



**Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
March 12, 2012 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
Peck Park, 6:00pm**

1. **Call to Order:** President Diana Nave called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm and welcomed those in attendance. Approximately 25 stakeholders in attendance.
2. **Roll Call:** Board members in attendance were: Scott Allman, Bob Bryant, Peter Burmeister, Charles Eldred Jr., Anise Goldfarb, Craig Goldfarb, Cynthia Gonyea, John Greenwood, Carolyn Grayson, Katie Marrie, John Mavar, Diana Nave, Barbara Schach, John Stammreich, George Thompson. Excused Dan Dixon and Lauren Vivian. Approximately 22 stakeholders present.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Bob Bryant moved to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2012 Board and Stakeholder Meeting, seconded by George Thompson and passed unanimously by the Board.
4. **LA Port Police Report:** Officer Alex Castillo reported back that the Field of Dreams area is not within the jurisdiction of the Port Police. This was in response to a request for investigation of the illegal street racing issue at that location. Officer Castillo also announced upcoming event including the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the San Pedro Downtown Harbor (March 15th) and the Port's Annual Waterfront Update (March 29th).
5. **Solid Waste Presentation:** Steve Casares, representing the Zero Waste Program at the Bureau of Sanitation gave a presentation on the proposed single use bag prohibition. This is a proposal by the City Council to investigate the possibility of banning plastic and paper bags in the city of Los Angeles. The reason for the proposal is to improve the environment and quality of life. Even though they are recyclable only about a very small portion get recycled and most of them end up in the streets, storm drains, sewer systems, etc. Casares reported that it costs the state millions of dollars annually to manage plastic bag pollution. They are asking for input from the neighborhood councils. Comments can be emailed to: zerowaste@lacity.org. The Board agreed to discuss this item further at the Issues Committee meeting.

Stakeholder Craig Cadwallader commented that his organization strongly supports the single use bag ban. They clean the beaches and see death and destruction of the wildlife due to plastics.
6. **LAPD Report:** Sr. Lead Officer Junior Nua gave a report in place of Officer Ashcraft. He reported that Harbor Division is continuing to experience property crimes. Burglary theft from motor vehicles is rampant. There have been a lot of these crimes reported in the following areas: 1800-2200 block of Almeria, as well as Bloomwood and Via Cordova. The incidents were during all hours of the day. The LAPD's Truancy Task Forces will continue to work towards helping curb the activity. Assaults in Wilmington have increased also. Officers will be dispatched to those problem areas. Burglaries are down compared to last year. There is also a Skateboard Task Force tracking the skateboarding issues.
7. **Metro Express Lane Program Presentation:** Highlights from the presentation included:
 - The program will convert 25 miles of existing HOV (Car pool) lanes on the 110 and 10 freeways into Metro Express Lanes. Transit Service in these areas will be expanded. This is a one year demonstration (test program) with a \$274 million budget.
 - The program introduces congestion pricing to manage traffic demands. It converts the car pool lanes making a new commute choice for all drivers. The goal is to move more people not more vehicles. Incentives include providing more van pools.

- By October they should be opening up the 110 Fast Track. Those commuters who choose to utilize the lanes as a single occupancy vehicle will pay a fee ranging from 25 cents per mile to a maximum of \$1.40 per mile.
 - More information can be found at the website: Facebook.com/expresslanes
 - There were many comments from board members and stakeholders in opposition to the program.
8. **Los Angeles Business Sources.** Nancy Thyme gave a short presentation on the City of LA Business Source Center. They serve the Harbor Area and assist people who either already have a business or want to start a business. They provide one on one counseling and hold workshops. The center is funded through tax dollars. The idea is to get more businesses started to provide jobs etc.
9. **Port Committee Report:** Phil Nicolay reported on the joint meeting of the Port Committee and Land Use and Planning Committee where an update was given on the Clearwater Project. Alternative Four was selected as the most environmentally friendly alternative route with a shaft to be constructed at Royal Palms and soil being trucked back to the site at Figueroa/Lomita. Feedback is being requested so that comments can be submitted before the deadline. Concerns and comments included:
- Lonna Calhoun has concerns about the project and the potential of earth movement and landslides. She hopes to request an extension to the comment period.
 - Janet Gunter commented in support of Alternative 1.
 - Jody James commented that we are due mitigation for the inconvenience and effects to the quality of life.
 - Cynthia Gonyea has heard no objections from the port on having the route go under Port Property.
 - Diana Nave shares the concern on the possibility of future landslides.
10. **Congresswoman's Office.** Mike Aguilera reported on the following:
- Last week two of the congresswoman's amendments were passed in the Small Business Committee: The first amendment will give priority to small business specialists within the SBA who serve areas of high unemployment in the city. The second relates to a congressionally mandated goal of providing 25% of all government contracts to small businesses and making them available to the public on line.
 - First meeting of the Ports Caucus was held. They have a focus on the importance of our ports as a national security issue and engines for our economy. The Caucus now has over 42 members from 19 states and two territories.
 - Bridge to Jobs Act: The Bridge to Job Act provides funds to each State to cover all the costs to repair or reconstruct a bridge determined by the Federal Highway Administration to be structurally deficient. Los Angeles has 91 of the most highly traveled bridges. More information can be found on the website: T4America.org.
 - Citizens can contact the Congresswoman's staff to get assistance with issues involving Federal Agencies.
11. **Council Office Report.** John Larson reported on the following:
- The new website for the Councilman has been launched: LA15th.com
 - Skateboard issue: Buscaino introduced a motion to the Los Angeles City Council requiring skateboarders under 18-years-old to wear a helmet and also requiring skateboarders to follow the same rules of the road that bicyclist follow.
 - Max Bus: The City of Torrance announced that they are pulling out. The Max Bus fund has a reserve that will provide one more year of operation until a new funding stream is found. John Stammreich asked that this be referred to the Issues Committee.
 - Pete Burmeister reminded the council office that the Target driveway issue is still a huge problem.
12. **Community Involvement and Collaborative Report :**
- **Youth Employment Education Fair:** Update from Anise Goldfarb: The event is scheduled for May 19, 2012 from 8:30-4:30pm at Peck Park. Workshops will include: Harbor Workforce Program; Marketing Yourself; American Red Cross; Community Service/Volunteering; Military; Communications/Social Media Ethics; Resume Writing; Interview Skills and Dress to Impress.

13. Public Comments:

- **Dan Galaz** talked about “Project Street Legal”, a project started by the Brotherhood of Street Racers National and International to combat the problems of illegal street racing. Galaz met with council members and briefed them on street racing occurring in San Pedro and the rest of the Harbor Area. He has also been in contact with the Congresswoman’s staff. This issue will be discussed at the next NWSPNC Issues Committee Meeting.
- **Chuck Hart** commented that the trees on North Gaffey Street are starting to bloom. There are 4 trees across from Target that have been lost and need replacing. Chuck thanked the NWSPNC for their support of the trees.
- **Carolyn Grayson:** Governor Brown is proposing to repeal some provisions of the Hayden Act, enacted to have animal shelters keep animals longer. She would like to have this item on the agenda for the Issues Committee:
- **Craig Cadwalder:** Spoke in support of SB568 to ban food service based Styrofoam items. The LA City council voted to support this and he would like support from the NWSPNC. This item was also referred to the Issues Committee.
- **Jody James:** Comment related to the Rancho LPG tanks and a recent accident involving a tanker train and a tanker truck which was not reported by the media. Jody announced the March 15th Board of Harbor Commissioners meeting and would like to see as many people as possible attend.
- **John Stammreich:** Urged the signing of a petition for a constitutional amendment to have legislatures serve less time.
- **Janet Gunter:** Spoke in opposition of Rancho LPG tanks. She stated that a comprehensive risk analysis should be required.

14. **HANC (Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils) REPORT:** A written report was distributed which provided highlights from the March 7, 2012 HANC Meeting.

15. **Bylaws and Election Committee:** No report.

16. **Planning and Land Use:** Combined Meeting with the Port. No report.

17. **City Budget Survey Update:** Summary sheet included in agenda packet.

18. **Issues Committee Report:** The committee will meet again at the end of this month regarding the racing issue.

19. Safety and Security Committee:

- There has been no follow up yet on the request for insurance policy information from Rancho LPG. A letter needs to be prepared.
- The committee is in the planning stages of an Emergency Preparedness Fair.

20. Treasurer/Finance Committee Report:

- **Bob Bryant moved to approve the monthly expenses and the budget as presented in the agenda packet. The motion was seconded by Charles Eldred and carried unanimously by the Board.**

21. **President’s Report:** Arrangements are being made for the board retreat which is scheduled for June 23, 2012.

22. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm

Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Smith, Administrative Assistant to NWSPNC