

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council

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Impact Information

Date: 06/06/2012

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 12-0537

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Brief Summary: The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council Strongly supports continuing to hold Zoning Administration hearings in the San Pedro Municipal Building to allow the residents the opportunity to speak on issues vital to our community. Discontinuing these local hearings would have a negative impact on our community and the environment by requiring residents to spend approximately 2.5 hours just to get to and from the hearing.

Additional Information



**Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
May 14, 2012 Board and Stakeholder Meeting (DRAFT) 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.
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, Diana Nave, Barbara Schach, George Thompson. Excused Dan Dixon, John Stammreich and Laureen Vivian. Unexcused: John Mavar. Approximately 22 stakeholders present.
3. **Minutes:** George Thompson moved to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2012 Board and Stakeholder Meeting, seconded by Charles Eldred and approved unanimously by the Board.
4. **PORT POLICE:** An officer representing the Port of Los Angeles Police gave a brief report.
5. **LAPD:** Office Nua provided a report for Officer Ashcraft which included the latest crime statistics.
 - Property crimes are still the biggest problem. Juvenile enforcement such as a curfew and truancy task forces are in place to assist with the issue.
 - A theft prevention device is available at the Harbor Division Station at a low price.
 - The Councilman's Office was thanked for its aggressive handling of the skateboarding issue.
6. **Public Works Department:** Presentation by Commissioner Jerilyn Lopez Mendoza of the Board of Public Works which oversees the following bureaus: Engineering, Sanitation, Street Services, Street Lighting, and Contract Administration. Updates were provided on the following:
 - **Bus Bench on North Gaffey:** New street bench vendor in place this year. Up to 10% of the advertising can be public service announcements. Basically, if a bench does not have advertising then the city can use it for public announcements.
 - **Special Price List** for Neighborhood Councils regarding small asphalt repairs, illegal dumping cleanup, tree trimming and sidewalk grinding. (A handout was provided with contact information).
 - **Community Beautification:** Pamphlet was provided with information on how the Office of Community Beautification can assist communities with clean up efforts.
 - **Cell Towers:** Applications for variances go through their Bureau of Engineering and then come to the Board of Public Works. They also work with cell companies who want to use an existing Board of Public Works light pole.
 - **Curb Cut on Capitol on Barrywood.** Crew from streets services inspected it this morning and felt it was feasible. This project is tentatively scheduled for July.
 - **Funding:** Street Lighting and Sanitation do not use city general funds, they are self funded
7. **Reusable Bag Policy** – Andy Schrader, Office of Councilmember Koretz:
 - Provided a handout on a report from BBC News on “World’s oceans in ‘shocking’ decline” which states that we are on the verge of an extinction of more marine life than ever before.
 - Plastics in the ocean is an issue currently being addressed.
 - Trash on the beach affects tourism.

- Plastic bags make up 25% of the litter
- Recycling is not the answer.
- The plans are to start the new policy in January 2013 with a 6 month education period which means that by July 2013 plastic bags would be banned. After a two year period, a report would be provided on the success of the program.
- Public comment from stakeholder addressing the Polystyrene issue.

8. **Public Comment:** Gary Dwight from the Cabrillo Beach Boosters commented on the restoration of the Lighthouse and also thanked the NWSPNC for its support of the Fourth of July event.

Report from Public Officials:

9. **Congresswoman's Office:** Michael Aguilera reported on the following:

- The GAPS (Gauging American Port Security) Act, sponsored by Rep. Hahn and passed on May 9th, directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a study of gaps in U.S. port security.
- The Congresswoman has been named to the Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight and Regulations which oversees the Small Business Administration and reviews regulations related to small businesses. Hahn is committed to ensuring that the SBA continues to support the development and growth of our nation's small businesses.
- Rep. Hahn has joined Rep. Nadler and others in introducing PWFA, (Pregnant Workers Fairness Act) to ensure that pregnant workers are not forced out of their jobs unnecessarily or denied reasonable accommodations that would allow them to keep working and support their families.
- Rep. Hahn voted against HR3523, the "Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act" because she felt it did not adequately protect the privacy of citizens.
- A Senior Advisory Council has been launched to advise the Congresswoman on key issues that are important to seniors. The Council will meet quarterly.

10. **Council Office:** John Larson reported on the following:

- Day 105 of Joe Buscaino being in office. Highlights of his accomplishments are on the council office's website.
- Pothole repair is being addressed and the Council Office asked for assistance is identifying pot holes in the community.
- The damaged road in front of the Target Store has been repaired.
- Announcement of the Grand Opening of the Harbor Business Source Center at 455 W. 6th Street in San Pedro.
- CD15 is working with the DWP to get another public meeting in San Pedro to discuss their reasons for rate increases.
- The Council Office is planning a Public Safety Committee Meeting to look at safety related to all petroleum storage facilities as well as Rancho LPG. Date not yet announced.
- Skateboard Motion was passed through City Council unanimously. The City Attorney's office is now writing the language for the ordinance.

11. **Community Involvement and Collaboration Report:** Anise Goldfarb gave an update and provided samples of outreach materials for the June 2nd Youth event. 21 Booths are currently confirmed. The event will be at the Port of Los Angeles High School. Registration will begin at 8:45. Adult volunteers are needed.

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

- **John Greenwood moved to support City Council Motion #12-0537 to keep initial planning hearings in San Pedro.** The motion was seconded by Katie Marrie and passed unanimously by the NWSPNC Board. **The Council Motion is as follows:**

CITY COUNCIL MOTION

In a communication dated March 30, 2012, the Planning Department informed Council District offices, Planning Department staff, and interested parties, that beginning May 1, 2012, the Office of Zoning Administration will no longer hold initial Zoning Administration hearings conducted for case applications with projects located within the West Los Angeles and Coastal-Harbor geographic areas at the West Los Angeles Municipal Building or San Pedro City Hall locations.

The Planning Department notes in its communication, that these initial hearings will now be held at City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. The Planning Department communication further indicates other areas of the City will not be affected.

These initial Zoning Administration hearing enable community members to learn about proposed land use projects, and their location in the community enable those who lack vehicles and depend on public transportation to participate in the land use policy process. As such, any change in policy as to their availability and location needs to be carefully vetted. Also, the Planning Department needs to explain why these two geographic areas of the City were selected, and the criteria used to make this administrative policy. The proposed change will potentially impact community members who live in areas of the City where there is bottle neck traffic congestion. Due to the distance to and from City Hall, this change could potentially curtail public participation in the land use development process.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Planning Department to immediately halt its plan to discontinue holding Zoning Administration hearings in the West Los Angeles Municipal Building and San Pedro City Hall locations.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council direct the Planning Department to report on its decision to no longer hold initial Office of Zoning Administration hearings for case applications with projects located within the West Los Angeles and Coastal-Harbor geographic areas at either the West Los Angeles Municipal Building or San Pedro City Hall locations beginning May 1, 2012.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council direct the Planning Department to explain why the West Los Angeles and Coastal-Harbor geographic areas of the City were slated as the regions of the City where initial Zoning Administration hearings would be held at Downtown City Hall instead of the communities where they are located, and the criteria used to make this administrative policy decision.

- **Motion from NWSPNC Planning and Land Use Committee:** In order to meet the June 30th 2012 deadline requested by the City of Los Angeles Planning Department, the NWSPNC hereby delegates to the Planning and Land Use Committee the authority to comment on the San Pedro Community Plan. Passed unanimously by the NWSPNC Board.

13. **Issues Committee:** Katie Marrie gave an overview of the motion which was unanimously recommended by the Community Vision/Issues Committee:

Whereas, The "Hayden Law", (Senate Bill 1785), enacted in 1998, is legislation that made animal shelters in California more accountable and gave the public longer to find their lost animals before they were euthanized. It mandated more "work friendly" hours to the public for going to the shelters, and after a few years of the law being in place (July 1, 2001), began offering owner-surrendered animals the same amount of time (four to six business days, not including the day of impoundment) to remain alive before being eligible for euthanasia. *This description taken from Internet;* and

Whereas, the Governor's preliminary budget for 2012-2013 threatens to gut the primary provisions of the Act and permitting shelters in the state shelters to return to the practice of keeping animals for only 3 consecutive days (and immediately for any animals other than domestic cats and dogs), and Whereas, a State Senate Budget Subcommittee on April 12 unanimously opposed the Governor's plan to gut the Act;

Now Therefore, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council supports the Senate's opposition to the Governor's plan to repeal or abandon the Hayden Act and supports protection of the "Hayden Act" both in the May revise of the California budget and in all budget considerations moving forward in years to come.

Passed unanimously by the NWSPNC Board.

14. **Treasurer/Finance Committee Report:**

- **Approval of monthly expenses.** Moved by John Greenwood, seconded by Pete Burmeister and approved with 11 yes votes, 0 no votes.
- **Allocation of funds.** The following allocation of funds were approved by the Board (Moved by John Greenwood and seconded by Bob Bryant) with a vote of 13 yes, 0 no.
 - ✓ 2,000 to Cabrillo Beach Boosters for July 4th Fireworks event
 - ✓ 1,000 to Area Clean up
 - ✓ \$250 to purchase pens with our logo
- The Board unanimously approved the Budget as presented with the above funding allocations.

15. Elections/Selections:

- George Thompson presented a draft of the Governing Board 2012 Selection Procedures with Attachments. John Greenwood moved to approve the items as presented, seconded by Bob Bryant and passed with 13 yes votes and 0 no votes.
- David Rivera reported on the Election Committee Meeting and gave an overview of the timeline. June 7th is next committee meeting. Stephen Box has agreed to be the IEA.
- Board applications are due June 4 in order to be on the written ballot.

16. Presidents Report: Diana Nave provided a written report and also presented a copy of the HANC Meeting Notes. She announced that the BONC is putting together standards and suggested the NWSPNC develop comments. Scott Allman and George were appointed to the task of drafting comments.

17. Budget Advocate Report: Craig Goldfarb moved to endorse the 21 recommendations of the budget advocates as presented and forward them to our Councilmember. The motion was seconded by Bob Bryant: John Greenwood moved to amend the motion to read as follows: We commend the Budget Advocates for their work and strongly support the approach and recommend that the City look at and implement these recommendations to the extent feasible. The motion to amend was seconded by Pete Burmeister and passed unanimously by the Board. The substitute motion was then passed unanimously.

18. Port Committee: No report.

19. Safety and Security: Carolyn Grayson reported on the Emergency Preparedness Fair progress and the possibility of a CERT program in the future.

20. Harbor Highlands Park Ad Hoc Committee: Item put over till next month. John Larson stated that Rec and Parks may use Prop K funds to repave the basketball court for short term fix up. This does not, however, preclude moving the court in the future if that is what the Council recommends.

21. Future Youth Seat Opening: Anise Goldfarb announced that she is graduating from POLA High School and has been accepted to UC Santa Cruz, therefore, the Youth Seat board position will be open at that time.

22. Newsletter Deadline: The deadline for the upcoming newsletter with "Selection/Election" information is June 4st.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina Smith, Administrative Assistant to NWSPNC