



CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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STAKEHOLDER MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2014

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

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by President Linda Alexander. See list below for board member attendance (Quorum of 11 Board Members). Approximately 80 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	Excused
Mark Contreras	Excused
Donald Galaz	Present
April Jappert	Absent
Leslie Jones	Present
Michael Boke	Absent
Kali Merideth	Absent
Carrie Scoville	Excused
Andrew Silber	Present
Phill Trigas	Present
Allyson Vought	Present

2. **President's Report** (Linda Alexander)
 - a. Pothole Repair Blitz: Stakeholders were asked to report pot holes for the upcoming blitz.
 - b. Report on Meeting with Cynthia Ruiz of the Port of LA:
 - ✓ Ruiz reported that the Port is still in the negotiation stage with the Ports O' Call developers. They were given a 60 day extension from the March 9 date.
 - ✓ The Board of Harbor Commissioners (BOHC) currently meets exclusively in the morning. Ms. Ruiz suggested that the Central SPNC Board communicate with the new BOHC informing them of the desires of many board members that evening meetings be considered.
 - ✓ The Boy Scout Camp adjacent to the Cabrillo Marina is currently a topic of interest as the 30 year lease on the property is expiring. The Coastal SPNC is pushing for more public access to the property. This will be discussed further in either Central SPNC's Land Use or CD15 Issues Committees.

3. **Secretary's Report:**

- c. Pat Carroll announced the resignation of board member April Jappert which creates a board seat vacancy. Candidates can apply for the vacancy but will have to re-apply in the June elections. Applications are due March 25th. The appointment will be held on April 8.
 - d. Andrew Silber reported that DONE has finally acknowledged his Financial Training on the DONE website.
4. **DONE Report:** Tom Soong with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment introduced himself and spoke briefly on the background of the 95 neighborhood councils throughout the City of Los Angeles. Soong also commented on the Regional NC Elections and the Congress of Neighborhoods. Stakeholders were urged to visit the EmpowerLA.org website and subscribe to the DONE newsletter. Tom Soong is the new official DONE representative to the Harbor Area neighborhood councils (replacing Amber Meshack) and can be reached at Thomas.soong@lacity.org.
5. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**
- a. **Debbie Rouser** provided an update on the upgrades that have taken place at Leland Park.
 - b. **Jonathan Williams**, CEO of the Battleship IOWA, gave an update on their Youth Overnight Program.
 - c. **Art Almeida** talked about the need of a sidewalk on the West side of North Gaffey between the Elberon Bridge and the Animal Shelter below Leland Park.
 - d. **Sue Castillo** announced the upcoming Harbor International Film Festival.
6. **Public Safety**
- a. **LAPD Report** – Senior Lead Officer Andrey Wilkins provided a map showing crime statistics in the area and explained how to read the symbols and abbreviations. A short report on crime in the Downtown area was also provided.
 - b. **CPAB Report** – Leslie Jones reported on the retirement of LAPD Captain Nancy Lauer. Her replacement has not yet been announced. Leslie also announced a luncheon honoring police officers being held March 12 from 11:30am-2:30pm at the Trump National Golf Club.
 - c. **Update on Issue with overpopulation of Cats at 571-573 Upland Ave:** An Animal Control Officer has been invited to the April monthly meeting to give a report on the progress of dealing with this issue.
 - d. **Review and approve letter Re: Opening the Harbor Division Jail:** A draft letter with the following wording was provided in the agenda packet:
(To Chief of Police, Mayor and Councilman Buscaino)
Gentlemen: The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council would like to urge you to budget funds to re-open the Harbor Division Jail. The Harbor area has had a long history of having its own jail facility. Our new \$40 million, 16,000 square foot jail was completed in April 2009, built to replace our aged existing facility, yet still remains unopened.
Harbor Division made 4962 arrests in 2013. Each arrest takes the arresting officer off our streets to travel to the 77th Street Division Regional Jail, with an average of 25-30 minutes drive time each direction. Processing averages 1-1/2 to 2-1/2 hours, for a total down time of anywhere from 2-1/2 to 3-1/2 hours, conservatively. Over 17,000 man hours per year are spent per officer.
We feel that these numbers speak to the need to re-visit new and creative ways to fund Harbor Division jail facility. Opening the facility will keep our officers on the streets and keep productivity of our officers at its finest.
Motion by Sue Castillo to approve the letter as presented and to also send the letter to the other Harbor Area neighborhood councils. Motion seconded by Allyson Vought and passed by 11 yes votes, 0 no votes, 1 abstention (L. Alexander).
7. **CD15 Report on Issues** (Andrew Silber and CD15 Representative Ryan Ferguson):
- a. **Upland Street Cat issue:** The Council office has spoken with Lt. Tranzow of Animal Services who reported that he has met with neighbors to offer services. Apparently, this location is not considered a hoarding situation and the Health Department has no cause for concern. However, Lt. Tranzow is incredibly sympathetic and has agreed to provide unlimited traps,

food for the traps and permits FOR FREE. Neighbors can then return the trapped cats to the shelter at 957 N. Gaffey Street, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Lt. Tranzow can be reached at (213) 485-8755 (ask to speak with the Officer).

- b. Also on the subject of cats, Councilmember Koretz introduced a motion last fall to increase the number of cats a resident can own from 3 to 5. It is pending in the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee. Ryan commented that if this is something that the Neighborhood Council does not support, then the board needs to make their voice heard against the motion.
- c. **Cruise Ship Crews detained from visiting San Pedro:** This is a federal issue. The Department of Homeland Security is the agency that makes this decision. However, not all are leaving ship. CD15 has a dialogue with Congresswoman Hahn's office, and are working on getting a response from DHS.
- d. **Harbor Division Jail:** Councilman Buscaino and the LAPD want this to happen. It boils down to funding. CD15 is looking into having just the men's side of the jail staffed as it will be half the cost. Currently, they are anticipating the release of the Mayor's budget to see if funding will be allocated to reopen the jail. James Allen commented that he would like to know if the amount of man hours saved would be enough to cover the costs of manning the jail.
- e. **Great Streets Initiative:** This initiative is spearheaded by the Mayor's Office. Councilman Buscaino will support any Great Street in CD15 that also has community support. There will be a series of meetings hosted by the Mayor's Office informing folks about the program and how to be engaged. There has not been any official announcement on what streets will be selected.
- f. **Parklets:** San Pedro is not being left out of a new urban development. Basically, a private business/property owner must be willing to pay for the permitting, design and build-out for a parklet. The challenge here is twofold: these parklets can cost upwards of \$30K and public space status must be maintained. The program is ready to go, but there are a few more issues that need to be worked out.
- g. **Lilyan Fierman Walkway:** LANI, along with CD15, hosted their first community workshop. The design phase is moving forward.
- h. **Warner Grand Theatre:** The Warner Grand is a historic building and has to be repaired per historical structure guidelines. This makes the cost high. CD15 is working with the Grand Vision Foundation to see what can be done.
- i. **8th/Centre St Project:** This project is slated for small lot subdivisions. CD15 will ensure that the developer appears before the Historic Preservation Overlay Zone Advisory Board and the Neighborhood Council. The Design Advisory Panel was a former CRA panel that is no longer around due to the dissolution of the CRA.
- j. **301 Pacific Ave:** This project is called the Pacific Avenue Arts Colony and has a total of 49 units. More information can be found at: www.metahousing.com/preDevelopment.php
- k. **Anderson Center Improvements:** From 2011, improvements made using Quimby funds are replacing the exterior building wall, cabinets in the kitchen, door knobs, refurbished the floors and fixed the roof leaks. They installed HVAC in the large room and added ceiling fans to the other rooms.

8. **Congresswoman's Office:**

- a. Ivan Sulic gave an update on the letter Central sent to the Congresswoman regarding crew members being detained. The letter has been sent to Washington DC and they will be responding to Central's question. The Port of Los Angeles has not been pinpointed, this has happened to other ports. James Allen would like an official representative from Custom Border Control to attend one of our meetings.
- b. Ivan also announced upcoming events and provided an update on current legislation (HR 1814 and HR4173) which can be viewed on the Congresswoman's website: <http://hahn.house.gov/>

9. **Port of Los Angeles Report** – Augie Bezmalinovich reported:

- a. Announcement of upcoming BOHC meetings (March 20 & April 3)

- b. **Ports of Call:** Negotiations continue with the developer. They were given a 60-day extension from the March 9 expiration date.
- c. **Downtown Harbor:** Completion scheduled for June 2014. There will be an Opening Ceremony.
- d. **Tall Ships Festival:** This is a huge event being planned for August 20-24. The Port is expecting hundreds of thousands of people over the five day period. Booths are available for organizations and also volunteers are needed to assist with the event. Email Craig@Drawevents.com.
- e. **Executive Director Search.** The Mayor has launched a global executive search to fill the position of Executive Director of the Port. Applications are due by April 24th. Interim Director will be a candidate.
- f. **Free Public Boat Tours,** Sat, May 17, in observance of World Trade Week. Hour long tours. 10am – 3pm every hour at the Los Angeles Maritime Museum and a second location at Bannings Landing, 100 E. Water Street in Wilmington, Berth 186.
- g. **Road Closures** due to port projects were announced and can be found on the www.centalsanpedro.org website.
- h. **Summer Internship Program:** The Port is currently accepting applications. College students can apply. These are paid positions. Applications are due March 15th.
- i. Andrew commented that the detaining of cruise ship crew might be an issue to go before the BOHC.

10. Port Committee:

- a. Motion Re: Proposed Committee to act as a replacement for the NCPAC. Frank Anderson read the following motion brought forth by the Port Committee:
“Neighborhood Council Port Affairs Committee (NCPAC)
The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council supports the creation of a joint committee of the Harbor Area Neighborhood Councils tasked with reviewing and commenting on Port of Los Angeles projects affecting the waterfront community, and invites the other Harbor Area Neighborhood Councils to join us in this effort. Membership on this committee shall be by appointment of the various Harbor Area Neighborhood Councils, and final committee actions are to be ratified by the Harbor Area Neighborhood Councils.
It is our intention that this committee will regularly liaise with the Port of Los Angeles Environmental Management Division throughout all stages of proposed projects, from a pre-CEQA publication stage to project finalization and mitigation condition oversight. It is expected that the official spokesperson of this committee shall have regular standing on Board of Harbor Commission agendas, and that the Port of Los Angeles will support this committee’s efforts with the free exchange of information necessary to investigate and optimize community impacts.”
Motion passed by 11 yes votes, 0 no votes, 1 abstention (L. Alexander).
 James Allen commented that what is done next with this motion is important. It was suggested that it be forwarded to the Board of Harbor Commissioners.
- b. **Updates on other Port Projects:** Frank Anderson provided highlights from the written Port Committee Report. The full report can be found on the www.CentralSanPedro.org website.

11. Community Improvements Presentation: Sue Castillo gave a brief introduction.

- a. **San Pedro Urban Greening Project:** Larry Smith, Community Development Director for the Los Angeles Conservation Corp, spoke about the project which is to focus on the greater downtown area of San Pedro creating a “green” network. The project is in its early stages. They are currently soliciting for a design consultant to help with all phases of this project. Smith provided a list of upcoming events related to community based planning and to promote community involvement. An explanation of each event was presented.
 - ✓ May 1, 2014 -- Open House on 1st Thursday Arts Festival. Project will be presented in detail.
 - ✓ May 17, 2014 -- Design Workshop #1 – Brainstorming
 - ✓ June 11, 2014 – Design Workshop #2 – Characterizing

- ✓ August 9, 2014 – Pathways to Outlets Walk Public Event
 - ✓ September 13, 2014 – Design Workshop #3 – Prioritizing
 - ✓ October 9, 2014 – Design Workshop #4 – Finalizing
 - ✓ October 18, 2014 -- Tree Planting Public Event
 - ✓ January 14, 2015 – Adopt Final Plan.
- b. **Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI):** Kate Mayerson, Program Manager, gave an overview of the LANI group. LANI is a non-profit organization celebrating their 20th Anniversary. They have project steering committees made up of local stakeholders, neighborhood councils, local business owners, etc. The people actively involved in San Pedro are also actively involved in their San Pedro projects. Some of their projects address the following: Transit enhancements; pedestrian improvements; business district revitalization and urban greening. Their current projects in San Pedro are:
- ✓ Lilyan Fierman Walkway (next to the Warner Grand Theatre). They are working with Studio 111, a design firm, to improve the walkway. A workshop was held on March 7th and ideas were shared. The project should be completed by the end of the year.
 - ✓ Gaffey Street Improvements 110 Frwy to 13th St (LANI). They will work with a designer to undertake an 18 month planning process to improve Gaffey Street. The goal is to create a plan that makes Gaffey special. The RFQ brought forth 10 firms that will be reviewed. The Gaffey Steering committee consists of several neighborhood council board members, representatives from the Council Office, ACE, etc. It is hoped that this project will be chosen by “Great Streets.”
- c. **Creative Open Space Los Angeles-Wilmington (COSLA) project:** The presenter from USC was not in attendance.
- d. **ACE/LA Conservancy Outreach to Community Re: Mural.** Pat Carroll announced an upcoming event at the Grand Annex with a panel discussion on murals scheduled for April 17th, 6pm. There will be a screening of *Exit through the Gift Shop* after the panel discussion.
- e. **Great Streets Program** - Information Sheets were included in the Agenda Packet. Stakeholder Michael Gatanz, retired Urban Economist, issued a debate challenge on the subject of the Great Streets Program (Gaffey Street vs. Downtown 6th & 7th Streets).

(5 Minute Break)

12. Land Use Planning and Public Works Committee Report:

- a. **Recommendation regarding proposal for new entertainment lounge at 335 W. Seventh Street.** Sue Castillo introduced the property owner who gave an overview of her proposed business. Sue read a draft letter to the stakeholders and Board as follows:
- To: Councilman Joe Busciano*
- Subject: Jackson's Place - proposed coffee bar and lounge/ Case # ZA 2013-3692(CUB)*
- On March 10, 2014, our Land Use Committee met with owner Linda Jackson and her agent to discuss her proposal for a new retail and entertainment enterprise to be developed in a building she owns at 335 W. Seventh Street. The conditional use permit includes:*
- *coffee, beer, wine, and limited food service (no full kitchen)*
 - *seating for up to 41 patrons*
 - *hours of operation from 9 am to 2 am daily*
 - *live entertainment in a DJ, karaoke, or 3-piece combo format*
- The committee recommended enthusiastic support for the proposal, subject to the condition that alcohol service not begin until 11:00 am on weekdays.*
- At its full board and stakeholder meeting on March 11th, a resolution of support, subject to the same limitation on weekday alcohol service, was adopted by the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council. Please support this business owner in making her plans a reality.*
- Motion to approve the recommendation and the letter as presented passed with 7 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention.*
- b. **Urban Greening:** Motion to approve funding of up to \$200 for refreshments for the Urban Greening Workshop on May 17th. Approved with 8 yes (Silber, Abrons, Anderson, Carroll,

Allen, Vought, Castillo, Galaz), 0 no, 1 abstention (Alexander).

13. **Finance Committee Report:** The following items were brought forth for approval from the Finance Committee:
 - a. Approval of bank statements: The February 2014 bank statement was reviewed and approved by the Board. **Approved with 9 yes (Silber, Abrons, Anderson, Carroll, Alexander, Allen, Vought, Castillo, Galaz), 0 no, 0 abstentions.**
 - b. Approval of \$200 expense for a Joint Buscaino-Central NC Pancake Breakfast thanking the Beacon House. **Motion by Andrew Silber, seconded by Sue Castillo, to approve the expenditure of up to \$200 for a Joint Pancake Breakfast hosted by CD15 and the Central SPNC with the understanding that the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council is recognized as a co-sponsor of the event. Approved with 9 yes (Silber, Abrons, Anderson, Carroll, Alexander, Allen, Vought, Castillo, Galaz), 0 no, 0 abstentions.**
14. **Homelessness Forum Update** – Sue Castillo gave a brief update on the event planned for April 2, 2014. Board members were asked to spread the word about the event.
15. **Selection Committee Report:** Allyson Vought provided an update on the upcoming 2014 Board Selections. Thursday April 3rd (first Thursday) will be the first prospective candidate meeting. The next meeting will be Thursday June 5th with a candidate rally and the first voting opportunity. A location has not yet been decided. On June 6th there will be a voting opportunity at Farmers Market. At the June 10th board and stakeholder meeting there will be a final voting opportunity from 4-7pm. Doug Epperhart is assisting with the details of the Selections.
16. **Approval of Minutes of February 11, 2014 Board and Stakeholder Meeting:** **The Minutes of the February 11, 2014 Board and Stakeholder Meeting were approved by the board with 7 yes votes, 0 no, 2 abstentions.**
17. **HANC Report:** Linda Alexander attended the meeting and reported that experts both for and against fracking spoke at length about this issue. Fracking is the process of drilling and injecting fluid into the ground at a high pressure in order to fracture shale rocks to release natural gas inside.
18. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Smith, NC Asst