

**Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
January 12, 2009 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
Peck Park, 6:30pm**

1. **Call to Order:** President Dan Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:33pm. After the flag salute, President Dan welcomed those in attendance and explained that Janice Hahn would join us shortly after her short interview being conducted by San Pedro High School film students who are creating a documentary on the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council.
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, Pete Burmeister and Diana Nave. The following board members were excused: Mary Hamlin. A quorum was present. Approximately 81 stakeholders present.
3. **Minutes:** **Diana Nave made a motion to accept the minutes from the December 9, 2008 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Craig Goldfarb and approved unanimously by the board.**
4. **Councilwoman Janice Hahn:** The Councilwoman was given several questions ahead of time and asked to respond to them. She then opened the floor to questions from board members and stakeholders. She responded to the following issues:
 - a. **City's EIR Contracting Process:** Developer pays for and produces the EIR. Is there a way to directly contract with a consultant to do the EIR as opposed to the developer? She said the bottom line is accountability. We want to make sure the EIR's are truthful and state the facts and that the mitigation is appropriate. They should be transparent. The Planning Dept. has looked at this idea but has found that in the end the developer would still be paying for it. The thing would be to develop an ordinance called the ECO. Early notification for neighborhood councils. Basically, the City of Los Angeles, every board, every council, every committee, should make an effort to notify neighborhood councils of these types of issues (knowledge is power). Councilwoman Hahn stated that she is introducing a motion tomorrow to draft an MOU. There is a lot of work that needs to be done. She commented that council persons are not here to defend city bureaucracy.
 - b. **Ponte Vista:** Talked about traffic counts. We in Los Angeles County need our own traffic count system. Most formulas are antiquated. Hahn is introducing a motion instructing the Dept of Trans to come up with an LA version of traffic formulas. We have allowed developments to happen and haven't looked at the cumulative effects.
 - c. **SB1818:** She thinks it is a terrible law at the state level that was imposed on cities that allows developers a density bonus. She feels the laws are counter productive. She voted against this ordinance. Janice suggests having Bonnie Lowenthal look at the bill.
 - d. **Emergency Preparedness:** How can NC's be involved. Janice says she is very concerned about the Port of LA and something happening there that would be a disaster. There isn't much you can control when it comes to earthquakes, but she is concerned about tsunamis. Lets do everything we can to prevent something for happening there. (more port security dollars) Come up with a plan. She's thinks the NC's will be the first responders.
 - e. **Animal Shelter:** Talked about our new state of the art shelter. Opening of the shelter was on the hottest day on record in San Pedro. This showed the need for misters. This was taken care of. She wants future problems to be solved by our city with creative solutions. How do we streamline things in Los Angeles?
 - f. **Prop K, Quimby Funds:** Every time there is a development project in the City of Los Angeles 2% funds are collected for Quimby funds. They can only be spent within 2 miles of

the project. How can NC's be involved in that. She would like to see an Advisory Task Committee to work with this money. Prop K Advisory board (we have 2 reps, one from Wilmington NC and one from Coastal NC).

- g. **Kitchen Cabinet idea:** She would like to see Sat morning breakfast every once and a while with herself and the NC board members. It would be called the 15th District Kitchen Cabinet.
- h. **Ponte Vista:** Bob Bisno no longer in the project. Ted Fenton of Credit Swiss is now the contact person. They have taken over the planning of the project and have received an extension on the Planning Commission Meeting which is now April 9th. They are now willing to come back to the community. They have agreed to do focus groups to hear what the community wants. Ponte Vista has to be a project that can be approved. 2300 or 1950 was just too much. Janice Hahn would like to see something built there but it has to be way scaled down so as not to devastate Western Avenue.

Questions for Janice:

- i. **Pete Burmeister:** Asked about Ponte Vista being annexed.
- j. **Diana Nave:** Traffic study should come out for public comment before city approves it. Is that possible?
- k. **Ray Patricio:** Explain to the developer what a senior citizen is. Dan: Good point. Who is a senior citizen is dictated by the state.
- l. **Laureen Vivian:** Averill Park concerns. Can we expedite the planning of renovations for Averill Park? Janice Hahn responded that it is a full time job fighting city hall. We have to be partners in these issues. The council office will do everything it can to expedite things. They have certain monies for certain projects and need to move forward with them. She thinks that now more than ever getting the waterfront developed should be a priority to be ready when the economy turns. Also LAX.
- m. **Judy Cairnes:** Thanked those who supported the animal shelter. Westways vacated the premises. She has begged the Harbor Dept to put security down there.
- n. **Chuck Hart:** Amerigas. He asked Janice Hahn if she still supports Pier 400. She says it was not fully disclosed that All American Plains owned Amerigas. She says it is important to move forward with EIRs and to create jobs. She is going to be in discussions with Planes All American. She would like to see the tanks relocated.
- o. **John Winkler:** Requested an update on the sports complex off Gaffey? Any plans to move the community garden? Janice Hahn responded that it has been one of her goals to create the SP Sports complex on the sanitation yard but it is moving slowly. They have looked at Hernandez Ranch as a place to move the community gardens. They have the support of Rec and Parks. It is a long process but it is a good idea to get re-control of the community gardens so they operate efficiently and effectively.
- p. **Soledad Garcia:** Why did the city council decide to have the Measure B put on the ballot? Janice Hahn responded that Measure B will be on the March ballot to mandate that every commercial and city facility have solar panels installed. Work to be done only by DWP IBEW. It was about accountability. When you have the voters approve this then you've just bumped up the accountability. Gives the city council more authority to insist that DWP do the program.
- q. **Dan Bagliaso.** Commented on the meeting with the Dept of Rec and parks. Regarding the sports park, the Dept of Rec and Parks said funds are available. Are there prop funds available? What can we do to get some of these funds? Janice responded that this would be a good subcommittee for NC's. We've got to get kids into a good environment.
- r. **John Stammerich:** Thanked Janice for the free meters during the holidays. Feels there should have been more outreach. Is there something we can do when the same gesture of free parking is done so that we can accomplish better outreach.

- s. **Craig Goldfarb:** Commented on Eastview and Knoll Hill. Feels we have facilities that are wasting away.
- t. **Pete Burmeister** asked about Kinder Morgan and was told that they are planning to move full speed ahead as soon as they have approval.
- u. **Margaret Moilov:** Has noticed that we are losing a lot of business. Small businesses closing. Her concern is that we are losing some of our history along with these businesses. What is the city and the council office doing to keep some of our tradition here in San Pedro. Janice Hahn agrees. She commented on the upcoming celebration of 100 years of Williams Book Store. She explained that there are a lot of city services that can help businesses in trouble. The City will do whatever it can to help them when they have problems. However, the city can't do anything about landlord's raising rent.

5. Dog Training Facility: Mike of West Coast Canine Dog Club was introduced. The DWP is asking them to leave their current location. The group would like support to regain the permit they are losing. The reason they want to stay there is that they have a lot to offer for the South Bay. Their programs teach young people how to live life the right way. They would like to continue using the field and will need a lot of support. They did not have liability insurance. They now have it and are getting the LA DWP named as additional insureds. One of the things this field has to offer is that every Police Department that has a canine unit can come to the field for training. The facility is open to any police or security force. They would like a 5 year contract on the field. They have all the paper work that is filed properly and they would like the support of the NWSPNC. Pete introduced some of the youth involved in the program and explained the benefits. **John Mavar made a motion that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council ask Councilwoman Hahn's office to work with the DWP to continue the use of DWP property under the power lines by the non-profit, West Coast Canine. Also the non profit should work with other NC's in the area. Seconded by Barbara Schach. After discussion, the board voted unanimously in favor and the motion passed.** The following comments were made during discussion:

- a. What does the Harbor Gateway South think about the issues?
- b. Many people are in attendance to support the West Coast Canine group, we need to show them our support.
- c. The only link to the City of LA is the transmission line.
- d. Simone, the DWP liaison standing in for Jeffery Childers stated that the LA DWP General Manager's Office and their real estate office are reviewing the issue and will hopefully be able to accommodate the group.
- e. Harbor City Neighborhood Council representative Grant Reed offered the support of the Harbor City NC.
- f. Community member Lisa Perris, has worked with animals for 48 years and feels it is an outstanding program and is impressed with Mr. Pete Burmeister's knowledge of training animals.
- g. Community Member Mike (neighbor of Pete Burmeister) doesn't understand why this program has been going on for 22 years and suddenly there is an issue with the use of the land. It would be a travesty not to support this group.
- h. The NWSPNC will forward our comments to the Council office and ask them to work with the DWP.

6. Andrea Adelman: Coffee House at the 8th Street Loft building will be open in a couple of weeks.

7. Presentation by Mr. Ed Boks, General Manager Department of Animal Services: Mr. Boks has been with the department for 3 years. The department was started in 1909. They are in the process of a strategic planning process. Ed Boks talked about the department's mission and vision statements, including their Value Statement. They attempt to create happiness by bringing pets

and people together. They are creating a “Humane LA” initiative. The City of Los Angeles is committed to spaying and neutering animals more than any other city in the U.S. Mr. Boks provided his email address: ed.boks@lacity.org.

8. **Bianca Villaneuva, Representing Bonnie Lowenthal’s Office:** Bianca Villaneuva introduced herself and commented that State Assembly Representative Bonnie Lowenthal has the same phone number as Betty Karnette. Their office has a staff of 2.
9. **DONE (Department of Neighborhood Empowerment):** Rosa Arcadia gave a reminder to fill out the Community Budget Survey. They have about 4,000 people who have taken the survey. She announced that Feb 21st is the Regional Budget Day. David Arvonio and Craig Goldfarb will be meeting with the other reps to discuss the survey results. There is also a regional meeting Saturday, Feb 7 with the Department of Transportation. The DOT General Manager will be in attendance and they have also invited Janice Hahn. New funding programs will be discussed. |
10. **Motion Re: Measure B:** Gabriel Rivas talked about Measure B and the reason for the motion. There were several comments from board members and stakeholders. John Stammreich talked as the Rep for the DWP Committee. The committee feels that the measure is bad for businesses and bad for the community. **The following motion was brought forth from the committee and the board voted unanimously in favor. Motion passed.**

NORTHWEST SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
RESOLUTION ON MEASURE B, ON BALLOT MARCH 3, 2009
Motion dated January 12, 2009

WHEREAS City Charter and the Neighborhood Council/LADWP Memorandum of Understanding require that Neighborhood Councils receive timely information, there was no adequate Community input to City Council and none to City Commissions; and

WHEREAS Measure B Plan to install solar paneling on City-owned and other high-rise buildings was planned by IBEW and presented to the Mayor and Council, there was no organizational information and cost analysis provided to them or to the community; and,

WHEREAS voting rules in the Charter of Los Angeles City were changed for this project to permit approval by a simple majority vote instead of two-thirds majority and the City will micromanage the Plan thus bypassing DWP Board; and,

WHEREAS it is the policy of the City and of the DWP to seek competitive bidding on all major projects, the workforce will be exclusively DWP IBEW Union, which will result in higher labor costs since DWP wages are the highest in the nation; and,

WHEREAS the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council strongly supports the concept of promoting green power and sustainable energy development, the Measure “cannot accomplish this Project in the time frame as laid out due to lack of supplies and significant cost increases for materials, lack of experienced workforce, lack of management, no vetted plans ...and extremely risky”, according to the independent PA Consultants.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council does not support Measure B.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council will provide the City with a Community Impact Statement.

11. Port Committee Report, Youth and Education Committee Report and Treasurer's Report:
Tabled until next month due to time constraints.

12. Issues Committee: Motion Clarifying Prior Board Action. The following Motion was made by Diana Nave and seconded by Capt. George Thompson. The NWSPNC Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

MOTION CLARIFYING PRIOR BOARD ACTION

WHEREAS, at its December 8, 2008 meeting the NWSPNC Governing Board adopted a motion urging that any new high school built in San Pedro be used to relieve overcrowding at San Pedro High School; and

WHEREAS, some who heard the motion interpreted it as a motion supporting construction of a new high school at Angels Gate rather than a motion concerned with overcrowding; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council is entitled to interpret its motions and resolutions and desires to clarify its prior motion so there will be no misunderstanding.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the purpose of the motion adopted December 6, 2008, was to urge the Los Angeles Board of Education to use ANY new secondary public school in San Pedro to relieve overcrowding at San Pedro High School. Such a reduction should come to a nearly one-for-one reduction in the population of the existing campus as students begin to populate the new campus. The only exception to a one-for-one reduction in student population would be a modest number of seats to accommodate new students living in the San Pedro community.

13. Land Use and Planning Committee:

A. Motion to support T&M construction proposed facility. Seconded by John Greenwood. Unanimous vote in favor. Motion passed.

MOTION IN SUPPORT OF T&M CONSTRUCTION PROPOSED FACILITY

Whereas T & M Construction owns the property located on the northeast corner of Miraflores and Cabrillo which is currently used for storage of drywall and related items, and

Whereas T & M is interested in constructing an enclosed facility on this property where they can store and work on their heavy construction equipment, and

Whereas T & M also owns the facility at 780 Channel where they improved the external appearance and have continuously kept up the appearance of this property, and

Whereas Miraflores and Cabrillo is considered a corner commercial lot and City Code therefore requires significant window space, and

Whereas the location and proposed use of the facility do not lend themselves to windows, and

Whereas construction of the proposed facility would be an improvement to this entrance to the residential community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council supports T & M's request for a variance to the required window space contingent on the following:

- a. Detailed plans and drawings are acceptable to the NWSPNC Planning and Land Use Committee,
- b. There will be no loading or unloading outside of the building,
- c. All staff parking will be in the interior of the building,
- d. There will be a 5' irrigated and landscaped setback on the Miraflores side of the building, and
- e. The Cabrillo side of the building will be landscaped. This may be accomplished either thru the receipt of a revocable permit from the City for use of the "sidewalk" area for landscaping, a land swap with the City, or a minimal 1' setback.

B. Ponte Vista: Motion to support committee comment letter to Planning Commission on Planning Department's Report on Ponte Vista: Diana Nave talked about the motion to support the proposed letter to the City Planning Commission. Representative Elise Swanson of Ponte Vista formally requested that this item and any related motion be tabled until the March 2009 meeting. In response John Greenwood stated that he is happy to talk with the Ponte Vista people but feels the letter needs to be on the record. Pat Nave commented that this is a different management but not a "new" management. **Craig called for the question on the motion. One board member abstained and the remaining board members voted unanimously in favor of sending the letter to the Planning Commission. (Letter can be viewed on our website)**

14. Motion Re: Supporting restoration of the California Conservation Corps to 2009-2010 California budget. This item tabled due to time constraints.

15. Issues Committee: A motion was brought forth from the Issues Committee that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council Co-Sponsor a Candidate and Issues Forum. The motion was seconded by John Greenwood and approved unanimously by the NWSPNC Board.

16. Public Comment from Chuck Hart: Encouraged the NWSPNC to further explore the Amerigas and Pier 400 project and consider re-opening the issue.

17. Meeting adjourned at 9:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Smith
Administrative Assistant