GENERAL PURPOSE MEETING

Monday, March 21, 2011
6:00 p.m.

Council members present: Cheryl Miraglia, Chair, Dave Sadoff, Vice Chair, Jeff Moore, Sheila Cunha, John Ryzanych and Marc Crawford

Location: Castro Valley Library – 3600 Norbridge Avenue, Castro Valley, CA 94464

Summary Action Minutes

I. Approval of Minutes

Sheila Cunha made a motion to approve the minutes of September 2010 as submitted, seconded by Jeff Moore. Motion passed 6/0. Abstained: Dave Sadoff

Marc Crawford made a motion to approve the minutes of November 2010 as submitted, seconded by Sheila Cunha. Motion passed 7/0.

II. Announcement of Earth Day Event

Supervisor Nate Miley, District 4, Board of Supervisors, announced that there will be a cleanup in conjunction with Earth Day, on Saturday April 30, 2011 from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. The County, in conjunction with the sanitation district in Castro Valley will clean the creek near the library and the BART parking lot.

There will be lunch provided for the volunteers at Chabot Park after the cleanup.

III. Castro Valley Community Action Network Report

Traci Cross, Project Director, Castro Valley Community Action Network (CAN), presented an oral report on CAN’s recent activities and projects.

Castro Valley Community Action Network is a community coalition, funded by a drug free community grant, under the umbrella of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Current CAN projects include:

Increase awareness of the Social Host Ordinance

CAN will hire a professional advertising agency and develop a 30-second cable television commercial to increase awareness of the Social Host Ordinance.

The commercial will be posted on YouTube and Facebook. In addition, CAN will mail out ten thousand (10,000) postcards to Castro Valley residents about the ordinance. In addition, CAN will speak about the ordinance at various community events and will include stakeholders as well as law enforcement.

The Prescription Disposal Program

The Prescription Disposal Program allows unused and expired medication to be disposed of safely.

CAN has hosted two (2) prescription disposal events, which brought out over 150 participants and approximately 300 pounds of drugs were collected at each event. Also collected were sharps (needles) and controlled substances.
The Prescription Disposal Program (continued)
The cost for a one-time prescription disposal event is $2,000, which includes staff, pharmacy, law enforcement and waste hauler.

The cost of a permanent prescription disposal site is $95 per month. CAN is working with the Castro Valley Sanitary District and Eden Hospital to determine if they will host a permanent site. The permanent site is a container that looks like a mailbox. Medications can be dropped in the box, and a key is used by a waste hauler to open the box to retrieve medications for disposal.

A prescription disposal event is scheduled for April 30, 2011 sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and hosted by the Castro Valley Sanitary District.

There are currently four (4) permanent sites in the unincorporated area: 1) Sheriff’s Office; 2) Ted’s Pharmacy; 3) Davis Community Center and 4) San Leandro Hospital Pharmacy.

Youth 2 Youth
Youth 2 Youth is a drug prevention program. Older teens mentor the younger teens. The goal is to harness the influence of peer pressure and make a positive force that encourages young people to live free of tobacco, alcohol and other drugs. CAN along with the San Ramon Community, hosted a Youth 2 Youth Middle School conference on March 12, 2011. The conference attracted three hundred and fifty (350) middle school students. High School students in the two (2) communities facilitated the entire conference.

Questions/Discussion
Cheryl Miraglia asked who issued the grant for the Social Host Ordinance. In addition, Ms. Miraglia asked if CAN has checked with Rite Aid and CVS to house permanent sites for the prescription disposal program.

Ms. Cross stated that the grant comes from the Office of National Drug Control Policy, however, SAMHSA, oversees the grant.

Regarding the Prescription Disposal Program, Ms. Cross stated that the big chains are not willing to take back the drugs until Federal legislation forces them to do so. The smaller pharmacies are more flexible than the corporate chains.

Jeff Moore asked if CAN has contacted Eden Township District to house a permanent disposal site.

Ms. Cross has been in contact with Eden Hospital and they are willing to house a permanent site, and they are working out details for the site to be available 24 hours a day.

Sheila Cunha stated that she tried to return an unopened prescription and she could not.

Ms. Cross stated that pharmacies will not take back prescriptions, even sealed, and never used, unless it is federally required, and currently it is not a federal requirement.

This report was informational only and required no Council action.

IV. Abatement Report
Tona Henninger, Code Enforcement Officer, submitted a written report containing statistics of code enforcement related activities for the Castro Valley area for 2010. The report included violations for overgrown vegetation, graffiti, parking, inoperative vehicles, zoning and building code. In addition, the report included photos of a home with several violations as an example of a code enforcement home abatement.

Questions/Discussion
In reference to the photos of the home abatement, Jeff Moore asked what is the attitude of the occupants and will the inside and outside be abated.
Ms. Henninger replied that the owner/occupants are not elderly or physically incapacitated however there are substance abuse issues. The inside and outside will be abated.

Dave Sadoff asked why the number of violations spiked in the month of March 2010.

Ms. Henninger reported that there was some extra enforcement in addition to more calls for violations.

Marc Crawford asked about the home being abated, did the owner pay for the prior abatement?

Ms. Henninger informed him that a lien is placed on the property is liened, the abatement appears on their property tax bill and yes they paid for the abatement.

Cheryl Miraglia asked if an abatement letter has been sent out regarding a certain garage issue.

Ms. Henninger stated that the letter was sent as of today’s date (March 21, 2010) and the owner has 10 days to act. If the owner applies for a building permit, it will halt any enforcement action, as long as the building permit stays open.

This item was informational only and required no Council action.

V. Castro Valley Sign: Recommendation

Cheryl Miraglia reported that there were three hundred and sixty-nine (369) responses to the on-line survey regarding what to do with the Castro Valley Sign. In response to the question 1) Do you think the Castro Valley sign should be re installed somewhere in Castro Valley? The "yes" count was 161 and the "no" count was 208.

Survey responses included several areas where the sign should be re installed, including Lake Chabot, Castro Valley Library, Golfland and BART.

Some responses included destroying or repurposing the sign, which is not an option, due to contractual obligations.

Speaker
Donna Sire, Castro Valley resident stated that she is very much against the sign and very humiliating for a representation of Castro Valley. It should go to a museum.

Castro Valley MAC Councilmembers suggestions for the sign:

Jeff Moore – reinstall the sign.
Dean Nielsen – leave it in storage.
Marc Crawford – if possible, display it on private property
Dave Sadoff – reinstall near Lake Chabot
Sheila Cunha – reinstall near Lake Chabot or the Castro Valley Library.

Rachel Osajima, Executive Director, Alameda County Art Commission, responded to questions and comments from the Council regarding the sign. The artist would have to agree to any location change or transfer of the sign.

After discussion among the Council, members agreed to explore three (3) possible locations for reinstalling: 1) Lake Chabot Road, near the lake; 2) Lake Chabot and 3) Castro Valley Library.

Marc Crawford made the following motion:

That County staff contact the artist to determine if she is amenable to a relocation of the sign; County staff contact the owner/operator of the three (3) possible locations for the reinstallation to determine their willingness to have the sign installed; Art Commission work with the Public Works Agency to determine the cost and availability of funds for reinstallation of the sign and report back to the MAC Council for a recommendation.
V. **Castro Valley Sign: Recommendation** (continued)

The motion was seconded by Cheryl Miraglia.

Motion passed 7/0.

Cheryl Miraglia asked about the maintenance fund for the sign, how much was it, what it was spent on and how much is remaining.

Rachel Osajima stated that a Board action may be required for the Art Commission to work on the sign project. Ms. Osajima will report back to the Council on the maintenance fund and how much is remaining.

John Lindon offered to pay $500 toward travel expenses if the artist requires a site visit.

Supervisor Miley stated that the Council is exploring ideas and suggestions for the sign, and have not made a determination about the sign.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Supervisor Miley stated that regarding the Alcohol Policy Fee Ordinance, an evaluator was hired to determine the effectiveness of the ordinance. An additional evaluator, Dr. Parker was hired to determine if the ordinance has had any effect on crime. Dr. Parker will present his findings on May 5, 2010 and the MAC Council will receive information from the Planning Department about the meeting.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned to April 19, 2010.