



# CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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## BOARD & STAKEHOLDER MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2015 THE PORT OF LOS ANGELES HIGH SCHOOL 250 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, San Pedro

### MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by President James Allen. (**Quorum of 14 Board Members**). Approximately 50 stakeholders present.

Board Members	Roll Call/Attendance
James P. Allen	Present
Frank Anderson	Present
Scott Andrews	Present
Rudy Caseres	Present
Sue Castillo	Present
Karen Ceaser	Present
Brandon Debrichy	Absent
Donald Galaz	Present
Katherine Gray	Present
Jose Guerrero	Present
Alexander Hall	Present
Grant Hartwell	Excused
Hrant Harutyunyan	Present
Debra Hunter	Excused
Khixaan Obioma-Sakhu	Present arrived 7:30 pm
Danielle Sandoval	Present
Carrie Scoville	Present

2. **President's Report**
  - a. The San Pedro Chamber of Commerce presented the Council with a certificate for its participation in the San Pedro Holiday Parade.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Approval of November 2015 Board/Stakeholder Meeting Minutes.
  - a. Stakeholder **Robert Campbell** expressed concern that a particular occurrence from the November meeting was not reflected in the minutes.
  - b. Item 10.b.iv was corrected to read as follows:  
*"James Dimon, President of the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council, commented that he feels this motion came out of his attempt to mediate an end to the acrimony between President Allen and members of Saving San Pedro. He did not write the letter that was presented by Mr. Allen. If all the Harbor Area NC's could work together the impact on the homeless problem would be huge. Coastal San Pedro's motions of this sort come from committee."*
  - c. **Motion by Donald Galaz to approve the November 2015 Board/Stakeholder Meeting Minutes as corrected, seconded by Carrie Scoville, and passed with 10 yes (Anderson, Andrews, Caseres, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Sandoval and Scoville), 0 no, and 3 abstention(s) (Allen, Castillo, and Harutyunyan).**

4. **Community Announcements**
  - a. Saving San Pedro is working with Harbor Interfaith to help them collect 100 hams by December 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - b. Saving San Pedro is also co-sponsoring a toy drive with CDC on Third Street. Please visit the Saving San Pedro Facebook page for more information.
  - c. The local ILWU is having a toy drive. Donations can be dropped off at the local ILWU offices.
  - d. Board member **Frank Anderson** announced that on Thursday, the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council is having a homeless meeting at 6:30 pm at the San Pedro High School Olguin Campus, and on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, from 2:30 – 4:00 pm there is a protest at the Rancho LPG facility on North Gaffey Street.
5. **Port of Los Angeles Report** (Augie Bezmalinovich)
  - a. Not present.
6. **Presentation on Youth Source Center at LA Harbor Community College by DeniQuia Berry**
  - a. Not present.
7. **Presentation on New DASH Student and Senior Passes by** Jessica with Los Angeles Department of Transit (LADOT)
  - a. There are new DASH passes for students and seniors starting at \$9 for a 31-day pass.
  - b. There is a DASH express that runs from Ports O' Call to downtown Long Beach.
  - c. DASH buses do not accept Metro TAP cards, however, it is possible to upload DASH pass cash value onto a Metro TAP card.
  - d. TAP cards can be purchased on line at <http://store.ladottransit.com>.
8. **Public Safety Reports:**
  - a. There were no representatives present at the meeting.
  - b. President Allen commented that crime statistics can be viewed on the LAPD website at [http://www.lapdonline.org/crime\\_mapping\\_and\\_compstat](http://www.lapdonline.org/crime_mapping_and_compstat).
9. **CD15 Issues Report:** Grant Hartwell was not present to provide his report.
  - a. **Council District 15 Representative Report** (Ryan Ferguson)
    - i. Ryan could not attend the meeting, however, he provided a written report which can be viewed on the Central San Pedro website at <http://sanpedrocity.org/cd15-issues>.
    - ii. President Allen commented that CD15 is working on getting the pedestrian underpass at the Barton Hill Elementary school renovated.
  - b. **Motion to Create an Ad Hoc Government Relations Committee.** Not addressed.
10. **Reports from Public Officials** (Congresswoman, State Senate, Mayor, etc.)
  - a. **Office of Dr. Vladovic, LAUSD Board member.** John Larson, Director of Communications, reported the following:
    - i. Today the LAUSD Board approved Measure Q bond funds for modernization and infrastructure improvements at San Pedro High School. They are currently in the pre-design phase, and the work will likely take four to five years to complete.
    - ii. Both Board members and Stakeholders expressed concern that LAUSD continue to seek community input, and want to know that the finished project will be permanent structures. Mr. Larson assured that any temporary measures put in place during the project will be only temporary.
    - iii. Board member Donald Galaz expressed concern that if the current shop facilities are demolished that an auto shop is considered in the replacement plans.
    - iv. The search for a new Superintendent continues.
  - b. **Congresswoman Janice Hahn's office.** German Castilla, District Staff Assistant reported:
    - i. Legislative update: The House passed the Fast Act, this bill will bring approximately \$26 billion to California for transportation and infrastructure purposes.
    - ii. Congresswoman Hahn voted yes on the SAFE Act to continued support for accepting increased numbers of Syrian refugees.

- iii. Board member Rudy Caseres asked for an update on a mental health bill. This bill is still in committee, accordingly, the Congresswoman has not yet taken a position.

11. **2016 Elections:** Appointment of Election Committee Chair and Committee members for 2016 Board Member Selection. Motion by Carrie Scoville to approve the appointment of Sue Castillo, Bill Roberson, Bob Gelfand and Sunny Lopez to the Election Committee for 2016 Board Member Selections, seconded by Katherine Gray, and passed with 12 yes (Anderson, Andrews, Caseres, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Harutyunyan, Sandoval and Scoville), 0 no, and 1 abstention(s) (Allen).

12. **Land Use Planning and Public Works Report** from Sue Castillo, Chair:

- a. Sue received communication from a consultant for a proposed Starbucks on 9<sup>th</sup> and Gaffey. They are proposing to build a drive-thru only store with outdoor seating. They want to come and give a presentation before they submit the permit request to the City.
- b. Proposed cell site at 725 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, behind the strip center with the Rite Aid, Radio Shack, etc. It would be a mono-palm located in the loading dock area, approximately 50 feet from the sidewalk.
- c. The sidewalk infill art project update. An RFP will be released in January by the San Pedro Waterfront Arts District. Chair Sue Castillo has asked Linda Alexander, as secretary of the San Pedro Waterfront Arts District, to act as liaison with the Council.
- d. Sue commented that she will be leaving the board at the end of this term after serving for eleven years. Therefore, it will be necessary to appoint a new Chair of the Land Use Planning and Public Work committee. Sue hopes to turn it over to another Board member as soon as possible so that she can support that person in the transition prior to her departure.

13. **Homelessness Committee Report** from Karen Ceaser, Chair:

- a. Another Homeless count will be conducted on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016 starting at 8:00 pm. It will be headquartered at Anderson Park. The count is now conducted every year instead of every two years. It is very important as funding for programs to support the homeless is based in part on the results of the count.
- b. The screening of The Soloist at the Warner Grand raised over \$600 for Harbor Interfaith.

14. **Budget Advocates Report** from Danielle Sandoval, Treasurer:

- a. The Budget Advocates met last night and representatives from the Mayor's office gave them a preview of the next budget.
- b. Board member and Budget Advocate Danielle Sandoval thanked Joann Rallo for advertising the budget advocates survey on the Saving San Pedro Facebook page.
- c. She is happy to report that the Harbor Area has 308 surveys turned in so far, which is the most of any area. The deadline to take the survey has been extended for another month to Jan 15, 2016.

15. **Outreach Committee Report** from Donald Galaz, Chair:

- a. The Thanksgiving Day toy and hygiene items drive for Harbor Interfaith, in collaboration with Saving San Pedro, at Ray Deters Tire Town was very successful. Donald thanked everyone for their time, Saving San Pedro for all the foot work they put in, and Crime In San Pedro for blasting the event on their Facebook page.
- b. On December 19<sup>th</sup>, at Ray Deters Tire Town, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, in collaboration with Saving San Pedro, they are having a toy drive. There will be a flyer via social media and passed around town. The Council has budgeted/approved \$500 for food and refreshments for this event.
- c. The Council's Holiday Mixer potluck is confirmed for Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm at Anderson Park.
- d. Board member Rudy Caseres asked for an update on video recording of meetings. The committee is looking into finding someone to do the recording. Also, the current video camera no longer functions, so they will also have to consider purchasing new equipment.

16. **Finance Committee Report** from Danielle Sandoval, Treasurer:

- a. Board Approval of Bank Statements and Monthly expenditures. **Motion by Donald Galaz to approve the bank statements and monthly expenditures as presented, seconded by Karen Ceaser, passed with 11 yes (Anderson, Andrews, Caseres, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Harutyunyan, Sandoval and Scoville), 0 no, and 3 abstention(s) (Allen, Castillo and Obioma-Sakhu).**
- b. Review and approve reimbursement to board member Frank Anderson for a total amount of \$97.18. **Motion by Donald Galaz to approve reimbursement to board member Frank Anderson for a total amount of \$97.18, seconded by Karen Ceaser, passed with 10 yes (Andrews, Caseres, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Harutyunyan, Sandoval and Scoville), 0 no, and 4 abstention(s) (Allen, Anderson, Castillo and Obioma-Sakhu).**
- c. Budget item regarding Elections: No action taken.

17. **Ad Hoc Business Committee Report** (Danielle Sandoval)

- a. Discuss and approve a motion setting boundaries for the business district. *(See First Attachment to these minutes as also referred to in item 18.a.i. )*. **Motion from committee to approve setting boundaries for the business district passed with 12 yes (Anderson, Andrews, Caseres, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Harutyunyan, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 1 no (Castillo), and 1 abstention(s) (Allen).**
- b. Motion to approve letter to CD15, Captain at Harbor Station and City Attorney in regards to enforcement of aggressive panhandling Sec. 41.59 and trespassing Sec. 41.24. *(See Draft letter attached to these minutes)*. **Motion from committee to approve letter to CD15, Captain at Harbor Station and City Attorney in regards to enforcement of aggressive panhandling Sec. 41.59 and trespassing Sec. 41.24 passed with 10 yes (Anderson, Andrews, Caseres, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Harutyunyan, and Sandoval), 2 no (Castillo, and Scoville), and 2 abstention(s) (Allen, and Obioma-Sakhu).**
- c. Motion to approve letter requesting update of LAPD Foot beat. **Motion withdrawn.**
- d. Motion to approve letter to PBID requesting that they address concerns from other businesses on the types of tenants that are being allowed to lease downtown properties. **Motion tabled.**
  - i. Committee chair Sandoval suggests that the committee hold a three-part forum to better form a vision for the committee. See item f. below.
  - ii. President Allen suggested that the committee and stakeholders meet with PBID and the Chamber to get clear representation of each of their mission statements and then create an overall mission statement for itself based in part on those.
  - iii. Board members and Stakeholders commented on a broad range of issues related to PBID.
- e. Motion to approve letter of concern to Harbor View House in regards to its residents. **Motion from committee to approve letter of concern to Harbor View House in regards to its residents, failed with 0 yes, 13 no (Anderson, Andrews, Caseres, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Harutyunyan, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), and 1 abstention(s) (Allen).**
  - i. After discussion of concerns by both Board members and Stakeholders the following motion was brought forth as an alternative to the failed letter from above:  
**Motion by Katherine Gray to approve appointing a delegation of Council members, Khixaan Obioma-Sakhu, Karen Ceaser, Rudy Caseres, and Stakeholders to be designated, meet with Harbor View House personnel, John Slaughter, President Board of Directors, Walter Taylor, BA, Administrator (ARF), and Dr. Gnyandev Patel, MD, Medical Director (ICF), at which a list of community concerns be discussed, and an invitation for Harbor View House to address the communities concerns at a Board and Stakeholder meeting. Motion seconded by Karen Ceaser and passed with 13 yes (Anderson, Andrews, Caseres, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Harutyunyan, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, and 1 abstention(s) (Allen).**

- f. Motion to hold a three-part forum sponsored by the CeSPNC to create a vision for the business district. *Motion from committee to approve holding a three-part forum sponsored by the CeSPNC to create a vision for the business district passed with 13 yes (Anderson, Andrews, Caseres, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Harutyunyan, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, and 1 abstention(s) (Allen).*

**18. Ad Hoc Art Committee Report** from Scott Andrews, Chair

- a. Discussion of motion regarding the validity of previously delineated map of the Arts, Culture and Entertainment (ACE) District being added to the Community Plan of San Pedro.
  - i. Committee chair Scott Andrews gave a brief overview of the impetus for the delineation of the ACE District.

*Motion from committee to approve the validity of previously delineated map of the ACE District being added to the Community Plan of San Pedro with the correction that the southern boundary be changed from 8<sup>th</sup> Street to 10<sup>th</sup> Street. (See First Attachment to these minutes as also referred to in item 17a.) .Motion passed with 9 yes (Anderson, Andrews, Caseres, Castillo, Ceaser, Gray, Hall, Harutyunyan, and Scoville), 0 no, and 5 abstention(s) (Allen, Galaz, Guerrero, Obioma-Sakhu, and Sandoval).*

**19. Ad Hoc Parks Committee** from Alexander Hall, Chair

- a. Alex reminded everyone to please complete the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Ad Hoc Parks Committee survey of the local parks.
- b. Plaza Park is currently under construction. Phase one is complete. The project is due to be completed by mid 2016.
- c. Stakeholder **Kathy Hetzer**, vice-chair of Anderson Park PAB, commented that they just had the Heart in the Park event which was very successful, and they are hosting the CSPNC holiday mixer and potluck. Their goal is to have one event a month. They are forming subcommittees. They want to have a senior prom for seniors, which Michael Gatanz is helping to plan. They are working with Recreation and Parks staff to get much needed repairs and maintenance done.
- d. Stakeholder **Michael Gatanz** commented that the Heart in the Park event was great, and that he and Bill Roberson are working on the senior prom.
- e. Stakeholder **Allie Clark** read a prepared statement that there are only five parks in the Central San Pedro district, she feels that these parks are unsafe and that people helping the homeless are contributing to the unsafe environment. She suggested that the people who want to help homeless people volunteer with existing programs.

**20. Bylaws Committee:**

- a. Consider bylaws change that says that the process for suspension for lapses in ethics training needs to be formally noticed to the board member 30 days before any action of suspension can be considered by the board.
  - i. President Allen commented that there are several items he feels need to be addressed, not the least of which is his request to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) to recognize the charter section 907 related to advance notice of City actions that are directed towards Neighborhood Councils. He will call a meeting on bylaws in the next 30 days.

**21. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

- a. **Nancy Richardson** announced the December events at the Garden Church located on Sixth Street. They are open every Friday during the Farmers Market, on Tuesdays, from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, they have Little Sprouts program for moms and tots, and on Sundays, at 4:00 pm, they have a worship service.
- b. **Michael Gatanz** commented that our society and culture has changed and it has impacted downtown. He feels we need some soft civility. He recounted an encounter that occurred this evening on his way to the meeting with a drunk individual at People's Place.

- c. **Rick Mathews**, a resident and retired San Pedro High School teacher, commented that he sees homeless as structurally part of society today. Homeless people are part of us and we are part of them. Accordingly, he feels we need to look at them as people in great need who deserve to be seen with compassion and solidarity. It shocks him when he hears people who want to get rid of them or shove them under the carpet. They need a lot of attention, care and compassion.
- d. **Joann Rallo** commented that there are three board members present at tonight's meeting that claim to have been threatened by President Allen. She feels he has also threatened stakeholders and caused much disruption in the community. They have unsuccessfully tried to get an item on the agenda to have a vote to remove James Allen from the board. She remains in opposition to James Allen remaining on the Board.
- e. **Joe Gatlin** former Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council president, he and his associates have reenergized the San Pedro/Wilmington branch of the NAACP. They are working with various organizations in the area to help homeless people, particularly homeless veterans.
- f. **Gayle Fleury** with Seaside Studios San Pedro, they do the Empty Bowls Project, they have three upcoming events in January. The January 2<sup>nd</sup> event will be honoring Saving San Pedro. Their business model is that they give back to the community before they take anything for themselves. They want to the community to thrive and grow.
- g. **Monica Weston** requested that James Allen step down as president in order for the board to run more smoothly. She feels the council needs more community outreach. She would like to see safer neighborhoods and she is very pleased at the Council's efforts with Harbor View House. She has a problem with the homeless encampments and the people who she feels choose to be homeless.
- h. **Bob Gelfand** commented on emergency preparedness going on citywide. We all know we could have an earthquake at any time. When it occurs it is predictable that we will be without all utilities, sewers, and emergency services for an extended period. Accordingly, what we will need are individuals who are trained and organized at the neighborhood level. So there is an organization, the Emergency Preparedness Alliance that he is working with.
- i. **Robert Campbell** commented about the unsuccessful attempt at the agenda setting meeting to get an item on the agenda to have a vote to remove James Allen from the board. He presented a written request for public records to the board pursuant the California Public Records Act.
- j. **Dr. Bryant**, President of NAACP San Pedro/Wilmington chapter, commented that their goal as the NAACP is to advance all races and cultures and the entire community. They understand that their Board will consist of all races and cultures. They would like everyone to be a part of their membership board so that they can join them in providing assistance to people in need.
- k. **Karen Ceaser** commented that she has flyers that explain exactly what the Mobile Triage Team of SPA 8 (service planning area 8) does. As well as various information related to mental health services.
- l. **Danielle Sandoval** wanted to let Stakeholders know that it is her mission to be transparent. She expressed her displeasure that public comment was moved to later in the meeting and she requested that it be moved back to earlier in the meeting. The Los Angeles City Council now allows Neighborhood Council members to speak for 5 minutes.
- m. **Danielle Sandoval** commented about a possible violation of the Brown act related to individuals from Saving San Pedro's unsuccessful attempt to get an item on the agenda to have a vote to remove James Allen from the board. Particularly the action of James Allen voting to break the tie vote at the agenda setting meeting. She wrote a letter to the City Attorney, the BONC Commissioners, DONE, and she cc'd James Allen on the issue. She remains in opposition to James Allen remaining on the Board.
- n. **George Palaziol** announced that he is going on a 2-1/2 hour tour of skid row this Saturday with officer Deon Joseph. He can invite 20 others and he still has some openings.

**22. Other Reports:**

- a. **HANC** (Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils) Report from\ Frank Anderson:
  - i. Councilman Joe Buscaino responded to questions about the following items:
    - I. The Cabrillo Beach Youth Waterfront Sports Center (Boy Scout Camp) new RFP: The RFP is under review with the City Attorney.
    - II. Opening of the Harbor Division Jail: There is lack of detention officers, and there are also other closed jails.
    - III. The Councilman commented that with regard to the China Shipping EIR he would be holding the Port accountable for their inaction.
    - IV. Sidewalk repair, the City is prepared to spend \$31 million a year for the next 10 years. The priority will go to sidewalks adjacent to City buildings. They are considering placing the cost of maintaining sidewalks on homeowners.
    - V. The Councilman spoke about the things he is doing on the homelessness issue.
  - ii. They considered a motion approving the City Planning Commission's new regulations for billboards and electronic signs.
- b. **PBID Report** (Katherine Gray)
  - i. The PBID is conducting market research by surveying the businesses in the PBID area to reevaluate their marketing program.
  - ii. Navy Days is becoming Fleet Week which will happen over Labor Day Weekend.
  - iii. They have a new nominating committee in an effort to expand the board.
  - iv. For Third Thursday in December they will have carolers going around.
  - v. She requested security statistics for October and November in a condensed form.

**23. Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm. The next meeting is January 12, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheryl Akerblom  
for the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council

## Special Districts

### Arts Culture and Entertainment District

In San Pedro, the arts and the waterfront are key contributors to the ongoing revitalization of the area and provide physical, social, cultural, and economic benefits that strengthen and enliven the community. Many artists, and arts/cultural organizations have found a home in San Pedro, becoming integral to the community with their events offering significant economic benefits to local businesses such as restaurants, cafes, and shops.

The Downtown Arts Culture and Entertainment (ACE) District Plan was created by the Chamber of Commerce to halt the loss of artists and art galleries brought about by rising rents in Downtown San Pedro (refer to Figure 2-1 for boundaries). The ACE District Plan is a marketing strategy administered by the Chamber of Commerce to help make the area more business and permit-friendly to working artists, performing arts venues, art galleries, restaurants and merchants thereby preserving Downtown's historic and pedestrian-friendly environment.

3-32, San Pedro Community Plan Text, Dec. 12, 2012 Update

## CHANGE TO:

## Special Districts

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The ACE District of downtown San Pedro is bounded by Pacific Avenue, to the west, from 4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> Streets, 4<sup>th</sup> Street to the north, from Pacific Avenue to the Los Angeles Main Channel, 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the south, from the Main Channel to Pacific Avenue and the Main Channel to the east from 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Streets.

The ACE District Plan was formed to help make the area more business and permit-friendly to working artists, performing arts venues, art galleries, restaurants and merchants thereby preserving Downtown's historic and pedestrian-friendly environment.

December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**Joe Buscaino | Councilman CD15**

**Mike Feuer | City Attorney for City of Los Angeles**

**Kathryn Meek | Captain III Harbor Division**

**Officer Plows | SLO**

**Officer Nua | SLO**

Joe Buscaino et al.,

The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council has received numerous concerns of criminal activity in the business district. Business owners have been seeing a decrease in revenues due to the increase of aggressive panhandling and trespassing onto said properties. We were informed that unless a business owners display city approved signage with the verbiage " Private Property NO Soliciting, Loitering, Trespassing, Violators will be prosecuted Cal. Penal code 602(k), 602.1 and L.A.M.C. Section 41.24(d)" these are criminal acts and business owners have called to report these crimes but unless they have this signage they have been told that there is nothing that can be done and would result in a warning to the violator. We feel this is unacceptable. We are asking for immediate response to these reports and to enforce these laws. We assure you that our business owners will cooperate in taking all appropriate steps to ensure that these violators are prosecuted.

We feel that is matter should be handled as priority due to that these acts have endangered the success of our economic development, tourism and the quality of life to all of its stakeholders. All accusations have been deem fact due to the victims of said acts have photographed, video recorded and even posted evidence on social media. It is the mission of Harbor Area to help make this community a safer place to live and work.

Sincerely,

James Allen

President

17(B)