



**Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
May 11, 2009 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
Peck Park Auditorium, 6:30pm**

1. **Call to Order:** President Dan Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:38pm
2. **Roll Call:** Board members in attendance were Mollie Abbatiello, Dan Dixon, Bonnie Easley, John Greenwood, Craig Goldfarb, Gabriel Rivas, John Mavar, Meryl Moilov, Philip Nicolay, Ray Patricio, Cpt. George Thompson, Barbara Schach, David Arvonio, Laureen Vivian, Mary Hamlin and Pete Burmeister. The following board members was excused: Diana Nave. A quorum was present. Approximately 33 stakeholders present.
3. **Approval of Minutes of the April 13, 2009 Meeting:** Capt. George Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2009 meeting, seconded by John Mavar and approved unanimously by the board.
4. **Report by Public Officials**
 - a. **Councilwoman's office: Ana Dragin discussed the following:**
 - Janice Hahn met with the local neighborhood council presidents to discuss NC funding. 10% was initially proposed, newest is to reduce it to \$11,200 per NC. Councilwoman Hahn wanted input from the presidents that she could take back to discuss with the full city council.
 - Channel Street will be repaved.
 - Peck Park Enhancement project, construction will begin in October and last for about 14 months.
 - Clinic Grand Opening. There will be a grand opening of the Spay and Neuter Clinic at the Harbor Animal Shelter on June 20, 2009 11am.
 - The Council office has negotiated with DOT and monthly permit parking will be available in downtown San Pedro for \$30/mo, first come first serve basis. Applications are currently being formed.
 - The Quimby board report will be before the commission in a couple of weeks. Peck Park will be improved as a result. Those improvement will include baseball fields, an ADA path to the baseball fields and a HVAC system.
 - Thank you from Pete Burmeister to Janice Hahn for the council office's support of the West Coast Canine group.
 - b. **DONE. Rosa Arcadia**
 - Handout News Bulletin
 - New feature on website. Update your own information on the DONE website such as picture, bio, etc.
 - 2010 Election. Some dates are coming up. May 16 election development meeting. June 1st is deadline for submitting stipulation worksheet. June 1st is also the deadline for NC budgets.

- Valley Regional Conference on May 30.
- c. **DWP Representative. Jeff Childers.** Jeff has been employed by the DWP for 24 years. He is the new community rep who will be attending future meetings of the neighborhood council. He provided flyers on mandatory water conservation issues. For stakeholders curious about their allotment of water, details can be found on the DWP website at www.ladwp.com. (View “residential rates for water and look at the chart to find the allotment. Zip code, lot size, number of people that reside in residence all affect the allotment.)
 - d. **LAUSD. Robert Jones-Booker, community outreach dept.** Ms. Jones-Booker made an announcement about a meeting concerning South Region High School 15. The meeting is being held by the DTSE on May 20, 2009 at 6pm at the Dana Middle School Auditorium.
5. **Public Comment:**
- a. **Raymond.** Announcements related to LA City Neighborhood Housing meeting, the upcoming Los Angeles Marathon and an upcoming Architects Conference in San Francisco.
6. **Presentation on Chemical Hazards and Targets in the LA Area.** Jody James introduced Presenter, Fred Malar. Mr. Malar talked about our community being one of the most dangerous areas in the country because of potential terrorist attacks on the LA Harbor. He feels that the public is being kept in the dark on these risks and that the community has the right to know what the risks are. He talked about reducing catastrophic risks. Within his presentation he showed how chemical cargo can be used as a weapon of mass destruction. There are important representatives from our area in Congress who can help small groups like our Neighborhood Councils raise concern for these potential dangers. He commented that we have a new administration and a new congress and therefore a new opportunity for organized groups to get something done. John Greenwood thanked the San Pedro Homeowners group for this presentation. There was a suggestion from a stakeholder that our council get the Fire Department, Amerigas and the Council office to put on a presentation of a more realistic worst case scenario. Lonna Calhoun commented that she has been asking for five years for the community to get prepared. We need to have our households and communities ready through disaster preparedness.
7. **Public Comment continued:**
- a. **Mary Joe Walker and Maggie Gutierrez:** Discussed the Conditional Use Permit for YWCA World Tot Daycare Center. They have to go before the planning approval board for a permit upgrade. Maggie is the Director of World Tot San Pedro and World Tot LA. They would like to extend their playground hours. President Dan Dixon stated that we will consider a motion of support at our next monthly meeting.
 - b. **Janna Jones Harbor Interfaith Services.** Ms. Jones provided an update on Harbor Interfaith and their Capitol Campaign called Building on a Dream. They service approximately 30,000 homeless and working class people a year. They are holding a Community Shopping Day sponsored by Macy’s. Also, on May 17th the San Pedro Rotary Club will have a spaghetti dinner to honor community heroes.
 - c. **Vivian Lauren:** She met with San Pedro Bay Historical Society, they agreed on a resolution and we now have a subcommittee called Friends of Averill Park which will be seeking historical status for the park.

- d. **Gabriel Rivas:** Attended the Harbor Division LAPD grand opening. This was one of the projects that came out of the \$680 million Prop Q funds. Because of John Greenwood and other volunteers on the Citizen Oversight committee they were able to complete the projects under budget.
 - e. **Pete Burmeister** thanked everyone for their support of West Coast Canines.
8. **Motion Re: City Council Budget Threat to Neighborhood Councils.** There has been a recommendation from the City Council's Budget and Finance Committee that the NC budget be reduced from \$50,000 to \$11,200 per year. Tomorrow the Budget and Finance committee will be finalizing their recommendation. Dan Dixon went over the details of the motion. Also commented on the issue of "sweeping of funds" that were not spent previously. Ana Dragin commented on behalf of the Councilwoman's office. Dan Dixon presented the following motion:
- Whereas, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council understands and agrees that each element of Los Angeles City government needs to share in the difficult process of reducing costs to meet the current budget shortfall, and Whereas, the NWSPNC is part of the Charter-constituted group of governing entities within the City of Los Angeles, now, Therefore, the NWSPNC supports the Mayor's proposal of a budgeted allocation of \$45,000 (a 10% reduction from the current year) for each Neighborhood Council in Fiscal Year 2009-2010.*
- John Greenwood: Made an amendment to the presented motion as follows: *That if other ideas are required in order to get sufficient support for the \$45K allocation per NC, suggest 1) that we cut each NC's budget to \$35K but give back the 10K to each NC that the city clerk uses for outreach. 2) Allow NC's to submit approved allocations and honor all demand warrants through June 30. 3) Allow each NC to carry forward \$15K to next year for overhead items and emergency issues that we know will come forward given the city cuts in all areas. The amendment was seconded by Pete Burmeister and accepted by the board. The amended motion passed with a vote of 12 yes, 3 no.*
9. **Bloch Field/Peck Park Update:**
- a. **Peck Park:** The Councilwoman threw out the first pitch at the Peck Park grand opening of the baseball fields.
 - b. **Bloch Field:** *The NWSPNC Issues Committee brought forth a motion to sponsor Bloch Field activities in an amount not to exceed \$1,500.00. John Delgado was available to answer questions during discussion of the motion. In summary, Bloch field has 120 children registered to play with a goal of 150. A cost overview of the programs was discussed. After discussion, Capt. George Thompson made an amendment to the motion that the NWSPNC allocate \$3500 to pick up the cost of the referee fees, the amended motion was seconded by Ray Patricio. The board accepted the amendment and the amended motion was passed with a vote of 11 yes, 1 no and 2 abstentions.*
10. **Motion to allocate up to \$5,000 for May/June newsletter:** John Mavar made a motion that the NWSPNC allocate up to \$5,000 for production, printing and mailing of the May/June NWSPNC newsletter. The motion was seconded by Capt. George Thompson and passed unanimously by the Board.
11. **Motion to permit more leeway for Neighborhood councils to be heard at city departmental hearings:** The following motion was made by Gabriel Rivas and seconded by Pete Burmeister:

RESOLUTION THAT CITY COUNCIL, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PROVIDE A SEAT AT THE RESOURCE TABLE FOR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

WHEREAS the Los Angeles City Council limits Neighborhood Councils to one or two minutes during public comment and on specific agenda items; and,

WHEREAS the Department of Water and Power (LADWP) representatives are allowed unlimited time at the resource table; and,

WHEREAS the City Charter Article 9 recognizes Neighborhood Councils as government entities; and,

WHEREAS the Neighborhood Councils, City Government and LADWP have a duly authorized Memorandum of Understanding relative to mutual responsibilities;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council recommends that the City Council, City Committees, Boards and Commissions enable the NC Representatives to take a seat at the table with LADWP on major issues relative to Neighborhood Councils and stakeholders.

The motion was passed by unanimous vote of the NWSPNC board.

12. **Election Committee:** Capt. George Thomas gave an update on our response to be provided to the City Clerk regarding next year's election. Our council has until June 1 to provide our responses on the Stipulation Worksheet. Because of the good advice from Rosa Arcadia last year, our procedures already reflect all the city council's proposals. *A motion was made by Capt. George Thompson and seconded by John Greenwood that the Board accept the language of the city clerk's election procedures so we can forward this info to the City Clerk by the deadline. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.* Pres. Dixon commented that our election will be the week of June 6th in 2010.
13. **Knoll Hill update:** Craig Goldfarb gave an update on the Knoll Hill issue mentioning that the Tidelands Trust says you can't have organized sports at such a location. He stated that the committee was deciding on how they should proceed. They came up with a compromise that 2 areas at the park could be used as ball fields and the rest as open recreational space. He commented that the Port and Councilwoman Janice Hahn are willing to make a trade so that Eastview will have ball fields up there.
14. **Port Committee:** Phil Nicolay gave an update and commented that our council will not have a rep at the PCAC meeting for May because both reps will be out of the country. He stated that there are no planned votes for that particular meeting. At our June stakeholder meeting we will have a chance to vote on how our rep should vote at the June PCAC when motions will come up. Phil also talked about Aesthetic Mitigation Projects.
15. **Issues Committee:**
 - a. **Motion to oppose Taxi.** *A motion was brought forth from the Issues Committee opposing any proposed ordinance that would allow parking by taxis and other commercial vehicles on residential streets. After discussion, the NWSPNC board voted unanimously in favor of opposing the proposed ordinance.*
 - b. **Motion to support a community process in the naming of new school at Angels Gate.** *A motion was brought forth from the Issues Committee supporting a community process in naming the new high school at Angels Gate. After discussion, the NWSPNC board voted unanimously in favor of supporting such a community process.*
16. **Land Use and Planning:** Diana Nave was out of the country but provided a detailed written report from the most recent Land Use and Planning Committee Meeting. Out of that meeting a motion was presented by the committee regarding the CEQA process. John Greenwood

was available to explain the motion. After discussion the NWSPNC voted unanimously in favor of the following motion: Unanimous vote in favor.

CEQA MOTION:

WHEREAS, the City Attorney has prepared a Draft Ordinance Establishing Procedures for Appeals to the City Council of CEQA Determinations; and WHEREAS, the purpose of CEQA is to provide an opportunity for the public to have input on the consequences of governmental discretionary projects; and WHEREAS, the proposed rules would unnecessarily limit public input by among other things,

- 1. Limiting an appeal to grounds raised before a non-elected decision making body even where the appeal is to the City Council;*
- 2. Limiting the time for appeal, even where the notice provisions of the CEQA and Early Notification System have not been followed; and*
- 3. Requiring payment of a fee by any appellant.*

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council requests that the proposed CEQA Ordinance be changed as follows:

The ordinance should provide 30 days to file an appeal after notice of the Environmental Determination and availability of appeal or 180 days in the absence of any such ordinance.

Any member of the public should be able to appeal a CEQA project

An appeal should not be limited to grounds raised before the non-elected decision making body.

City Council should provide at least 21 days notice before holding a hearing on a CEQA appeal, issue a staff report prior to the hearing, and provide the appellant with a meaningful opportunity to present his/her grounds for appeal.

The requirement of a filing fee in connection with an appeal should be deleted.

Ordinance should make clear that a decision is not final until all appeals have been withdrawn or decided by the City Council.

17. **Youth and Education.** Service award application is ready to go out. The award money is donated by Conoco and Phillips.

18. **Tip a Cop Announcement:** Marcello's Wednesday night, 7-9pm for American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

19. **Chair's Report:**

- a. Laureen Vivian and George Thompson have volunteered to be on the Pacific Corridor CRA Community Advisory Committee. There were no objections heard from the Board.
- b. President Dixon urged everyone to vote on May 19th.
- c. Bonnie Easley is resigning due to moving out of state. Dan commended her work on the board.

20. **Meeting adjourned at 9:01pm.**

**Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Smith, Administrative Assistant to NWSPNC**