

**Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council
 Monthly Stakeholders Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, December 9, 2008, 6:30pm
 Port of Los Angeles High School, 250 W. 5th Street, San Pedro**

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:42pm by President John Delgado. Approximately 30 stakeholders present. The following roll call was taken:

Alexander, Isaiah	Resigned
Alexander, Linda	Present
Almeida, Art	Present
Anderson, Frank B	Present
Buie, Oliver	Absent
Castillo, Sue	Present
Delgado, John Jr.	Present
Henderson, Larry	Absent
Johnson, Benetta	Absent
McLeod, Kara	Present arrived at 6:50pm
Parker, Raymond Lee	Present
Pasley, Dan	Resigned
Roberson, Bill	Present
Scoville, Carrie	Present
Seybold, Daryl	Absent
Silber, Andrew	Present
Trigas, Phill	Present

2. **Approval of Minutes:** Board members reviewed the minutes from the November 11, 2008 meeting and several minor corrections in punctuation and a correction in the date of the Outreach meeting were made. **Andrew Silber then made a motion to accept the minutes with corrections as given to the Administrative Assisting by Secretary Sue Castillo. The motion was seconded by Carrie Scoville. Unanimous votes in favor of approving. The motion passed and the minutes were approved.**

3. **Message from the President:** John Delgado thanked those involved in the parade and announced the ribbon cutting ceremony at the San Pedro High School Gymnasium. He then explained to the stakeholders that we had a second board meeting on November 18th to continue discussion on the waterfront EIR and the Central Board made a motion on its position. He also talked about the Knoll Hill Public meeting which was well attended and talked about the appointments to the Knoll Hill Steering Committee which would be taking place later in the meeting, in addition to the appointment of two new board members to fill vacant seats on the Central SPNC Board. Nominations will be chaired by Dan Pasley, former Board member.

4. **Reports from Public Officials:**

- a. **LAPD:** Helen Pallares wished everyone a Happy Holidays. She was at the Christmas parade which was a huge success. She announced additional events in the area which included volunteer opportunities. She gave an update on crime activity in the area which included a few fights at the local bars with only minor injuries. She warned stakeholders about Holiday crimes and the need to keep valuables out of sight and secure. She talked about new devices that thieves are using that capture the locking signals from the key remotes. She suggested locking cars the old-fashioned way with the key.

- b. **Councilwoman's Office:** Ana Dragin gave an update on the groundbreaking for 22nd Street Park. The Park should be finished around this time next year. Mark Mariscol from Rec and Parks held a community meeting last week regarding the budget cuts and how it will affect the department. Leland Recreation Center will have hours cut. Fees will be going up, some centers hours will be reduced, eliminating some of their after school programs. LAUSD is voting on the new high school at Angel's gate today. Port is having Christmas shows at the fountain every Fri. night during the Holiday Season from 7-9pm. Last Friday there was a huge turnout, there were concession stands, Santa etc. and it was a great event. She talked about the Parking meters being free from Dec 15 – 31. Prices will be higher next year. Bill thanked the councilwoman for getting Mesa 6th-3rd paved but said there were complaints from that community because no notice was given until that morning. Ana stated she would look into it.
- c. **DONE (Department of Neighborhood Empowerment).** Rosa Arcadia made a couple of announcements and talked about the weekly bulletin being sent out to neighborhood council board members weekly. Last week's bulletin included information that the city council was considering the financial disclosure issue. They didn't take any action but will take it up January 6th. (Council file #080351 and #080942. She reminded board members to go on line and take the ethics training which is valid for 2 years. Her last announcement was a thank you to the 8 board members who have taken the budget survey. The City is in a major financial crisis so we really need input from the community. Survey link is on line. Dan asked about DONE's management and whether any cuts are being made and Rosa responded that some vacancies in their department will not be filled due to cutbacks. Some positions have been eliminated completely.
- d. **Mayor Office:** Ricardo Hong reported that the Mayor is setting up some foreclosure counseling centers for the community. He provided statistics related to foreclosures that have increased tremendously since 2007. The centers will be addressing the issues of foreclosure time lines, homeowners rights etc. He provided the closest location as the South LA Work Source Center at 7518 South Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles 90044. 323-752-2115. Hong also talked about the Mayor's visit to Washington to address the need for recovery to bail out "Main Street" and not "Wall Street." Kara McLeod asked Hong to have his office involved in the issue of improving San Pedro High School. Bob Gelfand commented on funds that will be coming from the programs that President Elect Obama will be implemented. Money for LA infrastructure. Andrew made comments about getting the Mayor's plan to our NC so we can see it. Sue Castillo also commented about Knoll Hill asking Ricardo to get the Mayor involved in decisions.

5. **Board Announcements:** None

6. **Public Comments:**

- a. **Soledad Garcia:** Garcia discussed the issue of the DWP's Measure B (Solar Energy) which she feels the entire community should oppose because it did not go through the City Council process or the DWP process or MOU. The DWP failed to notify the ratepayers and therefore they were not able to give input. The issue went from the IBEW union to the city council and by-passed everyone. The bottom line is that the will be burdened with a multi million dollar plan with no plans given, no cost analysis. This is why we should be opposed to Prop B.
- b. **Doug Epperhart:** Comments on SPACE (San Pedro Art, Culture and Entertainment District) and an upcoming meeting.
- c. **Carrie Scoville:** Announced that on Christmas Eve in the Black Hill area every year they put out luminaries and it is worth coming out to see it.

- d. **Larry Henderson:** In response to Soledad Garcia comment he talked about Local 18 which is the utility local, IBEW. Local 18 is the counterpart of Edison and they build their own stuff. They hire union and non union people. They have their own compliment of electricians and hire local 11 electricians. As far as solar initiative, he doesn't completely agree with what Soledad stated.
- e. **Bob Gelfand:** Discussed the Neighborhood Council Coalition Group which is 3-4 years old. Central was apparently involved in the formation of the group and he invites Central to get more involved in the group so that the neighborhood councils can be more effective. He also thanked Kara for her work on the Christmas Parade.

Committee Reports:

- 7. **Treasurer's Report:** Linda Alexander talked about a transition report she created with the assistance of the previous treasurer, Aphram Khalbourji. She provided a financial report for review. Kara McLeod asked if the finance committee could re-evaluate the percentages allocated for administrative work as she felt it was too high and those funds can be used elsewhere. Linda announced that December 15th would be the next Finance committee meeting the Whale and Ale. **Frank Anderson made a motion to approve the finance committee's previous recommendation to allocate \$500 to the Chamber for the Christmas Parade for announcements and promotional items for Central SPNC. 8 yes votes, 0 no votes. Motion passed.** (Linda Alexander recused herself from the discussion and vote and left the room due to her association with the Chamber).
- 8. **Land Use and Planning Report:** Sue Castillo talked about the first meeting of the Knoll Hill Planning Committee on November 19, 2008 and brought forth a resolution for the board to consider. The following is the resolution with changes requested by board members:

The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council has adopted several official position statements on the development and proposed uses for Knoll Hill, including:

--Resolution dated October 10, 2006, in which we opposed the development of Knoll Hill for the exclusive use of any private organization and requested that Councilwoman Hahn explore potential uses of this land with our Neighborhood Council before committing to any development proposals (see also letter to Janice Hahn dated December 22, 2006).

--Resolution June 18, 2008, regarding Central San Pedro's special needs for parks and open spaces, noting that this area is significantly underserved with these types of facilities.

--Letter of Protest dated August 14, 2007 regarding the development of the Eastview ball fields, and CEQA violations related thereto.

At the first community meeting for the planning of a park on Knoll Hill, which was held on November 19, 2008, at the Crowne Plaza Harbor Hotel San Pedro, this Neighborhood Council witnessed the following:

Councilwoman Hahn made an opening statement that unilaterally advocated keeping the Eastview Little League ball fields on Knoll Hill without regard for, nor consideration of, the community's needs for recreation and open space in this area. This position conflicts with the Tidelands Trust Act, ignores the previous position statements of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council, and was inappropriate at this early stage in the planning process.

Several meeting attendees put forward the argument that open spaces, parks, and the downtown area in particular (aka Central San Pedro), are so infested by criminal gangs that without the predominant presence of the Eastview Little League any beneficial use of this land by the general public would not possible.

Therefore now the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council resolves as follows:

We protest the characterization of our neighborhood as controlled by criminal gangs as this is inaccurate and offensive. ~~and should be removed from the record of the decision making process.~~

We urgently request a meeting with Councilwoman Janice Hahn regarding her position on the use of Knoll Hill in order to bring her position into consistency with California law and the needs of the greater community.

We request that the Port of Los Angeles, in approving a development plan for Knoll Hill, observe the principles and requirements of the California Tidelands Trust Act, which Act favors general public use over private use, regional use over merely local use, and development serving multiple uses over single limited uses. The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council continues to advocate for park development on Knoll Hill that provides space for passive use and relaxation; facilities for individual, family and community uses; multi-use fields for active sports shared by multiple organizations; and for the preservation of the views from Knoll Hill for all to enjoy.

Andrew Silber made a motion seconded by Kara McLeod that we adopt the resolution with the above mentioned change. After public comments the board voted. 10 yes votes, 0 no votes. Motion passed. The Land Use committee will contact other neighborhood councils for support of this resolution.

Harbor Interfaith: Caroline Brady Sinco made comments on a proposed development at 670 W. 9th Street. She will attend the next Land Use Meeting on Dec. 18th to provide further details.

9. **Pacific Corridor CAC:** Andrew Silber reported on the last PC CAC meeting where he heard two opinions from the citizens advisory committee and the CRA which were separate but fairly in line. Nearly every organized community group has similar opinions on how water front development should continue. He also reported on the following:
 - i. \$200,000 will be spent on light poles of Pacific. 4th to 9th. Poles reflect the design of the poles on 6th and 7th. Pedestrian lighting branches.
 - ii. Proposed 7-11 constructed on 19th and Pacific. The CRA seems to be in favor of doing so (leaning in that direction). Discussion on design standards. There are several obstacles that this project has to overcome
 - iii. Parking meters. Christmas free parking December 15-30th
 - iv. 8th street lofts: New owner is asking for assistance to get it open.
 - v. Infrastructure improvements from mitigation money.
 - vi. Rich Pawlowski has three different schemes to be considered by CRA. Two were thought not to be practical; the great ship center was looked on as maybe being possible.
 - vii. Central is extremely well represented on the CAC.
10. **PCAC Report:** Carrie Scoville talked about the San Pedro Waterfront EIR and the recent vote by the NWSPNC to approve comments which included a cruise terminal at Kaiser Point. She then went over her written report which can be found on the Central website. There were no action items at the last PCAC meeting. As of Dec. 4th Oliver Buie and Carrie Scoville are the official PCAC representatives from Central SPNC. Carrie also went over her list of suggested projects for the China Mitigation Funds. There was a public comment that a letter should be written to the Governor about the veto of the container fee.
11. **Ponte Vista:** Sue Castillo gave an update on the recent decisions by the City Planning Department regarding the Ponte Vista project. The City Planning Department was against a number of things in the Ponte Vista proposal. Sue went over the highlights of our board's

positions on the project in the past. These items were included in the agenda package for the new board members to review. The developer will come out to the community and hold workshops to revise their plan. Rogelio (rep from Ponte Vista) commented on the planning department meeting. They are in the process for preparing for the city wide review process. Feb 12 at City Hall. They are working with the Planning Department, the Councilwoman's office and the community. (This meeting has since been cancelled). Doug Epperhart commented that he was at the Harbor Area Planning Commission meeting and about 75 people were in attendance and were all opposed to the project. Testimony lasted almost 2 hours. In the report one of the things listed is that Central SP supports the project. He would like to ask us to contact the Planning Department and let them know what our position is. Sue put the resolutions together and will send them to the Planning Department.

12. **Outreach Committee:** Included in Phill Trigas' report were items that the Outreach Committee has completed and are discussing:
 - a. Flyer for 110 workshop
 - b. Little fish theater advertisement
 - c. Chamber newsletter text
 - d. Advertised for the search for board members in Daily Breeze.
 - e. Discussed key events that we can promote ourselves
 - f. Board Retreat.
 - g. Discussions on Newsletter and what the content will be. (Knoll hill history, Liberty Hill history, theatrical performance, articles on local development issues and downtown issues, citywide issues that we can connect with, Ask board member column, harbor issues, article on EIR process, general calendar.)

13. **Arts and Cultural Affairs Committee:** Dan Pasley explained that this committee has been dormant for a couple of years and is now re-energized. He talked about us being fortunate to have the Warner Grand in our area. He suggests we access outreach specialists to talk to art groups who can partner with us and get involved in our programs. We hope to get more involved in developing our own events. The next meeting of this committee will be Dec. 15th at 5:30 prior to the Finance Committee Meeting. Last Thursday the SPACE District presented an MOU with the CRA authorizing \$100,000 through the Chamber.

14. **Standing Rules Committee:** Bill Roberson gave an update. The committee will meet January 8th in the back room of the Grinder restaurant at 6pm. He asked that committee members bring their suggestions for standing rules; such things as a consent calendar rule, how we deal with committee resolutions or suggested action, firm up an excused absence rule.

15. **SPACE Report.** Dorata Star attended the last meeting as the Central representative. In the first meeting they discussed By laws for the SPACE Committee. The second meeting will cover the issues of funding. The Ace District has been working together for two years just to get to the point of how they are going to proceed. Meetings are open to the public. She talked about the \$100,00 funding and 7% being given to the chamber to have them take care of the grants, organizations etc. Their meetings are held the 2nd Monday of every month at 3:00 in the Chamber board room.

16. **APPOINTMENT OF NEW CSPNC BOARD MEMBERS:** The following individuals were nominated for the vacant positions on the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board: Johnny O'Kane, Caroline Brady-Sinco, Oralia Rubio, and Carlos J. Perez. Each of the nominees spoke about themselves and then ballot papers were provided to each of the board members who were asked to sign their names and choose two of the nominees. Dan Pasley went over the rules. Doug Epperhart and Bob Gelfand were asked to count the ballots. After counting the ballots Caroline Brady-Sinco and Carlos Perez were appointed

as the two new board members.

17. **Knoll Hill Steering Committee:** **Daryl Seybold and Jim Cordero were the two nominees. The board voted 5 votes in favor of Cordero and 7 votes in favor of Daryl Seybold. Daryl Seybold was appointed to fill the vacant position Central San Pedro NC Rep on the Knoll Hill Steering Committee. Sue Castillo then made a motion to appoint Cordero as an alternative, seconded by Carrie Scoville. 10 yes, 1 no. Motion passed.**
18. **Parks and Recreation Department:** Frank Anderson talked about Leland Park stating its probably the only park we have in Central area and the only one with a public ball field. For the last five years he has served on the Park Advisory Board which was very active. Mark Mariscal and he discussed the closure of the Rec center at the park. Mark stated that they kept it open through discretionary funding, but now with budget cuts etc. they don't have the funds to keep it open. Frank talked about the events that were held there in the past. He is upset that the PAB board was never informed that these changes were coming. He would like to see a motion by our Board stating our disgust. He would also like to get that PAB back together. Sue asked if they ever consider volunteers to help. Mark has been invited to the January meeting. Sue suggested a committee to put together ideas and a possible resolution. Maybe come up with a "Friends of the Park" program. **Frank Anderson made a motion that we send letters to Councilwoman Janice Hahn and Mark Mariscal at the Department of Rec and Parks with a copy to the Mayor as the councilwoman claims to be supportive of childrens' sports and after school programs, to make sure funds are found to continue the programs at Leland Park. Seconded by Kara McLeod. 11 yes, 0 no.**
19. **Prop B solar initiative:** Phill Trigas talked about the Resolution stating that the DWP went around the city process that normally would have included Neighborhood Councils and representation from the community before it went to the city council. As NC's we need to protect the voice of the community and the proper procedures outlined in the Charter. The following resolution was presented by Sue Castillo and includes changes suggested by the board during discussion:

*CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
RESOLUTION ON PROPOSITION B ON THE MARCH 2009 BALLOT*

WHEREAS City Charter and the Neighborhood Council/LADWP Memorandum of Understanding require that neighborhood councils receive timely information so that they may provide comment and input to the City Council, City Committees and Commissions before decisions are made; and,

*WHEREAS no organizational or cost analysis information provided to the **ratepayers of Los Angeles** at the November 7, 2008 City Council meeting at which it was determined that Proposition B would be placed on the March 2009 ballot; and,*

*WHEREAS in order that the solar measure was ensured immediate placement on the ballot, the DWP Commission and the Community were bypassed and the measure was sent directly to the City Council **which** unanimously voted its approval; and,*

WHEREAS it is the policy of the City and DWP to have competitive bidding on major projects, Proposition B contradicts this policy; and,

WHEREAS Proposition B was named Solar Energy/Job Creation by the City Council on November 25, 2008, the name erroneously implies that workers from the private sector and other unions will be hired; and,

*WHEREAS this multi-million dollar action will increase rates on top of the 24% increase **already** approved last year, and the rates will be further compounded with the addition of the forthcoming comprehensive solar program; and,*

WHEREAS the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council supports green power and sustainable energy, it deplors the process used by the City to place Proposition B on the ballot; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council opposes Proposition B.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council will provide the City with a Community Impact Statement on this matter.

Kara McLeod made a motion to pass the resolution as amended above, seconded by Andrew. 10 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.

20. The meeting was adjourned 9:27pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Smith
Neighborhood Council Administrative Assistant