



THE CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Tuesday, April 13, 2010 Stakeholder Meeting Minutes Port of Los Angeles High School, 250 W. 5th St, San Pedro, Calif.

Call to Order & Roll Call, 6:30pm. Present: Art Almeida, Linda Alexander, Frank Anderson, Caroline Brady-Sinco, Sue Castillo, Pat Carroll, John Delgado, Scott Gray, Kara McLeod, Julia Parker, J.R. Perez, Bill Roberson, Carrie Scoville, Andrew Silber, Phill Trigas. Absent: Daryl Seybold and Philip Strout. Approximately 20 stakeholders and guests present.

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

- Thanked the board and those stakeholders involved in getting out Central's recent newsletter, which looks great.
- With regard to the upcoming neighborhood council election, the deadline for submitting applications has passed but write-in candidates are still possible. Bill Roberson commented on the error made by the City Clerk who referred to the board positions as "officers" instead of "at large board members".
- The city budget crisis is an ongoing issue affecting all stakeholders, but as neighborhood council members we can all still go out and do our part in the community.

Reports from Public Officials, City Departments, and their representatives:

Councilwoman's Office: Ana Dragin reported.

- Traffic signal synchronization update: LADOT said they can't give us a complete list of intersections but state that 25% of the intersections have been completed. The project will be completed by next year.
- The future of the Warner Grand Theater operation issue is being considered by City Council, and Janice Hahn is strongly supportive of ensuring that the theater remain open. A "Request for Proposals" is in the works.
- Peck Park Groundbreaking has occurred. The Peck Park project is funded with Prop O money and will clean up water quality, improve trails, plant trees etc.
- Art Almeida asked for the status of his effort to rename Bandini Canyon as Bandini Arroyo.

PORT POLICE: Officer Stacey Creech reported.

- The Port's new x-ray scanning device to be used in custom's inspection, supported by multiple agencies.
- The Port's Cargo Theft Detectives have recovered over 120K of stolen goods in the last month. They have also seized 2.1 million dollars worth of marijuana.
- Tsunami warning system update: They have a broadcast system and community alert network set up on a small scale (not yet Port-wide). Escape routes include converting all the major thoroughfares into one-way streets to get everyone away from the waterfront. Bill Roberson voiced his concern for the need to educate the population on the various warnings.
- Linda Alexander asked if any maps are available showing the elevation of the Port and surrounding communities.

- Kara McLeod asked that this issue be sent to committee.

LAPD: Officer Nua reported.

- There have been 5 aggravated assaults this year which include two shootings, possibly gang related. Grand Theft Auto is up 27% (9 this month alone, mostly in the downtown San Pedro area). Burglaries are up. Their plan of attack is to target the career criminal type juveniles.
- Andrew Silber asked how to reach someone if officer Nua is not available. He provided the phone number for the community relation office: 310-726-7920. Nua's email address is 31681@lapd.lacity.org.
- A Spanish-speaking CPAB (Community Police Advisory Board) is being scheduled quarterly at the Harbor Division community room.

MAYOR'S OFFICE: Ricardo Hong reported.

- Budget decisions are changing by the hour. A ½ cent sales tax increase is being considered (Measure R), to pay for transit expansion at a level of 40 billion. The project will take 30 years and many jobs would be provided. A loan from Washington to help pay for the transit system and get it built in 10 years instead of 30 is being discussed.
- Andrew Silber commented that many areas receiving transit dollars and getting expanded systems are not in the City of Los Angeles.
- Kara McLeod commented that if you build an attractive system, people will come.
- Phill Trigas commented on his experiences using public transit to commute from San Pedro to LA.

PORT OF LOS ANGELES: Augie Bezmalinovich reported.

- The Clean Air Acton Plan adopted in 2006 by POLA and POLB. A plan update is in the works, and community input will be sought at a meeting scheduled for April 21, 2010, 7:00pm, Crowne Plaza Hotel, San Pedro. For more information on this meeting visit www.portofla.org.
- The Waterfront Development Meeting of March 18 held at the POLA High School was well attended and many comments were received from the public. Meetings were recorded and now on the Port's website (video and Power Point presentation). Comments can be made via the website.
- The Chamber was considering holding the next Taste Event in the new 22nd Street Park, but it was determined that it is not a good venue for this type of event due to the possibility of heavy truck traffic damaging the extensive native grasses and canal drainage paths that cover a large area of this park. This year it will remain at Point Fermin Park. It may be at the Cruise Ship promenade next year. Doug Epperhart commented that many Coastal San Pedro residents were opposed to the event being held at Point Fermin Park.
- Sue Castillo asked about the progress of the streetscape improvements (curbs, sidewalk, landscaping and bike path) around the perimeter of China Shipping. There was nothing to report.

ASSEMBLYWOMAN'S OFFICE. Bianca Villanueva reported.

- Discussions are being held regarding the possible closing of Downtown San Pedro Superior Court House. She says the Assemblywoman is opposed to the closing.
- Andrew Silber supported retaining the Courthouse, including returning the trying of criminal cases.
- Phill Trigas commented about the new courthouses the state is in the process of building statewide, based on RFPs issued. He doesn't think the State wants to keep the

local courthouse as it is quite substandard. How could San Pedro attract a new courthouse?

- Bill Roberson feels that the local court house earns, not costs, the City money.
- Pat Nave told an interesting story about the history of the San Pedro Court House. The City of Los Angeles agreed to give San Pedro a courthouse as a condition of the annexation.
- Art Almeida reminded everyone that there is a courtroom in the existing San Pedro Municipal Building (city hall), no longer in use but still in very good condition.

Public Comment:

- **Michael Gatanz from Peoples Yoga, Health & Dance at 365 W. Sixth Street:** Commented on the rare "community "energy" that he sees in San Pedro. He announced an upcoming event at People's Yoga celebrating Jan's Birthday on April 24. The event is free, and he hopes the community will take this opportunity to visit them.
- **Kristina Smith:** Announced the upcoming CERT training being sponsored by the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council. The 7-week session will begin in May. More information is available at www.nwsanpedro.org
- **Bob Gelfand:** Commented on DWP increased rates. He recommended that stakeholders visit www.Budgetla.com for information on this and other issues.
- **Linda Alexander** announced that this Sat. (the 11th), persons active in bringing culture to San Pedro will receive awards at the Warner Grand, followed by a party at Parkhurst Gallery.
- **Kara McLeod:** Commented on how happy she was to see the people from the Muckenthaler Gallery in Fullerton come to see a recent play at the Warner Grand.

Port of Los Angeles Presentation on Waterfront Red Car Feasibility Report. Ron Groves, Senior Civil Engineer for the Port.

- The Red Car was established in July 2003 and shares track with freight operation. 1.5 miles in length with four stations. Ridership is 7,500 - 11,000 per month.
- Proposed Line Extensions were shown in a power point presentation that was prepared during a study conducted in Sept 2009. It was commented that the Red Car should support and compliment waterfront development. Extensions studied include:
 - South to Cabrillo Beach, City Dock One, a future cruise terminal at Kaiser Point
 - West into Downtown San Pedro
 - North to either Gaffey and Westmont, or northeast to Wilmington's new waterfront attractions.
- Main objectives: link key destinations; facilitate adjacent development; enhance public transportation, encourage business investment. Car ridership potentials are significant concern.
- Two types of cars are being considered: the existing high boarding type (requiring a platform), and a different (but historic) low-boarding car. They favor the low-boarding type, in order to eliminate expensive high platforms. The low boarding type is the only type they believe will fit into downtown San Pedro.
- The Port has met with CRA and City Planning and further studies of this will be carried out through the Community Plan Update process.
- They have no current funding for any of these route extensions. They are looking for outside resources including federal funding programs, regional funding programs, redevelopment partnerships, private sector joint development and tax improvement districts.
- Andrew Silber felt that the downtown connection is needed to connect San Pedro with its waterfront, and that this should be a first priority. Kara McLeod agreed. Sue Castillo

disagreed, stating that the Port's Red Car should be all about the waterfront, wrapping around its entirety, from Wilmington to Cabrillo Beach. It would serve many purposes and make the waterfront a greater tourist attraction. She requested a copy of the full report and Mr. Groves promised that this would be made available in the very near future.

- Bob Gelfand agreed with both sides and prefers the low-boarding type, while stating his opposition to an outer harbor cruise ship terminal.
- A stakeholder commented that funding is needed, in order to help downtown.
- Julia Scoville enjoys walking out to the Victory Ship, and that it is beautifully landscaped, but she sees very few people enjoying the area. She would like to see more attractions for children.
- A stakeholder commented that we need the Red Car to run along the waterfront from Wilmington to Cabrillo Beach.

Presentation on the Pacific Corridor Façade Program: Susan Totaro, CRA.

- The goal of the Façade Program is to attract new businesses. This is part of the 5-Year plan for the Pacific Corridor. This money is available and encumbered. The program commenced in 2006 and they are allocating \$250K a year. They have completed 33 facades, have 10 under construction, and 27 in process.
- They are committed to job creation and business attraction. They are looking at \$1 million in CRA/LA investment and \$4.9 million in private
- Mentioned the ongoing Master Street Tree Plan process focused on the type of trees to be selected.
- Stakeholders can attend the next CRA meeting scheduled for the first Wednesday in May, 6pm, the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Open Discussion regarding CSPNC's position on various waterfront development issues: Sue Castillo led the discussion:

- Material can be viewed on the Port's website.
- The proposed intersection design for Harbor Blvd and Sampson Way deserves more community oversight. She is also concerned about the location proposed for the Ralph Scott Fire Boat Museum, which is well designed from the east and west but has two apparently blank walls facing the public space and sits in the middle of what could be a beautiful plaza wrapping around the new watercut. A third issue is public access to the water in the new watercut. While security is important, a small area where people can access a floating dock is needed.
- Andrew suggested a special board meeting to review waterfront design issues, and other board members were also interested. Two dates were considered, Wednesday the 28th of April or Thursday the 29th of April. Sue suggested that boardmembers go to the Port website and review the waterfront information prior to the meeting. Nancy Richardson (stakeholder) suggested going to www.lawaterfront.org and search for "Downtown Harbor" to access the information. Kara McLeod opposed the method of calling this meeting as violating the Brown Act. Board consensus was that we were acting properly in continuing the discussion as planned.
- Carrie Scoville asked about the status of a steering committee that was supposed to be formed for this issue. She suggested attending the San Pedro Waterfront Coordinated Plan Subcommittee to hear more about this issue. They meet Wednesday, April 14, at 5 pm, at POLA High School (second Wednesday of every month).
- Art Almeida asked Augie about the construction at the Port Headquarter's building. Augie explained that they have a federal grant to remodel the lobby for security purposes.

- Pat Nave commented on last night's decision by the NorthWest SPNC regarding the Port's funding of the reconstruction of the Hey Rookie Pool. It is not a good choice, based on the proximity to the new south San Pedro High School and their new pool (which will cost only about a third of the cost of the reconstruction). **Art Almeida made a motion to put the issue on the Agenda for the next Central SPNC stakeholder meeting. The motion was seconded by Andrew Silber and approved unanimously by the Board.**

Appointment of CSPNC representative to the CRA Pacific Corridor CAC: Sue Castillo made a motion that we convey to Councilwoman Hahn that we support retaining Andrew Silber as CSPNC's representative to the CRA Pacific Corridor CAC. The motion was seconded by Phill Trigas and passed with a vote of 11 yes, 0 no.

Committee Reports:

Outreach and Communications

- Committee Chair Phill Trigas thanked everyone who worked on the newsletter.
- A second newsletter is in the works, hopefully to be distributed in time to add to election outreach, including candidate statements. Stakeholders and board members were asked to contact Pat Carroll for articles and other newsletter content. The due date for copy is May 5th.
- Website issue: Phill reported that the ad hoc subcommittee recommends the acceptance of the proposal from Kristina Smith to modify the webpage as shown in the subcommittee minutes. **Andrew Silber made a motion to accept the subcommittee's minutes as stated. The motion was approved by the board with 11 yes votes, 0 no votes.**

PCAC (Port Community Advisory Committee) Report. Representative Carrie Scoville reported (written report submitted, attached).

- Motion regarding PCAC restructuring.
- Reminded board that last month we voted for JR Perez as an alternate PCAC representative. Carrie commented that she will be out of town next month but that JR, while not yet be seated, can attend the meeting.

HANC: Carrie Scoville stepped in for Julia Parker and gave a summary of the report which was part of the agenda packet. It was commented that HANC recommended that all NC's apply for their rollover funds. Andrew asked if our NC would be addressing DWP issues, and it was suggested we consider this at the agenda setting meeting.

Finance Committee Report: Linda Alexander gave a brief report on the finances of the CSPNC.

Approval of Past Stakeholder Minutes of March 9th. Sue Castillo made a motion to approve the Minutes of the March 9, 2010 stakeholder meeting, seconded by Art Almeida and passed by the board with a vote of 9 yes, 0 no.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:28pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sue Castillo, CSPNC Secretary, assisted by Kristina Smith, Administrative Assistant to the Central SPNC.