



# THE CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

## Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Monthly Stakeholder Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 14, 2009

Port of Los Angeles High School, 250 West Fifth Street, San Pedro

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm by President John Delgado with approximately 35 stakeholders present.

**Roll Call:** PRESENT: Linda Alexander, Art Almeida, Frank Anderson, Caroline Brady Sinco, Oliver Buie, Sue Castillo, John Delgado, Kara McLeod, Raymond Lee Parker, Bill Roberson, Carrie Scoville, Daryl Seybold, Andrew Silber, Philip Strout and Phillip Trigas.  
ABSENT: Larry Henderson.

**Approval of Minutes:** Andrew Silber made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2009 Stakeholder Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Linda Alexander and approved by unanimous vote of the Board.

### **President's Message:**

- New Board member, Philip Strout, was welcomed by the President and seated. President Delgado then announced that one addition board seat was still vacant.
- Comment that Andrew Silber and Art Almeida did a fine job representing San Pedro in a recent Eye on LA program.
- Report on Live City Council Address System pilot program which provides stakeholders an opportunity to address the City Council at the San Pedro City Hall location without traveling to downtown Los Angeles.
- Announcement of Barton Hill 100-year anniversary celebration on June 12, 2009.

### **Reports from Public Officials:**

#### **Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), Rosa Arcadia:**

- News Bulletin was handed out which included information on the Regional Roundtable with General Manager Bong Hwan Kim, City Attorneys, and DONE staff scheduled for Saturday, April 25 in Westchester. Includes training on conflict of interest issues. 7166 W. Manchester Blvd, Westchester.
- Thanks to Linda Alexander for attending the April 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop. Reminder that the Neighborhood Council Budget is due to DONE by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Neighborhood Grants program has launched. See DONE website for details
- Rosa thanked Central for submitting success stories to DONE on past projects. These will assist DONE in providing a report on the success of neighborhood councils to the Mayor.
- Regional Congress of Neighborhoods will be held in the Valley on May 30 at Panorama High School, 8015 Van Nuys Blvd, Panorama City.

**Councilwoman Hahn's office:** No representative attended.

#### **Ricardo Hong, Mayor's Office:**

- Mayor promised that the cut to the NC's annual budget for next year will not be any higher than the cuts made to other Departments of the City.
- The annual Mayor's Day of Service is scheduled for May 2, 2009. There will be special downtown San Pedro shopping and dining deals, as well as live music and free giveaways.

After the service activities, have lunch with the Mayor at Banning Park. To get involved with the Mayor's Day of Service. Email: [Ricardo.Hong@lacity.org](mailto:Ricardo.Hong@lacity.org).

Bent Christiansen, Port of Los Angeles:

- the TWIC security card system will be implemented on April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Port business is down. February was a bad month, but March was better with only a 10% drop. The Port is watching it's money and this will effect the upcoming projects that were planned for the Harbor Area. Disney Cruise Lines has signed a contract with the Port for two cruise ships starting in 2011.
- Clean Air Action plan. Port of LA and Long Beach are doing a combined study on emissions. Truck Plan implementation is in process, with a goal of 1,000 alternative fuel trucks on the road. 100 electric, 900 compressed natural gas. Discount of 10% for containers that use rail. There is also a Solar Power project that will be built out in five years and should put out 10 Megawatts.
- Water Quality. Studies are going on in the Harbor which show that the largest contributor to water contamination in Cabrillo Bay is bird feces. The Port is in the process of replacing some of the beach sand.
- One of the construction projects in progress is the completion of the channel deepening.
- Harbor Commission meetings are open to the public. Past meetings can be viewed on the web site.
- TRAPAC terminal improvements are continuing as well as the Cabrillo Marina and phase II build out. China shipping will be also be expanding. The Plains All America project is still moving along and the Wilmington Waterfront Development is in progress.
- Ports O'Call. Long term hope from the Port is that a developer will come in and develop and operate that piece of property.
- Art Almeida asked about the new restrooms on the Promenade, which are not open.

LAPD:

- Officer Nua reported on Upcoming Events that could disrupt business or traffic:
  - Longshoreman's Memorial March is scheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, 9am-2pm, Neptune and G Street.
  - May 31<sup>st</sup> American Diabetes Association Bike Tour starts at the Long Beach side of the Bridge and then comes over to Gaffey and on to Paseo del Mar.
  - The new 5<sup>th</sup> Street Police Station opening on April 25<sup>th</sup>, with ribbon-cutting 6 pm.
- Property crimes are up, due to business break-ins. However, crime is down 33% overall.
- PBID security is helping to document crimes of vandalism/graffiti downtown.
- Officer Nua's number is 310-869-2138. Email: [31681@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:31681@lapd.lacity.org).

Public Comments on Non-Agenda items:

- **Bianca from Bonnie Lowenthal's office.** She has moved her Long Beach office to downtown. Provided info on ballot measures (handout). Andrew Silber mentioned that May 19<sup>th</sup> is the runoff for City Attorney, and he hopes that everyone will come out and vote.
- **PBID Property Owners Business Improvement District.** Linda Alexander provided the report. The PBID are currently entering into contracts to improve the downtown area (trees/gutters/general cleanup). Phill Trigas is being recommended for a board member on the PBID, and we may wish to support Phill in the next PBID Board election.
- **Jens Peermann:** Resident/stakeholder introduced himself and commented that he is a graphic artist and photographer. He has created a community news website. He is a board member of the San Pedro Arts Association and is interested in the vacant board seat of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council.
- **Doug Epperhart:** Talked about a new group tackling the issue of a Neighborhood Council Department of Transportation MOU. The DOT deals with parking, striping streets etc. and it is felt that the neighborhood councils need a DOT representative to attend the meetings. DOT expects major cuts. Based on input from their last meeting the biggest problem is the way that traffic studies are handled. Suggested we appoint a representative for the DOT MOU

committee and also made comments on the ATSAC system and it affects our community. Andrew Silber asked about ATSAC implementation in San Pedro, and Mr. Epperhart responded that state funding of this project is at risk due to the current budget crisis. Mr. Silber palced the following statement into the record: *"The 15<sup>th</sup> Council District will likely be the last council area in Los Angeles to received synchronized traffic signals, if ever."*

- **Julia Parker:** Stakeholder who has previously been active in the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council. Would like to become a board member of Central.
- **Carrie Scoville:** Commented on the Waterfront EIR Alternative Four and a Petition that is being circulated against a cruise terminal at Kaiser Point. She also presented our NC motion regarding the dirt pile to the Harbor Commission. They are waiting for the channeling deepening EIR and then plan to move the dirt to the Cabrillo Marina to increase wetlands.
- **Sue Castillo:** Announced an upcoming public meeting to be held by the MTA regarding the proposed Harbor Subdivison Line, which could connect San Pedro to LAX and downtown Los Angeles. The meeting will be Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at the Boys and Girls Club on 5<sup>th</sup> Street.
- **Art Almeida:** Talked about Bank of America/Italy logo plaques, currently adjacent to the Grinder restaurant site. Mr. Gary Dwight assured Mr. Almeida and the Board that the plaques would be turned over to the San Pedro Historical Society when this site is redeveloped.
- **Andrew Menzes:** Talked about his involvement in rugby and how there is a World Class team right here in San Pedro, known as The Rhinos. They are currently 8-0 and have been invited to Hawaii for a tournament. They are in need of a field in San Pedro where they can hold their practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They are no longer able to utilize Friendship Park. He can be contacted 1-310-755-4559.

**Knoll Hill Conceptual Plan:** Update from Sue Castillo on a consensus plan which would include a large open space that could accommodate seasonal ball fields. There is one more public meeting and she hopes that this will result in a strong community consensus to move forward with a park, even though the consensus does not reach a 100% support level. Tidelands Trust issues remain to be resolved. While Janice Hahn's proposed land swap would eliminate Tidelands Trust restrictions, it could also result in Knoll Hill remaining exactly as is, with no passive park amenities provided (which Ms. Hahn publically supports). Ms Castillo suggested that as a Board we need to take a position, and should consider a community impact statement. The next steering committee meeting is tomorrow night.

Public Comments on the item:

- Black Hill Community members voiced their concerns. They want a general usage park with no ball fields.
- Irene Almeida talked in support of general usage at the park and not a designated playing field.
- Carrie Scoville commented that at the next PCAC meeting there is going to be a presentation on Knoll Hill. She provided a handout showing a design of the park without ball fields.
- Comments about ILWU Memorial.
- Bob Gelfand made a comment against organized youth sports and supports a general usage park.
- Frank Anderson feels we should be supporting Alternative Four.

Sue Castillo made the following motion which was seconded by Kara McLeod:

The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council opposes any land swap that would eliminate Tidelands Trust protection for Knoll Hill. Furthermore, we request that Councilwoman Janice Hahn cease and desist negotiating any such land swap, and stop interfering in the development of a conceptual plan for a park on Knoll Hill until the public process is complete.

Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

Frank Anderson made a Motion that our council support the Architects Alternative Four, seconded by Carrie Scoville. During discussion it was determined that the motion is premature. A motion was made

by Linda Alexander to postpone the vote on the motion until May, seconded by Andrew Silber. There was a unanimous vote to postpone any such action.

**Financial Report:**

At this point in the meeting there was a unanimous vote in favor of hearing the Finance Committee Report. A motion was brought forth from the Finance Committee to suspend all grants and funding to outside organizations as of the end of this fiscal year. The Central San Pedro NC must establish RFP's (Request for Proposal) Guidelines for new proposals and will issue a call for proposals in the new fiscal year. Funding proposals and requests will be received up to and including the May 18, 2009 Finance Committee meeting for this fiscal year. New procedures will be announced on the web site by July 1, 2009. There was a unanimous vote by the board in favor and the motion passed.

Carrie Scoville presented an adjusted budget. Unanimous vote in favor of supporting the adjusted budget.

The following requests for funding were presented:

- Los Angeles Maritime Museum: Children's Interactive program. Committee support for \$1,000 in funding to build an ADA compliant ramp in the children's exhibit.
- Cabrillo Beach Boosters: Update from Gary Dwight. Committee support for \$1,500 in funding for the annual Fourth of July celebration.
- Shakespeare by the Sea. Committee support for \$1,000 in funding.
- Beacon House Annual Picnic to be held on Aug 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Committee support for \$500 in funding.
- Warner Grand ceiling restoration. Committee support for \$3,000 in funding.
- Harbor Rose Lodge: comments about the organization, no funding support at this time.

Andrew Silber made a motion that the board vote to fund the Maritime Museum, Cabrillo Beach Boosters, Warner Grand and Shakespeare by the Sea in the amount of \$2500 each (Beacon House to remain as originally requested at \$500). The motion was seconded by Bill Roberson. After a short discussion, Andrew Silber withdrew the motion. Phill Trigas made a motion that the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council fund the Los Angeles Maritime Museum's Children's Interactive Program in the amount of \$2,500, the Cabrillo Beach Boosters in the amount of \$2500; Shakespeare by the Sea in the amount of \$2,500; Beacon House in the amount of \$500; and the Warner Grand in the amount of \$3,000. There were 10 yes votes and 1 no vote and the motion passed.

**Community Impact Statements:** The Board voted unanimously to appoint the following five board members as authorized filers of Council Files and Community Impact Statements for the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council: Kara McLeod, Bill Roberson, Sue Castillo, Carrie Scoville, and Phill Trigas.

**Parking Fees:** The Board discussed the issue of increased parking fees and how it has affected the downtown business district. Andrew Silber made the following motion, seconded by Phill Trigas and passed unanimously by the Board: The San Pedro downtown community has experienced many negative impacts caused by the recently implemented City of Los Angeles-enacted increase in our parking meter fees and collection hours. The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council requests that City Transportation staff consult with our community to further staff understanding of these impacts, and that the City Council act to resolve the problems it has created.

**Outreach Committee Report:** Phill Trigas reported on the progress with the newsletter. Outreach notes were included in the agenda packet.

**Emergency Action Item:** The Board made a unanimous decision to add this item to tonight's agenda., which recommends our response to the Port's decision to defer the Waterfront Enhancement Project. Andrew Silber commented on this issue and asked for a Community Impact Statement opposing the decision by the Board of Harbor Commissioners. Carrie Scoville gave an update on the history of the

project and specifically how it affects the Ports O'Call Village which needs attention now. Andrew Silber recommended that the Central San Pedro NC write a letter to the Harbor Commission and the Mayor requesting them to reverse the Harbor Commission decision to defer the Ports O'Call improvements. He then made a motion requesting that the board submit a Community Impact Statement to the City Council, as follows:

The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council strongly objects to the Board of Harbor Commissioners' ruling of April 2, 2009 that defers to some unknown future date \$20.6 million in budgeted, well-planned and long-awaited improvements to the Ports O'Call Village and surrounding waterfront property. These improvements were promised to the Harbor community over three and one-half years ago.

The motion was seconded by Art Almeida. The board passed the motion with 10 yes votes and 1 no vote.

**Appointment of new board member:** Two stakeholders expressed their interest in filling the vacant seat on the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council: Julia Parker and Jens Peermann. With the assistance of stakeholder Bob Gelfand, a written ballot was given to each board member requesting that they vote for one of the candidates. The final vote was 6 votes for Jens Peermann and 7 votes for Julia Parker. The board appointed Julia Parker as the newest member of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council.

**Consent Calendar:** A copy of the PCAC report was provided in the agenda packet. Carrie Scoville talked about the PCAC's new meeting location at Banning's Landing. She reported that the motions approved by our neighborhood council last month passed. There will be a presentation on Knoll Hill at next week's PCAC meeting (Banning's Landing), at 5:00 pm. Carrie reviewed the status of the China Shipping Aesthetic Mitigation proposals. There was a unanimous vote to have the PCAC rep vote in favor of the current PCAC action item.

**Land Use Planning Report:** Sue Castillo provided no report this month.

**ACE District Report:** Andrew Silber talked about the \$100,000 funding. The ACE district has indicated that it might require the CSPNC to send them a new representative. This will be on next month's agenda.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Castillo, Secretary, with the assistance of Kristina Smith, Neighborhood Council Administrative Assistant.