

BIRD ROCK NEWSLETTER

APRIL &
MAY 2022



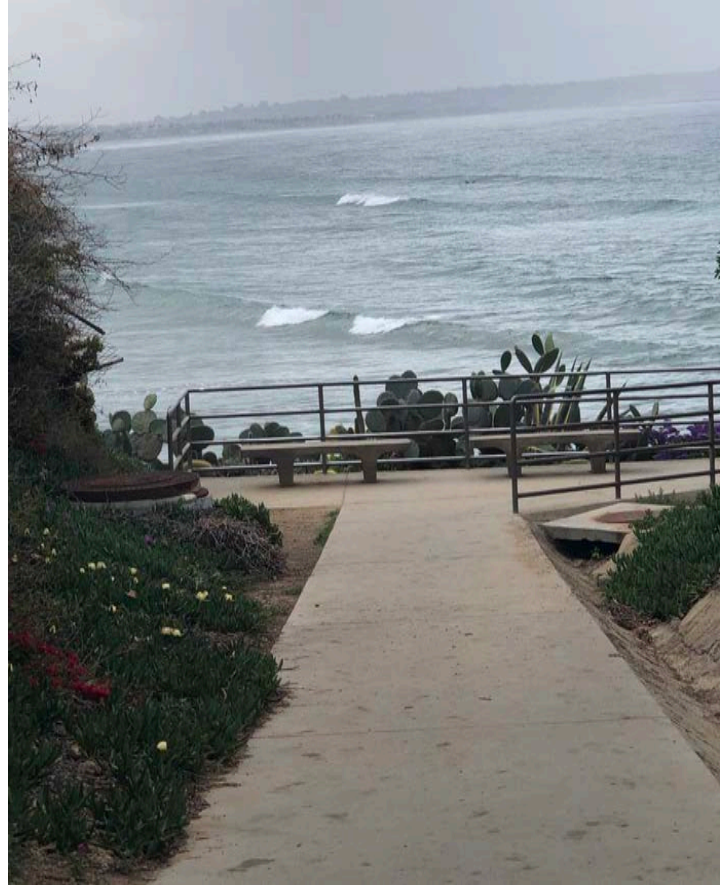
**BRCC
PRESIDENT
JOHN
NEWSAM**

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

How can this happen today? A number of my students were born after September 11, 2001. They and their immediate families have been little touched directly by distant earlier armed conflicts. They now express shock and disbelief over Russia's unprovoked, brutal invasion of Ukraine. Many of us have friends from Ukraine, or near or distant relatives. The wife of one of my close college contemporaries is Ukrainian, with most of her family still living in Ukraine and then, concernedly, in harm's way. The level of international, condemnation of the invasion and the non-military response, even if not fully global, has been encouraging. However, it is hard to envisage how this war might end without further large loss of life and suffering.

Propaganda campaigns which accompany a war are nothing new. It is remarkable, though, that as the breadth of information to which we have immediate access has ballooned over the past three decades, so has the ability to promulgate a contrived narrative. As we watch the Kremlin work to deliver fabricated accounts, even bold-faced lies, to the Russian populace, one wonders how many of the recipients can actually believe such narratives. Then we are reminded that disinformation campaigns or purposely biased reporting are not fully foreign. There are still millions in the US who believe that the 2020 election was somehow rigged.

(Continued on page 7)



LINDA WAY is a dedicated street off of Sea Ridge Drive that provides improved coastal access, bluff top viewing overlooking Tourmaline Surf Park, and stairway access to the shoreline. The benches are in disrepair.

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
BIRD ROCK COMMUNITY COUNCIL - AGENDA ITEM NO. 1:
PROPOSED USE OF PORTIONS OF THE MAD FOR RESTAURANT DINING**

April 5, 2022; 6:00 PM
[Zoom information below]

Piano Building Ventures LP (“Applicant”) owns the property and building located at 365 Bird Rock Avenue, aka 5680 La Jolla Blvd (APN is 357-431-25-00) (the “Piano Building”). Applicants are redeveloping the property into a restaurant. As part of the project, Applicant is requesting an encroachment permit and related approvals, allowing the use and reconfiguration of portions of the Bird Rock Maintenance Assessment District (“MAD”) landscaped areas, fronting the restaurant, at the vicinity of Bird Rock Avenue and the La Jolla Boulevard (“the Project Proposal”).

The purpose of Applicant’s request is to accommodate additional outdoor restaurant seating and reconfigure pedestrian access and ingress/egress to the restaurant. As more fully described in the attached site plan (“Site Plan”), Applicant proposes to (i) remove and replace certain landscaped portions of the MAD with hardscape, suitable for outdoor restaurant dining along the southwest portions of La Jolla Boulevard and Bird Rock Avenue; (ii) relocate certain landscaped MAD areas on Bird Rock Avenue to other portions of the sidewalk, and replace those existing areas with hardscape to provide ingress/egress to the restaurant and accommodate additional seating in areas outside the MAD; and (iii) use portions of non-MAD areas in the public right-of-way (sidewalk) on the southwest portion of La Jolla Boulevard, by modifying the width of the existing sidewalk. Applicants’ Site Plan is also available for public viewing on the BRCC’s website located at <https://www.birdrockcc.org>.

As part of its review process, the Planning Department for the City of San Diego (“City”) has requested that the BRCC provide its recommendations concerning the Project Proposal for MAD areas, as the manager contracted by the City to operate the MAD, which is supported, in part by special taxes and assessments paid by Bird Rock property owners falling within its jurisdiction.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS TO PROVIDE NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT AT THE BRCC MEETING TO BE HELD ON THE DATE AND TIME NOTED ABOVE.

A survey (“Survey”) relating to the project proposal, Site Plan and related project information is also available on the BRCC’s website at the address noted above. You may also direct your questions and comments via mail to the BRCC at 5666 La Jolla Blvd PMB #168, La Jolla, CA 92037 or via email at info@birdrockcc.org.

APRIL 5, 2022 – BRCC APRIL COMMUNITY MEETING – Zoom Meeting ONLY

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83716252518?pwd=bGM3dXJ6cWdHSkQzanZ0RUhDbzhCZz09>

Meeting ID: 837 1625 2518
Passcode: 478722

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News from Bird Rock Elementary School (birdock.sandiegounified.org)

"Celebrating 70 years of excellence in education and community building."

by Lorene Lolly LaCava, Neighbor and Retired BRE K Teacher

Have you heard the news? Beginning this coming fall, the State of California and San Diego Unified School District is expanding its TK program, renaming it "Universal TK," and offering it to ALL children who turn 4 years old on or before September 1, 2022. Current BRE TK Teacher Mrs. Arthur will be joined by a SDUSD full-time preschool teacher to offer an all-day, age appropriate, 2-teachers-in-the-classroom experience for our little learners. Pre-enrollment for residents only will commence at sites on May 2. There is no "early pre-enrollment." Please check the BRE school website for registration information as the May 2 enrollment date draws closer.

The Teaching Staff at BRE proudly announces their choice of "Teacher of the Year" - 5th Grade Teacher Melissa King! A graduate of San Diego State University, who went on to earn her Teaching Credential, a Master's Degree in Education Administration, and her Administrator's Credential, Melissa, a former BRE mom herself, is celebrating her 20th year of serving the families of our community. Highly respected for her professionalism and common sense approach to education, Melissa's warmth and sense of humor is enjoyed by all as she works to prepare her students for the big transition to middle school.



Ms. King

January meant a school-wide focus on "Kindness" what it means and what it looks like. Students wore a rainbow of colors, each representing their grade level, as they spread around campus practicing kindness to each other, their environment, and themselves. Families took up the "Family Kindness Challenge," with thoughtful and fun activities at home. A great way start to the calendar year!

All year long the 5th Grade members of Bird Squad have put "kindness" into action. As peer leaders, they help with school events and model and reinforce expected norms and behaviors. Some of the flock also assist in classrooms and we have recently begun to engage in community outreach, including a joint effort with La Jolla Elementary on the "Be Kind To People" Project.

February fun began with cymbals, drums, and shouts of "Gung Hay Fat Choy!" Thanks to Mrs. Shear's 3rd Grade Students, the Dancing Dragon made its annual appearance, parading all around school in celebration of this happy holiday. A truly beloved BRE tradition! Excitement continued as BRE students marked Groundhog Day, 100th Day of School, Valentines' Day, and Presidents' Day. A busy month!



For 2nd Graders, "2/22/22" took on extra special meaning - in Math (i.e. demonstrate 2 ways to get to 22,222), Language Arts (compound words, anyone?) and more! In addition, the entire grade level became VERY dramatic as they VERY enthusiastically engaged in their latest Bird Rock Foundation (BRF) Arts program: "Body, Voice, Face," learning about the huge role expression can play as they enacted scenes like "walking through snow," "excitement," or a group "tug of war," all without props.

Science in 4th Grade focused on human and other animal eyes, as part of "Out Human Body" exploration. Among activities, students experimented with retinas and cornea lenses - insightful! For Social Studies, the students collaborated to build research skills, creating slide shows focused on key figures from the Harlem Renaissance.

(continued on page 5)



News from Bird Rock Elementary School *(continued from page 4)*



2-2-2 Terrific 2nd Grade Teaches Mrs. Daris



4th Grade Eyes Have It



1st Graders' Stick Puppet Parade

First Graders and their families enjoyed a Beach Clean Up Day at Crystal Pier, harvesting peas from garden tubs, and showing Principal Frost their many math talents. BRF funded a Puppets workshop that involved story and set design, implementation ... and stick puppets!

Improvisation was the name of the game for 3rd graders, thanks to the BRF. All spent February acting out different characters and scenes at the drop of a hat! Next up, Percussion and Instrument Making.

Kindergarten got in on the action with "Theater:" learning how to use voices and movement with drama. Mrs. Wishy Washy and Pigeon helped with understanding "Character Traits." Question: How do we "know" story characters? We can note how they look (hands on hips, squinty eyes,) how they act, what they say, and how they feel inside.

Gala projects got underway as every student, with parent and professional artist support, created one-of-a-kind classroom art pieces and gathered offerings for Class Baskets to be auctioned off at the upcoming annual fundraiser, all of which support the historic well-rounded educational culture at BRE.

BRE is getting ready for a community celebration of the school's 70th birthday! On Thursday, May 26th, from 5 to 7 pm, the "heart" of our neighborhood invites all community members, alumni students, alumni parents, and alumni staff to head for the upper field to mark this milestone. To activate memories, check out BRE's "Permanent Art Collection," which can be found online at our website, birdrock.sandiegounified.org, click on "About Us," then "Permanent Art Collection." Our community has so many professional artists who have served as mentors to our students over the years, creating quite a collection of over 40 beautiful art representations of happy times in this place. Enjoy!

BRE survived the pandemic and so many other huge, and sometimes very scary, happenings in the greater world. But over the decades, our neighborhood public school has remained safe and a beacon of hope for the future, thanks to our caring staff, supportive families and community. It is a "Happy Birthday!" for all of us.



Gala Project Art Work



Lifeguard & Beach Clean Up Crew



Celebrating Alisson Tomasulo! Bird Rock Neighbor & Retiring BRE K Teacher

After teaching more than 250 of our neighborhood's children and serving as a warm and welcoming Kindergarten Teacher in K1 for more than a decade, Alisson Tomasulo will begin her Early Retirement at the conclusion of this school year.

Mrs. Tomasulo started her career in 1994 as a classroom teacher for San Diego Unified School District, especially enjoying her time in kindergarten. A few years later, Alisson's path took her to SDUSD's Ballard Center, where she taught parents how to help their own children develop strategies for school success. Along the way, she and her husband, Jim, became parents to their own 3 children (and former Bird Rockers:) Julia, Mia, and Quinn. BRE welcomed Alisson in 2010 as a talented and experienced addition to the BRE Staff and Kindergarten Team.



As an expert in Early Childhood Education, Alisson found great joy as she operated within the world of 5 year olds. Always kind, respectful, empathetic, and professional, every year Alisson successfully sought to establish a "Team Spirit" in her relationships with her K1 students and their families, when collaborating with



Mrs. Tomasulo & her K1 Students

her colleagues, and when enthusiastically supporting the good work being done at BRE. Although Alisson will be missed in the day-to-day life of BRE, through her years spent here, she leaves a legacy of "excellence in education and community building," permanently influencing and benefiting our entire Bird Rock neighborhood.

To help celebrate, we invite you to send Mrs. Tomasulo a congratulatory note with a memory or two. This is truly the finest way to touch the heart of a retiring teacher. You can mail or drop off your note/card at Bird Rock Elementary, 5371 La Jolla Hermosa Avenue, La Jolla, CA 92037.

Enjoy the interview of Mrs. Tomasulo.

1. What did you enjoy about teaching and being a teacher? *"The connections made with the students. It is a wonderful feeling having former students come back to K1 to say "hello" and talk about what is going on in their classrooms and lives."*
2. What do you think you will miss the most? *"I will miss many things about teaching kindergarten at BRE. I will miss the students' "A-ha" moments when everything begins to "click" and they just take off both academically and socially. I will miss the way our students come to school everyday ready to share absolutely everything they experienced from the time they left school the day before until that moment they are in line, and I will definitely miss all that kinder energy and seeing the world through their eyes! I will also miss the BRE staff very much! It has been a privilege being apart of such a dynamic group of professionals. Everyone brings their "A" game everyday for the love of their students. The TK/K team will always be near and dear to my heart. I do not think there is a team more united, supportive, and hysterical then these ladies!"*
3. How has teaching changed and/or remained the same over the years? *"Teaching practices and curriculum has changed so much over the years, but what hasn't changed is the drive of the BRE staff to teach these new practices and curriculum in a variety of ways to reach all kind of learners in our classrooms."*
4. How have students changed and/or remained the same? *"Students have changed over time with how much school experience they have entering kindergarten. In years past, most kinders at BRE have been to preschool, only. Now we see our students coming in with preschool experience, TK experience or no previous school experience. What has remained the same is their eagerness to learn and help others."*
5. To what do you look forward to in retirement? *"I have not had a lot of time to think about retirement to be perfectly honest. Teaching keeps me quite busy! My husband, Jim, is looking forward to us being able to travel any time of the year and visiting our three children in college or wherever they land. I do know that I would like to give back to BRE as a volunteer since BRE gave so much to me and our family. So travel and volunteering so far!"*
6. What else would you like us to know? *"Enjoy your time at BRE. It truly is a magical place!"*



President's Column (continued from page 1)

We might criticize the state-controlled Russian media for presenting distorted illusions as being 'real' news, but with such criticism we might also consider how reporting through our own media outlets can be colored by a governing agenda.

Bird Rock community meetings (for the moment still on Zoom) are held regularly on the first Tuesday of each month from 6 pm. If you have any item you would like to put on the agenda, or a guest that you would like us to invite, please let the BRCC know by email to info@birdrockcc.org. I hope to see you at our next meeting on April 5, 2022.

**Bird Rock Elementary School's
70th Birthday**

May 26, 2022, 5 pm – 7 pm

Calling all Bird Rock Neighbors, BRE Alumni, Residents, Parents, Grandparents, Families, Business Owners, Employees, Friends, and Supporters.

Come celebrate Bird Rock Elementary's 70th Birthday on the Upper Field, aka Bird Rock Joint Use Park on Thursday, May 26, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Activities include: reconnect with old friends, award presentations, guided tours, food truck, and more.



Bird Rock Elementary K Kids display their valentine favorites

Thank you to all of our neighborhood volunteers who deliver the Bird Rock Newsletter, help clean up the bike path, provide extra trash bags and clean up and maintenance services at the Bird Rock overlooks, and help keep our parks and neighborhoods litter-free.

Thanks to everyone who reports problems using the Get-It-Done app, picks up after pets, and contributes to the wellbeing of neighbors, friends, and visitors.

**BIRD ROCK MAINTENANCE
ASSESSMENT DISTRICT
(MAD)**

To report problems, ask questions, send MAD-focused information, and provide feedback, comments, or requests, please send an email directly to the Bird Rock MAD manager Matt Mangano at admin@manganoconsulting.com



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LINDA WAY, a Bird Rock Coastal Overlook with Shoreline Access,



is maintained by the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department which also provides regular trash pick up at the street-level waste can.

The viewing areas, benches, and access stairs are used by residents, visitors, surfers, tide pool viewers, beach goers, swimmers, and others.

The stairway leads down a moderately steep bluff to the shoreline



From the intersection of Sea Ridge Dr. and Linda Way, a concrete sidewalk leads down to a cement pad near the bluff edge which contains two concrete benches that are heavily used for bluff top viewing despite their state of disrepair with cracked and crumbling concrete and exposed rebar.

The Ad hoc Bird Rock Coastal Overlooks Committee and area residents will be submitting requests to the Park and Recreation Dept. (Ask Parks) for repair or replacement of these two much used, but unsafe, benches. The more requests, the better.

Please help get these benches replaced or properly repaired. Thank you.





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Palm-Weevil Infested Canary Island Palms

Several Canary Island date palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) in Bird Rock have succumbed to damage from the South American Palm Weevil. Once infested, the palms deteriorate rather rapidly from the damage caused by the weevil. Due to concerns about the spread of the beetles to other Canary Island palms and the fact that some of the heavy, dead palm crowns have fallen to the ground, the palm at Forward St. overlook and the one at Moss Lane overlook were reported via the City's Get-It-Done app. The City promptly responded and removed both infested/dead palms within a week. Thanks to several residents who reported the dead or dying palms using the City of San Diego Get-It-Done app.



Rhynchophorus palmarum,
South American Palm Weevil

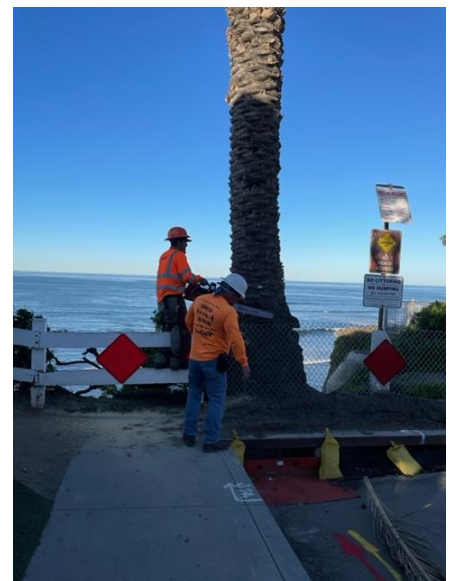
Removal of Canary Island date palm at the ocean overlook end of Forward Street



Tall dying Canary Island palm



Start of the removal process



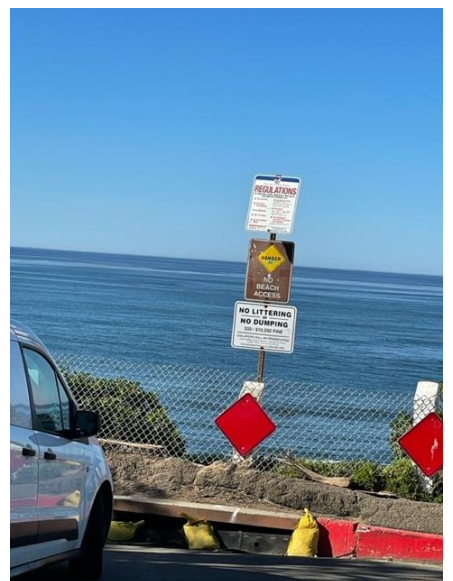
Cutting through the palm trunk



Palm crown down on the road
Photos by J. Snell



Remaining large palm stump



Ocean view without the palm



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ABOUT VIDI

Vidi is a San Diego native who resides in Bird Rock with her husband and two sons. She's been selling real estate for over 15 years and says helping people find their place in the world is her passion.

Follow her on Instagram @Vidiljrealestate to follow along with her journey.



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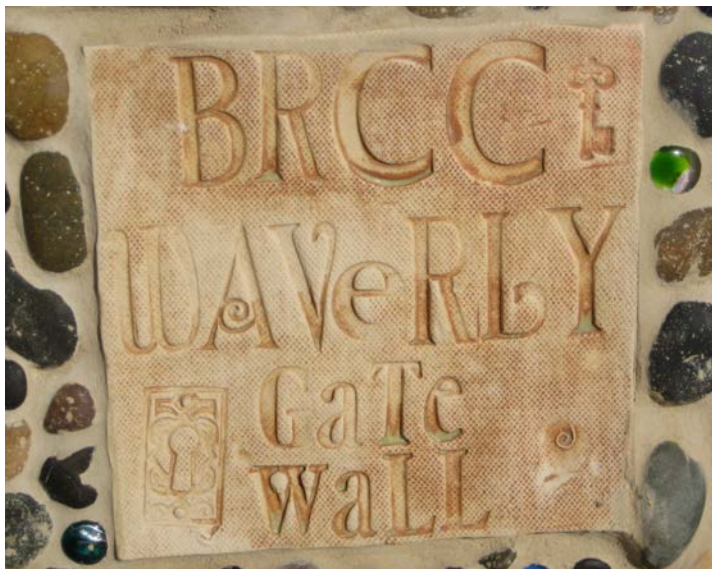


I'm so excited to announce the launch of my new and improved website! It's been a long journey to create something informative that feels like it represents who I am and what my business stands for. I want this website to be a place where you can come search for your next home as a buyer or see how I get your home sold for top dollar as a seller. Scan the QR code at **ThisisLaJolla.com** to see how I can make your real estate dreams come true.





BIRD ROCK COMMUNITY WALL at the WAVERLY GATE ENTRANCE to Bird Rock Joint Use Park



Reconnecting with Neighbors and Friends

The tile donation deadline is May 31, 2022.

The Bird Rock Community Wall at the Waverly Gate Entrance to the Bird Rock Joint Use Park (adjacent to Bird Rock Elementary School) is a continuing, unique project highlighting the Bird Rock neighborhood.

The Bird Rock Community Wall was created with a 3-fold purpose: To honor all members of the fantastic Bird Rock neighborhood, to raise funds for Bird Rock Elementary School (BRE) and the

Bird Rock Community Council (BRCC), and to support beautification projects in the Bird Rock community and at the Bird Rock Park Waverly Gate entrance. Each tile is hand stamped. Proceeds benefit Bird Rock Elementary School, Bird Rock neighborhood beautification projects, and the BRCC.

Dedicate and order a tile in honor of or in memory of a family, relative, merchant, friend, pet, teacher, neighbor, special person, merchant, business, event, or organization. Mark a special occasion. Reconnect with or Honor a member of this unique Bird Rock neighborhood.

To order a tile for the Bird Rock Community Wall at the Waverly Gate Entrance project, please clearly print information, number ordered, and total payment.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

Dedication (maximum 40 characters, please print): _____

(i.e. Family or Pet Name, Organization, In Memory of ..., Dedicated to ..., In Honor of ...)

_____ 6"x 6" Tile(s) @ \$150.00 each Total donation \$ _____
quantity

Please mail form and payment (check payable to "BRCC") to:

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La Jolla, CA 92037

Any questions: contact Jane Wheeler 619-822-1120, dwheeler@san.rr.com

Thank you for your support.

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BIRD ROCK COMMUNITY MEETING, FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Bird Rock Community Council (BRCC) Board President John Newsam called the community meeting via Zoom to order at 6:01 pm, welcomed attendees, introduced BRCC Board members, and made remarks.

CA State Assemblymember Christopher Ward (78th District)

The 78th Assembly District includes the coastal cities of Imperial Beach, Coronado, Del Mar, Solana Beach, and the coastal and some more inland sections of San Diego. Mr. Ward was recently promoted to Assistant Majority Leader of the California State Assembly. See: <https://a78.asmdc.org/>.

Mr. Ward's Assembly Bill (AB) 311 addressed ghost gun kits (firearm precursor parts). Mr. Ward co-sponsored AB 1594 to allow local and state governments and private citizens to file civil lawsuits against the gun manufacturers and sellers of guns. Mr. Ward co-sponsored and introduced new climate crisis legislation to establish Regional Climate Networks. See <https://a78.asmdc.org/>. **Rachel Granadino** (Rachel.Granadino@asm.ca.gov), is the District Director for Assemblymember Ward, cell (619) 431-0674, District Office 619-645-3090.

San Diego Police Dept (SDPD), Northern Division, Community Relations Officer Ariel Del Toro

The SDPD is working to apprehend those responsible for recent burglaries, some of which were committed by a South America criminal group targeting wealthier communities. The FBI is involved. Access appears to be through back areas. Officer Del Toro suggested using motion activated lights and cameras around home perimeters, notifying neighbors if one is out of town, and reporting suspicious activities such people who appear to be casing homes. Many of the recent burglars were well-dressed and drove high-end cars in order to fit in and divert suspicion.

Acts of vandalism, breakage of windows, windows shot with BB guns, etc. in the Bird Rock business district were reported. CRO Del Toro mentioned that the SDPD Northern Division needs more officers, is short staffed, and is doing the best that they can with the reduced force.

NOTE: Officer Del Toro was reassigned on 3/8/22. The new La Jolla SDPD Community Relations Officer (CRO) is Officer Jessica Thrift (desk line 858-552-1631, email jthrift@pd.sandiego.gov).

Updates from Representatives of Elected Officials

Steven Hadley (SRHadley@sandiego.gov), Director of Community Outreach for District 1 Councilmember Joe LaCava noted that the City Council has increased the budget for SDPD which is currently in need of 200 officers. Recruiting remains a problem along with housing and economic issues. Mr. Hadley touched upon party home enforcement problems, the need to recruit more police officers, code enforcement issues, La Jolla Hermosa Park, Calumet Park, and "self-help."

Cole Reed (Cole.Reed@sen.ca.gov), District representative for State Senate President pro Tempore Tony Atkins (39th Senate District), outlined some of Ms. Atkin's priorities including local wildfire preparedness, the climate action plan, sea level rise, and first time home owner programs.

Cairo Williams (Cairo.Williams@mail.house.gov), field representative for Congressman Scott Peters (cell 202-430-0773, District Office 858-455-5550), discussed COVID-19 test kit orders, funds for conditional housing assistance, the climate crisis, clean energy, and federal relief funds for San Diego arts, entertainment, and tourism groups. Mr. Peters' National Climate Adaptation and Resilience Strategy Act (NCARS) is a "bipartisan bill to streamline the federal response to climate hazards that threaten human health and well-being, critical infrastructure, and natural systems."

San Diego County Board Supervisor Tara Lawson-Remer represents La Jolla following the 2000 census and 2021 redistricting procedure resulting in La Jolla moving from County Supervisorial District 4 to District 3. **Rebecca Smith** (Rebecca.Smith2@sdcounty.ca.gov), field representative for County District 3 Supervisor Tara Lawson-Remer noted that residents can sign up for County updates at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/m3KNUKW/D3SignUp>. Ms. Lawson-Remer is backing the new food sustainability program (see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y0drhFFB2A>). *(continued on page 16)*



BIRD ROCK COMMUNITY MEETING, FEBRUARY 1, 2022

*(continued from page 15)***Updates from Bird Rock Working Groups and Committees**

Mary Lynn Hyde reported **Ad hoc Bird Rock Coastal Committee** progress with bench repairs at Calumet Park and vegetation trimming by the Park and Rec Dept. La Jolla Hermosa Park needs help. The La Jolla Hermosa Park drainage culvert remains to be cleared as the Storm Water Dept. awaits permits and Coastal Commission approval. Most overlook areas look good due to recent rains and helpful neighbor clean-up efforts. Funds are being collected to replace the deteriorating memorial bench at the Forward Street overlook. Dead Canary Island palms at the Moss Lane and Forward St. overlooks have been reported to the City via the Get-It-Done app and are scheduled for removal.

Bird Rock Merchants noted the merchant discount app is available to BRCC members and includes 14 business discounts. Merchants are asking for better La Jolla Blvd lighting for safety. Report street light issues via the GID app. Unfortunately, several businesses have been vandalized.

Vision Bird Rock is looking into grants for improved lighting and promotional events.

Bird Rock Maintenance Assessment District (MAD) Update

The proposed MAD Budget was sent to the Park and Recreation Dept. The proposed assessment rates is \$100/Equivalent Benefit Unit or \$100/single family home, \$70/condo, and \$450/average commercial property. The City Council approves the final City of San Diego budget in June.

The 1/26/22 quarterly Bird Rock MAD City inspection noted outstanding maintenance and visuals. The MAD trash situation has vastly improved since installation of new bird-proof waste containers.

Long-time scheduled irrigation maintenance and plant replacements in the 5600 La Jolla Blvd block median has begun following a several year delay due to budget, the transition to the current landscape service, COVID-19, and other construction projects that impacted and delayed work.

The City's La Jolla Blvd and Forwards St. swale CIP project, completed 10/28/21, diverts water south towards the Midway St. storm drain. Special thanks to Matt Mangano for his fabulous efforts in getting the City to address this long-time flooding problem and to others who helped push for action and solution to the substantial flooding on the east side of the roundabout following moderate rains.

Guard railings repairs are scheduled and backlogged. Damaged railings from a 10/24/21 hit-and-run accident at the southwest corner of Forward St. and La Jolla Blvd and two accidents at Midway St. adjacent to CVS will be repaired. Companies are facing staffing and supply shortages.

A damaged tree at the southeast corner of Bird Rock Ave. and La Jolla Blvd has been replaced. The Bird Rock MAD maintains trees in the MAD landscape areas as well as most City trees along La Jolla Blvd in Bird Rock. These Park and Recreation Dept. assets are an important part of the City's Climate Action Plan. Inspection and maintenance of the trees are ongoing including examination for pests. Several trees with weeping cuts and scars are receiving additional special attention.

At the end of December, the MAD was required to ensure that all of its contractors and subcontractors meet the City's COVID vaccination mandate which went into effect 1/3/2022.

Public Announcements

Bird Rock artist Sharon Hinckley announced that the 2nd Annual Coastal Art Studios Tour on Sept. 17 will feature at least 5 local Artist Studios. Please check the San Diego College of Continuing Education (SDCCE) for fee online classes. See sdcestudent55.com.

At the 1/19/22 La Jolla Traffic and Transportation Committee meeting, Bird Rock Foundation VP Mike Littleton requested 2 stop signs on Colima St. at Waverly Ave, near the heavily-used Waverly entrances to Bird Rock Elementary School. Safety is a major concern. Colima St. is narrow with cars parked on both sides; visibility of students crossing at the intersection is impacted. The Waverly intersection is the only one on Colima St. that does not have traffic control.

The Bird Rock Foundation 40th Annual Bird Rock Elementary Gala and Auction is on Saturday March 19, 2022, at the Catamaran Hotel. Auction donations are needed.

The next Community Meeting is 3/1/2022, via Zoom

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm. **16**



BIRD ROCK COMMUNITY MEETING, MARCH 1, 2022

Bird Rock Community Council (BRCC) Board President John Newsam called the community meeting via Zoom to order at 6:02 pm, welcomed attendees, introduced BRCC Board members, and made remarks.

Updates from Representatives of Elected Officials

Steven Hadley (SRHadley@sandiego.gov), Director of Community Outreach for District 1 Councilmember **Joe LaCava**, reported that the City Council discussed the draft Vending Ordinance which will affect shoreline parks such as Calumet. In general, shoreline parks are closed for sidewalk and other area vending from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. No vending on grass areas will be allowed; no vending within 25 feet of sea access locations; vending areas must be ADA compliant. Councilmember LaCava added some changes that will benefit La Jolla shorelines.

Mr. Hadley responded to inquiries about Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) and coastal access stairs in Lower Hermosa that are adjacent to 6000 Camino de la Costa. Budget hearings and department reviews are ongoing with final City Council approval slated for June. Higher priority will be given to projects where safety is impacted, so it is important to document safety issues.

Don Schmidt mentioned that San Diego Police Department (SDPD) Officer Jessicamarie Thrift replaces Officer Ariel Del Toro as SDPD Community Relations Officer (CRO) for La Jolla on 3/8/22. Officer Thrift's contact information is 858-552-1631 (desk phone) and jthrift@pd.sandiego.gov.

Matthew Griffith (GriffithM@sandiego.gov), representative for **Mayor Todd Gloria**, announced that the City is opening back up for in-person business and encouraged everyone to continue to use the Get-It-Done (GID) app for reporting problems. He noted that street light outages are a big problem and that repairs are backlogged. The City is prioritizing replacements based upon crime levels, safety issues, locations with multiple outages, and the date when the service notice was reported. The City plans to address the street light outages more quickly.

Rebecca Smith (Rebecca.Smith2@sdcounty.ca.gov), Field Representative for San Diego County Board of Supervisors **Tara Lawson-Remer**, County of San Diego 3rd District, reported that Ms. Lawson-Remer is concerned about homelessness in general and the fast-growing senior homeless population. Her goals are to help keep senior housed.

Rachel Granadino (Rachel.Granadino@asm.ca.gov), District Director for Assemblymember **Chris Ward** (78th District), Assistant Majority Leader, was unable to attend but sent a report outlining Mr. Ward's recent actions, priorities, concerns, and recently introduced assembly bills.

Cole Reed (Cole.Reed@sen.ca.gov), District representative for State Senate President pro Tempore **Tony Atkins** (39th Senate District), briefly outlined the status of various Senate Bills.

Plans and Status of Redevelopment of the Piano Building (Project # 655869), Located at 365 Bird Rock Ave. (5680 La Jolla Blvd)

Project architect AJ Remen, representing Piano Building Ventures LP (principals Eric and Zoe Kleinbub), gave an update regarding proposed plans to encroach into the Bird Rock Maintenance Assessment District (MAD) landscape areas and to encroach into part of the public right of way (PROW) adjacent to the commercial property located at 365 Bird Rock Ave. (aka 6680 La Jolla Blvd). The plans include removal of MAD landscaping and loss of MAD green space, replacement of MAD landscape areas with concrete for outdoor dining areas, alterations of the sidewalk areas, and addition of outdoor dining in PROW areas as well. A portion of the property is being converted into a restaurant while a smaller, western portion fronting Bird Rock Ave. will remain as retail.

The presentation was an update from prior plans presented a year ago at the March 2, 2021, Bird Rock community meeting. The sidewalk area along Bird Rock Ave. must be made accessible and ADA compliant. Mr. Remen noted that the exterior plans for the building are close to being finalized, and the owners are seeking support and formal approval for the encroachment plan. *(continued on page 18)*

**BIRD ROCK COMMUNITY MEETING, MARCH 1, 2022***(continued from page 17)*

It was acknowledged that existing memorial trees and plaques must remain in place with a clear space surrounding the trees and clear space between the trees and any proposed dining area.

Questions were raised about traffic engineering's safety review of the corner and whether people, chairs, tables, and other structures would be allowed to be in that location since it is a height limitation zone where low-profile landscaping is required to maintain line-of-sight from vehicles towards pedestrians in the crosswalk and crossing ramp and vice versa. Mr. Remen stated that safety fencing including concrete bollards would be adjacent to the curb and that the City of San Diego traffic engineers had reviewed and approved the plans with the knowledge that outdoor dining was proposed for that location. Outdoor seating was estimated at 30 seats.

Long-time resident Don Schmidt stated "the Board needs to really think about this. If you let this applicant [encroach into the MAD area], others in the area will want to do this. ... I have a big issue with giving up the public right-of-way." Other attendees felt the proposed restaurant would help revitalize Bird Rock's micro business district and that an outdoor dining space would attract people.

The restaurant location is adjacent to residences, and concerns were raised about noise levels and parking issues and noticing to residents.

The current MAD landscape area totals 1,098 square feet. More than half of the current MAD green space or 596 square feet is proposed to be removed and converted into concrete, leaving only 502 square feet of original MAD green space.

Questions were fielded regarding MAD backflow valves which control all of the MAD areas in the 5600 block of La Jolla Blvd, liability issues, trash, parking, hours of restaurant operation, the EMRA (Encroachment, Maintenance, and Restoration Agreement), notice to property owners in the MAD, a proposed on-site meeting, and much more. Several people mentioned that, during COVID, a number of restaurants have been able to temporarily move operations outdoors and provide outdoor dining and that people seem to like outside dining.

Piano Building renovation is Development Services Department (DSD) Building Project # 655859. The project tracking number for the exterior plans is #698647. The new EMRA number is 2591133.

Updates from Bird Rock Working Groups and Committees

There was no report from the **Ad hoc Bird Rock Coastal Committee**.

Bird Rock Merchants noted the merchant discount app is available to BRCC members.

Vision Bird Rock will present examples of possible signage at the next community meeting.

Public Announcements

At the Feb. 22, Community Planners Committee meeting, a monthly meeting of City Community Planning Group representatives, it was noted that the City is soliciting input regarding prioritizing City of San Diego capital improvement projects (CIPs) via a survey. The deadline for survey input was extended to 11:59 PM on Monday March 7. The survey asks about which capital improvements are most needed within a community and for rating of the condition of existing capital improvements. CIPs include water pipelines, sewer pipelines, storm drains, parks, libraries, recreation/ community centers, street paving, sidewalks, bike lanes, bridges, street lights, fire stations, police stations, lifeguard stations, and more.

The Bird Rock Foundation 40th Annual Bird Rock Elementary Gala and Auction with the theme "Havana Nights" is Saturday March 19, 2022, at the Catamaran Hotel. This is a fundraising event for the benefit of the Bird Rock Elementary School.

Announcements

The next Community Meeting will be on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, via Zoom

Adjournment

John N thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 7:14 pm.



BIRD ROCK COMMUNITY COUNCIL (BRCC) 2022 Annual Membership Application (please note changes)

For residents, property owners, and non Bird Rock residents, tax deductible dues are \$50 (Jan. 1-Dec. 31).

For Bird Rock businesses, tax deductible dues are \$100 (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31).

BRCC is a community volunteer nonprofit organization that publishes the Bird Rock Newsletter, maintains a community web site, hosts monthly community meetings, facilitates member communications, supports the Bird Rock Elementary School and the Bird Rock Neighborhood Watch program, advocates for the Bird Rock neighborhood, and addresses La Jolla Community issues. BRCC hosts annual community events, special seasonal events, and fundraising events throughout the year. The BRCC is responsible for management of the Bird Rock Maintenance Assessment District (MAD), oversees public benefit projects in our community such as bench projects, and advocates for the Bird Rock micro business district.

Bird Rock Community Development Corporation, dba Bird Rock Community Council (BRCC), a Non-Profit 501(c)(3), Tax ID #33-0952543

↓ Mark Your Annual BRCC Membership Category	Amount ↓
Bird Rock Resident	(\$50) \$
Bird Rock Property Owner, not residing in Bird Rock	(\$50) \$
Non Resident/ Non Property Owner (Associate, not in Bird Rock)	(\$50) \$
Bird Rock Business Membership	(\$100) \$
Associate Business (Non Bird Rock Business)	(\$100) \$
Additional Tax Deductible Donation	\$
Total Check Amount	\$
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> MAIL form & check payable to BRCC to: Bird Rock Community Council 5666 La Jolla Blvd, PMB 168, La Jolla CA 92037 </div> <div style="width: 50%;"> ONLINE: Go to the Bird Rock Community Council web site under Membership Services or at the bottom of the Home page and located at: https://www.birdrockcc.org/join-the-brcc to fill out an online application & pay via PayPal. </div> </div>	

Individual/Household Name:			
Business Name (if applicable):			
Resident/Business Address:			
Cell Phone Number:		Home Phone #:	
Email Addresses:			
Property Address: (for Non-Resident Property Owners)			
Comments or Ideas for Community Events/Projects			
<i>I am interested in the following areas:</i>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Beautification	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/> Promotions	
<input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Safety	
<input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Access, Parks, & Overlooks	<input type="checkbox"/> Memberships	<input type="checkbox"/> Special Community Events (Halloween, etc.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Code Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch		
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Events	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter		

Official use only ↓



BIRD ROCK NEWSLETTER

APRIL & MAY 2022

BIRD ROCK INFORMATION

BRCC OFFICERS

President:

John Newsam
info@birdrockcc.org

Vice President:

Joe Parker

Treasurer:

David Dunbar

Secretary:

Jesse Camen

BRCC BOARD MEMBERS

Kristin Barret, Craig Bender,
Barbara Dunbar, Arianna Opsvig,
Lake Price, Joe Terry

BIRD ROCK NEWSLETTER

Online Newsletter:

birdrockcc.org/newsletters

Editor: Barbara Dunbar

Publisher: info@birdrockcc.org

BIRD ROCK MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT (MAD)

Comments, questions, or report
problems to: Matt Mangano,
admin@manganoconsulting.com

Website Maintenance:

info@birdrockcc.org

Bird Rock Community Council
5666 La Jolla Blvd #168
La Jolla , CA 92037

THANK YOU

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