

## MVECAP Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2019

### El Paso Electric Eastside Operations Center

Members present: Mario Solano, Ralph Carrasco, Chris Gamboa, Bertha Trejo, Raquel Ochoa, Ingrid Schrader, David Hall, Abram Gutierrez. EPE: Alejandra Chavira, George De La Torre, Hillary Foster, Eddie Gutierrez, Albert Montano.

1. June minutes unanimously approved, motion made by Mario Solano, Ralph Carrasco.

2. County Meeting Update

MVECAP community members met with Commissioner Leon and the Public Works Department regarding the linear park grant funding. Any funds to be given for linear park would be dependent on a County grant for the park. Members talked about the different projects- and they received clarification that the County can put up and cover streetlighting. Discussed benches- putting benches around bus stops in Montana Vista, the County will be applying for funds later this year, but some of the bus routes might change, which would change placement of benches. The County is currently looking at the busiest areas both for the school and County/ how many benches. Benches at less than \$1,000 per bench, single seat, 8 ft long, or back-to-back bench, cost includes installation, and they would be installed in county easements.

Went through the previous projects for new members. Installation on mailboxes has been paid, EPE waiting on receipt.

3. Projects

MVECAP would like to move ahead with the following projects:

- a. Community Church Donations
  - i. \$4,500 each
  - ii. Previously discusses various donations to churches: San Pedro de Jesus Maldonado, Voz Clara en el Desierto, El Paso Tabernacle, Linaje Escojido. EPE is missing some contact information for a couple of the churches.
  - iii. Motion to proceed by Ralph, second by Chris Gamboa.
- b. Montana Vista school purchase of cosmetic equipment
  - i. Would need to purchase equipment with student/ licensed cosmetologist.
  - ii. Motion by Bertha, second by Chris, approved.
- c. Items 3/ 4 on hold- Square Dance Area Funds
- d. Homestead Meadows North for Natural Gas installation for signs and flyers
  - i. MVECAP will establish account for Discount Printing on Lee Trevino and David Banners for a set amount \$1,500.
  - ii. MVECAP increased funding amount from \$800- gas lines running down west on Montana, many communities that may benefit from gas lines. Want to increase scope of residents that are interested in getting gas lines, potential other communities that we would be reaching out to. Funds depend on how many communities would be reached.
  - iii. EPE to check if Discount Printing is already on our system

- iv. Ralph motions, second Chris, approved.
- e. 3 tier bulletin board, 2 LED sign installation
  - i. Want standard sign without electricity, would place solar lights on sign. LED/ bulletin boards for price of \$13,412, enclosed LED signs and bulletin boards. This would include a 25-year paint job, anchored to concrete slab. Vendor is EP Security Systems, the same vendor that is looking at WiFi for the community.
  - ii. Will go back and ask on extended warranty for board, maintenance issue.
  - iii. MVECAP to provide addresses for placement.
  - iv. Move by Ralph, second Chris.

#### 4. New Business

Discussion around possibility of installing little free libraries, the County might get some and could donate, or perhaps MVECAP could obtain other donations from the city etc.

MVECAP brought up the Storm Warriors Volleyball team of 12 in the area, who are afraid to fundraise at WalMart due to the recent events. They reached out because they donated their funds to the Fusion soccer team, who was affected by event, and they need funds for their uniforms by two weeks. Ralph's previous experience in uniform expenses was around \$300-\$500. MVECAP moved to donate \$2,000, and let the team pick their vendor. Motion by Bertha, second Chris. George will reach out to Ms. Lopez, team coach.

Brief discussion on how to present the projects, maybe doing plaques on bulletin boards, etc.

#### 5. Update on plants

Albert gave update on the generation plants. MVECAP members brought up a previous outage, which wasn't issues on the generation, but instead on the transmission/ distribution side. Plant is well equipped for dust storms and other desert weather. Discussed graveyard shifts on plant, at least two people on every shift. Discussed reaching a new demand peak August 7.

Discussion on Community Solar, expansion on 2 MW in Northeast El Paso TX. Demand Response will become a regular program, shifting some peak, along with added 200 MW of solar paired with the battery. Also discussed scams around rooftop solar, from vendors saying that they work El Paso Electric. Warned of possible scams.

MVECAP asked about possible tours of Community Solar, there is a coming tour for Celebration of our Mountains.

Question around possibility of MVECAP getting \$20,000 every year moving forward into the future. EPE has moved away from our multiyear grants, but EPE can see if we can sponsor through Community Partner Program; MVECAP may need to be a formalized group created with a formal non-profit status group. MVECAP talked about getting together not just to distribute funds but continue communications.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2019, 6:00 pm.