

Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
Community Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2008, 6:30 p.m. – Peck Park Auditorium
(Approved at May 12, 2008 Meeting)

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** President Dan Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. Board members in attendance were Mollie Abbatiello, Mary Hamlin, Meryl Moilov, Barbara Schach, Jody James, Craig Goldfarb, Dan Dixon, John Greenwood, Capt. George Thompson, Phil Nicolay, Sanni Wehbe, Ray Patricio and John Stammreich. The following board members had excused absences: Diana Nave, John Mavar, Bonnie Easley and Pete Burmeister. Approximately 25 stakeholders present.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by John Greenwood and seconded by Capt. George Thompson to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2008 Monthly Board and Stakeholder Meeting. With a unanimous vote in favor, the minutes were approved as submitted.
3. **Upcoming Election:** President Dixon announced that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council is seeking candidates for consensus seats on our board for our next election held June 12, 2008. 8 Seats are up for election and we are looking for a few good men or women or young people, at least 15 years old, who are interested in serving their community. More information is available in the newsletter. City Clerk has taken over NC elections and stakeholders will be receiving voter information packet in the mail. There will be information sessions held for the community to discuss how to run for seats on the board.
4. **Motion to change posting location:** One of the NWSPNC posting places has been Artista's Health Food Store in Park Plaza and since they are going out of business soon, we need to change our posting location. DONE requires that we report to them the new location chosen and it move have board approval. **John Greenwood made a motion to change one of our posting locations from Artista's Health Foods in Park Plaza Shopping Center to Java City, also location in the Park Plaza Shopping Center. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.**
5. **Presentation:** Phil Nicolay introduced Lisa Wunder from the Port's Air Quality Division who gave a presentation on the Air Quality Issues related to the Port of Los Angeles. She talked about the Air Monitoring Network. Main goal after collecting data is to track long term air quality trends and measure the success of the San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan. They plan to conduct Source Apportionment studies as well as collaborate with agencies and organizations to improve data and conduct special studies. Lisa was joined by Representative Chris Patton who commented that the Port of Los Angeles has a more intensive (higher density) monitoring system than any other port in the world. Several board members asked questions and made comments. The information will be posted on our NWSPNC website once it is sent to the webmaster.
6. **Report from Councilwoman's Office:** Ana Dragin was joined by Gordon Teuber and they reported on the following issues:
 - a) Cal Trans has postponed the work on Western Avenue until August.
 - b) Council office met with Dept of Public Works . Channel Street will be resurfaced from Gaffey to Park Western Drive; Gaffey from Westmont to Battery Street.
 - c) Due to the budget crisis there will be cuts made in all departments.
 - d) Goats: If the neighborhood council approves funding for goats, the councilwoman is pushing the Department of Recreation and Parks to get the goats back to Peck Park.
 - e) Animal Shelter Grand Opening will take place on June 21st, Saturday. They will be having weekly meetings from now on, and our NC can attend them.
 - f) Ana will be on maternity leave for the next four meetings and either Gordon Teuber or Dolores Canizales will be attending our meetings. Ana's new email address is: ana.dragin@lacity.org

7. Report from DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT:

- a) Rosa Arcadia talked about the self assessment for the board to fill out. Copies for stakeholders were also available from Rosa. Purpose of self assessment is to assess the NC's progress. Deadline is June 30th. Survey can also be posted on our NC website.
- b) Rosa announced that DONE is required to do two Congress of Neighborhoods and this time they are going to have a regional congress in the spring and a citywide congress in the fall. May 17, 2008 their event will be called "Gathering-Neighborhood Councils-Making Change Happen." Topics at the Congress will include discussions on public safety, gang violence and proper development in the community. Every neighborhood council is invited to this event which is in West Los Angeles, held at the West Adams Preparatory High School, 1500 W. Washington Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 9007. 9am-4pm.

8. Public comment on Non Agenda Items:

- a) **Kathleen Blanchard**, talked about the June 3rd County Wide Election and announced that she is running for the position of Superior Court Judge Seat #123. She suggested that all stakeholders should utilize their sample ballots and then research the candidates through the internet so that informed decisions/votes can be made.
- b) **Janet Gunter and Skip Baldwin**: Janet commented on her talk before the Seismic Safety Commission and also commented on the East Wilmington Open Space Park project. Gordon Teuber clarified the location of the project. The Mayor has a team coming to look at land use issues. Skip went over a powerpoint presentation to provide a clear picture of the project.
- c) **Chuck Hart**: Amerigas, talked about seismic risks. Feels that there should be a comprehensive study done on the dangers.
- d) **John Stammreich**: Commented on how moved he was by the situation relating to Jimael Shaw Jr. (youth gunned down in the streets in Culver City close to his home). Supporters are trying to get the City Council's attention to listen to them regarding the police order on not asking about immigration status.
- e) **Meryl Moilov**: March 29th they held the Homeless Awareness Concert. She presented our neighborhood council with a certificate of Appreciation from herself and Janice Hahn for the council's support in helping the homeless.
- f) **Jody James**: Also gave comments on Amerigas. Feels there is a high level of threat. She would like to get a seismic study done.

9. Treasurer's Report:

- a) Sanni Wehbe reported on Budget Priority Requirements. Budget for next year is due June 13th. We cannot spend any money after that date until next fiscal year. Next board meeting is May 13. We will need to vote on our budget. Before our next month's board meetings all committees should be putting together their requests for money.
- b) Craig Goldfarb reported on the City's Budget Process. Went to a series of three meetings sponsored by Mayor. City has to cut money. Talked about his experience at the meeting.

10. Land Use and Planning: Motion Re: Angels Gate Cultural Center Master Planning Effort.

- a) Scott Donnelly gave comments related to Angels gate. He has worked on projects with them for five years. They have a 30 year lease with stipulations.
- b) Nathan Birnbaum, Exec. Dir. Of Angels Gate Cultural Center gave comments on the Angels Gate site, specifically that the park was a gift from the federal government to the City of Los Angeles. San Pedro is blessed with a phenomenal site. The master plan gives the community an opportunity to have something much greater.

- c) John Greenwood commented on Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council's support in the amount of \$10,000. He then made the following motion:

Resolution Related to Angels Gate Cultural Center Master Planning Effort

Whereas, as a condition of its lease, Angels Gate Cultural Center (AGCC) is required to develop a master plan not just for its property, but for the entire 64 acre city owned property at Angels Gate Park, and

Whereas AGCC has developed a plan that has gained the support of all the major stakeholders interested in this unique resource, and

Whereas the result of this effort will be a facility and programs that will continue to provide and improve important art and cultural services to San Pedro and the surrounding community, and

Whereas this effort to plan the entire park has involved the expenditure of significant resources by Angels Gate Cultural Center for this important purpose,

Therefore, NWSPNC endorses the master planning effort of AGCC and appropriates \$10,000 to AGCC for architectural and planning work completed or in process.

The motion was approved by unanimous vote by the NWSPNC Board.

11. **Port committee report.** Phil Nicolay gave a brief report on Port related issues.

12. **Issues Committee: Motions**

- a) **Motion Re: Fourth of July Celebration.** Craig Goldfarb gave comments against supporting the Cabrillo Beach Boosters Fourth of July. John Stammreich made comments in support, Jody James and Phil Nicolay gave comments in support of the motion. The board passed a motion to amend the original motion to read support "Cabrillo Beach Boosters Summer Activities" as opposed to just the Fourth of July event. The following amended motion was then passed by the Board:

Support of Cabrillo Beach Boosters Summer Activities

Whereas, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council continues to be concerned about the illegal use of fireworks, and

Whereas, the NWSPNC has a significant interest in discouraging this practice, and

Whereas, the Cabrillo Beach Boosters have developed a highly visible and respected community Fourth of July celebration at Cabrillo Beach, now

Therefore, the NWSPNC commits \$5,000.00 to support the Cabrillo Beach Boosters Summer Activities for 2008.

- b) **Motion Re: Support of Tree Maintenance on North Gaffey.** The following motion was passed by the NWSPNC Board.

Whereas, San Pedro Peninsula Homeowner United planted 250 trees on North Gaffey in the year 2000, and
Whereas, SPPHU has been responsible for all maintenance and watering of these trees in the intervening years, and

Whereas, this maintenance program is strenuous and dependent on the work of a few volunteers, and

Whereas, the NWSPNC fully supports beautification efforts throughout San Pedro, now

Therefore, NWSPNC allots \$2,250.00 to SPPHU to provide labor, machinery repairs and incidental materials for ongoing tree grooming and watering on North Gaffey St.

- c) **Motion Re: San Pedro Relay for Life.** The following motion was passed by the NWSPNC Board. The NWSPNC allots \$2,500.00 to sponsor the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life at San Pedro High School, May 16-17, 2008. In addition to the outreach benefit of this region-wide event, The Council's sponsorship event will honor the memory of Carol Baker Tharp, the late general manager of the Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, and a friend of all neighborhood councils.

- d) **Motion Re: Clean San Pedro.** The following motion was passed by the NWSPNC Board.

Clean San Pedro

The NWSPNC allots \$2,500.00 to Clean San Pedro for ongoing maintenance and clean-up operations throughout the community.

- e) **Motion Re: Goats for Hernandez Ranch.** Goat Motion: Judy Cairns talked in support of the motion regarding Goats for Hernandez Ranch. Dan commented that we have never allocated money for goats before we have just supported having them here. Board members spoke in favor and in opposition of the motion. The biggest concern was that this is a very costly program for having the goats here for only two months. Craig Goldfarb felt the motion should be tabled until more specific details are provided as to exactly how the \$10,000 will be spent. Craig made a motion to table the original motion until a future date. The motion failed. After discussion the board voted on the following original motion:

Whereas, the community has enjoyed and appreciated the visit by Nanny's and Billy's goats at Hernandez Ranch, Peck Park, in the past, and

Whereas, the Department of Recreation and Parks is unable to support a visit by the goats due to budget constraints, now

Therefore, the NWSPNC allots \$10,000.00 to fund a visit by the goats for thirty (30) days for the enjoyment of the community and the education of local school students.

5 votes in favor; 7 votes opposed. The motion failed.

13. **Youth and Education:** Motion Re: Mural at Taper Avenue School. Dan Dixon talked about the project and the benefit to students and the school. The following motion was made by Dan from committee and passed by unanimous vote of the NWSPNC board:

Taper Ave. School Campus Art Project

Whereas, the NWSPNC supported a successful mural project for Taper Ave. School in October, 2004, and
Whereas, the school will benefit by completing a second mural on campus, fully visible to the campus community, and

Whereas the school children will participate in the layout and execution of the mural, and

Whereas the school will benefit from enhanced arts awareness, and a stimulus to reading based on a competition resulting in book store gift certificates to the winners, now

Therefore, be it resolved that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council allots up to \$1,500.00 for artist's consultation labor and needed supplies towards the completion of this school wide project.

14. **Election Procedures/Bylaws committee:** City clerk is running the election. Election filing period continues until May 14th (Began yesterday). April 17th first publicly noticed meeting regarding elections.
15. **Update on Fireworks Issue:** Chuck Hart met with the LAPD Capt on March 18th and asked him what was planned for this year relating to Fourth of July safety. He promised maximum deployment and dedicated units. No permits will be allowed. Much more aggressive approach than last year. Admits there won't be total control. Asks for Council support to insure that no permits are issued on that day or the day before for street parties.
16. President Dixon requested suggestions for our agenda for the next meeting from board members and the community.
17. Meeting was adjourned at 9:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Smith. Administrative Asst to NWSPNC