



THE CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Stakeholder Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, December 13, 2011 Port of Los Angeles High School, 250 W. 5th St, San Pedro, Calif.

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call:** Linda Alexander called the meeting to order at 6:32. The following board members were in attendance: Linda Alexander, James Allen, Art Almeida, Frank Anderson, Pat Carroll, Sue Castillo, Scott Gray, Kara McLeod, Kali Merideth, Julia Parker (arrived at 7:39pm) and Andrew Silber (arrived at 8:10pm due to attending another meeting), Phill Trigas and Bill Roberson. Excused: Harvey Contreras and Carrie Scoville. Absent: JR Perez and Alan Ramirez. Approx 50 stakeholders in attendance.
2. **Presidents Report:** Linda Alexander reported on those board members who have completed the ethics training. In addition to various announcements, Linda thanked those board members and stakeholders who have assisted in making the monthly meetings successful over the past year. It was also mentioned that the latest Central SPNC newsletter was sent out to stakeholders in the Central District. Copies were available at the meeting.
3. **Joe Buscaino, Candidate for Council District 15** was invited to speak about his platform. He is campaigning on the importance issues such as public safety, getting our fair share of public services, economic development including the waterfront project, and using the community (neighborhood councils) in the problem solving process. When asked to define one major priority, Buscaino responded that it would be developing the waterfront to make it a destination that would bring more commerce to the community. He also strongly supports the neighborhood council process and the use of community impact statements.

Reports from Public Officials:

4. **Port Police:** Officer Stacey Creech announced upcoming Security Awareness Classes being sponsored by the Port of LA and the Port Police and scheduled to begin in mid January in Wilmington.
5. **Council District 15 Report** Ana Dragin reported:
 - a. Update on Plaza Park. Groundbreaking tentatively scheduled for January 30th. Phase 1 and Phase 2 will be at the top of the park and Phase 3 will address the slope.
 - b. Gaffey Bridge has new fencing which has helped alleviate the problem with illegal banners. Security lighting has been updated and the last phase to be completed will be the lettering.
 - c. New Skate Park: Meeting scheduled for January 4th, 6:30pm at Peck Park.
 - d. Free Holiday Parking, December 10th through the 31st. Time restrictions will still be enforced. Scott Gray asked for more enforcement of the two hour limit.
 - e. Billboard problem at Gaffey off ramp is being addressed.
6. **Assembly member Warren Furutani, candidate for Council District 15** was invited to speak on his platform. He feels the USS Iowa will be an economic engine to bring people into San Pedro. Key elements for him are getting the economy going, getting people back to work, getting state money to rebuild the Gerald Desmond Bridge, and the waterfront

project in San Pedro. He feels the neighborhood councils are an important part of the structure of governance. In response to the question of how he would make the City of Los Angeles more functional, Furutani commented that the key is community advocacy and making sure the community knows that government is here to serve them. He would like to put a portion of his own salary into a non-profit community development foundation to get some concrete quality of life issues solved, and hopes to get other government officials to do the same. He is also in support of pension reform. As co-chair of the Conference Committee on Pensions for the State of California, he is mostly concerned with the employees in the "\$100,000 club" who are getting huge pensions and abusing the system.

7. **PORT OF LOS ANGELES:** Augie Bezmalinovich reported.
 - a. SCIG project: Public comment period extended until February 1, 2012.
 - b. Draft EIS/EIR for Berth 302-306 APL container terminal expansion project will be released this Friday. Public meeting January 19th at the Port's Board Room from 6-8pm. Comment period is Dec. 16 through Feb. 17.
 - c. Warehouses 9 & 10: The Board of Harbor Commissioners (BOHC) has approved a 25 year lease agreement for Crafted at the Port of Los Angeles (marketplace). They hope to open July 1, 2012.
 - d. The BOHC approved a 13.5 million dollar construction contract for the downtown water cut. Groundbreaking scheduled for January 2012.
 - e. USS IOWA: Draft EIR should go out at the beginning of 2012. June 20th they are scheduling a "soft" opening with grand opening on July 4th. The lease is being negotiated.

8. **San Pedro High School Jeannette Stevens** presented:
 - a. Updates on San Pedro High School John & Muriel Olguin Annex and the new competition pool for the swim team. There is also a Drama Room and Stage area.
 - b. The school will begin using more technology in the form of E books.
 - c. San Pedro High school will also be undergoing some changes such as removal of several bungalows which will make more space for possible tennis courts.
 - d. Test scores are up.
 - e. Current projects with needs: 1) the pirate statue on the football field needs repair; 2) new projects include a Zumba afterschool program (dance workout), a Culinary Arts Cooking Club which promotes healthy eating; and expansion of the media arts program. They hope to open a media arts lab.
 - f. Public School Choice: The faculty wrote their own school plan which was approved by the Board of Education. The plan consists of six small learning communities within the school: business, communication, creative expressions, Pedro Action League (law and public service); global/environmental, and physical fitness. There is an advisory council that oversees the school plan.
 - g. Business and professional people are asked to come in and share their expertise and ideas.

9. **Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:**
 - a. Nancy Richardson commented on special sailing opportunities with the Tall Ship program which also includes Kids Day Sails.
 - b. Michael with People's Yoga Health and Dance announced that they are developing community dancing (every 3rd Saturday). There will be a free Holiday Showcase with a dance lesson at 8pm and a showcase at 9pm. They are joining with the Whale and Ale to create a New Year's Eve party.
 - c. Katherine Gray representing the Kiwanis Club announced their Toy Drive for Toberman.

- d. Elise Swanson, District Director for Congresswoman Hahn's Office:
 - i. Introduced Staff Assistant Ivan Sulic who is also a board member of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council.
 - ii. Announced the opening of the new District office at 140 W. 6th Street. There is a ribbon cutting planned for January 5th. (First Thursday)
 - iii. Congresswoman Hahn is now on the Homeland Security Committee and the Small Business Committee. She has recently formed a bipartisan port caucus with Representative Ted Poe of Texas and they are bringing attention to house members on the importance of ports in the U.S. as economic engines and working as a coalition on port issues across the United States.
 - iv. She is holding small listening tours with small businesses throughout the Congressional District. They will be in San Pedro in January with the Small Business Administration to talk about programs that are available for small business. The forum is being co-hosted by the Chamber of Commerce and Malaga Bank.
 - v. She has asked the Federal Department of Transportation to work with the city of Los Angeles to identify potential funding for repair work for Paseo Del Mar.
 - vi. They supported a grant application submitted by the Grand Vision Foundation to the National Endowment for the Arts and they received a \$10,000 grant to help out with Latino History Month.
- e. Doug Epperhart reported:
 - i. He was confirmed on November 22, 2011 as a new Commissioner on the Board of Neighborhood Councils. At the last meeting Central SPNC was honored for their 10th year anniversary.
 - ii. He has proposed that the BONC and DONE put together a work plan for 2012. The work plan will focus on 3 areas: 1) Compiling and development standards for the neighborhood councils. 2) Moving from the idea training to actual leadership development. Getting lobbyists in to teach how to influence government. 3) Create a citywide publicity and outreach campaign for neighborhood councils.

10. Finance Committee. Kali Merideth reported:

- a. Motion by Kara McLeod to accept the November monthly expenditures as presented, seconded by Pat Carroll and passed unanimously by the Board.
- b. Next meeting Dec. 20 6:30pm at Whale and Ale to review the entire budget.

11. Election Committee: Bill Roberson explained the purpose of the City Clerk Survey. The Board passed a motion to discuss the responses to the survey. After a lengthy discussion, the board passed a motion with 10 yes votes, 0 no votes, to provide the following responses to the survey:

1. Is your NC willing to postpone elections until 2014, as determined by the City's 2011-2012 Budget and Administration Code restrictions placed on the City Clerk. Response by Board is "NO, Our By-laws call for a 2-year term. That is the term our stakeholders selected us to serve."
2. If your NC Board would like to hold a non-City Clerk election prior to 2014, what is your Board willing to consider in terms of cost of the elections? Response by Board "Utilize the Town Hall selection process and forgo the election process."
3. Who would your NC Board prefer to administer your elections in the future? Please rank the options below in the order your NC would most prefer. Response by Board. 1st Choice A) Your NC (Using a Town Hall Selection Process). The board did not choose a 2nd or 3rd option in the ranking.

4. Which method does your NC Board prefer for electing board members?

Response by Board "At-Polls Elections".

5. As an alternative to the methods above, would your NC Board prefer a Town Hall Election or Town Hall Selection? **Response by Board: "Town Hall Selection (Open or public ballot).**

6. Please include specific comments from your stakeholders or Board Members that you feel would be valuable as part of this survey. **Response by Board: No additional comments were given in response to this question.**

12. Outreach Committee. Pat Carroll reported:

- a. **Motion from committee to approve \$500 for logo creation from Harbor Occupational Center Art Department. Approved unanimously by the Board.**
- b. **Motion from committee to encumber \$2000 to support the marketing program being formulated for the USS Iowa welcome. Board approved with 7 yes votes, 3 no votes.**
- c. Motion to approve \$500 for bilingual translation section on website was withdrawn. Scott Gray commented that he has been in contact with a volunteer willing to translate key components of the website at no charge.
- d. The request for \$3,000 to fund a survey mailer inside the newsletter was withdrawn. The focus group issue will be discussed at a future committee meeting.
- e. Linda Alexander recognized Pat Carroll for all her hard work on the newsletter.

13. Land Use Planning Committee: Sue Castillo and Frank Anderson reported:

- a. **Motion from Committee that the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council support the Port's Sampson Way Conceptual Redesign as presented at the Land Use Planning Committee meeting with a request that as part of this project the Port also widen the sidewalk in front of the Municipal Building, seconded by James Allen, and passed unanimously by the Board.**
- b. 110 Connector Project: The environmental process has been completed.
- c. Ports O' Call: A meeting will be scheduled by the Port in January to discuss the plans. They will be issuing an RFP.
- d. The SCIG (Southern California International Gateway) timeline has been extended so a presentation can be considered for a future meeting. Chuck Taylor of Butterfield Committee, asked for consideration of a presentation at the January meeting. James Allen asked that people speaking on behalf of lobbyists identify themselves as such.
- e. The T.I.R.E. project was not discussed at the Land Use Planning Committee meeting.
- f. **Rancho LPG, Consideration of new Northwest San Pedro NC motion:** Jody James spoke in favor of the proposed motion. After a short discussion, consideration of the new Northwest San Pedro NC Motion was sent to the Port Committee for further review.

14. PCAC: No report.

15. HANC: Highlights from the HANC report were provided by Linda Alexander. The full report is available on Central's website.

16. ACE: At the last ACE meeting, reports were presented on usage of grants. There was also a discussion on food trucks at First Thursdays.

17. PBID: No report

- 18. Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Bill Roberson to approve the Minutes of the November 8, 2011 Board and Stakeholder meeting, seconded by Kara McLeod and passed unanimously by the Board.
- 19. Motion for Removal of Inactive Board Members:** Motion by Scott Gray to remove JR. Perez and Alan Ramirez from membership due to excessive absences, seconded by James Allen. Unanimous vote in favor.
- 20. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:37pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kristina Smith
Administrative Assistant to the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council