

# FRIENDS OF MT. RUBIDOUX e-mail NEWSLETTER ... #141, 7/15/18

## MISSION STATEMENT

### *The Friends of Mt. Rubidoux strive:*

- to restore, preserve, and beautify Mt. Rubidoux Park
- to enhance knowledge of the rich history of Mt. Rubidoux Park
- to foster enjoyment by visitors to Mt. Rubidoux Park

## MEETING INFORMATION

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 2018 Meetings  | 7/19, 9/20, 11/15  |
| Time, Location | 6 p.m., City Hall, 3900 Main St., 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor  |
| Parking        | in lot at 10 <sup>th</sup> Street, between Market & Main |

Friends,

Our upcoming meeting at 6:00 pm. Thursday, July 19, 2018 will convene at City Hall. Having Adolfo Cruz, Director of Riverside's Park and Rec Department as our featured guest makes this a special meeting. This is an opportunity to learn about Mt. Rubidoux improvements as well as progress on the City's new Park and Rec Master Plan. Questions will be welcome. Please join us!

If you have received a request for a donation from the "Rivers and Lands Conservancy" to finance Mt. Rubidoux Peak improvements, please know this is not a "Friends" project, but information is available through RLC.

Chuck Beaty, President

### Minutes of the May 17, 2018 Friends of Mt. Rubidoux Meeting

**WELCOME:** President Chuck Beaty called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. and welcomed everyone to Friends of Frank A. Miller Mt. Rubidoux Memorial Park. Self-introductions were done. Nineteen members and guests signed in. Chuck used George Flower's gavel that was engraved with, "He only thinks he's in charge." Members surmised the gavel and message were gifts from George's wife Clarice.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The March 15, 2018 meeting minutes (Newsletter 140) were approved. (Motion for approval by RC Morton; second by Jeff Sierra; motion carried.)

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Andrea Lossing reported a General Account beginning balance as of 2/28/18 of \$11,823.12; Income \$281.87 (interest, dues, merchandise sales, donations); Expense \$944.80 (postage, envelopes, Celebration of Life for George Flower); ending balance as of 4/30/18 \$11,160.19. The Bench Account beginning balance as of 2/28/18 was \$3,650.17; Income \$1.22 (interest); Expense zero; ending balance as of 4/30/18 was \$3,651.39. Andrea advised that the Provident Bank community partnership dividend check for \$563.75 was received and would be deposited to FMR's General Account. The Treasurer's reports were approved. Copies of the reports and the Income and Expense Report were circulated.

**OLD BUSINESS:** (1) **Trail Erosion Control Update:** Alisa Sramala, City Parks Department, described erosion created by drought and off-trail foot traffic including some ruts that are three feet deep. Parks is developing plans for public education and interpretive signage to encourage visitor use of appropriate trails and switchbacks. Some trails date back to Civilian Conservation Corps work on Mt. Rubidoux. Hardscape changes may include rock retaining walls (as in Carlson Park) and rock pilasters with chain (like at the top of Mt. Rubidoux) to guide visitor flow patterns, and installation of gabions to slow water runoff. Parks will return to an FMR meeting before finalizing interpretive signs. Parks recognizes how popular Mt. Rubidoux is for CrossFit training and just for fun climbing up and down "off trail." FMR Board Member Jeff Sierra brought an old "interpretive sign" that he found in ivy on his property. He presented it to Alisa so that Parks could re-install it at the top of 9<sup>th</sup> Street where there's an empty Raincross frame at the trailhead. Randy McDaniel, Principal Park Manager, described a joint project between City Public Works Department and Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department. Near the Glenwood Dr. entrance to the Park, barricades along San Andreas Ave. are a first step to controlling silt that washes into the street and the storm drain which is why Public Works is helping with the project and the costs. Construction is planned for Fall, 2018 to prevent the problem. Randy described the City's "Park Master Plan" project that began with an inventory of Parks, data collection from citizens about what communities want for Parks (phone surveys, meetings in all wards, focus group meetings), and assistance from a consultant who helped with analysis and creation of the Master Plan. Parks Director Adolfo Cruz will attend the July FMR meeting to describe more about the Master Plan. Chuck Beaty reported on Master Plan meetings he's attended, and he distributed a handout illustrating the Glenwood / San Andreas upgrades planned for Fall, 2018. Ideas for FMR projects to the Master Plan were also described. (2) **Kudos:** Jeff Sierra reported that Pat Morand (sp?) ties pet waste pick-up bags to trash cans along Mt. Rubidoux's paved trail to encourage pet walkers to clean up after their dogs. Many visitors comment about how much dog waste is on the trail. Pat's efforts are much appreciated. (3) **Dues:** Membership renewal cards were sent to FMR members by mail or e-mail with the May 2018 Newsletter. Nancy Cox maintains the member database and can advise whether or not a membership is current for the calendar year. (4) **Website:** Kathy Schulz reported that the re-designed website is working fine. (5) **Facebook:** RC Morton advised there are 624 signed on to

FMR's Facebook page, with about one addition every two weeks. (6) **Education:** Glenn Wenzel has no class scheduled at this time. He anticipates requests for on-site classes after school resumes. He brought bookmarks featuring prominent historical Mt. Rubidoux visitors to Mt. Rubidoux to distribute at the meeting. Glenn created these as handouts for the Totally Mt. Rubidoux first anniversary celebration. If interested in getting a supply of bookmarks for personal use, Scout groups, civic groups, etc., Glenn can be contacted through FMR's e-mail ([mtrubidoux@aol.com](mailto:mtrubidoux@aol.com)). (Copies of bookmarks are included with this Newsletter.) (7) **American Cancer Society Relay for Life:** FMR's Relay Chairperson, Joan Breeding Letbetter, sent a message that \$1,700 has been raised of the \$2,000 goal for FMR's team. There's still time to participate in the fundraiser that is scheduled for June 9-10 at California School for the Deaf. (8) **Sunrise Service:** Jeff Sierra said when he first moved to his home near Mt. Rubidoux in 2005, that was the first time he went to Easter Sunrise Service, and the last time until this Easter when he and his wife represented FMR by ringing the bell 6 times to start the Service. They wore their FMR sweatshirts and enjoyed participating in the program. (9) **Mt. Rubidoux Peak – 2018 Campaign:** Glenn Wenzel reported on Rivers & Lands Conservancy's fundraising campaign to repair crumbling in the stone seats and pathways leading to the Serra Cross – within the Peak Property which is RLC's responsibility. Survey, price estimates, and coordination with City representatives are included in the Campaign planning. The fund-raising goal is \$50,000. Chuck Beaty contacted Jack Easton, RLC Executive Director, to include the Historic Planning Commission in project planning. (10) **Communication with PRCSO Director:** Chuck Beaty's meetings with PRCSO Director Adolfo Cruz included ideas for increasing parking near Ryan Bonaminio Park, creating a visitor center named after past President for Life – George Flower, and increasing the size of the flag and flagpole. From the "Master Plan" discussions, the suggestion for resuming Park Rangers is unlikely due to concerns from Riverside's Chief of Police. Graffiti removal on Mt. Rubidoux is handled by City staff if they can see and access the graffiti. Chuck would like the plastic wall-plaque at the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Park Entrance to be upgraded to material like other plaques on Mt. Rubidoux. Building a restroom near the top of Mt. Rubidoux (as encouraged by FMR member Amada Bates to City representatives and to FMR) is not evaluated as feasible due to security, set-up, and on-going maintenance in light of high volume of Mt. Rubidoux daily visitors and the proposed location. (11) **EMH Cemetery:** Nancy Cox described upcoming events: On Saturday, 5/26, from Noon – 1 p.m., the annual Memorial Day event honoring all Veterans will be held with some tours offered after the event; and on July 4, the annual fundraiser Front Row Fireworks will be held. A sign-up sheet was circulated for volunteers who can help with the 7/4 event. (12) **Riverside Historical Society:** Glenn Wenzel advised that the Society's June 3 meeting will feature Nancy Parrish presenting a talk about Peter Weber and the Weber House ... the little brick house in the parking lot of the Courtyard Marriott Hotel. The June 2018 RHS Journal includes a very nice article and photos of FMR's past President for Life George Flower. (13) **George Flower Memorial Plaque:** Andrea Lossing and Jeff Sierra got measurements for a plaque honoring George Flower to be designed and installed under FMR's bench on Mt. Rubidoux. They chose an image of George ringing the bell to start Sunrise Service – a responsibility he took great pride in doing each Easter morning. The next step will be to meet with Jeff Crumbaker from The Patrician Group who has helped FMR design and install many plaques over the years.

**NEW BUSINESS:** (1) **Downtown-South Neighborhood Watch** is sponsoring a Family Movie Night on 5/19/18, 6:30-9 p.m., on Cedar St. between 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The movie is Disney's Princess and the Frog. FMR was asked to help spread the word. The flier was posted on FMR's website by RC Morton. (2) **Mountain Closure for July 4 Fireworks:** Mt. Rubidoux Park will be closed starting 7 a.m. on 7/4 for fireworks preparation. The City of Riverside asked groups to help spread the word. RC Morton posted this on FMR's Facebook.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION:** There were many compliments about **Art Float-Riverside** that launched May 1 in Fairmount Park.

**ADJOURN:** The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. Homemade treats were enjoyed by all.

We hope to see you at 6 p.m. on July 19, 2018 at City Hall, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room

Contact: [www.facebook.com/FriendsOfMtRubidoux](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfMtRubidoux) E-mail: [mtrubidoux@aol.com](mailto:mtrubidoux@aol.com) [www.mt-rubidoux.org](http://www.mt-rubidoux.org)

Yearly **Dues:** \$5 / Individual, \$10 / family (can be **mailed to** address below.)

Friends of Mt. Rubidoux, Inc., PO Box 206, Riverside, CA 92502

*Friends of Mt. Rubidoux, Inc., TAX ID # 20-1692033, is a non-profit public benefit corporation exempt under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Code. Donations are deductible to the extent allowed by IRS Codes.*

To call Riverside 911 from cell phone: (951) 787-7911; To report Graffiti: 1-866-TAGFREE (1-866-824-3733); Non-emergency RPD: 951-354-2007