

**Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
Community Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2008, 6:30 p.m. – Peck Park Auditorium**

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by Pres. Dan Dixon. In attendance were: Dan Dixon, Bonnie Easley, John Greenwood, Craig Goldfarb, Jody James, John Mavar, Philip Nicolay, Ray Patricio, Cpt. George Thompson, Barbara Schach, John Stammreich, Sanni Wehbe, Mary Hamlin, Pete Burmeister and Diana Nave. Mollie Abbatiello and Meryl Moilov were excused.
2. **Approval of Minutes** of the January 14, 2008 meeting. John Mavar made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Cpt. George Thompson seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by unanimous vote of the board.
3. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:**
 - a) **Mr. Brook Smith:** President of one of the Gardens Homeowners Association. Last week came to their attention that some of the homes in the Bisno Property have been used as club house hangouts for the kids. There are fences that need repair and the homes are not locked. Homes have graffiti inside. They have contacted the Security Guard at Ponte Vista and pointed out the homes and the holes in the fence. He promised to report these problems to the Ponte Vista Management. Elise Swanson representing Ponte Vista was present and stated that they are aware of the problem and that they have 24 hour security. They have had problems and have reported them to LAPD. Mary Star is also having some of the same problems. Ponte Vista wants to work closely with the Gardens. Diana Nave asked when the houses might be demolished and Elise commented that this would occur just before building starts.
 - b) **Harbor Interfaith Services:** Muriel and Kristin talked about the Harbor Interfaith organization which helps homeless families. They handed out a brochure. They are reaching out to the community looking for families who might need their services. They commented on the Transitional Housing Program focusing on Education.
 - c) **Ray Patricio:** Talked about Peck Park Canyon and a possible Equestrian Program. This was followed by a short discussion on Prop O funds and how they relate to the Canyon project.
4. **Reports by Public Officials:**
 - a) **LAPD.** Officer Dumaplin gave a report commenting that January was a very light crime period. Talked about Mary Star Mission event this week. They are expecting thousands of people and traffic should be very congested from Wednesday night to Saturday. Take over robbery 1-1/2 weeks ago at Office Depot. Two male blacks in a light blue Lincoln Towncar.
 - b) **Councilwoman's Office.** Ana Bozic introduced Jacob Haik from Councilwoman Hahn's office and William Ramirez from the Port of LA who works with Homeland Security. Ana reported on the new chief of staff, Courtney Chelsa (she was previously the Deputy Chief of Staff) and the new Superintendent of Rec and Parks, Mark Mariscal, who will be meeting with neighborhood councils in the near future.
 - i. **LAPD** wants to form new neighborhood watches in different districts. Commented on Dodson Avenue issue. The council office will be distributing letters to residents in the affected area to get their input.
 - ii. **Gaffey Street Repaving:** Cal Trans is going to start grinding and repaving Gaffey Street this Thursday.
 - iii. **Road Cut-Through:** Regarding the road cut through at Miraflores and Channel, another meeting will be scheduled to get more community input.

- iv. **Amerigas:** Jody James asked Ana about this issue. Jacob Haik, Director of Environmental Affairs, commented on the Amerigas issue. He commented on how the lease was cancelled due to the health of the community. But how do we get them out of there and have them relocate. The POLA offered Amerigas several sites where they could move too (such as Pier 400) but they turned them down. Amerigas feels that the City should pay for them to move but the City can't justify spending taxpayer money in the millions to relocate a business of that magnitude unless there is a different source of funding. Two options the City is looking into are: 1) Eminent domain; and 2) Re-zoning (which would stop any expansion). Another option is to look at who are Amerigas' customers? BP/Valero for example could be a better neighbor and deal with this for the future. Conoco Phillips reintroduces their butane back into the gas which is costly but BP and Valero could do something similar and be a better neighbor.
- v. **Tsunami Preparedness:** Jacob Haik talked about Los Angeles being ready for a possible Tsunami. Los Angeles as a city is becoming Tsunami ready (Tsunami certified). Tsunami signs will be placed on Port Property. A brochure was distributed showing a map and talking about "How to Prepare for and survive a Tsunami." Williams Ramirez talked about the tsunami signage on Port property. Also talked about the notification system which would be electronic such as cell phone text messages, email, pagers, etc. Early warning system is not just for tsunamis, but also for fuel spills and other hazards. wramirez@portla.org 732-7672.

c) **Mayor's Office:** Ricardo Hong thanked Diana Nave for sending out emails regarding the budget survey. Before mayor meets with budget reps they want as much information from our neighborhood council board members and the community.

d) **DONE (Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment):** Rosa Arcadia stressed how important the budget survey is for the Mayor's office. Talked about regional budget day. 14 reps will meet with mayor on March 14th.

- 5. **COPSS Report:** Bonnie Easley talked about the January 24th meeting with James Featherstone of the L.A. Emergency Management Department. A written report was provided. Next meeting is February 28th at the Port of LA Boys and Girls Center.

6. Outreach committee:

a) **Motion to allocate \$450.00 to be a sponsor of Eastview Little League for 2008.** We will get a banner and we will be mentioned in the newsletter as a sponsor, as well as a link from their website to our webpage. **A motion was brought forth by the Outreach Committee to allocate \$450.00 to be a sponsor of Eastview Little League for 2008. The motion was passed unanimously by the board.** Dan Dixon would like the Outreach Committee to approach other recreation groups with the possibility with similar types of support. John Stammreich explained that Eastview is well attended and this is a great outreach opportunity for our neighborhood council. He introduced Anthony Pirozzi and Mike Bodlovich who were in attendance and available to answer questions. Anthony is the Project Manager for the Knoll Hills site. Mike Bodlovich is the Commissioner for "All Kids Play" for kids who can't afford the registration fee. Invited everyone to Opening Day, Saturday March 8, 9:00am at Knoll Hill. Ray Patricio asked a question about parking.

b) **Motion to continue agreement with Julia Parker for research and clerical assistance until June 30, 2008 not to exceed \$2500. Motion made by John Mavar and Diana Nave seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

7. Issues Committee:

- a) Motion from Issues Committee requesting that City of LA require that all stores pay for shopping card retrieval. Motion seconded by Pete Burmeister. Comments from John Stammreich and Diana Nave. John Mavar suggested we table the motion and get more input from businesses. The board unanimously voted to table the motion.
- b) Motion requesting that Betty Karnette urge Caltrans to repave and restripe Gaffey Street from 1st Street to 9th Street. Motion tabled after information from Councilwoman's office that this is already planned to begin this week.
- c) John Mavar thanked everyone for the Clean up day assistance.
- d) Averill Park improvements and Peck Park issues will be discussed at future committee meetings.
- e) Diana has three issues for the committee: 1) Back of Park Plaza (trash), is wondering if some kind of enclosure can be considered. 2) Concern about the increase in number of day laborers at Channel and Gaffey. Diana called the council office and found out that in April they are going to close the day laborer facility across from Kaiser Permanente. 3) Telecommunications request for people to communicate with City Council from other locations. February 20th is the date of the next Issues Committee meeting.

8. Port Committee: Phil Nicolay talked about the following motion:

- a) Motion related to PCAC support for application for funding for park in Wilmington. Motion coming out of the Port Committee was explained by Phil. Skip Baldwin, a member of the Wilmington Citizens Committee, gave comments. Important comments were also made by Pat Nave. Pat has spoken with the Chair of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council who explained that the Wilmington NC is going to vote no because the current project doesn't qualify, therefore, it gets in the way of other projects that may come along. The current project has been denied due to a lack of nexus. If a current amendment being presented at the next PCAC meeting doesn't pass, then the NWSPNC Port Committee recommends that we introduce a new motion for discussion as a substitute motion:

Substitute Motion:

WHEREAS, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council has been asked by community members to recommend that the Wilmington Open Space project be forwarded to the Port of Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners for China Shipping aesthetic mitigation funds within the first category (open space);

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Open Space project has been previously reviewed by the California State Lands Commission and denied due to a lack of nexus. The current project has not demonstrably changed therefore the Wilmington Neighborhood Council voted not to support the project being forwarded to the Board of Harbor Commissioners since the State Lands Commission has already found it does not qualify for Port funding; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council supports all effort to increase open space in Wilmington and the expenditure of China Shipping Mitigation funds on projects that qualify in Wilmington therefore;

The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council urges Port staff and the Wilmington Open Space proponents to evaluate the project and work to develop a nexus to Port operations that will allow the use of China Shipping Mitigation funds. In addition, we urge the Port, Council District 15, and the applicant to evaluate other sources of funding that may be used to support the construction of this open space project.

Jody James would like to endorse something good for the Wilmington citizens. John Stammreich made a motion to amend the substitute motion to eliminate the last sentence of the last paragraph, seconded by John Mavar (amendment failed by 6 yes votes, 8 no votes). Diana Nave spoke against the amendment. **The board then voted on the Substitute Motion as presented by the Port Committee. 2 no votes, 13 yes votes. Use of substitute motion passed.**

Port Committee made a motion recommending a yes vote in support of original motion which Wilmington Neighborhood Council is opposing (See December minutes for full language of motion). (6 votes in favor; 8 votes opposed). Motion recommending a yes vote failed.

Motion to direct NWSPNC's PCAC representative to vote "No" to the original motion was passed with 9 yes votes (in favor of voting no) and 4 no votes (in favor of voting yes).

9. **PCAC Meeting:** Jody James announced the upcoming PCAC meeting, Tuesday, February 19th, Crowne Plaza 5:30-8pm, AQMD rep will give presentation on the Multiple Air Toxic Exposure Study (MATES). Two year sampling of the air.

10. **Outreach Committee continued:**

a) **Motion from committee to allocate \$1500 for bus bench advertising. Board members made comments. 13 yes votes, 1 no vote, 1 abstention. Motion carried.**

b) **Motion from committee to approve Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council logo and tagline. Passed unanimously by the board.**

c) **Motion from committee to sponsor a booth at Weymouth corners Eggstravaganza and to authorize payment of associated costs. Passed unanimously by the board.**

d) Newsletters are out.

e) Prop S Forum was a lively meeting with approximately 35 people. Diana Nave thanked Sacred Ground for the coffee they donated.

f) Dan went to a meeting with Western Avenue businesses. More info to come in the future on this.

11. **Elections Committee:** George Thompson presented a motion: **Resolution to amend Bylaws as follows: Amend Section XI. A. "Time of Elections" so that the first sentence reads as follows: "A. Time of Elections. Elections shall be held between July 1 and December 31 of every even-numbered year." The remainder of the paragraph to remain unchanged. Seconded by Pete Burmeister. Amendment by Sanni, to add that there will be a provision for extension of terms of the board members expiring in June and allow them to serve until the new election. Vote on amendment 13 yes votes, 2 abstentions. Vote on amended motion.: 14 yes votes, Craig Goldfarb abstained. Motion carried. (See full wording of motion on page5 of these minutes.)**

12. Adjourn—9:10pm.

13. Next Regular Meeting, Monday, March 10, 2008. 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Smith. Administrative Asst to NWSPNC

Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
Motion Amending By-laws to Change Date of Election

Whereas the timeline provisions of the City Clerk's Election Procedures & Planning Template are unclear and several deadlines for candidates have not been included,

And whereas the vote by mail provisions of the Election Procedures & Planning Template require a vote by mail procedure while the City Clerk briefing paper says the provision will just be "offered," and the NWSPNC election procedures deliberately did not allow for vote by mail,

And whereas vote by mail has the potential to completely change the nature of the elections by removing any face to face contact between voters and candidates,

And whereas the Bylaws Committee has held three meetings and worked diligently and so far unsuccessfully to reconcile the NWSPNC bylaws with the requirements of the City Clerk,

And whereas NWSPNC has conducted six unchallenged and successful elections in the past and want to continue this record,

And whereas the other two San Pedro Neighborhood Councils and the Harbor City Neighborhood Council hold their elections in the second half of each year,

And whereas a provision is being developed to extend the terms of the Board Members expiring in June 2007 to allow them to serve until the new election is held,

Now therefore, the NWSPNC amends its bylaws as follows:

Amend the first sentence in Section XI.A, Time of Elections, to read as follows: "Elections shall be held between July 1 and December 31 in the even numbered years."

Adopted February 11, 2008

14 ayes

1 abstention