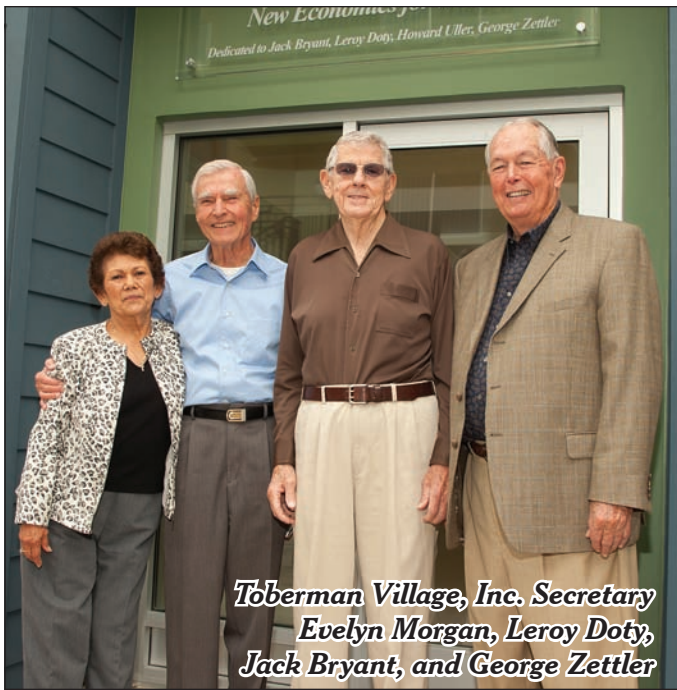


GRAND CENTRAL



Newsletter of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council

Autumn 2011



Toberman Village, Inc. Secretary Evelyn Morgan, Leroy Doty, Jack Bryant, and George Zettler



Toberman Village Provides New Housing in San Pedro

“Toberman Village is a place of possibilities and San Pedro’s newest treasure,” declared Maggie Cervantes, Executive Director of New Economics for Women (NEW), at the September 21, 2011 grand opening ceremonies of the townhouse style apartment building.

During her remarks, Ms. Cervantes stated that designing and building affordable housing communities is one of the primary ways that NEW delivers on its mission to reduce poverty and increase assets for families living in Los Angeles.

With the completion of Toberman Village, 49 units of affordable apartment housing consisting of 25 three-bedroom, 20 two-bedroom and four one-bedroom units plus a community center, designed around a sunlight-filled, secure courtyard, NEW brought to fruition a longstanding vision for a San Pedro neighborhood.

NEW acquired the three-acre parcel of land in 2001 and completed the first phase of development in 2003 with the building of 48-unit Santa Cruz Terrace.

In 2006, NEW collaborated with Habitat for Humanity on the second phase, the building of the 12 single-family homes. Like the residents of Santa Cruz apartments, residents of Toberman Village will have the benefit of onsite program services offered by Toberman Neighborhood Services.

Among those gathered for the opening was a notable quartet of longtime San Pedro leaders: Jack Bryant, Leroy Doty, Howard Uller and George Zetter, who persevered to bring top-quality affordable housing along with social services to the residents of their beloved community.

Bea Stotzer, NEW Board President, exclaimed, “Everyone who walks through the door should feel the love,” as she unveiled a special sign dedicating the Toberman Village Community Room in their honor.

“Come back in six months,” urged Jack Bryant. “When you meet the families who get to live at Toberman and hear their stories that’s when you’ll really see what this beautiful new place means to this community.”



Thinh Nguyen and a partial image of one of his pieces created from found objects. (Photos by Selena Vellegas)



New Gallery on the San Pedro Art Scene

The Historic Arcade Building’s Gallery space on Sixth Street is the current home for the San Pedro Arts & Academic Alliance, Gary Larson, Peter Rothe and Beate Kirmse introduced the Alliance to address the effects of the economic downturn and their desire to develop San Pedro as a cultural destination and become more competitive with other South Bay areas.

The group focuses on establishing partnership programs with arts institutions around the nation to present art exhibits that will attract fine art lovers and buyers to the Arts District. They are collaborating with Angel’s Gate Cultural Center, Syracuse University, and Marymount College on gallery shows.

Downtown San Pedro recently welcomed Marymount College to the Alliance’s Arcade Gallery. Patrick Grugan, Marymount’s Gallery Manager and Adjunct Pro-

fessor describes how the gallery fits in with the college’s cultural presence:

“On October 6, Marymount presented its first show at the Arcade Gallery, an exhibition of installation work by LA-based artist Thinh Nguyen. This show was the first of many to be presented at the Arcade Gallery, and future shows will include a retrospective of Marymount’s Theatre program, student work, and other exhibitions.

“The intent of these shows, along with Marymount’s music and theatre offerings, is to add another ingredient to the already rich cultural stew that is San Pedro. This vibrant cultural experience is of huge benefit to our students. The gallery and arts presentations offer students another entry point to this experience, giving students the opportunity to experience and participate in a larger artistic scene and in the community as a whole.

“Its impact on students is already being felt in the experience of being exposed to artistic work, institutions and people that they otherwise might not have gotten to meet. We hope that this is another step in the process of Marymount students joining into, and contributing to, the San Pedro community.”

The ambitious vision of the SP Arts & Academic Alliance is to connect art venues, artists, arts education, business development, and the community through collaborative efforts to enrich and strengthen the physical, economic and social revitalization of San Pedro.

Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council
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CD 15 Runoff Candidate Statements on Page Four.

President's Message

By Linda Alexander

I love the fall. Despite the fact that nature is moving toward dormancy; life is very alive and vibrant in San Pedro. As I write this we are in the throes of an election to determine our new city councilmember. It is expected that no one candidate will win 50 percent of the votes on November 8, so be prepared to vote again January 17. There is no question that the United States is a great country, but it is disturbing how few people take the time to consider candidates and vote for the one they believe will be the best! Don't forget this very important right!



As your neighborhood representatives, the members of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council are energetic in keeping abreast of the news and activities in our community. We appreciate hearing directly from you as to the issues that most concern you. You can keep up with what we are doing by attending our board and subcommittee meetings and checking in on our website and Facebook page. See the details in this paper.

The council has representatives who attend most of the community advisory committees which deal with San Pedro and our waterfront as well as ad hoc committees which spring up on issues which may have a "shorter" life. We report on these meetings and focus on any action we believe is appropriate or requested. Our public officials also give reports on their areas of concern, we often hear from the Mayors and the Council District 15 representatives, the LAPD, and the Port PD. Others join us from time to time. Our meetings can give you timely information on all the issues in our neighborhood.

One new community advisory committee is headed by Principal Jeanette Stevens of San Pedro High School. The committee is working through the issues of moving some of the student body to the new annex at Angels Gate, the John R. and Muriel Olguin Campus, next fall. It is a very exciting time which represents a leap forward for all our high school students. Our board is considering establishing an education subcommittee with the goal of becoming more knowledgeable and supportive of the schools in our neighborhood. Is this something you might be interested in joining? Let us know!

Coming up are the considerations involving the USS IOWA, the conversion of Warehouses 9 and 10 to "Crafted" showcases for arts and crafts from local and the greater LA area, sidewalk maintenance ordinances and more.

Our work is greatly enhanced by stakeholder participation and all of our meetings are open to everyone.

Downtown San Pedro Toy Drive to Benefit YWCA

With the holiday season approaching, San Pedro is coming together to ensure a supply of toys when Santa comes to town.

The San Pedro Convention & Visitors Bureau, Kiwanis Club of San Pedro, and Downtown Merchants have launched their annual toy drive. Toys will be distributed through the YWCA in early December.

Donation boxes are located at a number of businesses throughout the town, and especially in Downtown San Pedro. A list of donation locations is available at www.spcvb.com.

Toys for donation should be new and not gift wrapped. For information, contact the San Pedro Convention & Visitors Bureau at (310) 521-0175.



CSPNC Committees

The **agenda-setting meeting** is two weeks in advance of the monthly board/stakeholders meeting to determine the agenda. Three executive officers or any five board members constitute a quorum for this meeting. However, any board member or stakeholder may submit a written request for the inclusion of an item on the agenda.

Standing committees and their chairpersons are:

- **Agenda Setting Committee:** Linda Alexander
- **Finance Committee:** Kali Meredith
- **Land Use Committee:** Sue Castillo
- **Outreach/Communications Committee:** Pat Carroll
- **Port Committee:** Frank Anderson

The website provides the schedules for these meetings, which are generally monthly. The **Standing Rules/ByLaws Committee**, chaired by Scott Gray, meets on an as-needed basis, as does the **Election Committee**, Bill Roberson, chair.

Consideration is being made to establish an **Education Committee**. This committee would endeavor to be knowledgeable about and responsive to the needs of our community's schools. Would you be interested in joining this committee?

Stakeholders are always encouraged to attend and participate in the work of the committees that interest them. Please check our website for dates, times and location.

Should Property Owners be Liable for Damage to Sidewalks?

At the November meeting, the CSPNC tackled the city's proposal to charge the cost of tree damage to public sidewalks to adjacent property owners. Public sidewalks are used by us all, but tree damage strikes randomly! Sidewalk repairs needed in front of adjacent properties could vary from \$0 to \$10,000. Everyone who contributes to the cost of maintaining property, whether owner, tenant or insurer, is affected by this new and unequal distribution of financial liability for the sidewalks we share.

Shifting liability for tree damage also provides an incentive for property owners to remove trees fronting their property before damage occurs, rather than risk liability for expensive repairs later on. A liveable city needs walkable, tree-lined streets, and there are ways to provide these without resorting to the current proposal. Join your neighborhood council voice in responding to this situation. More information on the City Council's proposal is available on the website of LA Neighbors United (www.laneighbors.org).

POLAHS Breaks New Ground

POLAHS students have been breaking new ground with their Urban Farming Club and helping others in the process. Here's what they've been up to:

- San Pedro Science Center donates a 40- by 50-foot plot of land to POLAHS Environmental Engineering students, June 2010;
- Urban Farming Club is created at POLAHS, July 2010;
- Students harvest pumpkins, squash, and pomegranates and distribute to enthusiastic neighbors at Rancho San Pedro Public Housing Development, November 2010;
- Inspired by POLAHS' commitment to growing, harvesting, and eating healthy foods, Rancho San Pedro residents seek POLAHS' support in their campaign for a community garden, December 2010;
- POLAHS Garden Program receives National Gardening Association grant from over 1,200 nationwide, February 2011;
- Four POLAHS students pioneer first Urban Agriculture summer internship at San Pedro Science Center, June 2011;
- Scope of collaboration with Science Center broadens to include integrated pest management (IPM), floral botany, and market analysis of vegetable production;
- POLAHS Environmental Engineering and Spanish instructor, Ms. Rachel Bruhnke, is featured in San Pedro Today magazine for her creation of "Harbor Farms," a sustainable community garden in her own backyard, July 2011.

The adventures continued last month, when the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) joined POLAHS instructor Rachel Bruhnke and her students, Triscuit, and Urban Farming to celebrate the opening of a new community garden at Rancho San Pedro on Thursday, September 1.

Residents and community supporters were joined by Los Angeles Harbor Commissioner Dave Arian, former Harbor Commissioner Diane Middleton, Port of Los Angeles Executive Director Geraldine Knatz, Ph.D., Irving Pacheco from Senator Ted Leiu's office, and others for a ribbon cutting ceremony.

POLAHS students will team up with resident volunteers every other Tuesday throughout the year, putting their sustainable farming methods and urban design into practice.



Port of Los Angeles High School students show off some of their crops.

Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council

1840 South Gaffey Street, Box 212, San Pedro, CA 90731

Telephone: 310-918-8650 / www.centralsandpedro.org

Governing Board

President – Linda Alexander

Vice-President – Frank Anderson

Treasurer – Kali Merideth

Secretary – Scott Gray

Communications/Outreach Officer – Pat Carroll

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Bill Roberson

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Andrew Silber

Phill Trigas

Grand Central Editorial Committee

Patricia Carroll, Editor

Contributor: Linda Alexander



Lead Teacher Mary Anne Tippin with SPEA students at ITEP's Annual Scholarship Dinner in 2010.

ITEP Brings Opportunity to San Pedro High Students

In 2008, International Trade Education Programs (ITEP) joined forces with LAUSD and San Pedro High School to establish the San Pedro Earth Alert Academy (SPEA). Through ITEP and its partnerships with industry leaders, SPEA students connect to the vast and promising career opportunities in the global environmental international trade sector. ITEP helps motivate students to stay in school and graduate college-ready and job prepared.

ITEP brings business into the classroom through events like the Earth Day celebration including presentations, demonstrations and an E-Waste Recycling Event with SA Recycling and Environmental Conversion Recycling (ECR), and a port tour sponsored by West Basin Container Terminal (WBCT) that will introduce students to various careers and options available after high school.

SPEA is supported by an Academy Board made up of members from companies including SA Recycling, ECR, Berg & Associates, U.S. Coast Guard, WBCT, Total Transportation Solutions Inc., and Chen Yoshimura LLP, with Mike Schaadt, Director, of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium serving as chair. "The business community has an opportunity to help foster an educated workforce that understands the needs of their community" said Schaadt. "These business leaders serve as role models... the students get to see them donate their time with the goal of helping them grow in a more positive direction."

ITEP welcomes individuals and businesses who are interested in supporting San Pedro students. To learn about job shadowing, internship, guest speaker, and sponsorship opportunities, contact Amy Grat, CEO amygrat@itepinc.org.

Dear San Pedro Neighbors,

San Pedro High School is a community school that has served San Pedro residents for over 100 years. It has grown large, expanded with time, and is now seeing a new model of school programming. Our 3,000 student campus may seem large by the number, but with our new houses, or Small Learning Communities, students are able to experience a very personalized school program.

SPHS has eight small schools or SLCs, each with its own theme. Students have the opportunity to select their SLC according to their interests and strengths, by what they might like to study, and possibly making the selection by knowing their future career goal. The eight themes include business and finance (Business House), community action and service (PAL House), communications (iComm), artistic expressions (Creative Expressions), environmental studies (Global), Health Careers (PiFi), Marine Science, and Police Academy.

Each SLC is designed to provide a small school experience. Students have the opportunity to get to know a small group of students and teachers throughout their four year experience. Often times, students will have the same teacher for different grade levels, allowing the student to reconnect with a strong instructor and allowing the teacher to better meet the needs of the student by already being able to recognize their learning style. Each SLC is housed in closed proximity so that students do not have to travel across campus every period. SLC teachers plan, coordinate and prepare special events such as job fairs, special assemblies, guest speakers, field trips, community celebrations or events, and there is a direct connect between standards based instruction and the theme of the house.

Students are thriving in our SLC environments and we continue to grow to ensure that each student is receiving a program that is engaging, a program that utilizes problem solving, analysis, and global communication, and a program that will allow them to graduate in four years, career ready and college prepared. Our success is evidenced in our improved test scores, our positive school culture, and our improved graduation rate. Please call to hear more information about our SLCs.

Sincerely,
Jeanette Stevens
Principal



Crafting a New Image for 9 and 10

Welcome, 'CRAFTED' Arts and Crafts Center

By next summer, the World War II-era warehouses that have stored everything from Navy rations to bulk cotton could instead house a year round market for high quality arts and crafts. The Port of Los Angeles is working on leasing them to developer Bergamot Station Ltd. in hopes that it will bring visitors to support the redevelopment of San Pedro, while filling the demand for handmade, locally produced crafts.

"Right now, there's a confluence of people wanting to be very careful about how they spend their money and wanting their purchases to be more meaningful," said Alison Marik Zeno, manager of the project, to be called CRAFTED at the Port of Los Angeles.

Developing a craft marketplace is a shift for Bergamot Station, which developed Santa Monica's Bergamot Station Arts Center, a home to fine-art galleries and creative offices. The project at the port will be decidedly more populist. Tenants at CRAFTED might include artists who knit, make custom skateboards, or craft jewelry from objects found near the port. Zeno said the goal is to have fresh, interesting art that's also approachable and affordable.

The project will turn 140,000 square feet in two warehouses into about 500 market stalls for individual artists and artisans. Zeno said rent hasn't been set, but that a 100-square-foot stall might cost about \$500 a month. That's on the low end of



what an artist might pay for a booth for a single weekend at a craft fair. The marketplace will serve as an incubator space for these small arts-based businesses. CRAFTED is committed to helping solo-prenuers successfully celebrate both art and commerce.

"We have to make sure this stays young and fresh,

and refreshes itself. We won't succeed if people come once a year to do their holiday shopping," she said. The marketplace will have broad appeal across gender and age groups. CRAFTED will cater to the DIY crowd as well as feature arts for masculine tastes.

Bergamot Station projects CRAFTED will have 500,000 annual visitors based on attendance at local craft fairs and Laguna Beach's annual Sawdust Art Festival. Zeno believes "Next Summer is going to be very exciting. With the opening of the craft marketplace and the USS Iowa at virtually the same time, the entire family will have fantastic reasons to spend the day in San Pedro."

Bergamot Station and the port haven't finalized a lease, but that's expected in the next month or two. Marik Zeno said the plan is to divide CRAFTED into five phases, with the first and possibly second phases opening for business in June, and others opening through the end of 2013. CRAFTED recently went live with its pre-applications (www.craftedportla.com) and have been delighted with the response.

Excessive Dog Barking Will Cost You

The Los Angeles City Council voted unanimously to amend the city's barking law, imposing fines on the owners of dogs that bark excessively—even if the canines are not licensed by the city.

Under the changes, dog owners would face fines starting at \$250 for a first offense, \$500 for a second and \$1,000 for a third if a hearing conducted by the Department of Animal Services determines that a dog barks too much.

A dog's barking would be considered excessive if it continued for 10 minutes or more, or intermittently for 30 minutes or more within a three-hour period, Assistant City Attorney Dov Lesel said. The Mayor is expected to sign the law, in which case it will be effective before the end of the year.

Runoff candidates for Council District 15 were asked to respond to the following question: 'What will you do to improve the quality of life situation for the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council area stakeholders and how will you get it done? Specify your process.'

Joe Buscaino



In my opinion, Central San Pedro is one of the gems of Los Angeles, but it also has its challenges. I am ready to take them head on.

The first challenge is the growing perception of crime. This year, incidents like Operation Pirate Town and the red zone maps used during Navy Week (exaggerated as they were) demonstrated the need for action.

I will work with the community to develop a comprehensive neighborhood safety strategy. Our area has seen successful redevelopment stories at Dana Strand in Wilmington and Normont Terrace in Harbor City. Part of the strategy should include adding Rancho San Pedro to that list.

We also need to strengthen our local economy. I have a 4-Point Jobs Plan and many of my proposals directly affect Central San Pedro.

The first point is securing the 250,000 regional jobs generated by the Port as the widening of the Panama Canal continues.

The second point is developing a waterfront with new retail shops, restaurants, tourist attractions, and more. I will do everything from hosting trade shows and conferences to charity events and galas to promote our waterfront as the best in the world.

The third point is bringing Southern California Marine Institute and researchers from UCLA and USC to San Pedro so we can create a local hub for marine science, bioscience and technology companies in the Harbor Area.

The fourth and final point is assisting entrepreneurs with City Hall regulations, expanding Property Business Improvement Districts and eliminating the Gross Receipt Tax, which sends San Pedro business to places like Long Beach and Torrance.

These are some of the many plans I have to improve the quality of life in Central San Pedro. If you have any more questions about my plans, please visit www.JoeBuscaino.com.

Warren Furutani



The most important role of a City Councilmember is to represent the interests of the residents that live in the 15th City Council District.

I am no stranger to our neighborhoods. I was born in San Pedro and have lived in the Harbor Gateway for almost 20 years. I represented San Pedro when I served on the LA School Board and the LA Community College Board.

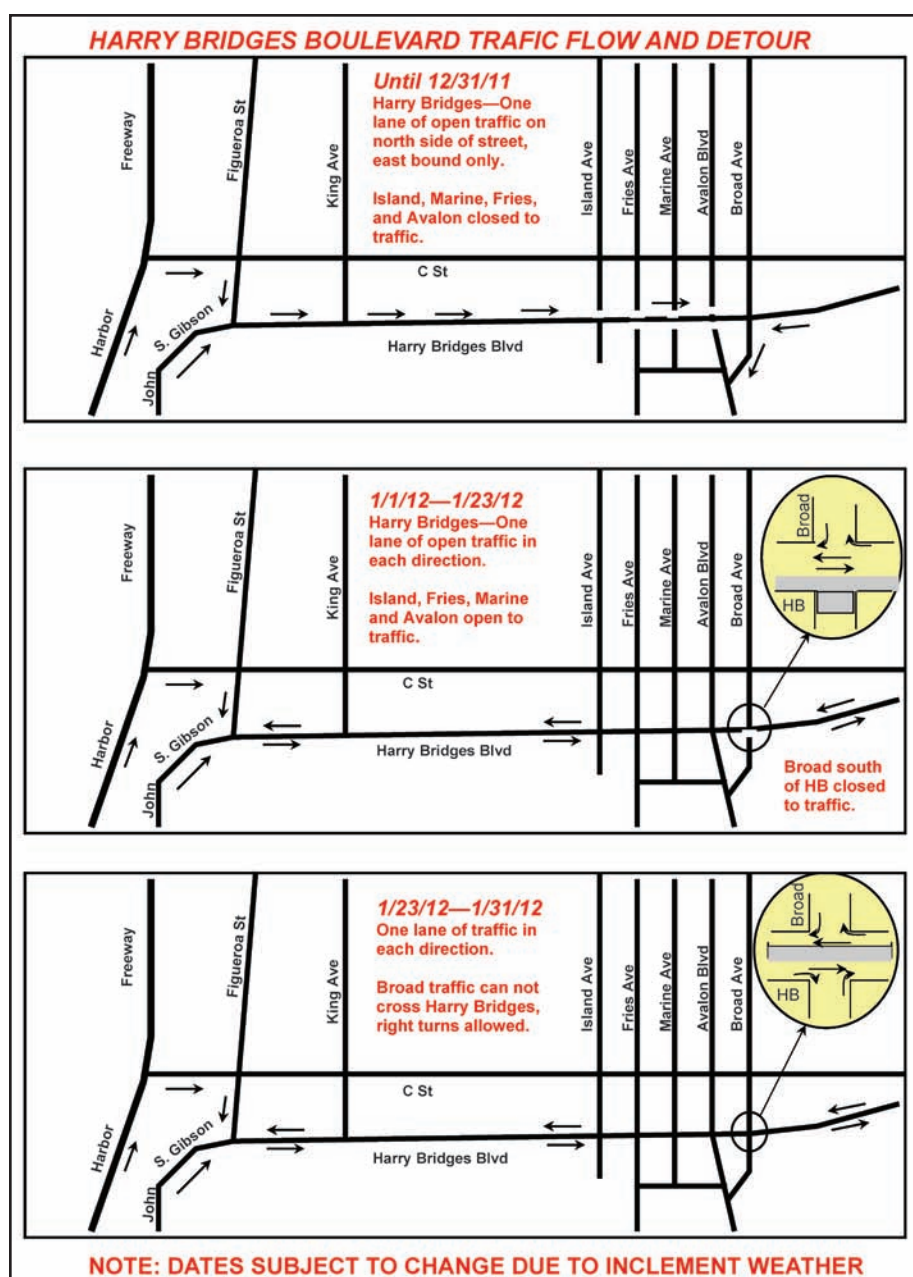
I love our community and my top priority will be to improve the quality of life for all of us. That's why Neighborhood Councils would be an integral part of the City Council office and I would work closely with the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council to ensure that we are addressing local issues and concerns.

One of the first things I would do, would be to schedule a meeting with members of the Neighborhood Council to put together a list of priorities of the things we want to do to improve our neighborhoods. Whatever goes on the list will be a priority for my office and we will work together to get it done. We may not be able to get everything done, but having the list will focus our efforts and track our progress.

One of my staff members would be assigned to the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council to attend meetings and work with members to ensure that we are progressing on our priorities and addressing issues as they arise.

I would also consult with the Neighborhood Council on any proposed projects in the area to ensure that the project meets the needs of the neighborhood. I believe working in partnership with the Neighborhood Council is the best way to improve our quality of life, and that's exactly what I will do if I am elected.

Due to construction, there are traffic flow changes on Harry Bridges Boulevard through at least the month of January 2012.



Colorful banners have been installed throughout the downtown district inviting visitors to 'Rediscover Downtown San Pedro.' The CSPNC was glad to participate in this promotion.



One Call to City Hall 311

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