

Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
September 8, 2008 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
Peck Park, 6:30pm

1. **Call to Order:** President Dan Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:38pm.
2. **Roll Call:** Board members in attendance were Mollie Abbatiello, Dan Dixon, Bonnie Easley, Craig Goldfarb, Gabriel Rivas, Meryl Moilov, Ray Patricio, Cpt. George Thompson, Barbara Schach, David Arvonio, Laureen Vivian, Mary Hamlin, and Diana Nave. Philip Nicolay, John Mavar, John Greenwood and Pete Burmeister were excused. Quorum was present. Approximately 28 stakeholders present.
3. **Minutes:** There were two minor spelling corrections to the August 11 minutes. Bonnie Easley asked about item #4, the presentation by Linda Spink of Harbor College. Dr. Spink is hoping that the NWSPNC will support her proposal as she presented it at the Aug. 11 meeting. The item was referred to Barbara Schach, Chair of the Education Committee, for follow up. Laureen Vivian made a motion to approve the August 11, 2008 minutes as corrected, seconded by Capt. George Thompson. Unanimous board vote in favor of approval.
4. **DONE (Department of Neighborhood Empowerment):** Rosa Arcadia announced two items. 1) Council file management system and 2) Community Workshops for the Congress of Neighborhoods/Community Budget Day 8am-11am, Saturday, October 11, 2008. Craig Goldfarb and David Arvonio agreed to be the representatives from the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council.
5. **LAPD:** Officer Dumaplin reported on some problems with theft from autos in the Gardens area. The LAPD has been doing walkthroughs at various locations and found that many people are leaving valuables in plain site in their vehicles which is an invitation to thieves. Officer Dumaplin also reported on a suspect apprehended after a recent chase which ended at 29th Street & Emily. This suspect had committed several armed robberies in the San Pedro and Harbor areas. She also commented on a shooting at In and Out Burger that was not gang related. A patron of the restaurant was angry when a security guard asked him not to sit on the table and reacted by shooting at the guard. Diana Nave asked if the Police Explorers could assist with cleaning up the area in front of the Pistol Range. Officer Dumaplin referred the question to Gordon Teuber of Councilwoman Hahn's office.
6. **Councilwoman's Office:** Pres. Dan Dixon thanked Gordon Teuber for giving of his own personal time to attend the NWSPNC Board Retreat on Saturday. Gordon Teuber then reported on the following:
 - a. **Meeting with Laura Chick.** The main topic was emergency preparedness and what is being done in the Harbor. Janice Hahn's office has been asking for a specific plan for the San Pedro/Harbor area for at least three years. They are following up on the issue.
 - b. **Angel's Gate High School** is a hot topic. The Councilwoman attended a meeting last week and voiced her opinion in support of the residents of the affected area. The council office wants the community to be able to give input.
 - c. **Events:** Walking Tour at Machado Lake, Sept. 17, 2008; Meeting this Friday for the 110 Congestion Pricing Issue, Carson Civic Center; Emergency Preparedness Fair, September 20, Ken Malloy Regional Park; and a SWIRP Workshop in the Harbor Area on Sept 16, 6pm in Wilmington.
 - d. **Target Grand Opening** on North Gaffey is still scheduled for October 12th. Gordon is trying to get information on how our neighborhood council can participate.

- e. **Trees on North Gaffey:** Gordon was able to get World Port Business Center to commit to \$5,000 for the trees on North Gaffey. He also commented that Capitol to Gatun has about three trees that need replacement at about \$3,000.
- f. **LAPD:** He was happy to see the LAPD and volunteer groups out and about around San Pedro.
- g. **Repaving of Channel Street** is not on the list that Diana received. Gordon will have Cindy follow up on that issue.
- h. **Freeway relinquishment:** Councilwoman Hahn is writing a letter to the Governor this week. Gordon would like to see North Gaffey repaved also.
- i. **Amerigas:** Dan Dixon asked about the landlord of the Amerigas property. No new news on Amerigas. Stakeholder Jody James asked that the issue be on the councilwoman's front burner.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- a. **Jana Jones from Harbor Interfaith Services:** She is doing outreach for Harbor Interfaith Services. She reported that Fri/Sat/Sun they will be at the three VONS grocery stores collecting receipts (13th/Gaffey, 25th/Western, Pavilion Rolling Hills). They will be giving out free shopping bags to those who sign up for the Scrip program. An upcoming event is the Fall Gala scheduled for October 10th at the Palos Verdes Golf Course. This is a fundraiser honoring members of the community. She will be providing a formal request for funding to the NWSPNC in the amount of \$500 for their 2009 calendar. The calendar showcases the talent of youth in the community.
- b. **Pat Carroll:** She urged the community to vote tomorrow at the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council election at the Port of Los Angeles High School.
- c. **Soledad Garcia:** Talked about supporting a motion that will now come before us next month related to the new DWP Advocacy Committee. The committee did such a great job that the DWP manager has asked that the MOU people and its organization be limited to the oversight of the MOU only rather than advocating. Therefore to continue the advocacy they have set up another committee and they are advocating lower rates and more importantly, the restructuring and opposition to it. A motion will be brought forth at our next meeting to support the continuing work of the advocacy group.
- d. **Chuck Hart:** San Pedro Peninsula Homeowners United. Fireworks issue. Results from LAPD captain, 3 felony arrests, 20 misdemeanor arrests, 33 traffic citation, 11 parking citations. In the City of LA there were 9,000 lbs of fireworks confiscated. In Harbor area alone there were 6,000 lbs. The LAPD Captain has promised to make even further improvements next year.
- e. **Jody James:** Commented on the recent Laura Chick meeting. Laura made some commitments to go to bat for our community to have an evacuation plan for our community with the BOHC.
- f. **Mark Wells:** Commented that the new Target store may have a pre-opening on October 8th. He also reported on an upcoming meeting of interest to San Pedro residents. The Rancho PV Traffic Safety Commission will meet Monday, Sept. 22, 7pm at Fred Hess Park, 29301 Hawthorne Blvd. The commission will be conducting a public forum regarding mitigation aspects on Western in relationship to the Ponte Vista Development. He explained that the City of Rancho PV has a stake in whether changes are made to the mitigation proposals of Ponte Vista. This is the reason for this public forum. 2nd Public forum being conducted for Ponte Vista.

- 8. **Presentation by Andrea Adleman:** With the high level of interest in the presidential election this year, Andrea is hoping to have the local neighborhood councils co-sponsor a non-partisan voter education forum. She hopes to have the event on Tuesday October 21st, two weeks before the election at the Cabrillo Marina Community Building or at a larger venue if necessary. **A motion was made by Bonnie Easley and seconded by Lauren Vivian to support the forum in an**

amount not to exceed \$800. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion. There was a suggestion from Laureen Vivian to have banners announcing the event around town.

9. **Motion to pay up to \$5,000 for tree removal on North Gaffey:** The board discussed the possibility of supporting a motion to pay for tree removal on North Gaffey. **Mary Hamlin made a motion that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council pay up to \$5,000 for tree removal on North Gaffey as community enhancement in conjunction with the North Gaffey beautification project provided other funds are not secured. The motion was seconded by David Arvonio.** After discussion, Diana Nave made the following amendment adding the phrase **“and that the NWSPNC President be requested to write letters to the World Port Business Center, Port of Los Angeles, Councilwoman’s Office and the new Target Store thanking them for their participation.”** Diana also raised the question whether we should lower the amount since World Port had committed \$3,000. Gordon Teuber suggested we keep the amount at \$5,000 in the event the additional funding was needed. Gabriel suggested that maybe we should table the motion. Dan felt we need to stand by. **The amendment was seconded by George Thomas and passed unanimously by the Board. The amended motion was then passed unanimously by the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board.**

10. **Motion made by Laureen Vivian to apply for Community Beautification Grant of up to \$10,000 for repair of retaining walls at Averill Park.** Laureen Vivian explained the need for the repairs at Averill Park through a Beautification Grant. **The following motion was made by Laureen Vivian and seconded by Diana Nave.**

**Whereas the retaining walls of the stream & paths are cracked, unsafe and in serious disrepair; and
Whereas the upper half of the stream & its waterfall are leaking to the point of having been shut-off; and
Whereas the wildlife—ducks, geese, turtles, crawdads, etc.— are cut-off from these resources; and
Whereas all the water lily plants have died-off and their rock foundations are bare; and
Whereas the planting beds adjacent to the stream are almost barren of plant life; and
Whereas vegetation and habitat need to be restored; and
Whereas the main pump and filtration system are severely antiquated /efficient, noisy and have been malfunctioning for years and years to the point where parts are no longer available; and
Whereas a pump house is also needed to camouflage, secure and beautify the pump placed at the terminus of the stream; and
Whereas there has been a work order in place for replacement of the pump for at least two years; and
Whereas the park is w/o lighting for safety, to discourage illegal night activities during hours of closure, and to highlight its exceptionally beautiful topography, and
Whereas Averill Park, designed by the renown landscape firm if Olmstead, the designers of such well-known parks as Central Park in New York City, is recognized city-wide as an gem among parks;**

**Now Therefore Be it Resolved that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council apply for a L.A. City Beautification Grant for up to \$10,000 to repair retaining walls and make other improvements; and
That the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council send a letter to the Department of Recreation and Parks requesting a timetable for the replacement of the pump and filtration system (including date and name of manufacturer of pump system), the turn-on date for the waterfall and upper stream, the placement of additional signs at gazebo and main entry stating \$250 event use fee, informing known websites that advertise the park for events of this fee, Saturday & Sunday enforcement of the fee collection, and a schedule and list of repairs/enhancements so that the Neighborhood Council can proceed with the procurement of other funds for other outside repairs/enhancements.**

The NWSPNC Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

11. **Motion relative to application for China Shipping mitigation funds:** Diana Nave explained the need for the motion. \$6.6 million in mitigation funds is available for the San Pedro area. The top priority is for parks. Pat Nave talked in support of the motion. **After discussion, Diana Nave made the following motion: That the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood council submit an application for China Shipping mitigation funds for the purposes of 1) under-grounding utilities between Channel St. to Westmont Dr., on North Gaffey and for 2) purchasing a non-conforming piece of property on the beautified portion of N. Pacific Avenue. The motion was seconded by Bonnie Easley and passed unanimously by the NWSPNC Board.**

12. **Land Use and Planning Committee Report:**

- a. **Proposed development on Channel.** Current plan is for 8 homes.
- b. **Cut-through street from Miraflores to Channel.** One way alley-way with no left turn onto Channel. Planning and Land Use Committee has discussed it and is concerned with the safety of people driving down the hill. The following motion came from the Committee:

DRAFT Motion on Miraflores to Channel Cut Through

Whereas, we have reviewed the traffic situation on Channel Street and the placement of the proposed Miraflores cut through to Channel; and

Whereas, in analyzing the site it was observed that the street will enter on the hill and that because of the existing street it will not be possible to have a turn out lane; and

Whereas, we find that this cut through (alley) will create an unsafe condition for traffic coming down the hill on Channel and for those trying to enter onto Channel from Miraflores;

Now, therefore, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council recommends that the proposed Miraflores cut through (alley) to Channel St. be withdrawn as it will create an unsafe traffic hazard.

There was a public comment on the motion from Jim and Cathe Neu. They have only one access and there are truck problems there and he would like to see the new exit. Dan Dixon asked Gordon Teuber from the Councilwoman's office questions about the cut-through. Gordon specifically mentioned that DOT will not approve the cut-through as a legal street, just an alley-way. Funding is still in place. There was additional discussion and comments from board members and the public. Bonnie Easley moved to table the motion, 1 no, 8 yes, 2 abstentions. The above motion was tabled.

- c. **Proposed 110 Freeway Congestion Reduction Plan:** Carpool lane would be converted to toll lane with a toll between Artesia and Adams on the 110 Freeway with transponders utilized on cars. Second public meeting is this coming Friday. The NWSPNC Land Use and Planning committee will consider whether we want to make recommendations after the meeting.
- d. **Report from Laureen Vivian, our representative on the CRA CAC. Re: San Pedro Pacific Corridor Project.** A written report was provided by Laureen Vivian. Diana explained the report. Gordon Teuber stated that the Port and CRA want to approach Cal Trans about the lot across from the fountain on Harbor Blvd.
- e. **Infrastructure Motion:** Motion to City relative to infrastructure review program and revision of infrastructure studies prior to further approval of zoning changes, specific plans or plan amendments. After discussion, the following motion was made by Diana Nave:
PROPOSED RESOLUTION RE INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW

WHEREAS, the City's General Plan is supposed to "annually document what has actually happened to the City's population levels, housing construction, employment levels, and the availability of public infrastructure and public services" in a report that will be "...used to facilitate ... environmental review for subsequent programs and projects in accordance with CEQA." [Growth Monitoring section of the General Plan originally adopted on December 11, 1996 and Re-adopted on August 8, 2001 (CPC 94-0354 GPF CF 95-2259 CF 01-1162); and

WHEREAS, the annual report provides that "If growth has occurred faster than projected, a revised environmental analysis will be prepared and appropriate changes to the Community Plan and zoning will be recommended. These Plan and zoning changes, and any related moratoria or interim control ordinances, shall be submitted to the City Planning Commission, the Mayor, and the City Council, as specified in the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC)"; and

WHEREAS, the City has not updated its Annual Growth and Infrastructure Review since 1998; and

WHEREAS, City growth management policies and guidelines (e.g. zoning codes and rules, traffic study and mitigation policies, significant impact thresholds, etc) are based on certain assumptions, such as actual population growth and the remaining capacity in the various infrastructures (e.g. water supply and distribution, sewage treatment, electricity generation and distribution, current and predicted roadway and intersection Levels of Service, transit capacities, etc.; and WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has experienced a great deal of growth and new construction since 1998 and continues to approve density and traffic-increasing land development projects without knowledge of whether the City's various infrastructures can accommodate the additional residents such development projects make possible; and

WHEREAS, a lawsuit has been filed seeking an order from the Superior Court to compel the City to obey its General Plan and require preparation of an annual report; and

WHEREAS, Neighborhood Councils are not permitted to be named as plaintiffs in the existing suit, but do have the power to ask the City to create a Council file on the subject;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Governing Board of the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council hereby requests that the City of Los Angeles:

1. Stop approving zoning ordinances, parcel/tract map amendments, specific plans or amendments, General/Community Plan amendments, development agreements, or tentative subdivision maps, and any other density or traffic-increasing development projects until the City implements an infrastructure capacities program with includes a transportation database showing current and projected Levels of Service at all signal-controlled intersections, and publishes the Annual Report on Growth and Infrastructure for 2008 and every year thereafter;
2. The City Council and Mayor's office allocate sufficient funds to the Planning Department to prepare these reports;
3. Create a Council File regarding requesting the preparation of an annual infrastructure analysis and plan, in conformance with the General Plan requirement; and
4. Consult with Neighborhood Councils in the preparation of the Annual Report on Growth and Infrastructure for their respective areas;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Northwest Neighborhood Council request that Councilwoman Hahn not sign off on the San Pedro Community Plan Update until the Infrastructure Report is completed and considered in the completion of the update.

The President and Secretary of the Governing Board are hereby requested to certify that this resolution has been duly adopted and forward it to the President of the City Council, to the Councilwoman of the District, to the City Clerk, and to all

other Neighborhood Councils who may have an interest in appropriate city planning.
The motion was seconded by Bonnie Easley and the NWSPNC Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

13. President's Report:

- a. Committee Chairs: Motion to approve appointment of all committee chairs and members. Moved by Diana Nave, seconded by George Thompson, passed unanimously.**
- b. Emergency Preparedness Fair:** Dan Dixon announced the date and time of the event and talked about the booth for NWSPNC. Bonnie Easley asked the board to consider increasing the amount of participation. David Arvonio explained the reason the Outreach Committee recommended the \$1,000 commitment versus a higher amount. Craig Goldfarb reiterated that we don't sponsor enough in our area and would like to see us sponsor a COPSS event in our community in the future.
- c. Review of board retreat:** Dan Dixon commented that this was a very productive retreat. He reiterated that we need to work more collaboratively with the other two councils in our area.

14. Meeting adjourned at 8:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Smith
Administrative Assistant.