



THE CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Stakeholder Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, October 11, 2011 Port of Los Angeles High School, 250 W. 5th St, San Pedro, Calif.

1. **Call To Order & Roll Call:** Scott Gray called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. The following board members were in attendance: Harvey Contreras, Kali Merideth, Phill Trigas, Art Almeida, Pat Carroll, Scott Gray, Carrie Scoville, Sue Castillo, James Allen and Bill Roberson. Julia Parker arrived at 7:39 p.m. Excused: Linda Alexander, Frank Anderson, Kara McLeod, and Andrew Silber. Absent: JR Perez and Alan Ramirez. Approx 20 stakeholders in attendance.
2. **President's Report:** There was an announcement of the Candidate Forum sponsored by Random Lengths, scheduled for October 12, 2011, 6 p.m. at Harbor College. It was also mentioned that there was a Bylaws Committee Meeting scheduled for tomorrow.
3. **Minutes of September 13 meeting.** James Allen moved to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2011 Board and Stakeholder Meeting as presented, seconded by Sue Castillo, and passed unanimously by the Board.

Reports from Public Officials:

4. **Mayor's Office:** Ricardo Hong reported on the following:
 - a. October 29, 2011 is the Mayor's Budget Day and two representatives per neighborhood council are asked to participate.
 - b. Update on Cyclavia: Annual bicycle riding event in downtown LA
 - c. Assembly Bill 131 (Allows undocumented college students in the state to obtain the same kind of publicly-funded financial aid for tuition now available to U.S. citizens and legal residents): Ricardo read the Mayor's statement about it and it has also been signed into law by the Governor.
 - d. James Allen asked about the Mayor's position on medical marijuana. Ricardo will report back on that issue.
 - e. There was also a request from a stakeholder asking for the Mayor's position on adjustable rate mortgages. Ricardo commented on workshops that the city is sponsoring to help homeowners.
5. **CD 15 Report:** Ana Dragin reported on the following:
 - a. At the upcoming Transportation Committee meeting October 12th, they will be discussing the parking lot adjacent to the Cultural Center.
 - b. There will be a meeting October 13th with the CRA and DOT regarding the proposed changes to Pacific Avenue.
 - c. Update on Marshall Court. Utilities are being relocated.
 - d. Update on Plaza Park. The Bureau of Engineering has to redesign the project to gain Coastal Commission approval. They are hoping for groundbreaking in the next 2-3 months. Rec. and Parks will be asked to do a presentation in the near future.
 - e. New skate park at Peck Park: Rec. and Parks will be forming a work group. They hope to have it built within the next year.
6. **LAPD.** Officer Nua reported on the following.

- a. Crime is currently up in areas of aggravated assault, homicide, burglary and theft from motor vehicles. The LAPD is campaigning hard through neighborhood watch groups to educate the community on ways to deter theft from vehicles.
- b. A lot of parolees are being released and programs are being put in place. There is a special detail with the specific task of conducting compliance searches. The activities of parolees are being monitored.
- c. There are now 4 neighborhood watch groups in the Central San Pedro area.

7. PORT OF LOS ANGELES: Augie Bezmalinovich was not in attendance but sent an email to Carrie responding to questions from the Board:

- a. **The Central SPNC would like to know the dollar amount of all remaining unexpended China Shipping Mitigation Funding to be applied to San Pedro, including both the original funding AND the supplementary funding tied to the 4 additional cranes installed in the China Shipping Terminal in May of this year, which was reported to be in the order of \$3 - 3.7 million. What are the plans for expending the remaining funds?**

Response: All funds for San Pedro have been allocated to projects. The most recent deposit of \$3.2 Million dollars was made due to the delivery of 4 cranes at China Shipping. In accordance with the settlement, \$800,000 per crane was required for San Pedro Aesthetics for a total amount of \$3.2M.

The \$3.2 M has been applied to a project for landscaping along Front Street. This landscaping would be in addition to the current landscaping the Department is doing. The Board approved this project in concept in December 2009.

The Port is assigning someone from Engineering to work on it. When that is done, they will sit down with the project applicants and others, as necessary, to discuss design concepts. The project applicants for this project are Carrie Scoville and the CRA.

San Pedro Projects: Northwest San Pedro Beautification \$5.2M; Plaza Park Redevelopment \$5M; Gaffey Street Pool \$6,966,012; Front Street Landscaping; \$3.2.

- b. **In June of this year, CSPNC requested that the landscaped section of Front Street be widened from the proposed 23 feet to 27 feet, in order to provide a 5-foot wide parkway and a 10-foot wide inner planted area. We would like an update with specifics on where the plan is now, what is happening regarding the City's request to take some of the land, etc.?**

Response: An unanticipated hurdle has arisen with regards to Front Street. Front Street is classified as a Class II Hi-way and as such the City is requiring the Port to expand the street by 4 feet (the half within our project area) and wants the Port to give them 12 feet of sidewalk area. Agreements with utility companies for utilities running under the 16 feet of area would have to be transferred to the City.

The Port is working with the city to figure out ways where the Port may keep, improve and maintain the 12 feet of sidewalk so that we can continue with the project. Meetings are scheduled with our Engineering, Real Estate divisions and with our city attorneys. I can speak in more detail of this at our next Port committee meeting.

- c. **Please let us know what is going on with new construction just inside the China Shipping Terminal gate along Front Street, north of Swinford, just north of the Knoll Hill exit road on Front Street.**

Response: I'm not aware of any construction at this area unless you are talking about the continual work of removing the "dirt pile" from the China Shipping site? If so, that is what is happening there as reported in the past.

- d. Carrie also announced an upcoming public meeting scheduled for October 20, 2011 where the Port's 5-Year Strategic Plan will be presented and comments can be submitted.

8. PORT POLICE: Officer Stacey Creech reported on the following:

- a. I-Watch Program: Reminder to stakeholders that unusual activity in their communities should be reported. If it's not reported the authorities do not know it is happening. Brochures on the I-Watch Program were available.

- b. Upcoming event: Happy Harbor Halloween Oct. 29 noon to 3pm will be held on the promenade between 3rd and 5th Streets.
- c. The new Port Police Building is not yet occupied but plans are to have it open by the Spring of next year.

9. Public Comment on Non Agenda Items:

- a. Michael from People's Yoga announced their Party in Pink event, Sunday 2-4.
- b. Gordon Teuber, Candidate for CD 15, talked about some of the issues on his platform and gave an update on his participation in Cyclavia. He also responded to questions from Board members related to neighborhood councils in general.
- c. Carrie Scoville commented on the Occupy LA event which is supported by the San Pedro Neighbors for Peace and Justice.
- d. Katherine Gray representing the Convention and Visitors Bureau commented on a bi-monthly "Calendar of Events" and announced the next upcoming Merchant's Meeting.
- e. Jayme Wilson, Candidate for CD 15, also gave a short speech.

10. Sidewalk Repair Ordinance: Sue Castillo talked about the system of public sidewalks and how the city wants to make the property owners financially responsible for repairs. Highlights from her presentation included:

- a. The bulk of sidewalk repairs is needed due to overgrown city trees.
- b. 1.2 billion dollars worth of repairs are needed throughout the city.
- c. The City must be ADA compliant within the next 25 years.
- d. Community Impact Statements have been filed by several neighborhood councils.
- e. Suggestion that there should be a large scale program that property owners can utilize.
- f. Sue would like to see the Central SPNC carefully craft a community impact statement.
- g. James Allen suggested the concept of issuing a general obligation bond for the repairs to sidewalks as well as sewer infrastructure etc.
- h. Board members and stakeholders gave additional input.
- i. Gordon Teuber commented that sidewalk repair should be a "shovel ready" project. He also mentioned that the private sector can repair sidewalks for \$1 for every \$5 the city charges and this is a problem.
- j. After discussion, the issue was referred to the Land Use Planning Committee for drafting of a potential motion.

11. FINANCE COMMITTEE: Kali Merideth reviewed the financial report.

- a. Approval of Monthly Expenditures for September 2011: **A motion brought forth from the committee to approve the report as presented was passed unanimously.**
- b. The application process for funding will be opened December 27th. Presentations will be shared at the next Finance Committee Meeting on January 24, 2012. There is currently \$3,000 available for community improvement projects.

12. PCAC (Port Community Advisory Committee). Carrie Scoville presented the following action items that will be before the PCAC for a vote on October 18, 2011:

- a. **PCAC Election Endorsement – Motion to approve recommendation from the CSPNC Executive Board as follows: This neighborhood council has a representative on the PCAC, Carrie Scoville, and we emphatically support her advancement within that organization. We hereby endorse her as an Officer of the Port Community Advisory Committee. Motion to approve the recommendation passed unanimously by the CSPNC Board.**

- b. **LA Waterfront Plan Participation** - The EIR/Aesthetic Mitigation Subcommittee approved the following recommendation on September 8, 2011.

Recommendation:

Whereas, the PCAC was established through LA City Resolution #6039 and charged with the responsibility of reviewing past and present Environmental Impact Reports and Port impacts and mitigations affecting Harbor Area Communities;

Whereas, the Port of LA conducted public presentations of the LA Waterfront Plan without PCAC participation or recognition of the responsibility assigned to PCAC by the LA City Resolution;

Therefore, be it resolved, that PCAC strongly recommends to the Board of Harbor Commissioners that it ensure the PCAC can fulfill responsibilities assigned by City Resolution #6039 by recognizing the PCAC as the necessary venue for public presentations and discussions regarding the LA Waterfront Plan and/or that the Waterfront Plan meetings be conducted through POLA/PCAC partnership. **Motion to approve the recommendation passed unanimously by the CSPNC Board.**

- c. **Colonial Yacht Anchorage / Wilmington Youth Sailing Center** - The Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee approved the following recommendation on June 14, 2011.

Recommendation: The Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee recommends to the PCAC that the PCAC recommend to the Board of Harbor Commissioners (BHC) that the Port continue to designate Colonial Yacht Anchorage's existing land and water space for recreational uses and to preserve the existing uses that include a boat yard, a launch ramp and marina slips. The Port designate Colonial's storage yard and surrounding slips on the southwest corner of Anchorage and Shore Roads for the Wilmington Youth Sailing Center, separate from any future lease of the boat yard, launch ramp and marina slips. **Motion to approve the recommendation passed unanimously by the CSPNC Board.**

- d. **Wilmington YMCA Swimming Pool Funds** - The Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee approved the following recommendation on August 9, 2011.

Recommendation: The Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee supports the request from the Wilmington YMCA for an additional \$500,000 for cost overruns on the swimming pool project that was funded by the China Shipping Mitigation. The overrun came from increased construction costs and the unanticipated remediation costs for methane gas. The Committee directed Gary Kern, the Chair of the Wilmington Waterfront Development Subcommittee, to draft a letter of support proposing that the money be drawn from any ~~remaining mitigation~~ available funds /TraPac funds or from the Port's Harbor Revenue Fund.

- i. At the last PCAC meeting Carrie put forth a motion to amend the language of the final sentence to insert the word Wilmington before "mitigation funds" to read "Wilmington mitigation funds." However, Carrie's motion to amend was defeated. She suggests that our PCAC representative either abstain or vote no.
- ii. Sue Castillo suggested amending the motion to "opposition to money being taken from San Pedro mitigation projects."
- iii. Chuck Taylor commented that he had just attended the Wilmington Waterfront Committee meeting and that they had amended the motion to change the words "remaining mitigation" funds to "available" funds.
- iv. James Allen felt that this issue should not be used to divide our communities.
- v. Jayme Wilson spoke in support of the motion.
- vi. **After discussion the Board voted in favor of the amended motion as shown above.**

13. Outreach Committee Report. Pat Carroll reported on the following:

- a. The newsletter is in the planning stage and she is looking for input.
- b. The committee talked about cancelling the social media budget for this year and also reviewed goals set at the retreat, one of which was to increase stakeholder participation. There was also a suggestion to produce a television commercial, continue to enhance the website and the Facebook page, and consider having a brand/logo created for Central.

- c. **A motion from the committee to move \$500 from Outreach/Computer project to Outreach event for the Christmas Parade was passed unanimously by the Board.**
- d. Michael from People's Yoga suggested more outreach to stakeholders asking them what their dissatisfactions are in areas where the neighborhood council can help.

14. Election Committee Report. Bill Roberson reported on the following:

- a. The Election Committee met but that there is not much the CSPNC can do at this point since the election issue is still in the discussion state. The current question is whether we can "opt out" of the City Clerk elections. Bill will be attending the meeting at Peck Park on October 18th related to Elections.
- b. An update was given on the upcoming Candidates Forum scheduled for Sat. Oct. 22, 12noon, at the Student Center, Harbor College.

15. Port Committee Report: no report.

16. HANC: Written notes were included in the agenda packet written by Diana Nave. Carrie Scoville also reported on the following:

- a. Day Laborer Program run by nonprofit group. They are asking for letters of support from the NC's. HANC passed a motion in support and would like it on our agenda as an action item for our next meeting.
- b. Survey being sent around by DONE regarding Krekorian motions.
- c. City Clerk Elections. There has been a motion put forth to ask the City Clerk to extend our terms of office until 2014 when the City Clerk will conduct NC elections. HANC opposes this motion.
- d. James Allen shared his ideas on the potential role of neighborhood councils. He posed the question: How do we get more than an advisory role for neighborhood councils? He made a suggestion to have this as a motion on our next agenda. James would like input from the other board members on this.
- e. Vacancy on the BONC. Applications are being accepted.
- f. Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce Economic report.

17. ACE DISTRICT. James Allen and Pat Carroll reported on the following:

- a. First Thursdays is extremely successful. The food trucks are being considered for the Holiday Parade. It is hoped to bring more business to the downtown merchants on this date. Allyson gave some details on what is being proposed.

18. CRA: Sue Castillo reported on items discussed at the CRA meeting which included:

- b. \$700,000 is being held for improvements but can't be disbursed until a new Council Person is elected.
- c. The CRA is going ahead with a survey to determine which alleys will be repaired.
- d. The proposed park on 8th Street is moving forward.
- e. Fresh and Easy construction should be starting soon.
- f. Construction is moving forward on 18 units at 8th and Mesa.
- g. An RFP will be issued for downtown pedestrian enhancements for several San Pedro projects.
- h. The Vue building is now 83% leased. 1 bedroom \$1500/mo; 2 bedroom \$1900/mo.
- i. James Allen commented on the problems with having a vacant city council seat.

19. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

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