

East Sacramento Improvement Association
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
February 6, 2012 – 5:30pm
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at approximately 5:30 p.m.

In attendance: Brian Augusta, Louise Buford, David Diepenbrock, George Koufasimis, Ann Hamel, Paul Noble, Daniel Lapham, Barbara Schor, and Cyril Shah.

Guest Presentations

1. Presentation by representatives of the Greek Orthodox Church. The Church plans to build a new gathering hall large enough to accommodate their existing congregation of approximately 450 members. This new hall will have basketball and volleyball courts, as well as a kitchen; the hall will be designed to accommodate banquet seating for 450 people. The Church also plans to build an education center behind the new hall. The Church's current office building, a vacant commercial building on the block, and a nine-unit apartment complex will be demolished. The Church plans to add parking on the interior of the block adjacent to 30th street. Cars will circulate through the interior of the parcel, entering on G and exiting onto F Street. A play area will be located along G Street next to the new office/administration building. The new buildings will have a height and mass that is similar to the existing structures. The plans will be subject only to staff-level review. There are long-range plans to replace the sanctuary.
2. Julie Ritchie re proposed plastic bag ordinance. Ms. Ritchie had confirmed, but did not attend the meeting.

Business Session

3. Minutes for January 9, 2012. After correcting the spelling of Kunal Merchant's name, the Board approved the minutes unanimously.
4. Treasurer's report. Daniel reported that we have \$840.49 in our checking account, \$3,485.46 in savings, and \$11,507.45 in one of the two CD's. The other CD should have a similar amount, but Daniel could not provide the exact figure because he had not yet received the statement. Both CD's renew every six months.

Executive Board Session – ESIA board members only – 6:10 pm

Old Business

5. Progress on reinstating tax exempt status. Daniel reported that he had not received any response yet from the IRS. He plans to follow up again soon, and will be submitting tax returns for 2011. Returns for two consecutive years are

needed for reinstatement. At Cyril's request, Daniel agreed to send a copy of the application for reinstatement to David Diepenbrock for review.

6. Update on ESIA website. Louise requested .pdf copies of minutes and other ESIA documents to upload. She is planning on taking a re-fresher training from our consultant on how to update the site. The City's link to our website has been corrected. Louise asked for ideas for links, events, and articles.
7. Follow up conversation with Jeff Cuneo. Cyril and David did not get a chance to hold any follow up conversations. A general discussion ensued regarding priorities for a new area high school. Louise stated that based on her discussions with neighbors, academics is the top priority, followed by location. Sports are less important because many participate in club sports. Cyril stated that he also believed academics is the top priority, and that different schools/programs can share sports facilities. Board members suggested that a mediator or facilitator should be used to deal with sharing space at the old Sac High campus with the St. Hope program.

New Business

8. Final selection of guest speakers for March 28 General Membership Meeting. Supervisor Phil Serna and Steve Cohn are both confirmed. A speaker is also needed to provide an update on the Clunie Center.
9. Topics for next newsletter (articles due Feb 15; newsletter to be mailed 3/7). The Board finalized the list of topics and assigned them as follows: (1) President's message (Paul); (2) Clunie Center update (David); (3) Bio and Photo of Phil Serna (Cyril); (4) "Blurb" on the new cross-walk and signal on J Street (Cyril); (5) Whether to retain the MGH Chapel on H Street (Barbara); (6) Dues collection tear off (Tricia); (7) "Blurb" on the new website (Louise); and (8) announcement of new businesses in East Sac (Louise).
10. Do we need to consider changing the schedule for our regular Board meetings? It was reported that Tricia Stevens can generally make meetings on the first Monday of the month. George Koufasimis volunteered to speak with Knight Smart to learn whether he now has a conflict with our regular meeting time. There was a general discussion about other possible meeting dates, including the third Monday of each month, but none of the alternatives seemed superior to the current meeting time. No further action was taken.
11. Next election for Board members and officers. Paul is willing to serve another year President. Daniel stated that he is planning to step down as Treasurer after five years of service at that post. Tricia is considering stepping down as Vice President, and editor-in-chief of the Newsletter. David expressed that he is willing to have someone else serve as Secretary, but would otherwise continue in that position. Barbara expressed some interest in serving as the Secretary. Paul stated that all positions needed to be set/assigned by the March board meeting.

12. Brainstorm session: How to engage interested volunteers with new community initiatives. Ann suggested that we revive the ESIA tradition of decorating the McKinley duck pond island. It was also suggested that a Volunteer Day be organized each quarter, with a rotating project. David asked whether Board members would be interested in creating issue-area sub-committees, such as for Schools, Parks, etc. Members expressed more interest in soliciting ideas for a quarterly project. No formal action was taken on this item.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 p.m.