

Belmont Heights Community Association
Membership Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Dianne Sundstrom at 7:00 p.m.

Business Sponsor

Dianne thanked Mimo from [Mimo's Jewelry & Watches](#) for providing refreshments for the meeting. Mimo's is located at 2744 E Broadway (at Temple). Email: mimodesigns@hotmail.com

Special Guests

Dianne introduced special guests: Steve Tweed, Transportation Planner for the City; Kristina Duggan, Councilwoman Price's Field Deputy.

Attendance

Five board members were in attendance: Dianne Sundstrom, Maureen Neeley, Sydney Simon, John Shisko, and Bill Davis. Forty people signed the attendance roster.

New Board

Dianne announced that after almost 8 years as President of the BHCA, she is stepping down from that role. She'll remain on the board as secretary and continue to be actively involved in the community. She introduced the officers for 2015:

Maureen Neeley – President

Linda Pemberton – Vice President

Dianne Sundstrom- Secretary

Sydney Simon – Treasurer

John Shisko, Neal Vincent, Bill Davis - Members at Large.

UPDATES

Parking in the Heights

Maureen summarized the outcomes of meetings with residents, businesses and city staff. The group is considering the following:

- Performing a parking survey
- Businesses to consider employee use of mass transit, ride share
- Code review for garage parking
- Use of empty parking lots

Read a summary of the issue in the [Winter 2015 newsletter](#), page 2

Broadway Traffic Calming west of Park

The BHCA and City staff has been working for several years on how to calm traffic on Broadway between Park and Redondo. After some delays, Dianne reported that Public Works has prepared two surveys that they will conduct in the next few months. The first survey will be sent to residents on, and within half of block of Broadway, between Park and Nieto to poll their perceived effectiveness of the existing medians. Residents will be given 3 weeks to return the survey.

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Once that is completed, a second survey will go out to residents on or within a half-block of Broadway from Mira Mar Avenue to Park Avenue. The survey will include a striping plan for the street and include a poll about the future project.

It is anticipated we will have results from those surveys late April/May.

Pacific Electric Right of Way

Maureen reported that the project has been delayed because of staff changes at the City. Management of the project was transferred to Public Works with Parks and Rec providing support. Thus far:

- Conceptual plans have been approved for the section between Park and Ximeno.
- BHCA reps, council staff, and public works are scheduled to meet on March 3 to continue discussions.
- Money is available to complete plan drawings, an Environmental Impact Report, and beginning construction work.
- A community meeting will be scheduled in the upcoming months to bring residents up-to-date on plans.

Belmont Heights Make a Difference Day

Dianne reminded residents that the Belmont Heights MADD, a project coordinated in conjunction with the Belmont Heights United Methodist Church and Temple Israel, is scheduled for February 22. Please join us – you can sign up at the [Volunteer Spot](#) website

3rd District Update

Kristina Duggan, from the 3rd District Council office, provided the following updates:

- Monies are available for planting trees in the parkways.
- Street re-paving of Roycroft and Prospect are on schedule.
- A reminder that the Bayshore Library Sunday hours grand opening is February 22; she encouraged everyone to attend as many events are planned.

Upcoming BHCA Meetings

March 11: Disaster Preparedness – Alicia Welch, Heights resident and Battalion Chief, Los Angeles Fire Department

April 8: Synergy Oil & Gas - Plans for restoring a portion of the Los Cerritos Wetlands: John D. McKeown, CEO, Synergy Oil & Gas, LLC

May 13: Update on SEADIP – Brant Birkeland, Development Services, City of Long Beach

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Other Meetings

February 19, 11:45 am Third District Monthly Meeting

Councilwoman Suzie Price will be holding the next 3rd District Community meeting on Thursday, February 19th at the Long Beach Yacht Club (6201 East AppianWay) at 11:45 am. You can make a reservation for lunch by emailing Julie Maleki at julie.maleki@longbeach.gov before the event.

The guest speaker will be Mike Conway, Director of Business and Property Development for the city. He'll provide an update on the public-private partnership for the new Long Beach Civic Center.

February 19, 7:00 PM East Patrol Division Community Forum, Commander LeBaron

Join him on Thursday, February 19th, 7:00 p.m., at Lowell Elementary School, 5201 E Broadway, Long Beach.

February 28, 10:00 AM Long Beach Civic Center Project Outreach Meeting

The city is holding a series of meetings to solicit feedback on the planned Civic Center Project. The project is intended to redevelop the Civic Center into a "vibrant mix of land uses, public open space and public/private development, with retail, hotel and residential elements." It includes a new City Hall to replace the current building deemed seismically unsound and a new main library. The meeting scheduled for the 3rd District is Saturday February 28th from 10:00 AM to Noon at Rogers Middle School, 365 Monrovia Ave.

Guest Speaker – Steve Tweed, Transportation Planner, City of Long Beach

Steve provided updates on 2 projects: Vista Speed Survey Results & 6th Street Bike Boulevard

Vista Speed Survey Results

Steve presented the results of approximately 8 hours of speed monitoring completed along Vista targeting the circles at: Mira Mar, Termino, Roswell, Quincy and Argonne. Monitoring was done between the hours of 7 am to 9 am and 2 pm to 4 pm.

The average 85th percentile speed, the speed at, or below, which 85% of vehicles are traveling, is as follows:

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7 – 9 am monitoring:

Westbound:

Midblock – 23.7

Entry point of circle – 21.1

Eastbound:

Midblock – 25.1

Entry point of circle – 20.1

2 – 4 pm monitoring:

Westbound:

Midblock – 27.4

Entry point of circle – 21.2

Eastbound:

Midblock – 24.7

Entry point of circle – 21.5

[You can find the links for the complete data here.](#)

The findings do not support excessive speeding along Vista. However, cars are entering the circles at a higher than desired speed. The circles were improperly designed leaving a 21 to 22 foot throat opening (distance from outside circle to curb); correct throat diameter is 17 to 19 feet.

Options for Improvement were outlined including:

- Paint a solid 4” wide line around the circle to achieve a 17 – 19 foot throat
- Integrate RPM’s into the design; however, these road markers are noisy
- Improve reflectors (current model has fallen off in many locations) by painting the face of the curb with glass beads or installing raised pavement markers on the top of the curb
- To announce the dips along Vista, consider “shark teeth” pavement markers

It was agreed that a separate meeting would be scheduled to review and decide on options.

Update: **The Meeting re Vista Speed Survey Outcomes is scheduled for February 25, 2015, 6:30 pm**

Belmont Heights United Methodist Church at the corner of 3rd and Termino. We will be meeting in the Parlor room.

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6th Street Bike Boulevard

Designs for the bike blvd have been discussed at previous meetings; those details were not reviewed at this meeting. The proposed blvd acts as a 7th street bypass for cyclists and extends from Junipero to Bellflower, through 3 different neighborhood associations (Rose Park, Belmont Heights, and Alamitos Heights) and several historic districts. The project will be paid for through Federal & State funds.

Steve outlined the following timeline:

1. Design completed by June, 2015
2. Application for authorization to spend the money – August 2015
3. Presentation to City Council by the end of 2015
4. Anticipate beginning construction mid-March 2016
5. Construction completed in 90 days or less

A traffic signal is planned for Ximeno and 6th; a traffic signal loop in the pavement at Redondo will be installed and will trip the signal when a bike is present; the design of the intersection of the bike blvd and the Pacific Electric right-of-way is under discussion.

A meeting of the 3 neighborhoods impacted by this project is to be scheduled so as to coordinate design elements along the blvd. The BHCA will notify residents of the meeting date.

[Plans for the 6th Street Bike Boulevard can be found here.](#)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Sundstrom
Secretary
2/19/2015