



CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

WWW.CENTRALSANPEDRO.ORG

STAKEHOLDER MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015

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 6:34pm by President James Allen. (**Quorum of 12 Board Members**). Approximately 50 stakeholders present.

Board Members	Roll Call/Attendance
James P. Allen	Present
Frank Anderson	Present
Sue Castillo	Excused
Karen Ceaser	Present
Donald Galaz	Present
Katherine Gray	Present
Jose Guerrero	Present
Alexander Hall	Present (6:47pm)
Grant Hartwell	Present
Hrant Harutyunyan	Absent
Debra Hunter	Present
Collin King	Present
Kali Merideth	Excused
Khixaan Obioma-Sakhu	Excused
Debbie Rouser	Present
Danielle Sandoval	Excused
Carrie Scoville	Present (7:00pm)

2. **President's Report**
 - a. Code of Conduct: James Allen provided an update on the new requirement by the Department of Neighborhood Council that all board members read and sign a Code of Conduct (deadline April 2015)
 - b. In an effort to increase the level of subscribers to the Central Email List, board members were asked to consider providing their business contacts to be added to the list.
3. **Presentation by Port of Los Angeles Director, Gene Seroka:** Augie Bezmalinovich introduced Gene Seroka who shared the challenges of the Port Director position. Other Port Staff members were introduced. Highlights of the presentation included:
 - a. The complexities of the supply chain and the work that is needed to improve the supply chain which includes land use opportunities and improvements to transportation.
 - b. Working with the community including meeting with the neighborhood councils and Chambers of Commerce.
 - c. A power point presentation on the Port's Public Access Investment Plan. A plan that can be molded and shaped. Four hundred million dollars invested over 10 years.
 - d. Bringing in other departments of the city such as DOT, Sanitation and Street Services to see where they can contribute to the Port's master plan.
 - e. The shipping industry business model is changing and alliances are being formed.
 - f. Stakeholders and board members had an opportunity to provide comments and ask questions of the Port Director.

4. **Report from Augie Bezmalinovich:**
 - a. Upcoming Board of Harbor Commissioners Meetings are February 19th & March 5th at the Port Administration Building at 8:30am.
 - b. Announcement of the upcoming Lunar New Year Festival at the Port of LA. Sat Feb 21st. 7pm. This is a family event with fireworks.
5. **Report from Port Committee Chair:** No report. Frank Anderson commented that the Central SPNC Port Committee will discuss Northwest's Resolution at its next meeting.
6. **Council District 15 Report:** Ryan Ferguson reported on the following:
 - a. **Harbor Division Jail:** The Councilman has written letters to the past and present Mayors in support of funding the jailors for the jail.
 - b. **Gaffey Street Conceptual Plan:** The next meeting will be held February 26 at 6pm at the Grand Annex.
 - c. **Lilyan Fierman Walkway** – The project does not qualify for the Office of Beautification and needs to go through another department and could take quite a few more months.
 - d. **8th Street Townhomes** – The Harbor Area Planning Commission recommended approval of the 24-unit project.
 - e. **301 Pacific** (Pacific Avenue Arts Colony): Construction of the project is almost complete and a ribbon cutting is expected to be in late March or early April.
 - f. **San Pedro Library:** The library will be closed from March 9 through April 17 for repairs.
 - g. **Rancho San Pedro Feasibility Study:** The RPF has been released for a feasibility study on the redevelopment of the Rancho San Pedro housing complex.
 - h. **LAHSA Emergency Response Team:** This team will focus on a multi-agency outreach approach and attempt to bring services to the homeless encampments for maximum efficiency.
 - i. **Quality of Life Task Force Car:** Two LAPD officers are assigned to this task force and they will be addressing daily quality of life issues such as homelessness, graffiti and illegal dumping.
 - j. **Legislative Updates** were included in Ryan's written report, as well as upcoming events. The full report is available for review on the Central SPNC website: www.centalsanpedro.org
7. **Appointment of Grant Hartwell as the new CD15 Liaison.** Motion by Donald Galaz to appoint Grant as the CD15 Liaison, seconded by Alexander Hall. Motion passed with 11 yes votes (Anderson, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, King, Rouser, Scoville); 0 no votes; 1 abstention (Allen).
8. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**
 - a. **Carter Calhoun** representing the Toberman Neighborhood Center announced a fundraising event being held on April 4th honoring Kobe Bryant and his wife.
 - b. **Steve Salas** representing the Banning Recreation Center voiced concerns about the facility and the lack of bleachers, as well as no air conditioning or heating in the gym. He is looking for support from the neighborhood councils and the city.
 - c. **Port Police Officer Aldo Morales** introduced himself and gave a brief report on crime in the Port area.
 - d. **Craig Goldfarb:** He is a Budget Advocate for the Harbor Area and attended two recent budget meetings. The advocates are creating a white paper to talk about the budget. He has been an advocate for the Harbor region for 7 years. He feels we would be much more effective if we put together a Budget Conclave for all of CD15. He is also proposing that we do a Budget Day for all of Council District 15.
 - e. **Michael Gatanz:** Announced an upcoming event at People's Yoga.
 - f. **Linda Alexander** gave an overview of the ACE District group. In the last five years the ACE has provided \$400,000 in support of art. Money has been encumbered and will be utilized on upcoming projects such as the painting of five more electrical boxes on Harbor Blvd. The organization has a new name: The San Pedro Waterfront Arts District. They can be found on Facebook. RFQ/RFP's will be posted on the website.

- g. **Ann Porter** representing the organization “Move to Amend” commented on their mission of creating a constitutional amendment which establishes that corporations are not people and we should be able to regulate campaign contributions.

9. Homelessness Ad Hoc Committee:

- a. Karen Ceaser provided a written report on the Homeless Count Event held January 28, 2015. There were 50 volunteers for San Pedro. The written report showed the preliminary homeless count results for San Pedro (almost 300 were counted in this one night in San Pedro). However, Karen doesn't feel that the count is accurate as there are many people who may not have been counted because they were out of sight at the time of the count. There are cities across the nation doing some amazing work with the homeless and she would like to see Los Angeles do a better job.
- b. Karen also spoke about a program named Housing First which places homeless individuals in housing and assigns them a case manager to work with their problems.
- c. Karen does outreach to the homeless on the streets of San Pedro and she commented on recent reports from homeless individuals who claim that they are being harassed by LAPD and the Port Police. Port Police Officer Aldo Morales asked for more information so he could check into the details of any incidents involving the Port Police. James Allen suggested a meeting with law enforcement and the Homelessness Committee to talk specifics about these issues.

10. Public Safety (First Responders)

- a. Jose Gonzalez talked about Toberman Neighborhood Center's Safe Passage program which collaborates with the local schools to get kids home safe. Toberman's Gang Intervention representatives go to “Hot Spots” where kids meet and they check for potential issues. The gang problems are not as bad as they have been in the past.
- b. **LAPD Public Safety Report:**
 - i. **Update on new leadership at Harbor Division:** Kathryn Meek has been chosen as Captain I at Harbor Division. She is not assigned to Harbor Division yet but will be in the near future. She is currently Captain II at South Traffic Division.
 - ii. **Crime Update:** Crime statistics can be viewed by the public on the website: www.crimemapping.com. Officer Nua had a power point presentation showing the statistics. January 2015 through the first week of February there were crime spikes. Donald Galaz commented on ghost/shaved keys that criminals are using in the local area to steal primarily older model Honda Civics and some Toyotas.
- c. **CPAB Report:** No report. Next meeting February 16, 2015.

11. Presentation by the Raise the Wage Coalition:

- a. Vito Triglia gave a brief presentation on the “Raise the Wage” Campaign. This is a coalition of over 90 community organizations, non-profits, labor unions, religious and business leaders, who would like to see the wage raised to a “living wage” as soon as possible. They also want strong enforcement and an increase in earned sick days from 3 to 5. He explained the benefits of raising the minimum wage and spoke about how financial confidence stimulates the economy. He requested an endorsement by the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board. The Coalition has a lot of support from the Los Angeles City Council.
- b. James Allen asked how this would affect those workers who receive tips and commissions. The response was that there are currently no “carve outs” for these types of employees in this proposal.
- c. **Motion by Carrie Scoville that the Central SPNC endorse the Raise the Wage campaign and support a minimum wage of \$15 by 2019. The motion was seconded by Grant Hartwell and passed by the board with 11 yes votes (Anderson, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, King, Rouser, Scoville); 0 no votes; 1 abstention (Chair Allen).**

12. **Report from** Congresswoman Janice Hahn's Office:

- a. The Congresswoman participated in the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. They want to visit the Panama Canal and learn more about the current expansion. Dredging will allow access of the larger container ships through the canal which means more competition for the Port of LA.
- b. Hahn fighting to keep defense logistic jobs from moving to Texas.
- c. Hahn supports most of the President's Budget but is not in support of the cuts to the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund.
- d. Hahn voted against HR527 Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Improvement Act. She feels that the bill would increase unnecessary and lengthy regulatory delays that ultimately affect the safety of the public.
- e. Hahn supports the Airport Security Act, to ensure that airports have an emergency response plans in place in case of shootings or terrorist acts.
- f. Announcement: Free Tax Preparation for families and individuals with household incomes of \$53,000 or less through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program. Feb. 4th through April 15th Wednesdays and Fridays 9am-3pm, Office of State Controller, 777 S Figueroa, Suite 4800, Los Angeles, CA.
- g. German Castilla, Staff Assistance at the Congresswoman's Office was introduced.

13. **Ad Hoc Parks Committee Report:**

- a. **Motion:** Debbie Rouser talked about a proposed Joint Recreation and Parks Committee proposed by HANC (Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils). The NC's would partner with the city's Department of Rec and Parks to work on issues related to park safety etc. Jim Baeza, the Chair of Coastal's Rec and Parks Committee, explained that each council would have a representative in this new sub-committee. The following resolution was presented for approval:

**CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
Ad Hoc Sub-Committee for Rec And Park**

Whereas, the City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks land comprises over 700 acres within the Harbor/San Pedro Area. According to the University of Southern California's Sustainable Cities Program and their GIS Research Laboratory, there exists 3.7 park acres for every 1,000 residents.

Whereas, Even though the Harbor Area Neighborhood Councils have unique differences, it would be advantageous for us to form an area wide Recreation and Parks Committee, creating a stronger voice to address the common issues we share. The goal would be to collaborate with Stakeholders throughout the Harbor Area, allowing them a stronger voice in resolving issues related to city parks, thereby mitigating the impact of those issues for adjacent communities.

Whereas, Our public park lands should be inviting to all as refuge from urban life as a place to go for exercise, sports, youth programs and relaxation, in an open and safe outdoor environment. The importance in doing this would cover a wide variety of concerns, but the largest impact on the community would be as follows. It would improve the quality of life to collaborate and foster a relationship, not only with LARAP (Los Angeles Recreation and Park) but equally as important to have the same relationships with other area Neighborhood Councils. This would not only be a more effective means for the community to voice their concerns directly to LARAP decision making staff, it would also enable the larger community to have a clear voice in regards to public land and how it is used.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council support and participate in a Harbor Area Recreation and Parks Committee, committing to its representation within, and encouraging the participation all Harbor Area Neighborhood Councils.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that passage of this motion by the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council will allow the presentation of this document at the next Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils meeting to solicit support.

Approved with 11 yes votes (Anderson, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Harwell, Hunter, King, Rouser, Scoville); 0 no votes; 1 abstention (Allen).

- b. Debbie announced an upcoming event at Leland Park called the "Spring Fling" tentatively scheduled for Saturday May 2, 2015. 11am-7pm.

- c. Debbie also provided an update on the proposed improvements of the Leland Park terraces (both sides of N. Gaffey). Larry Smith of the LA Conservation Corp is still actively seeking funding for the project.
- d. James suggested that “pocket parks” would be a topic for the ad hoc parks committee and the CD15 Issues Committee.

14. Outreach Committee Report. Donald Galaz reported:

- a. Update on Valentine’s Day event. The Committee has been waiting for a week and a half for the funding for the roses.
- b. Donald is expecting board members to volunteer for the Spring Fling event.
- c. Donald presented a shirt with the three-eyed fish logo. They will be made for all the board members. Bad Fish (a store in downtown San Pedro) is proposing that he will make the shirts free of charge and donate them to the council. He is only asking that he is able to place the shirts on his website and have them available for sale at his business and part of the proceeds will come back to the NC. He wants to be known as the official distributor of the CSPNC shirt. There were several comments from board members on problems that could arise from this. The topic will have to be further discussed in committee as there may be issues with having the T-shirts sold.

15. Finance Committee Report. The treasurer was not able to attend but had provided copies of the necessary documents for approval:

a. Action Items:

- i. Approval of monthly Bank Statements and monthly expenditures: **Motion by Karen Ceaser, seconded by Donald Galaz to approve the monthly expenditures/bank statements as presented in the agenda packet. Motion passed with 11 yes votes (Allen, Anderson, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Hartwell, King, Rouser and Scoville); 1 no vote (Hunter); 0 abstentions.**
- ii. Approval of reimbursements to Board Members:
 - 1. Donald Galaz for refreshments (pizza) \$38.74: **Motion by Karen Ceaser, seconded by Donald Galaz to approve reimbursement of \$38.74 to Donald Galaz. Motion passed with 12 yes votes (Allen, Anderson, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, King, Rouser and Scoville); 0 no vote; 0 abstentions.**
 - 2. Frank Anderson for meeting refreshments \$38.85: **Motion by Karen Ceaser, seconded by Donald Galaz to approve reimbursement of \$38.85 to Frank Anderson. Motion passed with 12 yes votes (Allen, Anderson, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, King, Rouser and Scoville); 0 no vote; 0 abstentions.**
 - 3. Reimburse for staffing bill at joint Land Use Planning Committee meeting Re: Gaffey Street Project. This item was tabled.
- iii. Approval of mid-year adjustments to budget. The following items were presented for approval, however, they were referred to the Finance Committee for further review and approval. No action taken.
 - 1. Change Outreach Advertising of \$10,700 to \$3350
 - 2. Change Outreach Newsletter Expense from \$0 to \$4,000.
 - 3. Change Community Improvement Project from \$4,000 to \$2,000
 - 4. Change Neighborhood Purposes Grants from \$5,000 to \$10,350
- iv. Approval of amount not to exceed \$300 for engraved name badges for all board members: **Motion by Grant Hartwell, seconded by Debbie Rouser, to approve an amount not to exceed \$300 for engraved name badges for all board. Motion passed with 12 yes votes (Allen, Anderson, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, King, Rouser and Scoville); 0 no vote; 0 abstentions.**
- v. Update on Outstanding Funding Requests and Invoices. No update available.

16. **Land Use Planning Committee Report:** Chair not in attendance. The report will be presented next month.
17. **Approval of January 13, 2015 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Karen Ceaser, seconded by Alexander Hall, to approve the January 13, 2015 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion passed with 12 yes votes (Allen, Anderson, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, King, Rouser and Scoville); 0 no vote; 0 abstentions.
18. **HANC (Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils) Report:** Frank Anderson reported that at the meeting there was a presentation by Metro on a ballot proposition being prepared for next year. There was also a presentation by the Harbor Youth Source Center. Neighborhood Council Funding Training in the Harbor Area is scheduled for Monday, March 23, 2015 at the Kaiser Conference Center.
19. **PBID Report:** Katherine Gray reported that the PBID meeting was very short.
- a. Clean San Pedro got their contract renewed (they receive \$3200/mo).
 - b. Cynthia Ruiz resigned from the PBID board and her position has not yet been filled.
 - c. The City will release \$200,000 of PBID's frozen funds next month.
20. **BONC:** Alexander Hall reported that he attended BONC's Outreach Committee meeting. This is a working group focused on how to standardize outreach for all neighborhood councils.
21. **Congress of NC Planning Committee Meeting.** Alexander Hall attended the Planning Meeting. He is the lead for recruiting volunteers for the Congress.
22. **LANCC:** Alexander Hall also attended the LANCC meeting. They discussed a Charter Amendment being proposed that would move the city council elections to even years to coincide with the county and presidential elections. Arguments were held either way. LANCC voted against the charter amendment.
23. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Smith
for the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council