabilize the ground?
- ii. A: it may weaken the shear strength of the fault zone
- n. Suzanne De Benedittis:

 - i. PXP is making a case that a vertical study is relevant to horizontal drilling
 ii. We need to show up on June 12th, esp. in light of CC revising its municipal code regarding oil drilling
 - iii. California is only state that does not have fracking regulation of all the oil producing states
 - iv. Hosting a pre-meeting on May 31st.
- 9. Adjourned: 8:05pm