



THE CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council
Tuesday, October 13, 2009 Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
Croatian Cultural Center, 510 W. 7th St, San Pedro, Calif.

Call to Order & Roll Call: President John Delgado Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:33pm. Present: Linda Alexander, Art Almeida, Frank Anderson, Sue Castillo, John Delgado, Kara McLeod, Julia Parker, Bill Roberson, Carrie Scoville, Daryl Seybold, Andrew Silber, Philip Strout, and Phill Trigas. Absent: Raymond Lee Parker, Larry Henderson, Oliver Buie and Caroline Sinco Brady. Approximately 25 stakeholders present.

President's Report: President John Delgado thanked Phill Trigas and Linda Alexander for their attendance at the Congress of Neighborhoods where they represented the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council.

Reports from Public Officials:

Councilwoman's Office: (by Ana Dragin)

- Work is proceeding on downtown street lights, with new traffic signals to come on Gaffey at 11th and 15th Streets. CRA Poles should be installed in time for holiday decorations.
- City Traffic Dept is currently underway with ATSAC traffic signal coordination on Terminal Island. Should take 4 weeks before they move into San Pedro. All traffic signals in San Pedro will be synchronized. Funding has been received from the State for Gaffey Street relinquishment. ADA ramps are being put in along Gaffey Street within the next couple of months, and the street will be resurfaced in the near future.
- Heritage Month: The Dept of Cultural Affairs has city-wide events.

LAPD: Officer Cook reported:

- Crime numbers generally are still down overall but property crimes in San Pedro are up, especially from motor vehicles. Office Cook stressed the importance of keeping valuables out of view in your car.
- Officer Cook was asked a question about Anderson Park drug activities. The issue will be referred to Officer Nua for further investigation.

Mayor's Office: Ricardo Hong gave a brief report which included the following:

- The Mayor initiated a hiring freeze for November and December due to budget cuts, which will postpone the hiring of police officers.
- Ricardo was asked about the cell phone tower issue on Western and Bynner. Ricardo had not heard about this issue and will check into it.

Public Comment:

- **Paula Bills:** She is a resident of the Coastal Neighborhood Council area, a member of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and also involved with the Grand Vision Foundation. She commented on the wonderful programs going on at the Warner Grand and the Grand Annex including a walking tour.
- **John Olguin:** Talked about a 14-passenger bus that is needed by Beacon House to help out with transportation, events, cleanups etc. He is hoping that the three San Pedro Neighborhood Councils will each donate \$5,000. Beacon House would in exchange donate 500 hours for community labor per council. Linda Alexander explained that it can be presented at the Finance Meeting in January and voted on in February.

- **Gordon Teuber** commented on John Olguin being honored as Citizen of the Century at an event last Saturday at Pt. Fermin Park put on by the San Pedro Rotary.
- **Diana Nave:** Talked about the neighborhood councils sponsoring a CERT training class. She has attended them in the past and was very impressed with the emergency preparedness training it provided. She asked for Central NC involvement in this issue.

Presentation by Jeanette Stevens, Principal of San Pedro High School. Ms. Stevens talked about her staff at San Pedro High School and their commitment to student achievement. They are in a re-accreditation process. Ms. Stevens talked about the Small Learning Communities at the school and their emphasis on student involvement in the community to “make the world a better place.” They are promoting a program that asks adults to partner with the school district to provide workplace field trips, share their expert knowledge, and provide mentorships and role modeling. She was asked a question about the drop out problem and responded that the school is working to have options available for those students. Service learning aka community service was also discussed. The new South High School is to open in the Fall of 2012 with 500 seats. Camilla Townsend, long time educator and Principal of San Pedro Adult School for 11 years, remarked on how lucky San Pedro High School is to have Jeanette Stevens as the new principal, and that it is important for us to do what we can to support her.

Summary of results of September 29th Board of Harbor Commissioner’s Meeting on Waterfront Development. Port representative, Augie Bezmalinovich, commented on the following:

- He congratulated the Central council as well as the whole community for their role in helping to get the Final EIR for the waterfront project passed by the Board of Harbor Commissioners. Augie reviewed the final project conditions adopted and commented that “the neighborhood council got what they asked for.” A draft implementation plan will be presented to the BOHC soon.
- The MTA is proposing to bring light rail to the Harbor or Long Beach area. The Port plans to host a community meeting on this issue.
- Andrew Silber stressed the importance of bringing light rail to San Pedro and also talked about waterfront redevelopment phasing.
- Sue Castillo stressed that Ports O’ Call is very important to this community and that the Port should seek community input before firming up their plans for its redevelopment.

San Pedro Chamber of Commerce presentation on current activities: Camilla Townsend, President of the San Pedro Chamber, began with answers to the question, “What does the Chamber of Commerce do for me?” The Chamber has the goal of providing enhancing the overall environment of the business district. Here are some of the things that the Chamber was involved in:

- POLA High School was created to revitalize the downtown area of San Pedro by bringing kids, parents a new work force into that part of the community, to help relieve overcrowding in San Pedro High School, and to create an new and unique educational option for kids.
- The new Port Police station brings 230 new staff members to the community as well as increased security.
- PBID, or downtown property-owners’ based improvement district. This creates a special tax assessment (annual revenue of approx. \$900,000) for ancillary services that the city does not provide or does not provide enough of. These monies must be spent within and for the benefit of the special tax district only. They provide security services with a goal to make the area “clean and safe”, utilizing the services of Beacon House, Clean San Pedro and Clean Streets. The PBID also assists in marketing and promoting special events, homeless services coordination, and other policy development.
- ACE District has a budget of \$100,000 per year to support various arts and culture projects.
- San Pedro Bay Port Technology Development Project as a “business incubator.”
- Announced an upcoming event on November 19th called: “Shop local, Dine local.” It is a mixer party at the 7th street chophouse that promises to be a “Mini Taste of San Pedro.” Tickets will be available through the Chamber for \$20.
- She asked for our input as to how their Business Journal could be better.

Knoll Hill steering Committee Report:

- The steering committee process is coming to a close. There is a community meeting scheduled for October 27th to share the conceptual plan created by the steering committee with the public. Then the plan will go before the Board of Harbor Commissioners.
- The conceptual plan approved includes most of the elements that people favored including an eastern Port-overlook passive park area with trails, open lawn, shade trees, drinking fountains and shaded picnic area; a children's exploratory play area; a large, multi-purpose field to be used for baseball in season, presumably to be administered by the Parks and Recreation Dept; a park entrance ceremonial structure with performance space viewable from the mixed-use field; landscaped parking area for 135 cars; and recommendations for native landscaping with sculptural earth mounds/informal seating.
- Alexander, Almeida, Anderson, McLeod, Parker, Roberson, Scoville, and Seybold, spoke against the plan, some stating that steering committee members acted inappropriately by supporting it.
- **Andrew Silber made a motion to support the recommendations of the steering committee with two conditions: First, that an independent supervisor supervise a roster or teams for use of the mixed-use field during baseball season; and second, that the Council be informed of in advance and involved in any land "swap" with the City of Los Angeles. The motion was seconded by Sue Castillo but after discussion the motion was withdrawn.**
- **Phill Trigas made a motion to support the efforts and hard work of the Knoll Hill Steering committee in coming up with a consensus plan that suits the whole community. The motion was seconded by Silber. After heavy discussion, there was a call for the question which was passed by the Board. By Roll Call vote: Phill Trigas yes, Julia Parker no, Bill Roberson no, Andrew Silber yes, Sue Castillo yes, Art Almeida no, Frank Anderson no, Linda Alexander yes, Daryl Seybold no, Phillip Strout no, Carrie Scoville no, Kara McLeod no. Motion failed.**
- **Kara McLeod made a motion that when this plan is presented on October 27th that the land swap idea must be graphically represented in some way that would make it quite clear to the community that the land would be split. The motion was seconded by Julia Parker. 11 yes. 0 no. Motion passed.**
- **A Motion to Adjourn** the meeting was made by Art Almeida. 2 yes votes, 5 no votes. Motion failed. The meeting continued.

Open Board Positions: Regarding a declaration that inactive board member positions are open for re-appointment per the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Bylaws. (Larry Henderson has resigned due to moving out of the Council boundaries, Raymond Lee Parker has found it necessary to resign due to health issues, and Oliver Buie has not been in attendance for several meetings.)

- **Andrew Silber made a motion that the Board declare three positions vacant. The motion was seconded by Kara and passed by unanimous vote of the Board.)**

Anderson Memorial Senior Citizen Center condition discussion. There was no Representative available from the Center to comment on this agenda item.

COPE (Community Outreach Promoting Emergency Preparedness): **The board voted unanimously in favor of endorsing the COPE outreach project in November related to Flu Vaccines.**

Day of the Dead Event: Announcement that volunteers are needed for this event which takes place on October 31, 2009.

Due to time constraints no specific committee reports were presented.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:57pm.

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