



THE CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council

Tuesday, November 10, 2009 Stakeholder Meeting Minutes

Scheduled for: Croatian Cultural Center, 510 W. 7th St, San Pedro.

Last minute change in location to: Grand Annex, 434 W. 6th St, San Pedro.

Call to Order & Roll Call: President John Delgado Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:49pm. Present: Linda Alexander, Art Almeida, Frank Anderson, Caroline Brady-Sinco (arrived 7:17pm), Oliver Buie, Sue Castillo, John Delgado, Kara McLeod, Julia Parker, Bill Roberson, Carrie Scoville, Daryl Seybold, Philip Strout, and Phill Trigas. Absent: Andrew Silber. Resigned: Raymond Lee Parker and Larry Henderson. Approximately 25 stakeholders present.

President's Report: President John Delgado reported on the following:

- Thanked Linda Alexander for making the last minute arrangements to find a meeting location due to floor cleaning at the Croatian Cultural Center.
- Announced the refreshments today were provided by 6th Street Bistro, who now have a Sports Bar format on Saturday and Sundays.
- June Smith and John Delgado met with the Superintendent of LAUSD and spoke about construction of the new school. An advisory board may be formed.
- Shop local, eat local, support and invest in your local community.
- Action Item: December, should we have a meeting? **Julia Parker made a motion, seconded by Sue Castillo, to discuss the possibility of canceling the regular December stakeholder meeting. The motion was passed by 10 yes votes, 0 no votes, and a discussion followed. Bill Roberson made a motion to cancel the December stakeholder meeting, which was seconded by Kara McLeod. The motion was passed with 9 yes votes, 1 no.**
- MTA came to the community to talk about rail transit. Motion originally drafted by HANC, with minor revisions by Sue Castillo, seconded by Carrie Scoville:

Harbor Area Public Rail Transportation:

Whereas there is large-scale commercial development planned in the Harbor Area by the Port of Los Angeles totaling \$2 billion annually; and

Whereas that development, including the San Pedro and Wilmington waterfront projects, are designed to bring hundreds of thousands, and eventually millions of yearly visitors to the port; and

Whereas that development will create jobs and attract permanent residents; and

Whereas the Port is a key engine of Los Angeles's economic development; and

Whereas the 405 and 110 freeways are overburdened with cars on weekdays and weekends; and

Whereas reliable public transit is an important component of a sustainable future;

The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council therefore resolves that we support direct public rail transit to downtown Los Angeles and LAX routes serving San Pedro, Wilmington and Harbor Gateway as part of a well-connected, regional transit system, preferring clean electric rail but supporting interim transit systems as electric rail is

developed, and we ask our elected and appointed representatives to do all in their power to see that the MTA, SCAG and any other interested agencies create and prioritize such transit for the Harbor Area in the near future.

Discussion. 11 yes votes, 0 no.

Reports from Public Officials:

Councilwoman's Office. Ana Dragin reported on the following:

- There was a meeting yesterday at Taper School regarding the new cell tower installed at Western and Taper. There is to be a 30% increase in cellular transmittal equipment around the city, and the council office is in the process of determining where future installations are planned.
- ATSAC (Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control System) conversion work on San Pedro's traffic signals began last Monday at 36th and Pacific. It is estimated that it will take 18 months to convert all of San Pedro.
- A special events planning meeting will be held Nov. 17th to explain the new City policies.
- The grand opening for the 22nd Street Park will be held on January 9th, 10am-2pm.
- Curb ramps for ADA purposes are being installed along Gaffey Street. The city will be putting in 46 ramps between end of freeway and 9th Street.
- Peck Park renovation work has received 10 bids and they hope to start construction in January.

DONE (Department of Neighborhood Empowerment): Rosa Arcadia reported on the following:

- Ethics and by-laws training will be held on Saturday, November 21, 2009.
- The census office will be asking for help from the neighborhood councils for the 2010 Census.
- A report Neighborhood Council rollover funds was provided.

LAPD: Officer Nua reported on the following:

- Crime is down throughout the city, by 8.2% in the Harbor Division. Violent crime and narcotic arrests are up. The Vinegar Hill area is still a focus area. Vern Gettys at the Harbor View House has been working with the LAPD with respect to their particular problems.
- Our new police chief Beck is committed to get more police officers in the field.

Mayor's Office: Ricardo Hong reported on the following:

- The mayor's office is working closely with the new police chief with his efforts to improve the effectiveness of the department.
- Asking for seniors (60+) to join them on December 2nd for a free community screening of the movie "Young at Heart" at the Warner Grand, with a reception at 5:30.
- Ricardo was asked about the new cell phone tower at Western and Bynner. He replied that he hadn't heard about it but would check into it.

Board Member Kara McLeod asked that the record show that the Council office representative, Ana Dragin, left at 7:38pm.

Port of Los Angeles: Augie Bezmalinovich was present and reported on the following:

- A Holiday Spirit Fountain event will be held on December 4, 7-9pm. The Red Car will be running for free, Santa will visit, and food will be available.
- The Harbor Commission will meet on Nov. 19th at Banning's Landing to discuss the Draft Waterfront Plan.
- The December 3rd Harbor Commission meeting is cancelled, possibly to be rescheduled for December 10th. The main topic on the agenda will be the China Shipping Mitigation Funding decisions.

Public Comment:

- **Board Member Rev. Oliver Buie:** Announced that this is his last meeting as a board member of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council due to his transfer out of San Pedro.
- **Frank Anderson:** Talked about the Day of the Dead Festival in downtown San Pedro. Linda Alexander, Phil Strout and Frank Anderson worked hard on the event, which was a great success. This is the third year and each year it grows larger.
- **John Delgado:** Announced the three board vacancies and asked the community to consider volunteering for the Board.
- **Sofia Torres, City Clerk's Office:** Draft Election procedures were passed out to all Board members. The Neighborhood Council Elections are scheduled for June 8th, 2010, 2-8pm. The minimum age requirement for Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council board positions is 14 years. For the upcoming election there will be 17 board positions available. Candidate filing begins Wed, March 10, through Friday April 9th. Forms are available on the City Clerk's website. Write-in candidates may file between April 12th to May 10th. ***The board needs to endorse the procedures.*** Only disabled stakeholders will be able to vote by mail.
- **Kara McLeod:** Announced upcoming events at the Warner Grand.

Approval of September and October Minutes: After minor corrections, the board unanimously approved the September 8, 2009 and October 13, 2009 meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

- John Delgado thanked Linda Alexander and Carrie Scoville for their hard work on the neighborhood council financial records.
- Finance Committee met and made the following recommendation: **\$500 funding to be provided to the 7th Street Merchants Association for their holiday celebration event. (There was a change in which entity will be receiving the funding). Unanimously approved by the board.**
- There was a short discussion on the funding request process.

Appointment of new Board Members: Short speeches were given by four candidates who came forward to be considered for the three vacant board seats: Alan Ramirez (POLA High School Student); Scott Gray (Maritime Research center); Pat Carroll (Public Relations background); and JR Perez (7th street Merchants Association and co-chair of Membership committee for Chamber). Board members were given ballots and asked to vote for 3 candidates only. The voting results were as follows: Scott Gray (12), Pat Carroll (11), JR Perez (7), Alan Ramirez (6). The new board members, Scott Gray, Pat Carroll and JR Perez, will be officially seated at the next Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council meeting.

Parking Meter Rates in Downtown San Pedro: Scott Gray made observations on the impact of the parking meter increase, including a negative impact on city revenues. He has put together a petition. The merchants would like to cut parking rates by 50% - 50 cents per hour instead of \$1 per hour. **A motion was made by Carrie Scoville to support the petition requesting a decrease in the parking meter rates to 50 cents per hour and free parking for the holidays. The motion was seconded by Linda Alexander and passed unanimously by the Board.**

Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils report by Julia Parker.

- HANC would like the CSPNC Board to appoint an alternate to Julia Parker. **Daryl Seybold made a motion that Carrie Scoville be appointed as the alternate representative on the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.**
- Reminder: boardmember ethics training is required every 2 years.
- A motion regarding the City's proposed sidewalk ordinance as drafted by the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils was presented. After Board discussion, the motion was amended to read as follows:

Whereas nearly half of all sidewalks in the City of Los Angeles are in need of repair, and these conditions are a source of injury and subject the city to liability, and

Whereas the City of Los Angeles is facing a serious budget shortfall, and

Whereas, an Ordinance has been drafted that would amend Subsection (e) of Section 62.104 of the LAMC to transfer liability and responsibility to property owners for repair of curbs, driveways and sidewalks due to tree root damage; and

Whereas one of the Mayor's goals is to increase the number of trees,

Whereas the City does not allow the adjoining property owners to remove the root cause of the sidewalk damage, i.e. the offending trees, and

Whereas the this neighborhood council is desirous of promoting both tree-lined streets and safe sidewalks;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council:

- (1) Opposes the proposed ordinance as it is currently written.
- (2) Opposes any transfer of liability for sidewalk slip and fall accidents to the adjoining property owner unless it can be shown that the property owner's sole negligence has caused the problem.
- (3) Requests that the existing sidewalk task forces be expanded to include representatives of Neighborhood Councils from throughout the City;
- (4) Requests that the full array of options be presented to the community for comment and input through a series of workshops throughout the City with adequate time for review and comment.

Amended motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

Knoll Hill Conceptual Plan Discussion: Carrie Scoville presented the following two motions:

Motion #1 – CSPNC's position on Knoll Hill:

The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council supports a park plan for Knoll Hill which conforms to the policies of the California State Lands Commission Public Trust Doctrine for the entire hilltop to include passive use and undesignated open space for active recreational purposes.

As such we support elements of the "Alternative Four" plan, which received the highest amount of public support at the February 3, 2009 Knoll Hill community planning meeting and is in conformance with the Public Trust Doctrine.

We have confidence in the Port's ability to implement this plan and request that the Port of Los Angeles retain exclusive jurisdiction over Knoll Hill.

We further instruct our Board members to advocate this position when speaking on behalf of the board and that it also be communicated immediately to the Port of Los Angeles, the Harbor Commission, Councilwoman Janice Hahn, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, and the Los Angeles Alliance for Neighborhood Initiatives.

The above motion was seconded by Art Almeida and passed by a Board vote of 10 yes, 2 no.

Motion #2 – Formation of a CSPNC Knoll Hill Committee: The following motion was made by Carrie Scoville and seconded by Kara McLeod:

In view of the conclusion of the Knoll Hill Steering Committee, the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council moves to establish a CSPNC Ad Hoc Knoll Hill Committee to provide public input and oversight on the Knoll Hill Park Plan through its final implementation.

During discussion, Phill Trigas commented that he would like to see more members of the community involved in such a committee. After discussion the motion was passed with a Board vote of 6 yes, 3 no.

PCAC Report: A written report was provided by Carrie Scoville and included in the agenda packet. Carrie briefly talked about the motions being presented in the future. Carrie would like permission to

vote in favor of these motions and requested that the board vote to put this action item on the agenda today. **The Board voted unanimously in favor of putting this action item on the agenda.** The Board then voted unanimously in favor of having our PCAC Representative, Carrie Scoville, vote in favor of the motions when they are presented at the PCAC meeting.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Daryl Seybold at 10:00pm. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Kristina Smith, Neighborhood Council Administrative Assistant, and finalized by Sue Castillo, Secretary.