CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

1025 ESCOBAR STREET MARTINEZ, CA 94553



Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 19, 2025 6:30 PM

Open Door United Methodist Church, 6226 Arlington Blvd, Richmond, CA 94805 | https://cccounty-us.zoom.us/j/81874478413

East Richmond Heights Municipal Advisory Council

Agenda Items: Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Committee

1. Roll Call and Introductions

00:00:30

Present Victoria Curtis, Pamela DeWitt, Joann Pavlinec, Royer Ramirez

Ruiz, Bara Sapir, and Jon Sargent

Late Jinwei Zhang

2. Treasurer's Report

00:00:54

Ronnie Mills delivered the Treasurer's Report, stating the current balance is \$1,180 with a few 2024 layouts still pending. Jinwei Zhang joined shortly after and confirmed their attendance.

3. Approval of Minutes

00:01:43

This was approved.

25-970

Attachments: 2.12.25 Minutes

During the meeting, a motion was made to approve the minutes, which was seconded and passed unanimously. Additionally, a new audience and subcommittee were introduced in relation to a new ordinance

This Discussion Item was approved.

Motion: Pavlinec Second: Curtis

Aye: Curtis, DeWitt, Pavlinec, Ramirez Ruiz, Sapir, and Sargent

Late: Zhang Result: Passed

4. Presentations

00:3:00

P.1. Presentation by Contra Costa County Supervisor's Office

Ronnie from Supervisor Gioia's office gave a brief update. The East Richmond Heights MAC recommended forming an ad hoc group for fire safety. A traffic safety subcommittee was proposed, with plans for a site visit in El Sobrante and a 2025 slurry seal project to improve road safety. Current vacancies in advisory boards were mentioned. There was interest in the fire safety group, limited to two members. PG&E's gas line work may affect the slurry seal, scheduled for summer 2025. Traffic issues on Arlington Boulevard are being addressed by Public Works. Coordination of traffic inspections and resurfacing is planned. Concerns about Cal Fire regulations and the need for a Fire Wise Committee were raised. The view ordinance review is ongoing, with a meeting to be scheduled.

P.2. Presentation by Contra Costa County Fire Protection District, Assistant Chief Dave Watson

Assistant Chief Dave Watson outlined Contra Costa County Fire's all-hazards response, department growth, and recent accomplishments, including new equipment and training programs. Fire safety tips emphasized CWS alerts, evacuation zones, and defensible space. Concerns about fire maps, insurance rates, and power outages were addressed. Suggestions included neighborhood fire drills, community engagement, and using Earth Day to raise awareness. Funding delays for a fire break and the need for more community support were also discussed.

P.3. Presentation by Sheriff's Office Bay Station Commander, Lt. Brian Holland

There have been recent incidents of petty theft, vandalism, fraud, and reckless shooting in the area. Residents are advised to check their car license plates for theft. New regulations have been introduced regarding the recycling of catalytic converters to help prevent theft. Additionally, a discussion was held about the state law that prohibits collaboration with federal agencies.

P.4. Presentation by California Highway Patrol (tentative)

5. Discussion Items

6. Subcommittee Reports

01:34:34

No meetings since Winter 2024

SR.1 Land Use Committee: Joann Pavlinec, Jinwei Zhang

7. Regional Historical Presentation

01:34:42

8. Agenda Items / Speakers for Upcoming ERHMAC Meetings

01:37:50

A proposal was made to showcase local artists at upcoming meetings, with mention of Richmond's digital artists and their open studios. Additionally, the mural team at the Arlington Market highlighted their upcoming event. There was general support for promoting local artists and their work.

9. Public comment on any item under the jurisdiction of the Council and not on this agenda (speakers may be limited to two minutes)

01:42:56

There was a suggestion to plant magnolia trees to foster a community movement, but concerns were raised about potential negative connotations associated with them. One person proposed researching fire-resistant trees as an alternative. Additionally, there was a reminder about the latest neighborhood updates and the water district's rebate program. In terms of emergency preparedness, it was introduced that the neighborhood net radio meets on the first Wednesday of each month. The group discussed the advantages of using radios for emergency communication, and it was clarified that these radios do not require electricity and can be used during emergencies.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for April 16, 2025

Adjourn

01:58:03

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For Additional Information Contact: Ronnie Mills, ronnie.mills@bos.cccounty.us, (510) 942-2222