



**Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
February 14, 2011 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
Peck Park, 6:00pm**

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm by President Diana Nave who welcomed those in attendance.
2. **Roll Call:** Board members Board members in attendance were: Bob Bryant, Peter Burmeister, Daniel Dixon, Anise Goldfarb, Craig Goldfarb, Cynthia Gonyea, John Greenwood, Mary Hamlin, Diana Nave, Barbara Schach, John Stammreich, Mark Anthony Shoats, Capt. George Thompson and Laureen Vivian. The following board members were excused: John Mavar and Scott Allman. Approximately 12 stakeholders present.
3. **Election of individual to fill vacant Non-Governmental Organization Seat:** Two candidates **were running** for the vacant seat, Brynn Utovac representing the San Pedro Mom's Club and Charles Eldred representing Holy Trinity Parish. Both candidates gave a brief statement. A board vote was taken which resulted in a tie with 6 votes for Brynn Utovac and 6 votes for Charles Eldred Jr. Candidates were asked questions and a second vote was retaken which resulted in 6 votes for Brynn and 7 votes for Charles.
4. **Swearing in of new Board Member:** Charles Eldred Jr. was sworn in and seated with the Board members.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** George Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2011 Board and Stakeholder meeting with minor corrections, and also to approve the January 31, 2011 Special Meeting Minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Dan Dixon and approved unanimously by the Board.
6. **Public Comment:**
 - **Michael Stumpf** gave an update on his solar energy panel installation. As of today, his solar power system has produced 1.384 megawatt hours of power. He is getting about 50% of his electrical power from solar. Mr. Stumpf also commented on traffic problems he feels have been created with the re-stripping of turn lanes at Western and Weymouth. In response, the Council office representative, Ana Dragin, stated that a work order has been put in to handle signs related to that issue. She requested a written explanation from Mr. Stumpf so that it can be forwarded to the Dept. of Transportation.
7. **LAPD:** Officer Ashcraft reported that property crime has escalated and grand theft auto is still a problem. People continue to leave valuable items in plain view in their vehicles which is an invitation to the criminal. Officer Ashcraft then responded to questions from stakeholders and gave a brief synopsis of the youth program at the Harbor Station which is in need of funding.
8. **Planning and Land Use Committee:** John Greenwood reported on two items from the Planning and Land Use Committee meeting that need Board approval.
 - The committee discussed at length an issue brought forth by the Homeowners Coalition relating to the cutbacks of the Hazmat Crew at the Station 48 on Grand and 13th Street. Every fire station has had cutbacks but the concern is that not having a Hazmat crew available creates a dangerous situation.

- Craig Goldfarb commented that he would like the Board to ask Valero and Tasco to contribute to the funding for the Hazmat team also.
- John Greenwood wants that issue to be discussed further at the next committee meeting.
- George Thompson asked if the Port has any firefighting equipment? Port Representative, Augie Bezmalinovich responded that the Port does not have a fire team at the Port because they use the city services and pay for that portion. The fireboats are city owned. Augie commented that they have a current MOU with the city wherein the Port pays for Hazmat services that directly affect the Port. There is also a HAZMAT team on Terminal island that is run by the City of Long Beach.
- A motion was made by John Greenwood to send a letter to the Mayor, a draft copy which was included in the agenda packet and reads as follows:

Dear Mayor Villaraigosa:

The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council has learned that the LAFD Haz-Mat Unit at Station 48 in San Pedro has been downsized for budgetary reasons. We realize that every area of the city's fire coverage has been affected. However, due to the high risk in this community we ask you to reconsider this decision.

The Harbor Area has numerous refineries, chemical industries and hazardous Port related cargo located in close proximity to our homes, our jobs, and our schools. These industries are extremely vulnerable and an incident could have major impacts on our lives, our environment and our livelihood. Under the new arrangement, the Haz-Mat team is crippled. The response time and strength of the response are handicapped. For example, because of safety procedures related to decontamination, the Haz-Mat crew has to wait for Haz-Mat trained firefighters from another station to arrive before they can enter a building. This can take thirty minutes to one hour, vital in a true emergency.

The Harbor Area has critical Haz-Mat calls for service, requiring an immediate response. The impact of a delay could have tragic consequences for the port and the economy of the region.

NWSPNC therefore respectfully requests that you restore full staffing to the Haz-Mat Unit at Station 48 in San Pedro. There has to be a way to deal with budget problems without sacrificing the environment and adding to the risk to the community and the economy of the region by limiting the effectiveness of this unit.

Thank you for your consideration.

The motion was seconded by Bob Bryant and passed unanimously by the Board.

- John Greenwood made a motion that a letter also be written to the Port Director, Geraldine Knatz, a draft copy of the proposed letter was included in the agenda packet and reads as follows:

Dear Ms. Knatz:

The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council has learned that the LAFD Haz-Mat Unit at Station 48 in San Pedro has been downsized for budgetary reasons. The impact of the reduction on an incident at the port could have catastrophic consequences.

We have written the Mayor and pointed out that the Harbor Area has numerous refineries, chemical industries and hazardous Port related cargo located in close proximity to our homes. These industries are extremely vulnerable and an incident could have major impacts on our homes, our lives, our environment and our livelihood. Under the new arrangement, the Haz-Mat team is crippled. The response time and strength of the response are handicapped. For example, because of safety procedures

related to decontamination, the Haz-Mat crew has to wait for Haz-Mat trained firefighters from another station to arrive before they can enter a building.

As you know, the Harbor Area can have critical Haz-Mat calls for service, requiring an immediate response. The impact of a delay could have tragic consequences for the port and the economy of the region. We hope the Mayor will respond to the logic of our request, but we are not optimistic.

According to records kept by Station 48, 12.54% of the runs by the Haz-Mat unit are directly related to the port and 38% could affect port operations. This is a total of 186 runs since 2006. NWSPNC therefore respectfully requests that the Port of Los Angeles consider funding some of the cost of restoring the Haz-Mat Unit in San Pedro to its previous level. This decision would increase the likelihood of a quick and effective response to a major incident in the port, helping to reduce the risk to the port infrastructure and our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

The motion was seconded by George Thompson and passed with 12 yes votes and 0 no votes. Dan Dixon abstained.

- Marymount College plans for PV Drive North Campus: John Greenwood provided information on how the college is bringing their educational programs to residents of San Pedro. The college is doing a traffic study and will come back to the Planning and Land Use Committee to provide more specific information.
9. Port Committee: Pat Nave reported on the following:
- The main topic of discussion at the last Port Committee meeting was the Harbor Blvd alternatives in the waterfront plan. There will be a meeting of February 28 related to the waterfront and also there will be a meeting related to Sampson Way held at the Port of Los Angeles High School. The Port Committee is asking the Chief Port Engineer to come to the next committee meeting to provide more information and answer engineering type questions.
 - SR47 traffic improvements were discussed as well as the North Gaffey Street Beautification project. There was also mention of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council's efforts to move the beautification project of Front Street to Harbor forward.

Reports from Public Officials:

10. **Councilwoman's Office:** Ana Dragin reported on:
- Peck Park ribbon cutting for Prop O has been scheduled for April 9, 2011 at 11:30 am.
 - Harbor Highlands Park issue brought up by Chuck Hart regarding playground equipment safety: Rec and Parks has gone out there to see if it is up to standards and it is. There were issues about the gray rock features.
 - Park Western road dips by Via Cordova: They are still trying to figure out what to do. They will be out there again to resurface the area.
 - Tomorrow the LAUSD Board will be voting on the naming of the High School Annex.
 - ATSAC construction is about 95-97% complete. They hope to go on line with the system at the end of the month.
 - Ana will be on maternity leave until mid July.
 - Pete Burmeister talked about the road problems by Target problem and also commented on the need for clean up on Capitol.
 - Diana asked about mosquito abatement which needs to be scheduled.
 - Chuck Hart commented that the fencing in that area is scheduled to be fixed.
11. **Port of Los Angeles:** Augie Bezmalinovich reported on the following:
- LA Waterfront Meeting on February 28. Update of the entire LA Waterfront project. Also warehouses 9 and 10 adaptive reuse will be presented.

- Second workshop for Sampson Way is scheduled for March 24th.
- The next BOHC meetings are Thursday February 17th and March 3rd, both at the POLA Board Room at 8:30am.
- February 22nd at 11am they will hold the unveiling of the sculpture "Ship In A Bottle" at the new Cabrillo Way Marina off 22nd Street. The marina will be 100% completed by August of this year.
- Mini Taste in San Pedro will be held on February 23, 2011 by the Port, the PBID and the Chamber. Several local restaurants will be involved. The event will be held at the Cruise Ship Terminal and will include tours of the cruise ship terminal.
- Port container traffic was up 16% for 2010. Exports were also up.
- Next month at the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council meeting the Port will be showing drafts of proposals for Front Street upgrades.
- USS IOWA: The Navy is reviewing the application. They expect to hear from the Navy in early summer. In the meantime they are doing some type of environmental assessment.

12. DWP Liaison Report: John Stammreich reported on the following:

- The main topic at the last meeting was the introduction of Ron Nichols, the new General Manager of the DWP. Nichols is looking at the department and seeing where money is being spent wisely and where it is not. Wind and solar energy does not come cheap and he will be looking into the solar collectives as he gets ready to do his five year plan. Carbon emissions are down but we can do better. His job is to implement the mandates and directives given.
- Urban Water Management Plan: Our usage is down, Los Angeles has done a good job with conservation.
- Forecast for the future is higher demand. They plan to get away from the metropolitan water district. The goal is to get to more recycled water etc.

13. Election Task force: John Stammreich also attended the Neighborhood Council Election Task Force meeting and reported that they are looking into possible internet voting with booths. John will report more next week. The Neighborhood Council Congress event is coming up in September or October. John is going to be involved and will take ideas from people.

14. Issues Committee Report (Written Report Provided): At the January 26th meeting the committee discussed the following:

- Stop sign on Capitol which has been repeatedly knocked down.
- Crosswalk at Barrywood & Capitol is needed, as well as a curb cut for handicap residents on the park side.
- Stop sign at 14th and Weymouth
- Diana Nava met with Crystal Killian of the DOT and results of that meeting will be discussed at the next Issues Committee meeting.
- A request for more enforcement around Averill Park from Thursday to Sunday. DAY AND NIGHT. Cars are driving in the park and etc.
- A request for more patrols by LAPD Traffic division on WEYMOUTH between 13th & 19th ST.
- Peck Park has trees planted in locations around the park. Community/park users felt the trees are in the wrong place. Rec and Parks has agreed to relocate the trees.
- Water continues to come up through the street at the TARGET exit. (Capitol Dr.). The city has many detailed estimates for repairs. More developments to come. Pete Burmeister discovered a sprinkler water main was leaking which only added to the water problem on Capitol.
- Damaged fence on Capitol Drive. The council office has been notified to make the repairs. 2 trees need to be straight out and weed removal also needs to happen in the near future.
- Renaming the committee and having it serve as the gateway to focus on quality of life issues for and by stakeholders.
- Next Community Issues Committee Meeting will be held February 23, 2011 at 5pm at the San Pedro City Hall, 4th Floor.

15. **Community Involvement and Collaboration Committee** (formerly the Outreach Committee):
Bob reported on the following:
- The newsletter will be coming out next month.
 - The Board has been meeting on a weekly basis to review funding requests. The group has narrowed down the list to and will meet again on the first Thursday in March to finalize the list to be presented at the March Stakeholder meeting.
 - Announcement of a Taper Avenue School 50th Anniversary event being held on February 17th around noon.
16. **Safety and Security Committee** (Written report provided): John Stammreich talked about this new committee which had its first meeting on February 7th. The focus of the committee will be on Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response Coordination between agencies and organizations, including LAPD, POLA, DOT, LAFD and the Red Cross, and working with local Neighborhoods to coordinate “multi-home inventories” of emergency supplies. (The report can be viewed on the NWSPNC website.) The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at 6:30pm at Via Dolce on Western Avenue.
17. **President’s Report** (Written report provided): Diana Nave gave highlights from her written report which included information on:
- The importance of Ethics Training which is mandatory for all board members.
 - Community Care Facilities. Diana sent the Board’s resolution regarding the proposed Community Care Facilities Ordinance to the Planning Department and posted a Community Impact Statement.
 - HANC Meeting (Written report provided and can be viewed on the NWSPNC website.)
18. **Treasurer’s Report.**
- Craig Goldfarb reviewed the Treasurer’s Report which included an overview of the monthly expenditures for January. **A motion was made by Bob Bryant to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. The motion was seconded by George Thompson and approved unanimously by the Board.**
 - Update on City budget: After the budget survey is completed a lot more information will come out of the Mayor’s office. Everyone is urged to participate in the budget survey.
19. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:54pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Smith, Administrative Assistant to NWSPNC