

Minutes of the Mesquite Ranch Neighborhood Association

Regular Meeting – March 4, 2008 – Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 6:35pm. The following board members were present:

Randall Pierce
Sylvia Katvala
Chip Ellis
Karina Trumbull
Keith Miller

A Quorum was noted for the record.

Minutes of December Meeting

Randy Pierce moved to approve the minutes of the February 4th meeting. The motion was seconded by Karina Trumbull. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Special Presentation – John Carruth, Assistant Superintendent, Vail School District

Randy Pierce prefaced a special presentation by John Carruth of the Vail School District regarding progress of Senita Valley Elementary School.

Mr. Carruth indicated that the elementary school is scheduled for completion in July '08 with a capacity of 650 students. Approximately 450 students are expected in attendance the first year, with the majority of those students from the Mesquite Ranch, Sierra Morado, and Desert Willow communities.

Mr. Carruth explained that FEMA had redrawn the 100-year flood lines in the vicinity of the Senita Valley development, in response to the extensive rains of last year. As a result, the developable area for the middle school has been reduced significantly. Due to this change, building layouts in the area have had to be altered, and concern over safe vehicular access to the new layout has resulted in Vail School District re-addressing the entry at Marquette Street. Specifically, one-way entry to the school site from Marquette is under review. Mr. Carruth stated that this entry would primarily serve Mesquite Ranch residents, and help reduce traffic entering from Bilby, while ensuring a safe “drop off to the right” for vehicles entering from Marquette.

Mr. Carruth stated that a decision about entry from Marquette would need to be made by the end of March.

Randy Pierce asked whether Senita Valley’s use of contract cleaning services would present a problem with MRNA’s use of the facility for monthly meetings. Mr. Carruth stated that use of the school facility for MRNA meetings would be feasible and that concerns over contract cleaning services affecting public use of school facilities were unfounded.

A resident expressed concern to Mr. Carruth about the level of dust on Bilby Road as a result of school construction. Required dust control measures do not seem to be in use. Mr. Carruth assured the group that the contractor is required to conform with dust control ordinances.

A resident asked about access to the school from Drexel. Mr. Carruth explained that Metropolitan Road is paved all the way to Drexel, providing access to Bilby.

A resident expressed concern that the current gate on Marquette is so high, that ATV riders are able to ride underneath to gain illegal access to the school grounds.

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Randy Pierce proposed that a special meeting of MRNA be held to re-address use of Marquette to access Senita Valley school grounds, to allow community discussion and the opportunity for concerned residents to once again voice an opinion on this use of the Marquette entry. The date for the meeting will be announced.

Committee Reports

Community Service - Chip Ellis reported that a late-April date for the semi-annual Community Yard Sale and Cleanup would be announced by the end of March.

Neighborhood Watch - Randy Pierce stated that anyone interested in organizing a neighborhood watch should contact him for more information.

Newsletter – Randy Pierce stated that he needs any newsletter articles by March 15th for inclusion in the newsletter.

Plans and Development – Randy Pierce reported that the posted speed limit for the widened Houghton Road (between Valencia and Irvington) will be 45 mph. The walkway along Houghton at the west end of Mesquite Ranch will be removed and re-aligned as part of the widening project. As a result, repairs of cracks in the current walkway will not be addressed.

An open house will be held by the developer at the end of April to further discuss the development.

Traffic and Safety – Randy Pierce reported that repairs of street sign damage in the neighborhood were mostly complete. Chip Ellis suggested that reflector poles on medians on Oakbrook and in most cul-de-sacs were damaged and in need of replacement, and that the street sign at Courtland and Bridgeport was missing. Randy Pierce reported that graffiti on walls and bridges had been reported to the City and for the most part had been removed. He encouraged residents to send photos of graffiti to MRNA with specific locations.

Treasury – Sylvia Katvala reported that \$188.12 is in the MRNA fund.

Social – The use of electricity at the pools for events is under review by the HOA and will be reported at a future date. A bird watching walk will likely not take place due to the need to have a state land permit and the short time before the May heat is expected.

Call to Audience

A resident expressed concern that overhanging tree branches were providing a means for persons to gain entry over the security fence into the West pool area. Randy Pierce agreed to bring this issue up to the HOA board

Meeting Closure

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Keith Miller and seconded by Karina Trumbull. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:07 p.m.