



**Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
March 8, 2010 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
Peck Park, 6:30pm**

1. **Call to Order:** President Dan Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:37pm
2. **Roll Call:** Board members in attendance were: Bob Bryant, Dan Dixon, Paula Mazzarino, John Greenwood, Craig Goldfarb, Gabriel Rivas, John Mavar, Meryl Moilov, Philip Nicolay, Ray Patricio, Cpt. George Thompson, Barbara Schach, Mary Hamlin, Laureen Vivian and Diana Nave. The following board members were excused: Pete Burmeister and Meryl Moilov. Approximately 40 stakeholders present. Unexcused absence: David Arvonio.
3. **Approval of Minutes of the February, 2010 Meeting:** Bob Bryant made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2010 Meeting, seconded by George Thompson and approved unanimously by the board.
4. **Presentation by Port of LA updating the Red Car Master Plan:** Dan Dixon introduced presenter, Tony, from the Port of LA who talked about the Red Car Master Plan. Engineers/architects were hired to do a feasibility study on the expansion of the red car. Criteria: Link Key Destinations; Facilitate Adjacent Development; Enhance Public Transportation; Encourage Business Investment; Maximize Red Car Ridership. They looked at the 7 routes: The Cruise Terminal to 22nd and Miner is currently in operation. Possible extensions/alignments are: Outer harbor cruise terminal, City Dock One, loop through downtown, loop up to north Gaffey to Westmont and also all the way to Wilmington. All these possibilities have challenges which were explained. They need to build the maintenance facility and are considering a red car museum. The most feasible possibilities are the Cabrillo Beach line and the downtown loop. They are working closely with the Planning Dept and DOT. One possible Transit Center location is being looked at closely. Costs were reviewed. They have studied newer cars that are at a lower level to avoid using the raised platforms. They have also been reviewing possible Funding Opportunities.
5. **Report from LAPD:** In the absence of Officer Ashcroft, Officer Brian Cook was available to provide a report. Crime is down 11.5% compared to last year. Violent crime is down. Property crime is down 10%. We still have thefts from motor vehicles especially in the NWSPNC area. Officer Cook reminded everyone not to leave valuables in cars. He talked about upcoming projects including a Joint Regional Intelligence Center with websites to report suspicious activity. LAPD also has the iWatch program which can be accessed through the LAPD.org website. There was an announcement about the annual CPAC conference for teens which allows teens in the area to talk about issues they are facing. The event is scheduled for April 15th.
6. **Presentation by Department of Public Works on Peck Park Canyon Enhancement Project:** Diana updated the stakeholders on the history of the project and how it was started by the NWSPNC. A Bureau of Engineering representative talked about the purpose of the project which is mainly to improve water quality; control any pollution from going into the San Pedro Bay, and to improve trails. Fences have been erected and the current hiking trails will be closed until Feb 2011. There are going to be a few improvements to the back lower parking lot which could cause some closures. They are trying to keep it to a minimum. A ground breaking ceremony is scheduled for March 22, 2010 at 4pm in the back parking lot. There are two funding sources for

this project: Prop O and Prop 50. The total budget for the project is \$4.8 million. The community can get information on the project by calling 213-978-0333. Ray Patricio commented that this is still not what the people wanted. They wanted animals brought into the Park.

7. **MOTION to oppose sale or transfer of City physical assets for purposes of budget windfall without vigorous and transparent public vetting process.** (Includes but not limited to Convention Center, Los Angeles Zoo, parking structures, theaters.) This motion was made by John Mavar and seconded by Barbara Schach and subsequently approved by unanimous vote of the Board.
8. **Councilwoman Hahns Office:** Ana Dragin reported on:
 - a. **Peck Park** groundbreaking. She provided a handout with more information.
 - b. **Child Care Centers:** 24 out of 26 being staffed by city employees will be closing. The afterschool program will continue, however, Peck Park does not have a separate after school program. A meeting was scheduled by concerned mothers for next Thursday night, 18th at 6pm. The Council Office is compiling data for other child care facilities in the city.
 - c. **Park Western Elementary School,** new crosswalk was installed.
 - d. **Question about Gentleman's Club at 1010 Gaffey.** The council office commented that no permits have been pulled.
 - e. **Cell Towers:** Notice of Public hearing to be held Wednesday March 17 10am at LA City Hall. Opinions can be submitted by email or in writing delivered to the Council Office. Regarding health impacts: Information was included on the back of the notice of Public hearing. The church at Weymouth Corner should be making their decision on the 16th.
9. **Port of Los Angeles:** Augie Besmalinovich announced that March 18 there will be a downtown Harbor Public workshop. His full report was moved to next month due to a full agenda.
10. **Public Comments on Non-agenda items:**
 - a. **Eric Calhoun from Rec and Parks.** Union President of all the Child Care Workers. There are five major grants in America that have not yet been applied for by our City. Directors were directed not to apply for the grants. He urges council members to investigate these other funding sources.
 - b. **Jody James:** Announcement about COPE (Community Outreach Promoting Emergency Preparedness) event on April 30th, 9am-1:30pm at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. This event is a forum aimed at the business community. Lt. Gen. Russell Honore will be the keynote speaker. More information is available on the website: www.cope-preparedness.org
 - c. **Mark Wells:** Talking about an Initiative for voters in PV to change the zoning of Marymount so it can approve on campus housing. He wants people to be aware of this issue which will be coming up for a vote.
11. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - a. A report on expenditures for last month was passed around.
 - b. **John Greenwood made a motion to approve the March 8, 2010 Treasurer's Report, seconded by John Mavar and passed by unanimous vote of the Board.**
 - c. **Diana Nave made a motion seconded by John Mavar that we ask DONE to allow us to put the petty cash funds into the postage account. The motion was passed with 1 no vote and 10 yes votes.**
12. **Port Committee:** Phil Nicolay reported on the following:
 - a. Talked about the train noise issue.
 - b. Commented that the EIR for City Dock One will be coming.
 - c. Re-Structuring of PCAC. Phil gave a history of the PCAC to the stakeholders. At their last meeting, the Port Committee had a discussion and came up with a motion. The committee recommends a no Vote on the PCAC motion brought forth from the PCAC itself. John Greenwood commended the Port Committee for their courage in seeing things the way they

are. He felt we should have our rep vote no on the motion. During discussion Chuck Hart read a written statement in support of the PCAC Motion, Carrie Scoville made comments in support of the PCAC motion; and Pat Nave also gave his comments in support of the Port Committees motion. **The following motion brought forth by the NWSPNC Port Committee was approved by a vote of 10 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention:**

WHEREAS, it is beneficial to the community and to the Port for there to be a forum where issues can be discussed and actions taken, and

WHEREAS, PCAC has recommended that groups now a part of PCAC be removed or not counted in the quorum if they do not participate in meetings; and

WHEREAS, the NWSPNC wishes to address PCAC composition issues by recommending criteria for selecting representatives;

NOW THEREFORE, it is resolved that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council recommends to the PCAC for its consideration and to the Board of Harbor Commissioners for its adoption, that PCAC be restructured with representation by the following criteria:

- 1. Each representative should be an established organization that holds regular meetings, has a charter and bylaws, and elects its leaders. They should be groups with a recognized interest in Port matters. Some examples are Chambers of Commerce, terminal operators, Port unions, Neighborhood Councils, small businesses, and established community organizations.**
- 2. A letter from the member organization should accompany the request to the BHC for appointment of the individual representative to PCAC. A PCAC bylaw implementing this criterion might provide that each organization should establish approval of their appointment through a vote at a regularly scheduled board meeting, and provide a letter or motion from the organizations board to accompany the nomination to the BHC.**
- 3. Groups participating in PCAC should represent a cross section of interests in the harbor community that interact with the Port.**

13. Planning and Land Use Report: (Written report in agenda packet).

Cell Tower proposed at first Presbyterian Church of San Pedro. Diana Nave explained that there is no motion yet on the table because the committee did not take a position on the issue. The Planning and Land Use Committee was concerned because the congregation of the church had not yet approved the proposed cell tower. There is a hearing is scheduled for March 17th with the City Zoning Administrative. Kyle Sutherland with AT&T was introduced to give a brief overview of what they are requesting. There were also comments from stakeholders and board members as follows:

- a. Pastor Neal of the First Presbyterian Church answered questions. There were some concerns about the cell tower producing harmful microwaves and he responded that the cell tower creates radio waves, not microwaves.
- b. Laureen Vivian felt this was one of the best visual solutions in hiding a cell tower that she had ever seen.
- c. Dan Dixon commented that our government says we can't base our opinion on health issues.
- d. **John Greenwood made a motion to support the installation of the cell tower pending congregational vote of approval. The motion was seconded by John Mavar. Diana Nave proposed an amendment to the motion that "the NWSPNC is disturbed that the meeting is in downtown Los Angeles. This type of meeting should be in our community and not downtown Los Angeles". The amendment to the motion was accepted. After discussion, the motion**

failed by a vote of 6 yes, 7 no.

Additional Discussion:

- e. Frank Sardania: 1350 9th Street. Understands that the church needs revenue but is in opposition of the cell.
- f. Shelly Jurgensen: Concerned about the effects of the cell tower on nearby wild life.
- g. Jeff Moore: Resident of S. Averill living in close proximity to the proposed cell tower. Is concerned about the effects of this type of technology on his family.
- h. James Logan: Lives directly across the street at 730 S. Averill and strongly opposes a cell tower at this location and find it objectionable that the hearing is being held in downtown LA.
- i. Steve Riley: 6 year resident at 1359 7th Street. Opposes the cell tower not only for health and safety reasons but also because he feels the aesthetics of the church tower will be compromised by the additional 2 foot projections.
- j. Michael Stump a nearby resident felt there should be more discussion of toxic materials used in the operation of cell phone towers.
- k. Nick Velas is quite content with the current reception of his cell phone and doesn't feel another cell tower is needed in this particular area.
- l. Diana Nave, NWSPNC Board Member, has concerns and doesn't feel enough study has been done. We need to look at other cell towers being considered but keep them away from residential area. Have them as aesthetically pleasing as possible. She supports this motion because it is a better alternative than some of the more atrocious towers being considered.

14. Harbor Alliance Motions related to Budget Crisis.

- a. MOTION encouraging City to identify additional revenues for 2010-11
- b. MOTION supporting layoffs being spread across entire workforce, not just civilian workforce
- c. MOTION urging that budget cuts be made with consideration of individual communities, not just a "one size fits all" approach
- d. MOTION opposing sale or lease of Warner Grand Theater
- e. MOTION opposing closing of child care centers when parents are willing to pay cost of operations
- f. MOTION requesting Mayor and City Council to take voluntary 30 percent pay cut

Diana Nave moved to approve all six motions above combined as one which was seconded by Craig Goldfarb and then passed unanimously by the NWSPNC Board. During discussion, an Amendment proposed by Phil Nicolay to delete the portion about pay cuts failed.

15. Harbor Alliance Motions related to Neighborhood Councils:

- a. MOTION supporting proposal to place DONE function within the Community Development Department.
- b. MOTION opposing the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners being designated as a managerial commission for neighborhood councils.

Diana Nave moved to approve both motions as one which was seconded by John Greenwood and then passed unanimously by the NWSPNC Board. (Craig Goldfarb was

away from the table during the vote).

16. **Election Information:** Captain George Thompson gave an update on the upcoming Elections.

17. **Youth and Education Committee:** No report due to time constraints.

18. **Chair's Report:**

- a. Laureen Vivian was approved as the new representative to the CRA.
- b. Dan commented that one third of court staff is being laid off.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:09pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Smith, Administrative Assistant to NWSPNC Board