



**Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council  
June 13, 2011 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Approved Minutes  
Peck Park, 6:00pm**

1. **Call to Order:** President Diana Nave called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm and welcomed those in attendance. 14 stakeholders in attendance.
2. **Roll Call:** Board members in attendance were: Scott Allman, Bob Bryant, Peter Burmeister, Daniel Dixon, Charles Eldred Jr., Anise Goldfarb, Craig Goldfarb, Cynthia Gonyea, John Greenwood, Mary Hamlin, John Mavar, Diana Nave, Barbara Schach, Mark Anthony Shoats, John Stammreich, and Capt. George Thompson. Absent: Lauren Vivian.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Bob Bryant moved to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2011 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Charles Eldred and approved unanimously by the Board.
4. **Public Comment:**
  - Stakeholders from the 400 block of N. Walker voiced concerns about an abandoned property at 467 N. Walker that has become derelict. The residents in the area would like help in solving this issue which has been ongoing for over 10 years. This will be sent to the Issues Committee.
  - Pat McCosker, President of United Firefighters of Los Angeles City, gave an update on L.A. Fire Department cut backs and also commented on the closure of the Hazmat 48 unit. The City hopes to bring resources back when funding becomes available. Janice Hahn has been a huge supporter of the Fire Department.
5. **LAPD Report:** Officer Nua, the Senior Lead Officer for downtown San Pedro, gave a report in the absence of Officer Ashcraft. Statistics show that the Harbor Area has been hit hard with property crime, stolen vehicles and resident/commercial theft. These types of crimes are up from last year. The LAPD has launched a Lock it or Lose It campaign to create community awareness. Outside resources will be brought in for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Cabrillo Beach and the Taper Avenue area will have additional patrols. Nua also commented on the Gang Injunctions. They are following up on the recent April gang arrests and filing cases.
6. **DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION, T.I.R.E Program Presentation:** Diane Jones reported on the Terminal Island Renewable Energy Project, a project that involved injecting biosolids underground in hopes of creating a green energy source in the future. They have injected over 120 million gallons of the material and now they are in the second phase of the project. They are requesting another 5-year permit from the EPA and would like the support of the neighborhood councils. The two ways that the community can help are: 1) Become an interested party, get information and review the draft permit; and 2) Be involved by touring the site to see what is going on and continue to support the project. Diana commented that the tour of the site is fascinating and worth seeing. So far some methane has been generated within the project and they hope that there will be enough in the future to generate electricity.
7. **PRESENTATION RE: PROPOSED INCREASE IN SEWER FEES:** Daniel Hackley, Environmental Supervisor for the Department of Sanitation, is the Neighborhood Council Liaison. He has 22 years of experience with the waste water system. He talked about sanitation rates and the importance of the overall infrastructure which consists of 6700 miles of sewer lines under 500 miles of the city. The bad news is that of the 6700 miles of sewers more than 50% are over 70

years old. 20% are beyond the life expectancy of 80 years. Treatment plants are also beyond their 30 year limit. Rates increased are being proposed and would take effect in 2012. The current cost is about \$30 per household and it would be increased to just over double that amount. Hackley commented that they are the most efficient department in the city with a long history of coming out as partners and educating the community. The presentation was concluded by an question and answer period.

**8. Additional public comment:**

- **John Stammreich:** Talked about redistricting and encouraged every to get involved and attend upcoming meetings. Diana Nave suggested that an ad hoc committee be formed to further address the issue. John Greenwood was asked to chair the committee and the following Board members agreed to participate: Charles Eldred, John Stammreich, Dan Dixon, and Cynthia Gonyea.

**9. Council Office Report:** Elise Swanson provided the following information:

- Ontario Airport: The City will be opposing the bill related to this issue.
- The City Council will be dealing with a resolution on negotiation between the three major supermarkets and their employees to avoid a lock out like the one in 2003. They have reached tentative agreements on pensions but are still not agreeing on healthcare.
- Budget issues are still ongoing, as well as efforts to save the truck at Fire Station 38 in Wilmington.
- Planning Issues:
  - ✓The Boarding House ordinance will cause boarding houses with 7 or more beds to go through a zoning administrator hearing and require a CUP. The City Attorney is working on this ordinance but there are expected to be some legal challenges.
  - ✓New Union Bank and Yogurtland are being proposed on Western at The Terragona Center.
  - ✓The Council Office is still working with Target for more permanent repairs on the water problem.
- Skateboarder issues: The Council Office met with the LAPD and are going to have to ticket some skateboarders because they are causing issues at Averill Park and at the Overlook area at the end of Pacific. They have alerted the major skateboarding communities. Siting of a skate park is still being considered.
- Traffic flow patterns on Weymouth to Western. A double right hand lane turn has been proposed and some neighbors are not happy.
- DWP rate modifications will be discussed at a June 27 meeting.
- 1<sup>st</sup> and Gaffey issue: John Mavar has put a video on U-tube showing problems.
- Diana Nave thanked the Council office for youth employment in our council district.

**10. Planning and Land Use Committee.** John Greenwood reported on the following:

- **Motion regarding proposed beautification of Harbor Blvd/Front Street.** The following motion was brought forth from the Planning and Land Use Committee and approved unanimously by the full Board:

The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council thanks the Port for its work on the North Pacific/Harbor Blvd. Beautification Project. While we support the basic design as presented, we respectfully request the following modifications: 1) The utility lines should be placed underground; 2) The beautification project area should be made as wide as possible. The lease with China Shipping should be renegotiated to increase the area available for landscaping; 3) The fence between the landscaped area and the railroad tracks should be planted in such a way as to screen the terminal from view; and 4) Where feasible, fitness equipment such as that recently put in Harbor Highlands Park should be installed.

- **Marymount College:** A written update was provided in the Agenda Packet. John Greenwood explained what Marymount is planning and how we would like them to get the community involved. It is becoming a 4 year institution.

- **Possible Motion to send letter to Target regarding groundwater problem:** No action taken.

11. **Issues Committee.** Dan Dixon reported on the following:

- **Motion Re: Hernandez Ranch.** After a brief review, the Board voted on the following motion:

**Motion Regarding Hernandez Ranch:**

The 11-acre area known as Hernandez Ranch has a rich history in the community and is an important component of the recreational opportunities of Peck Park.

Because of the ranch's importance and the wide diversity of views as to its best use as Peck Park continues its own evolution, it is natural for the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council to help take a lead in reaching a community consensus for the future of this uniquely rustic "rural gem in the suburbs."

Now, there, we move that the NWSPNC, through the Issues Committee, convene a working group to study and recommend a "path forward" for the future of Hernandez Ranch. The group should involve all appropriate entities with a direct interest in the property, including, but not limited to: the community at large, the Dept. of Recreation and Parks, the L.A. Council office, homeowners in the neighborhoods abutting the property, and the Los Angeles Fire Department.

The recommendations of the working group would be brought forward as a guideline to the city and the community for use in determining future plans for the area.

*Passed unanimously by the Issues Committee May 26, 2010 and passed unanimously by the NWSPNC Board on June 13, 2011.*

- **Motion Re: Crosswalk or stop sign on Elberon between Rena Park and the Trailhead.** This item was referred to the Issues Committee.
- **Skatepark.** Dan talked about the planning process for a new skate park in San Pedro. Elise Swanson commented that she is impressed with California Skate designers.
- Our neighborhood council is taking the lead on traffic issues. We are too saturated with stop signs in this town and it is time to reinstitute the Slow Down San Pedro campaign.

12. **Safety and Security Committee.**

- John Stammreich reported that over 80 people attended the recent "Map Your Neighborhood" event at Peck Park. The program focuses on empowering people after a disaster. The next training will be in about 4-6 months. It should be a really active year. John thanked Lonna Calhoun and Jody James for making the event a huge success.
- The next Safety and Security Committee meeting is scheduled for June 29<sup>th</sup> in order to discuss issues related to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. There will also be a wrap up report on the Map Your Neighborhood program.

13. **Finance Committee Report:** Craig Goldfarb gave a brief finance report.

- **A motion was brought forth from the Committee to approve the May 2011 expenses. The full Board unanimously approved the motion.**
- **Congress of Neighborhoods Proposed Expenses:** John Stammreich gave a brief update on the Congress of Neighborhoods event planned for September 24<sup>th</sup> at City Hall in downtown Los Angeles and the funding that is being requested.
- **Proposed Funding List and Priorities for the balance of the 2011 Budget:** A motion was made brought forth from the Committee by George Thompson to approve adjustments to the budget with expenditures of \$250 for the Congress of Neighborhoods event, \$600 for 6 months of website maintenance; and \$510 for Beacon House. The motion was passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

- A motion was brought forth to approve the Draft Budget as brought forth by the Finance Committee. The motion was passed by unanimous vote of the Board.

14. **Reflections on Retreat:** The notes from the recent retreat were provided in the Agenda Packet. Diana Nave reviewed highlights and talked about the Committee List. She stressed the point that we need to track what is going on in City Hall and summarized the next steps.

15. **President's Report:**

- A written report was included in the Agenda Packet. Highlights from Diana Nave's report included updates on Ethics Training, the Cabinet Meeting of all local Neighborhood Council Presidents, the recent PlanCheckNC meeting, recent ingoing and outgoing NWSPNC correspondence, and interaction with the Council Office.
- Chuck Eldred was appointed Vice Chair of the Planning and Land Use Committee.
- Cynthia Gonyea was appointed Vice Chair of the Safety and Security Committee.
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16. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:43pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Smith, Administrative Assistant to NWSPNC