

Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
Community Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2008, 6:30 p.m. – Peck Park Auditorium
(Approved June 9, 2008)

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** President Dan Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. Board members in attendance were Mollie Abbatiello, Dan Dixon, Bonnie Easley, John Greenwood, Craig Goldfarb, Jody James, John Mavar, Meryl Moilov (left early due to family emergency), Philip Nicolay, Ray Patricio, Capt. George Thompson, Barbara Schach, Sanni Wehbe and Pete Burmeister. The following board members had excused absences: Diana Nave, John Stammreich and Mary Hamlin. Approximately 30 stakeholders present.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Ray Patricio asked for a correction to the minutes because he was mistakenly marked absent. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2008 Monthly Board and Stakeholder Meeting. 1 abstention (Bonnie Easley due to being absent at the last monthly meeting). 11 yes votes, 0 no votes. Minutes approved as corrected.
3. **Report from Public Officials:**
 - a) **LAPD:** Officer Dumaplin talked about the recent incident of tires being slashed, mostly on or near Western Ave. No current leads on the problem. Also talked about car thefts and what makes and models are most targeted. She stressed the importance of having anti-theft devices (such as a club) installed on vehicles.
 - b) **D.O.N.E.:** Rosa Arcadia announced that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment has an upcoming event on Saturday (May 17th) from 8am-4pm called “The Gathering.” This replaces the previous Congress of Neighborhoods format. There are some excellent speakers and lunch is also included. Rosa also encouraged people to vote at NWSPNC’s election next month. She announced that May 13th was the last day to file as a candidate on the ballot.
 - c) **Councilwoman’s Office:** Gordon Teuber announced that he or another member of the staff will be filling in for Ana Dragin while she is out on maternity leave. Also commented on:
 - i. **Gaffey Trees.** Trees have been posted for removal. Port has offered to put in 25 new trees on the east side of the street. They are trying to get Target to apply their resources to plant trees on the west side of the street. They are also going to ask the World Port Business Center to assist. Target is also doing curbs and gutters.
 - ii. **Ponte Vista:** Gave update that there will be an upcoming hearing held by the Planning Department. Date and time not yet set.
 - iii. **Amerigas:** Jody James asked about relocating Amerigas or getting them to update their safety standards. She explained the dangers of the facility. Gordon commented that he was sorry to say that there is nothing new at this time relating to Amerigas.
4. **Presentation by Port of Los Angeles:** Phil Nicolay introduced representatives Mike Christiansen, Deputy Director of Development and Jan Green-Rebstock, Environmental Project Manager, from the Port of Los Angeles speaking on the Waterfront Project. Mike began by reviewing the comments that came from the public during previous meetings. There were several poster boards showing six project alternatives being considered at this time. The following are some of the comments that came forward from stakeholders in the community who attended previous meetings :
 - a) Don’t build high-rises directly on the water.
 - b) San Pedro is a place you go to see ships.
 - c) We want a promenade on the water’s edge
 - d) We want to link the downtown with the waterfront
 - e) We want to manage traffic

- f) We want the Port to take Sampson Way and realign it to have an easy route between the waterfront and Ports o' Call.
- g) We want Ports o' Call redeveloped (including open space)
- h) We want to activate the water front to get people there
- i) We want a compliment to the downtown, something that revitalizes the facility
- j) Transient boating needs to be addressed
- k) San Pedro is LA's home for cruise ships
- l) We want to see the San Pedro side of the channel de-industrialized

Mr. Christiansen then showed the proposed project and talked about the various elements: They are working with 400 acres, 8 miles wide. The new waterfront includes a promenade from the bridge to Cabrillo Beach. The promenade will be 30 feet wide. They plan to create a downtown harbor by having a north harbor cut by the Maritime Museum and also revitalize Ports o' Call including a conference center by having developers come up with a plan. They plan to expand and realign Sampson Way; build an outer harbor cruise terminal (two berths) including a parking structure Berth 93 area; create new destinations for the red car (extend it to the beach); include a shuttle service; and create more green space. There are 20 acres of park going in as part of current enhancements and, in addition, they will have 27 acres more open space in the new plan. They are terminating the lease with Westways and plan to move the marine fueling station to the other side of the channel (at berth 240 where Southwest Marine is currently located). The salt water marsh will be upgraded and the promenade will go across it. Jan then talked about the entire SEQA process. She stated that the scoping process was started back in 2005. They are now in the Draft EIR phase. They hope to resubmit it in 1-1/2 months. The Port website will have the document for review. They will then have a public meeting and will also take email comments or written comments sent to the Port. They hope to bring the project to the council by the end of the year.

5. **DWP Oversight Committee:** Soledad Garcia talked about 5 Owens Valley trips coming up and anyone is welcome to attend (Dan Dixon has the number to call for more information). She also talked about the restructuring tier plan of the DWP. There will be a meeting put on by the Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council in the near future to provide details on the rate increases.
6. **Presentation by *Shakespeare by the Sea*.** A representative talked about the free Shakespeare performances at Pt. Fermin Park. June 12th to July 12th, Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. They also perform in other cities and those cities pay for their productions. The San Pedro Community does not pay for this program which provides the community with 17 wonderful performances. They are asking corporations, foundations and councils to help fund the productions here in San Pedro. They sell advertising space in their programs to help generate funds to cover the overhead. **John Mavar made a motion that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council provide a sponsorship of \$2500 to the Shakespeare by the Sea Program. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Easley and passed by 10 yes votes, 0 no votes, 2 abstentions.**
7. **Public comment on Non Agenda Items:**
 - a) **Candidate for State Assembly (Betty Karnette's Seat):** Tonia Reyes Uranga is currently a Councilmember in the Seventh District, City of Long Beach and she is running for a seat on the state assembly. Betty Karnette's term is expiring. Tonia introduced herself and urged everyone to vote at the June 3rd election.
 - b) **Guillermo Villagran:** Mr. Villagran addressed the council on the fight against crime asking the board to adopt a resolution to support one or two draft measures that have been proposed to the LA City Council with respect to fighting crime (specifically gangs that are bringing illegal aliens into their groups). Guillermo commented on Jimael's Law and the two draft measures. Dan Dixon commented that our council needs to study this issue more extensively and suggested it be turned over to our Issues Committee. Guillermo will send the wording of the draft measures for

our council to review. Jody James thinks this requires a strong motion. Wed June 4th will be the Issues Committee meeting at City Hall.

- c) **Doug Epperhart:** Commented on the recent appointment by the Mayor of Bong Kim as General Manager of DONE. He has not yet been confirmed. Many people have been talking to the Council office requesting that Mr. Kim not be confirmed in that position. Doug also commented that several members of the DONE staff have concerns with Mr. Kim and do not feel he should be appointed to that position.
- d) **Gordon Teuber:** Thanked Board Member John Greenwood for getting Janice to sponsor a motion to revoke an ordinance that has been on the books for 34 years. This ordinance gave the housing authority the right to buy every condo sold in the City of Los Angeles for affordable housing. The housing authority is normally funded by federal dollars and does not have the funds to buy any condos at market rate and has not ever done it. In early 2007 the housing authority decided to charge a \$150 fee for every condo that was transferred for the processing of the document. Previously they had never charged any fees. John Greenwood and the South Bay Association of Realtors met with Janice Hahn and she was able to get the ordinance revoked. It has been wiped off the books and those fees will no longer be collected.
8. **Amerigas Study:** Jody James talked about creating a motion to support a study of potential dangers posed to our community by the Amerigas facility which stores 26 million gallons of butane and 180,000 gallons of propane. In the event of a natural disaster such as an earthquake, Jody feels our community could be at risk from these tanks exploding. Phil asked Gordon if a study would make any difference to the council in their efforts against Amerigas. Dan Dixon suggested the issue go to Land Use and Planning for further discussion. Jody hopes to request unity from all three San Pedro neighborhood councils, as well as Wilmington, in funding such a study.
9. **Treasurer:** Sanni Wehbe commented that our budget for next year needs to be approved. He provided an overview of the 2008/2009 Operating budget for the NWSPNC. **A motion was made by Sanni Wehbe to approve the 2008/2009 with the adjustment that \$1000 for Elections be deleted and adjust Outreach to \$16,000, seconded by George Thompson, Unanimous vote in favor. Motion passed.**
10. **Issues Committee:** John Mavar presented the following motions recommended by the Issues Committee:
 - a) **Motion #1:** **A motion was made that the NWSPNC allocate \$1,500.00 to support needs at the new Harbor Animal Shelter on Gaffey St. Authorized purchases include awnings which can be used for temporary events, both at Animal Shelter and at other City facilities, such as Peck Park, upon agreement by Harbor Shelter staff. Awnings will have the phrase "sponsored by Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council" permanently stenciled on fringe. Allocation may also be used for books for reading program and for miscellaneous purchases for opening ceremonies. All items to be paid for from invoices from vendors. Board voted unanimously in favor and the motion passed.**
 - b) **Motion #2:** **A motion was made that the NWSPNC allocate \$7,500.00 as a one-time sponsorship of the San Pedro High School Docs Rock program. The Artist in Residence program was previously sponsored by the Cultural Affairs Dept., but its support is withdrawn due to budget cuts. The instructor must have a total commitment of \$10,000.00 by June 1 in order to have clearance for the Artist in Residence portion of instruction on the fall SPHS schedule. The Docs Rock program is in its tenth year and offers students an instructional entrée into film production, including consultation from an Artist in Residence and other professionals who make presentations to the class. The film class will produce a two-minute public service announcement during the Fall 2008 term which can be submitted by the NWSPNC to local cable-access**

channels for purposes of community outreach. (1 abstention) 11 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.

- c) **Motion #3:** A motion was made that the NWSPNC allocate \$1,100.00 to purchase two semi-portable awnings for shade cover of bleachers at Peck Park Pool. NWSPNC had previously supported idea of shade covers. Shade covers are not items which will be budgeted by Recreation and Parks Department. 10 yes, 0 no. Motion passed.
11. **Port Committee:** Phil Nicolay presented the following PCAC motions.
- a) Motion #1 Re: East Wilmington Open Space Project: **SUBSTITUTE MOTION BY EIR SUBCOMMITTEE (April 24, 2008)** Whereas this project was the highest ranked project when the Wilmington Aesthetic Mitigation Committee initially met on June 28, 2007 to evaluate and prioritize the Wilmington Aesthetic Mitigation Proposals, and Whereas all of the members of the Committee that voted were from Wilmington. Therefore, Be it Resolved that the EIR/Aesthetic Mitigation Subcommittee moves that the PCAC recommend to the Board of Harbor Commissioners that the “East Wilmington Open Space, a Park” project be considered a priority project *re-established as the highest ranked priority project as voted in the EIR/Aesthetic Mitigation Subcommittee meeting of June 28, 2007*, in order to honor the true spirit and intent of the China Shipping Aesthetic Mitigation Settlement. NWSPNC Board voted unanimously to have the PCAC rep vote yes on this substitute motion.
- b) Motion #2 Re: Port Staff attend meetings. **MOTION:** The San Pedro Coordinated Plan Subcommittee (SPCP) moves that PCAC recommend to the Board of Harbor Commissioners that Port staff representatives attend the San Pedro Coordinated Plan Subcommittee and all other PCAC Subcommittee meetings to address and discuss agenda items. NWSPNC Board voted unanimously to have the PCAC rep vote yes on this motion.
- c) Motion #3 Re: Original Ports O’Call Enhancement Project. **MOTION:** The San Pedro Coordinated Plan Subcommittee (SPCP) moves that PCAC recommends that the BHC direct Port staff to implement the original Ports O’ Call enhancement project. NWSPNC Board voted unanimously to have the PCAC rep vote no on this motion.
- d) Motion #4 PCAC By-Laws Amendment Re: Quorum. The NWSPNC Board voted unanimously to have the PCAC rep vote yes on the following By-Laws Amendment: **Section 501. Quorum.** A minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the current number of voting members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for purposes of conducting the business of the Committee at regular or special meetings. *A majority of members shall constitute a quorum and who must be present for business to be legally conducted. The quorum refers to the number of such members present, not to the number actually voting on a particular question.*
- e) Motion #5 PCAC By-Laws Amendment Re: Voting. The NWSPNC Board voted unanimously to have the PCAC rep vote yes on the following By-Laws Amendment: **Section 502. Voting.** All Committee actions, unless otherwise stated in these by-laws, shall be by majority vote of the members present at a regular or special meeting at which a quorum is present. *Motions, propositions and resolutions must be adopted by a majority vote of members present and voting in a properly called meeting where a quorum has been declared is present. The Board member Co- PCAC Chair shall abstain not from voting vote on any recommendations or any other actions taken by the Committee, EXCEPT to break a tie. Alternates shall not vote when their designated voting member is present at the meeting. No proxy votes shall be allowed. From time to time issues may be presented to the Committee for discussion or action by the Committee in which a voting member may have a conflict of interest as defined under State of California and local law. Should a conflict arise, the affected member is prohibited by law from participating in the discussion or in any decision of the Committee on the issue. The*

City Attorney will review conflict of issues on a case by case basis and shall advise the affected member and Committee.

- f) Beautification Project: Phil provided copies of the China Shipping EIR.
 - g) Next Port Committee Meeting June 3, 2008
12. **Youth and Education:** It was commented that as a council we need to make sure we have a level of commitment to schools for community improvement. The following motions were recommended by the Youth and Education Committee:
- a) **Motion #1 - WHEREAS, Seventh St. School has relatively new floors which it wishes to protect from damage by moving of chairs, WHEREAS, no funds are available to purchase protective glides to soften the impact of chairs on the floors as well as noise and disruption in the classroom, now THEREFORE, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$1,500.00 to purchase protective "soft" glides for classroom chairs. School will submit two quotations (if more than one source is available), from which council may select. Invoice will be paid directly to vendor. Amount allocated may include shipping. The NWSPNC voted unanimously in favor of this motion.**
 - b) **Motion #2 - The Northwest Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$1,500.00 to purchase grass sod for Willenberg School. School to provide written proposal indicating type of sod, whether or not sod will match existing grass or will replace it, and provide two quotations (if more than one source is available). Invoice will be paid directly to vendor. Amount allocated may include shipping. The NWSPNC voted unanimously in favor of this motion.**
13. **Election Procedure/Bylaws Committee:** Capt. George Thompson gave an update on the status of the amended NWSPNC Bylaws which have now been approved by D.O.N.E.
14. **President's report:**
- a) **Motion to approve letter of support for Soledad Garcia.** Dan Dixon made the following motion which was seconded by Jody James and passed unanimously by the NWSPNC Board.

MOTION to Support Appointment of Soledad Garcia. WHEREAS, San Pedro resident Soledad Garcia has been the chair of the Neighborhood Council/LADWP Oversight Committee for three years, and WHEREAS, Ms. Garcia was one of the original members of the NC/DWP Taskforce, and she was designated District 7 Outreach Liaison and has voluntarily continued in that capacity even as chair of the Oversight Committee, and WHEREAS, Ms. Garcia is one of the hardest-working and most tenacious volunteers that we know, now THEREFORE, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council recommends that the Honorable Janice Hahn appoint Ms. Soledad Garcia to the Los Angeles City Council/DWP Oversight Committee.
 - b) **Elections:** Dan Dixon talked about upcoming elections and the candidate filing deadline.
15. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Smith
Administrative Asst to NWSPNC