

**Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council
 Monthly Stakeholder's Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, February 12, 2008, 6:30pm
 Port of Los Angeles High School, 250 W. 5th Street, San Pedro
 (Approved by the CSPNC Board on 3/11/08)**

1. Meeting called to order by President Joe Gatlin at 6:35 pm. Pizza and Sandwiches were available from Buonos Pizza. There were approximately 30 stakeholders present.
2. Roll Call:

Joe Gatlin	Present
Mayra Perez	Present
Pamela Newsom	Present
Aphram Khalbourji	Present (7:42pm)
Dan Pasley	Present
Kara McLeod	Present
Isiah Alexander	Excused
Larry Henderson	Present
Benetta Johnson	Present
Carrie Scoville	Present
Oliver Buie	Present
Daryl Seybold	Present
Andrew Silber	Present
Bill Roberson	Present (left due to family emergency)
John Delgado Jr.	Present
Sue Castillo	Present

3. **Approval of Minutes:**

- a. **January 8, 2008 Minutes:** The Minutes of the January 8, 2008 Stakeholder meeting were approved by unanimous vote by the Board with the following changes: Item #7c, delete "South of Bloch Field. Phill Trigas is the architect on the project." and add "proposing it to be part of the Knoll Hill improvements." Item #8f, to end of paragraph ad, "as no additional approval was needed." Item #9b, delete "We helped with developing the park on Knoll Hill." Replace with in which she offered the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council the opportunity to work with the port in the future planning for Knoll Hill."
- b. **September 12, 2006 Minutes:** The Minutes of the September 12, 2006 Board and Stakeholder meeting were approved unanimously by the board with one minor change. Paragraph 2 "stating the minutes" was changed to "stating the August minutes".
- c. **October 10, 2006 Minutes:** The Minutes of the October 10, 2006 Board and Stakeholder meeting were approved unanimously by the board as submitted.
- d. **January 10, 2007 Minutes:** The Minutes of the January 10, 2007 Board and Stakeholder meeting were approved unanimously by the board with the following two changes: Second paragraph under Public Announcements change the word "perspective" to "aerial or plan"; and the fourth paragraph change "community outreach committee" to "COPSS".

4. **Presidents Report.** President Joe commented on the two new businesses which had ribbon cutting ceremonies on the last "First Thursday". Those businesses were Behind the Scenes and Lanta Beauty Shop. First Thursdays was well attended and continues to be very successful.

5. **Vacancy on Executive Board.** President Joe called for nominations to fill the Communications Officer vacancy on the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board. Phill Trigas accepted the

nomination by Sue Castillo which was also the recommendation from the Outreach and Communications Committee. Larry Henderson nominated Joe Donato who accepted the nomination. With no more nominations, Pres. Joe called for a Stakeholder vote (including board members). There were 15 Votes for Phill, 20 votes for Joe Donato. President Joe then announced that Joe Donato was the new Communications Officer. This was followed by discussion on whether the vote was legal. Rosa Arcadia expressed to the board that “for the vacancy of the Communications Officer it had to be a board vote.” President Joe commented that he had spoken with the City Attorney and was following those directions. Kara McLeod commented that she did not feel confident with the City Attorney’s advice given to President Joe. Bill Roberson also objected. President Joe stated that if anyone had any problem with the process then they should make a motion or write a letter but that the process was handled according to our bylaws and President Joe had looked for advisement from our city attorney which he is supposed to do in this matter. He commented that they City Attorney was not happy that we even got rid of an executive officer without going through the City Attorney’s office for advice. Pres. Joe also commented that all board members were voted into office by stakeholders and he looked to the stakeholders to do it again. It was stated on the agenda that it was to be a stakeholder vote. Sue Castillo attempted to make a motion that this board consider whether we should be taking the advice of a city attorney as hearsay without any writing or in person. The motion was not seconded and was abandoned. President Joe Gatlin refused to entertain a board vote.

6. REPORTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS:

- a. **Councilwoman’s office:** Ana Bozic introduced William Ramirez who has been with the Port (Homeland Security) for 3 weeks and with the city for 19 years. He talked about Los Angeles being ready for a possible Tsunami. Los Angeles as a city is becoming Tsunami ready (Tsunami certified). Tsunami signs will be placed on Port Property. A brochure was distributed showing a map and talking about “How to Prepare for and survive a Tsunami.” Mr. Ramirez also commented on a notification system which would be electronic such as cell phone, text messages, Reverse 911, email, pagers, etc. Early warning system is not just for tsunamis, but also for fuel spills and other hazards. Williams can be contacted by email at: wramirez@portla.org or by phone at 310-732-7672. Ana Bozic also commented on the new Chief of Staff, Courtney Chelsa (she was previously the Deputy Chief of Staff) and the new Superintendent of Rec and Parks who will be meeting with neighborhood councils in the near future. She also commented that Gaffey Street improvements (between the freeway and 9th Street will begin on Thursday).
- b. **LAPD:** Helen Palares passed out forms for stakeholders and board members to fill out and return to her. Her department is creating a new database and they want to get more target specific. She also made comments about recent Incidents on 6th Street. None of the newly upgraded bars were involved. She specifically talked about how the Porthole has created their own database and they scan ID cards of patrons which cuts down on fake ID’s and keeps troublemakers out of their bar. Officer Palares also made comments on graffiti and suggested the community take pictures and email them to the station.
- c. **Mayor’s Office** – No Report.
- d. **Port of Los Angeles** – Cpt. Bent Christiansen reported on the waterfront development which has become a top priority with the port. Lots of construction will be happening in the next few months. Yankovich is being moved to Beth 240. By 2012 the goal is to have 7 miles of waterfront developed. Dave Matthews will be the new contact who will work with the neighborhood councils and specifically our Land Use Committee. Cpt. Holmes has taken over additional duties specifically construction and maintenance. New Port Police station being constructed next to the Port of LA High School. Energy efficient building with solar panels, etc. Board of Harbor Commissioners meeting is going to be on February 21, 6pm, Bannings

Landing. If you can't attend the meetings, you can view videos of them on the Port's website about a week later. 70,000 jobs will be created in construction of port projects. Port Police are still hiring. There are at 122 officers and the hope to reach a goal of 140 by mid year and 200 after that. Andrew Silber commented that we could consider as a group thanking the Port for its positive direction as it relates to the community. Possibly as an agenda item.

- e. **Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE):** Rosa Arcadia of DONE reminded board members and stakeholders to complete the mayors budget survey. Rosa handed out surveys to those who had not done it. Feb. 23rd is the date of the Regional Budget Meeting. Priorities will be discussed for the regions and representatives that will eventually meet with the mayor will be chosen on that date.

7. Public Comment:

- a. **Harbor Interfaith:** Muriel and Kristin talked about the organization which helps homeless families. Provided a brochure. They are reaching out to the community looking for families who might need their services. They commented on the Transitional Housing Program focusing on Education.
- b. **Benetta Johnson** talked about the International Trade and Logistics Job training program. The training date is March 1, 2008. Contact ACJC at 323-7331-6606. The training site is located at 8101 S Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles. This is the second largest employment sector in the United States, accounting for over \$800 billion in employment opportunities.
- c. **C.E.R.T.:** Myra Perez talked about the Community Emergency Response Team training at Toberman starting Monday March 6. 6:30pm (1 day a week for 7 weeks). Those completing the free course will receive a certificate.
- d. **Public forum:** Friday Evening February 15, San Pedro Neighbors for Peace Forum. Harry Bridges Institute, 7:30pm.

8. PRESENTATIONS:

- a. **LANI (Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative):** Sue Castillo introduced the presenters who explained the services of this private organization that can expedite community improvement projects. They engage stakeholders at the local level to build improvements in their neighborhoods. They work throughout the entire city. They are proposing to provide planning, design and construction services on the Knoll Hill Park Project for the Port of Los Angeles and the San Pedro community.
- b. **L.A.'s Network for Kids.** Diana Chapman talked about the after school pilot program that is currently in our area at Dana Middle School. The current programs available at Dana after school are: Art Club, Swim Club, Basketball Club, Police Explorers, Newspaper Club, Spanish Club, Cooking Club, Sailing Club, Songwriting and Music Appreciation, and Dance Club. With additional funding they hope to expand and create even more opportunities.
- c. **Cabrillo Beach Boosters:** Gary Dwight and Allen Johnson talked about a specific project for the 4th of July (3 day weekend). Approx 30,000 attended last year. Also talked about the programs at Cabrillo Beach and the bathhouse. They are hoping for support in the amount of \$3,000-\$5,000. **Kara McLeod made a motion that we refer this to the finance committee to consider support of an amount in the area of \$3,000. The motion was seconded by Andrew. 10 yes votes, 0 no votes. Motion passed.**

- 9. **By Laws Committee Report.** Ray Burch reported recommendations from the last By-Laws Committee meeting. As a board, we chose the option of having our own election. We still have to change our by-laws to conform to the election procedures. By-laws committee came up with other

ideas. Next meeting will be Monday Feb. 25th 6:00pm at the Whale and Ale. In order to do what the By Laws Committee feels needs to be done, today the committee recommends that the election be moved to September instead of July. The following dates were suggested: Tues, Sept 9, Tues Sept.16 and Sat Sept. 20th. **A motion made by Andrew Silber and seconded by Daryl Seybold that we accept September 9, 2008 as our Election date (11 yes votes, 1 no, 1 abstention). Motion passed.**

10. **Ad Hoc Committee Re: Calendar of Events:** Dan Pasley volunteered to chair the committee and provided a sign up sheet. Meeting will be at 6:30 on Friday, Feb 29th. 1527 S. Palos Verdes #1 (Dan Pasley's home).
11. **Letter of Protest:** After reviewing letters of protest submitted by Dan Pasley and Kara McLeod with regard to our neighborhood council protesting the City Clerk taking over Neighborhood Council Elections, **Andrew Silber made a motion to accept the letter of protest created by Kara McLeod. The motion was seconded Pam Newsom (8 yes, 0 no 3 abstention). Motion passed.** See letter below:

The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council opposes the Neighborhood Council Review Commission proposed city ordinance which would abolish the rights of neighborhood councils to set the terms of their elected governing boards, abolish the rights of neighborhood councils to run their own elections, to write their own election procedures, would extend the terms of currently elected governing board members through the middle of the year 2010 and would impose a fee on each neighborhood council.

The Central Council opposes this measure on the grounds that

- It was hastily created and poorly planned.
- There are no provisions for elections in off years to fill vacant seats.
- Clerk-run elections will cost in excess of one million dollars during the first two years alone
- The vast majority of Councils have run fair, transparent and independently supervised elections inexpensively with few problems
- Neighborhood Councils are intended to be as independent from the City as possible. By having the City Clerk administer the elections, determining who may vote, who may run, when and under what rules the independence of the Councils is threatened.

Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council requests that the proposed ordinance be withdrawn or revert to the original proposal, which stated that election changes and Clerk administration would be optional, the decision to be made by each neighborhood council.

Alternatively, the system by which the City Clerk runs Neighborhood Council elections shall be limited to a pilot program for one or two regions in which the Neighborhood Councils volunteer to participate.

12. Committee Reports:

- a. **Communications/Outreach Committee Report:** Dan Pasley, Interim Chair of the Committee, provided minutes from the two meetings held. Talked about Assembly Debate as an outreach event. May 25th at the Warner Grand.
- b. **Pacific Corridor CAC.** Highlights from Andrew Silber's Report included:
 - i. They will have an election in 2008 for the positions of chair, vice chair and secretary.

- ii. There is a 50/50 program in the City of Los Angeles City for sidewalk repair in residential areas. Property owners in Central can get a substantial contribution from the city for sidewalk repair.
 - iii. Conflict of Interest Rules and Brown Act training was postponed.
 - iv. Connie Palini Tipton, Planning Dept., has worked out a community design overlay, important document for the future look and feel of downtown San Pedro. Guidelines that any new construction need to comply with.
 - v. Starbucks will open Feb 15th at 5pm on 6th Street and Center.
 - vi. Mojo dedication was on 1st Thursday on 7th and Center.
 - vii. CAC is asking for information from Cal Trans about the status of the Park and Ride property at Beacon and Harbor.
 - viii. Clean San Pedro made a presentation offering a contract to clean certain districts in downtown San Pedro.
 - ix. Next meeting will be 1st Wednesday in March. (March 5th) at Crowne Plaza, 6:00pm. The March 1st meeting was cancelled.
- c. **Land Use and Planning.** Sue Castillo reported that we have three years to plan for the Knoll Hill property after Eastview little league's lease expires. **The Land Use committee made a motion to write a letter to POLA asking them to engage LANI for the purpose of carrying outreach and workshops for the planning of the future park at knoll hill. 10 yes votes, 0 no votes.** Next Land Use and Planning meeting is scheduled for Wed. Feb 27th at the Croatian Cultural Center.
- d. **Financial Report.** Aphram reported on the current financial status of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council. The next meeting is scheduled for February 28th, 6:30pm at 1121 S. Meyler.
- e. **PCAC:** Carrie Scoville reported on the two action items on the agenda for the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Our neighborhood council voted on these items at our last meeting. The PCAC is now alternating their meetings between San Pedro and Bannings Landing in Wilmington. At the last meeting which was held at Bannings Landing there was a presentation by SCAG on their master transportation plan. It was reported that this was not a good presentation. Next meeting there will be a presentation relating to the MATES 3 study, which is a study of the air quality for the San Pedro Bay and the Los Angeles Basin.
- f. **Information on Pilot Program Re: Filing of Council Files by Neighborhood Councils –** Kristina Smith gave a report on the Pilot Program being initiated on May 1, 2008 which allows Neighborhood Councils to file documents, motions, etc. with the City Council and have them assigned a City Council file number.
- g. **Peace Rally:** Pres. Joe gave an update on the upcoming Peace Rally planned for May 15th at San Pedro High School. He commented that 188 children have been lost due to violence in the last 20 years. Agencies are getting together at San Pedro High school as a Peace Rally May 15th. 6pm, to create solutions to this horrendous problem.
- h. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:38pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kristina Smith
Admin Asst to Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council