



CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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STAKEHOLDER MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2013

Port of Los Angeles High School, 250 W. 5th Street, San Pedro, CA

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 6:34pm President Linda Alexander. See list below for board member attendance. 16 Board members present. Approximately 20-25 stakeholders present.

Board Members	Roll Call/Attendance
Marcey Abrons	Present
Linda Alexander	Present
James P. Allen	Present
Frank Anderson	Present
Pat Carroll	Present
Sue Castillo	Present
Harvey Contreras	Present
Mark Contreras	Present
Donald Galaz	Present
April Jappert	Present
Leslie Jones	Present
Kali Merideth	Present
Carrie Scoville	Present
Andrew Silber	Present
Phill Trigas	Present
Allyson Vought	Present
Vacant Board Seat	

2. **President's Report:** Linda Alexander shared the contents of a letter from Rancho LPG Holdings.
3. **Vacant Board Seat:** Three candidates for the vacant board seat were in attendance. Michael Boke and Katherine Gray gave brief candidate statements. Rob Jones was present but withdrew his name as a candidate. The Board submitted ballots which resulted in a tie of 6 votes per candidate. A second ballot was provided and the result was a majority vote for Michael Boke who was appointed to the vacant board seat.
4. **Presentation: Installation of Smart Meters in SP – So Cal Gas Company:** Ray Verches, a representative from the Southern California Gas Company, gave a presentation on the Smart Meter project. Highlights from his presentation included:
 - a. With the installation of the new electronic device, there will no longer be a need for manual reading of the meters.
 - b. The project will include two data collection sites.
 - c. There are about 6 million homes that will be retro fitted with a small gray box containing an electronic module that runs on batteries with a 20 year life span. The module sends out a signal that lasts only a fraction of a second allowing the Gas Company to collect data.
 - d. Thirty-day notices will be sent out to all customers and the meter retrofit will be early next year.
 - e. The value of the project includes: 1). Conservation. There will no longer be a need for meter readers (they have been reassigned to other departments) resulting in 1,000 trucks a day that will be off the streets. An estimated 140,000 tons of CO₂ a year will be saved. 2) Rate

reduction: This is a 5 year program costing the consumer \$2 a month over 5 years. After five years that \$2 per month fee will stop and there should be cost savings in the form of rates not increasing.

5. Public Safety:

- a. **LAPD Report:** Senior Lead Officer Nua provided a handout with statistics for the Central and NW San Pedro areas.
 - Crime is down 21% overall, but Central is 30% down in total part one crime. The current concern is violent crime with San Pedro ranking 17th in the city. This reflects an increase in aggravated assaults, domestic violence, shots fired etc. There is not one specific crime that has contributed to the rise. Of the 30 cases reported, 9 have been solved. The east side of Wilmington has been having an increase in gang related crime.
 - A five-year comparison handout was also provided.
 - An update on recent neighborhood cleanups was provided.
 - Andrew Silber was anxious to see enforcement of the new Skateboard ordinance by the task force.
- b. **Report from Police Community Advisory Committee:** Leslie Jones provided a flyer on the Cyber Block captain program.

6. **Status of letter to Chief Beck Re: Town hall meeting :** Regarding recent requests from Central for an LAPD Town Hall meeting on the issue of use of force, Leslie reported that Captain Lauer cannot speak on this issue until she gets the ok from the chief.

7. **Port Police:** Roberto Ramirez, Community Resource Officer for the Wilmington area, talked about the newly implemented traffic control plan at POLA High School. The current enrollment is 960 students and the traffic plan which was implemented in January has helped out tremendously.

8. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

- a. Michael Galanz from People's Yoga and Dance announced upcoming events.
- b. Alan Johnson of the LA Waterfront Alliance gave a brief update on the Ports O'Call Public meeting and urged stakeholders to send comments to portsocall@ratkovich.com. He also suggested visiting the website to join the mailing list at www.lawaterfrontalliance.com. The next meeting has not yet been planned.
- c. Steve McKee and his neighbor, both homeowners in San Pedro, talked about the status of the feral cat problem on Upland Avenue. They thanked the Central NC Board for their assistance and support.

9. **Report from Congresswoman's Office:** Ivan Zulic provided a written report. Some highlights from his verbal presentation follow:

- a. Deferred action cards (Re: Immigration Status). Congresswoman's office is still helping youth fill out the forms to get these cards.
- b. Hahn had a round table discussion with DOT Maritime Administrator David Matsuda to discuss freight policy.
- c. Hahn released a statement on the TSA policy to allow knives on planes. Hahn added her signature to a letter authored by Congressman Swalwell requesting that TSA refrain from implementing this new policy and urging them to speak with stakeholders before implementating any other policies. The letter had 123 co-signers.
- d. A copy of a letter from Janice Hahn to the US Environmental Protection Agency was presented. In the letter Congresswoman Hahn wrote she was encouraged to see EPA signal its seriousness on keeping Rancho LPG in compliance with federal safety standards.

10. **Report from Mayor's Office:** Ricardo Hong, the Mayor's representative was not in attendance due to Mayor's State of the City address.
11. **LAUSD:** Fred Quintana reported on behalf of Richard Vladovic, LAUSD School Board Member who continues to work on issues in the San Pedro community:
 - a. Fred specifically referred to the San Pedro Science Center which to date has not received any bids in response to the RFP. They are working with the Procurement Division to see what the next action will be.
 - b. James Allen asked for clarification on whether an external group or possibly a Charter operation might be coming onto the John Olguin Campus. Fred will check into this and report back.
 - c. Donald Galaz asked Fred to report back about Vladovic's feelings about the re-opening of an auto shop class at the high school. Donald is ready to volunteer to assist in such a program.
 - d. Frank Anderson asked about the "Breakfast in the Class" program and whether Vladovic's office had any position on the program. Fred will look into whether their office has taken any official position on this.
 - e. Leslie Jones thanked Vladovic's office for their assistance with changing the Johnson High School bus drop off location which was affecting business owners on Gaffey.
12. **Report from Senator Rob Wright's office:** Bill Orton spoke in response to the Central SPNC's question about the closing of state courts. The last action from the legislature on court funding was that members of the assembly voted to give more money to the courts. The courts have been taken to task for very poorly handling money that was given them to pay for statewide database efforts. The courts systems are run at the individual county level. The senator would prefer that none of the Courts be closed but the judicial branch is responsible to make decisions on how it delivers services. The Senator is not going to tell the Legislature what to do and the Legislature is not going to tell the Executive or Judicial how to make their decision on money. James asked for a copy of the Senator's statement for our records.
13. **Council District 15 Office:** Kevin Bingham was not able to attend. He provided a written report. Sue Castillo reported on responses to four of the items on the CD15 Issues List as follows:
 - a. Update on 301 Pacific Avenue (at 3rd Street) Project : Permits have been issued and the project is moving forward.
 - b. Update on Kiosk Removal: Working with recycling companies to get the kiosk removed.
 - c. Update on Lilyan Fierman Walkway Improvement Project: Currently held up with the City Attorney's office for contract review.
 - d. Update on Parking Meter Poles. They are in the process of being removed.
14. **CD15 Issues Committee Report.** Report from Andrew Silber.
 - a. Andrew wanted to go on record that he was not happy that a representative from CD15 was not in attendance. He also felt that the responses to our requests for updates were not acceptable and left him feeling offended and insulted. Andrew felt it was pointless to go through the list of items and report on them when we have not received any specific updates from the council office on those items.
 - b. James Allen suggested the strategy of prioritizing the list and bringing to focus the top three item at each meeting and even making them one of the centerpoints of the meeting itself. Central could then invite specialists from various departments to talk about these issues. We can go directly to the departments heads and tell them what we are interested in if our elected representatives are not doing their jobs.
 - c. Sue Castillo suggested that Central draft a letter that this is what we have observed and meet with Councilman Buscaino. Linda Alexander suggested we focus on direct contact through our committees.
 - d. Andrew will draft a letter and is quite happy to talk directly to the departments.

- e. **Motion recommending Central SPNC's Representative to ACE district propose an action for ACE to address the repairing of the Mojo public art piece:** Pat Carroll had asked for it to be on the ACE agenda and it wasn't. ACE board members had no interest in pursuing it which Andrew also found offensive. *Motion by Andrew Silber, seconded by Phill Trigas that a letter be written by Andrew Silber to the ACE asking them to look into the repair of the Mojo Art Piece, seconded by Sue Castillo. A friendly amendment from James Allen was accepted by Andrew that we copy the letter to the HOA that is actually in litigation and those parties who will be responsible for the fixing of Mojo. The amended motion was passed by unanimous vote.*
- f. **Update on Parking Citations given to board and stakeholders in front of POLA High School at March meeting.** Allyson Vought gave an update on the issue explaining that there is conflicting signage at the location where the citations were issued. She is continuing to work with Mr. Ramirez to arrive at a solution.

15. Port of Los Angeles Report. Augie Bezmalinovich reported:

- a. Announcement of free public boat tours for the community, May 18th, 10am-3pm every hour.
- b. Invitation to each NC board member plus a guest to attend a private boat tour, May 18th at 9am. Leaving from Bannings Landing.
- c. Downtown harbor cut is going really well and should be done well ahead of the tall ship festival next summer.
- d. Red car is down for rearranging of tracks etc. Will be up before the Cars and Stripes event in June.
- e. Lane Victory has been moved around the corner at the end of the east channel.
- f. A third cruise ship will be in the outer harbor for one day this year.

16. Port Committee Report. Frank Anderson reported on items discussed at the last committee meeting:

- a. Ports of Call update: A successful meeting was held April 2nd. The Port is negotiating an exclusive agreement for a 240 day period with the LA Waterfront Alliance.
- b. Front Street: The design should be completed by the end of the year. Bidding takes 6 months and then construction should start about June 2014 with construction ending April 30, 2015.
- c. China Shipping Phase 3: They are in the process of removing the pipes. Phillips 66 and Chevron have to provide "total petroleum hydrocarbon lead removal" of the soil in that area.
- d. Scanning station will be completed early May.
- e. Port Master Plan, comment period ended yesterday. The Central SPNC Board turned in a list last August.
- f. Update on MOU Re: Formalization of Communications between Neighborhood Councils and the Port of Los Angeles: It was not discussed at the Port Committee meeting. It will be addressed again next month after the NC President's Committee discusses it further.
- g. Bicycle Project: Bike Nation is the company working to provide bike rental stations around the city. They will provide three speed cruisers at a cost of \$1.50/hr. Memberships will be available. It is not projected to come here for at least a year or two.
- h. **Motion Re: Comments on Port Master Plan to be sent to the Port.** The following motion was passed unanimously by the Board:

"Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council strongly requests the following:

*1) That the Port maximize the use of its downtown San Pedro Cruise Terminal facilities before considering the construction of, or expansion to outer harbor cruise facilities e.g. at Kaiser Point.
2) That the Port incorporate into its current Master Plan Update a method of tourist and visitor transportation between the waterfront, Cabrillo Beach and downtown San Pedro via street car or alternate light rail system.*

3) That the Port dedicate a parcel of land on Terminal Island no smaller than one acre at the former site of the historical Japanese "Lost" Village and facilitate the construction of a Japanese History Museum on that site to commemorate the rich history and contributions which the Japanese people made to San Pedro.

We appreciate the effort and intention of this Land Use Master Plan update and thank you, both for the opportunity to provide input, and for listening to our requests and incorporating them wherever possible."

17. **Land Use Planning Report.** Sue Castillo submitted a written report. After discussion, the following action items were passed unanimously by the Board:
- a. **Motion Re: Public transit connection needs between downtown San Pedro and the Providence Little Company of Mary Hospital at 1300 W. 7th Street:** Discussion did not result in any consensus or recommendation for a particular route modification, but it was agreed that we should bring MTA and LADOT representatives to a stakeholder meeting where the general topic can be raised. In particular, Scott Green on the MTA staff should be invited. *Action Item: At our next stakeholder agenda-setting meeting, this recommendation should be considered.*
 - b. **Motion Re: San Pedro Community Plan Update process.** *It is recommended that this Neighborhood Council respond to the City's scheduling process leading to the approval of our new community plan document with the following statement, to be sent to our Councilperson, the City Planning Department, the City Planning Commissioners, the Planning and Land Use Management Committee of the City Council (PLUM), our City Attorney, and our new mayoral candidates. WHEREAS the Draft San Pedro Community Plan Update was released to the community on February 28th, heard at the Harbor Area Local Planning Commission level on March 5th, and scheduled for approval by the City Planning Commission on March 14th, all within an approximately two week period; and
Whereas the release of the "matrix summary"/ table of proposed changes to parcel zoning at the December 12, 2012 Open House & Public Hearing did not satisfy the presumed goal of providing for community review of the actual plan document; and
/Whereas no written response to this neighborhood council's previously submitted comments has been received; and
Whereas two weeks is insufficient time for a neighborhood council to review and prepare an official response to a document of such great significance to the community as its community plan; and
reasonable time for Neighborhood Council review and comment on a draft community plan should be no less than 90 days; and
Questions and issues remain pertaining to 1) the optimization of the potential for new development on Gaffey Street, 2) roadway classifications in our downtown area, 3) policies that reflect the community's desire for improved public transit, and 4) the protection of a downtown adjacent multi-family residential street; and
Whereas other questions and issues might be identified if this Neighborhood Council were to be provided with reasonable time to review the plan document.
THEREFORE, the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council objects to the scheduling of the City approval process prior to providing the community and affected Neighborhood Councils with reasonable time to review and comment; and
We therefore insist that a minimum of 90 days be provided for our review and comment on the draft plan prior to the hearings that provide for final plan approval, and that this 90-day period should commence upon confirmation by the City that this review and comment period will be provided to us; and
We request that a City policy be established to stipulate that City Departments provide a written response to Neighborhood Council formal communications.
We request the opening of a council file requesting the codification of a requirement that Neighborhood Councils be provided with a minimum of 90 days to review and comment upon any new or revised community plan document.*
 - c. **Motion Re: Ports O'Call Redevelopment.**
Recommendation that our previous comments on Ports O'Call redevelopment be submitted directly to the LA Waterfront Alliance, currently negotiating with the Port of Los Angeles as their preferred development partner. Furthermore, the committee recommended the following additional comments:
 - i. *Ports O'Call should be conceptualized as a world-class destination, and direct public access to the waterfront should be a guiding priority.*
 - ii. *Public transit connection by bus, light rail and water taxi should be provided directly to Ports O'Call.*
 - iii. *We prefer that any conference space/building be located on top of the downtown adjacent bluff parking structure instead of within the area prioritized for public access.*
 - iv. *We do not favor the location of visible solar collection panels on top of a bluff parking structure.*
 - d. New meeting of committee will be the Monday following the 2nd Tuesday.

18. **Update on letter thanking Rene for removing bollards at 300 block of 7th Street.** Andrew Silber reported that the letter is being written and will be presented at the next meeting.
19. **Finance Committee:**
- Approval of February and March monthly expenditures:** Mark Contreras presented the February and March expenditures and they were approved by the board with 14 yes votes and 0 no votes.
 - Review and approve line item adjustments on budget to accommodate long range Outreach plan approved by Board at March meeting:** This action item will be voted on next month.
 - Report on status of the projects we agreed to fund.** Kali contacted the grant recipients and is following up. Everything should be in by the end of the week.
 - Central SPNC Audits:** Audits are all up to date.
 - Andrew Silber asked about wireless microphones. It was commented that the wireless microphones are an issue due to inefficiency of batteries and also problems with interference.
20. **Bylaws Committee: First reading of proposed revisions to bylaws:** James Allen presented the recommendations from the Bylaws Committee meeting. After reviewing the proposed revisions to the bylaws, board members gave input. The Bylaws Committee will meet to review those suggested changes and report back with a new draft of proposed changes.
21. **PCAC (Port Community Advisory Committee) Report** (Carrie Scoville)
- Motion to send letter to Port Re: removal of items from PCAC agenda. Letter will be written by Carrie Scoville. **Moved by James Allen, seconded by Pat Carroll. Copies to both mayoral candidates. Unanimous vote in favor.**
22. **Outreach Committee Report:**
- Due to time constraints, a very brief report was given by Allyson Vought.
 - Board members were asked to pass around the new posters and also to gather email addresses of stakeholders in exchange for the new Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council pins.
 - It was also mentioned that the Outreach Committee is looking into the possibility of moving the monthly stakeholder meeting to the Crowne Plaza Hotel.
23. **Budget Advocate Report:** No report.
24. **HANC (Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils) Report:** Written report provided.
25. **Standards and Practices Committee through BONC:** Allyson Vought gave a brief update on the meeting she attended as a representative of the Standards and Practices Committee.
26. **ACE District (Arts, Culture, and Entertainment) Report:** No report due to time constraints.
27. **PBID (Business Improvement District) Report:** No report due to time constraints.
28. **Approval of Minutes** of March 12, 2013 Board and Stakeholder Meeting. **James Allen moved to approve the March 12, 2013 Board and Stakeholder Meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Sue Castillo and passed unanimously by the Board.**
29. **Community Announcements:** None
30. **Adjournment.** The Meeting was adjourned at 9:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Smith, Administrative Assistant to NWSPNC