

**Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
December 8, 2008 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
Peck Park, 6:30pm**

1. **Call to Order:** President Dan Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:39pm.
2. **Roll Call:** Board members in attendance were Mollie Abbatiello, Dan Dixon, Diana Nave, Mary Hamlin, Bonnie Easley, Craig Goldfarb, Gabriel Rivas, John Mavar, Ray Patricio, Cpt. George Thompson, Barbara Schach, Laureen Vivian and Phil Nicolay. The following board members were excused: Pete Burmeister, Meryl Moilov, John Greenwood and David Arvonio. A quorum was present. Approximately 35 stakeholders present.
3. **Minutes:** **John Mavar made a motion to accept the minutes from the November 10, 2008 meeting. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Easley and approved unanimously by the board.**

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS:

4. **Councilwoman Hahn's Office:** Ana Dragin thanked those who attended the Rec and Parks community meeting and hopes everyone has a better understanding of that Department. She announced that the Police Station grand opening will be in Feb 2009. There was a ground breaking ceremony at 22nd Street Park last Friday and they hope to have the park open next summer. Regarding North Gaffey, Ana contacted the Port and asked why beautification has not begun. She was told it would start in the next couple of weeks. She announced that the Port has a water show at the Fountain on Harbor Blvd and Swinford every Fri in December from 7-9 pm. Last Friday the Croatian Choir sang. The fountain activities have been drawing a lot of people. John Mavar asked about the Western Avenue project, she said it will begin after the tree trimming is completed.
5. **DONE (Department of Neighborhood Empowerment):** Rosa Arcadia talked about the issue of financial disclosure. The City Council will consider the item in January. She reported on an information bulletin that is being sent out every Wednesday to neighborhood council board members by email and gives updates on city news. She also urged all board members and stakeholders to fill out the Community Budget Survey. It can be completed on line through the DONE website or the NWSPNC website at www.nwsanpedro.org. This is an opportunity for the community to tell the mayor what their priorities are for the city budget. At this time, the Harbor Area's input is low so Rosa is hoping that more stakeholders will participate. Diana Nave commented that this is the best budget survey she has seen. She asked if we can get back results for our area. Rosa answered that we could, she just hopes there is enough data. Diana suggested we do a Press Release to get more input from the community.

OTHER BUSINESS:

6. **JCC Homes:** Dan talked to JCC Homes and SEQA has all the documents from the soil testing. The remediation plan is on their desk and being studied. An action plan should be sent out to the public in the next 2-3 weeks and there will be a comment period. The issue of Y&S Auto Body is a separate issue. Y&S is concerned about soil contamination on their property also. Dan commented that it is still a year to 14 months before JCC

takes possession of the property. They are fully committed to the project but are waiting for the State to approve the remediation plan.

7. **Presentation by Pedro Pet Pals.** Theresa Sardisco introduced her support group which works with the animal shelter. They were instrumental in getting the misting system in the animal shelter to protect the health of the dogs. They also purchased 100 kennel beds. The cat room is complete. The next Shop and Adopt event will be Dec 21 from 11am-5pm. Theresa introduced the groups Vice President, Clint Patterson and their secretary, Lisa Sardisco. Elizabeth Mercado is the treasurer and does public relations. Two employees from the Harbor Shelter were also in attendance. For funding they purchase pet items and sell them for \$5 and \$10 donations. Barbara Schach asked about volunteers and what age they need to be. 16 years old is the age that they need to be, but the Girl Scouts will have children under 16 come and read to the pets.
8. **Public Comment related to Presentation:**
 - a. Marisa Sardisco: She is the volunteer liaison for the Harbor Shelter. She explained how much Pedro Pet Pals has helped the shelter. Dan Dixon commented that the next NWSPNC Land Use and Planning will be held at the Harbor Shelter in the Public Room, this Thursday at 6:30pm.
 - b. Frederick Jordan: Expressed how much he has personally appreciated Theresa Sardisco. He is an employee at the shelter. Read a poem that embodies what she means to the shelter.
9. **Issues Committee:** LAUSD votes tomorrow on a final decision to proceed with South Region High school at the Angels Gate property. Our Issues Committee heard strong opinions about the project two months ago. We did not take any action on this yet. Tonight we are presenting a motion. Dan feels the concern is the size of San Pedro High School. Dan made a motion on behalf of the Issues Committee:

Motion to Support San Pedro High School Size Reduction

Whereas, San Pedro High School is the sole full service public high school in the San Pedro community, and

Whereas, the high school has expanded to contain an ever larger student population for decades, and

Whereas, the current student population of over 3,500 is far too large for the existing facility, even when "portable" classrooms are taken into account, and

Whereas, the addition of portable classrooms over the years has eliminated room for basic necessities, such as student parking, and

Whereas, the campus facilities are tremendously overcrowded, to the point that some teachers do not have their own classrooms and are asked to "roam" throughout the school day, and

Whereas, such a crowded campus is not adequate in fulfilling the academic program or socialization process of the students of this proud, community-heritage institution, and

Whereas, the Los Angeles Unified School District has proposed to build a new public high school on its property at Angels' Gate, now

Therefore, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council strongly supports the concurrent reduction of size of San Pedro High School with the opening of ANY new secondary public school on the Angels' Gate site. Such a reduction should come to a nearly one-for-one reduction in the older campus population as students begin to populate the new

campus. The only exception to a one-for-one exchange in campus size would be a modest number of seats to accommodate new students living in the San Pedro community.

10. Comments related to motion:

- a. Laureen Vivian: Wanted to know if we would have a chance to meet with the architects.
- b. Jacob Haik, Deputy Chief of Staff for Vladovic talked about the Alma Street access only being used for an emergency but not as an entrance. This will be a green school with solar power, recycled materials etc. The goal is for it to be a magnet for San Pedro High School. He explained that there is an advantage to keeping it as one school as opposed to two separate schools. There will also be upgrades to San Pedro High thanks to Measure Q. In response to concerns about children being bused into the school from other communities, he explained that there are as many students bused out as bused in. In response to light pollution, he stated that there will only security lights in the new building, no stadium lights.
- c. John Stammreich: Sympathizes with traffic issues as he is affected in his neighborhood. Thinks the portable classrooms at the current high school need to be removed. Appreciates what NWSPNC is doing for their constituents.
- d. Steve Walters was introduced as well as Chris Nagel who are in favor of the new school to help alleviate overcrowding. The current Principal, Mr. Bob Pietro, made comments and would like support of the motion.

Unanimous vote in favor of a motion to call the question. The actual motion presented by Dan Dixon was seconded by John Mavar. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion and the motion passed.

11. **Port Committee:** Phil Nicolay talked about the Waterfront EIR. Our first comments were in 2004. There are now 7 project alternatives. Phil presented a draft of our comments and gave an explanation. John Mavar commented that he likes the simplification. Feels that we need major changes and we should plan for the future. Overall he feels the comments hit the points. Laureen Vivian made comments and would like people to consider the security risks if a cruise ship terminal were put at Kaiser Point. Talked about urban planning challenges. Diana Nave asked if we could add a comment on the red car. Phil explained that there is no need for a comment because the red car is not part of this EIR. **Phil Nicolay made a motion that the NWSPNC approve the comments letter. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Easley. An amendment was suggested by Laureen Vivian to add a comment on the red car. This was seconded by Phil Nicolay.**

12. Public comments related to motion:

- a. **Chuck Hart**, representing Homeowners United, is concerned that putting the cruise center at Kaiser Point will have negative impact on San Pedro. He explained that windsurfing at Cabrillo Beach is becoming internationally recognized and could be impacted by the cruise center. Also, the air pollution will increase because of additional traffic. This is not a port of call for cruise ships so it will not get passengers to visit here.
- b. **Jody James** would like the board to strike any support for a cruise terminal at Kaiser Point. She feels it is not just a problem of increased air pollution but also a problem with traffic.

- c. **Carrie Scoville**, Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council board member, was surprised to see support of the cruise terminal at Kaiser Point. Most of the other NC's were in support of Alternative 4 and that did not include a cruise terminal at Kaiser Point. She stated that the Chamber, PC CAC, Central and Coastal were all in agreement on this.
- d. **Pat Nave**: Elaborated on the philosophy behind the comments (he worked on the letter in the committee). NWSPNC is aware of the traffic problems on cruise ship days. However, those cruise passengers never see our town. Plus, the port has a deep water terminal at Kaiser Point that they will do something with--If not cruise ships then something else that will probably be industrial. Therefore, if we have a cruise terminal at Kaiser Point, we are much more likely to see the parking with parkland on the roof and are likely to increase the synergy with the downtown business district. Additionally, if we want to expand the Red Car line, then we have to give the Red Car somewhere to go, such as to the cruise terminal and park at Kaiser Point.
- e. **Diana Nave** stated that she is conflicted about the Kaiser Point cruise terminal partly because we do not have the ability to have another location for the larger ships.
- f. **Pat Nave** commented on the emissions of the large ships, stating that the worst emissions are when the ships are moving. He feels that there would be more emissions if the ships had to come into the inner harbor.
- g. **Bonnie Easley** asked about San Pedro being a destination for cruise ships.
- h. **Phil Nicolay** commented on the fact that the cruise people just don't know what is here in San Pedro and might come to spend time in our town before their departure if they are aware of it.
- i. **John Stammreich** was curious if there really is any business from the cruise ship travelers.
- j. **Craig Goldfarb** commented that if there are no big ships here, they will go to Long Beach and the pollution will still be here. If we develop downtown a lot more people would come early to visit here.
- k. **Dan Dixon**: Commented about the fact that he only votes in the case of a tie and he has decided to vote on all issues from this point forward. He is with the spirit of the community and wants things cleaned up. As our economy recovers and as port business comes back, he thinks we need to look down the road to when the Panama Canal will be widened and other ports are improving and business will continue to grow. He agrees that if there is not a cruise terminal something else will be there and it will be worse. He feels we should develop downtown and demand a transportation system. Run clean buses.

President Dan Dixon then called for the question and the board voted unanimously in favor of calling the question. He then called for a vote on the amendment and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the amendment (Ray Patricio abstained). He then called for a vote on the amended motion to support the issuance of the comment letter to the port and corps of Army engineers. 1 no vote, 1 abstention, 12 yes votes. Motion passed.

13. **Land Use and Planning**: A report was attached to the agenda and included the following:
 - a. Pointe Vista was denied their application. The staff report also provided guidelines for a revised specific plan which included low to medium density which could allow for 1200 units. The City Planning Commission meeting was to be the

11th but was delayed to February 12th. Harbor Area Planning Commission meeting was only to review comments. It should go back to the developer to negotiate with the planning department, but Janice wanted them to go back to the community to negotiate.

- b. Planning meeting was at RH prep school. Main items at meeting were a proposed truck storage building at Miraflores and Cabrillo; also use of old animal shelter. More will be discussed at the next Land Use and Planning meeting.
- c. Amerigas is now Plains Canada, a division of Plains All American. Gordon indicated that a change in ownership does not trigger any re-examination of the lease. The functions of Amerigas will probably be continued.
- d. North Gaffey--the work has begun they are survey marking the underground utilities. Entered into an agreement with Chevron. Infrastructure study letter. We had sent a letter with our motion and we got a letter back. Janice can't comment on it because of a law suit.

14. **Treasurer's Report:** No revisions at this time. We are fairly current with everything.

15. **Averill Park Motion: Lauren Vivian will be presenting a motion next meeting.** She talked about an article regarding Averill Park. We hope to work together with Rec and Parks. \$660,000 is set aside for Averill Park. She would like us to write a letter to Rec and Parks and the City, should be the end of January. She would also like the letter to go to Janice Hahn. Maybe there would be extra Quimby funds.

16. **Other Comments:**

- a. **Diana Nave** would like to have an update on Knoll Hill from our representative.
- b. **Ray Patricio** would like us to work as a town on the gang problem. He would like to see a skateboard park and outdoor basketball courts. There are several places that could be developed for the kids.
- c. **Gordon Teuber** gave an update on the skate park under the freeway.
- d. **Soledad Garcia, President of DWP Committee:** Talked about Prop B which relates to Solar Energy/Job Creation. She states that it sounds good but isn't true because we are all for solar energy but we don't support the Proposition which did not go through the City Council process. Did not go through DWP process or MOU. You are to notify the ratepayers that this is coming and it did not. It went from the IBEW union to the city council and by-passed everyone and everything. We will be burdened with a multi million dollar plan with no plans given, no cost analysis. This is why we should be opposed to Prop B.

17. **Chair's Report:** We voted on the Zine motion but we will revisit the issue of the voting next month.

18. **Meeting adjourned at 8:49pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Smith, Administrative Assistant