

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council

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Type of NC Board Action: For Proposal

Impact Information

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Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

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Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Brief Summary: The Northwest San Pedro Council strongly urges the Council to find a way to keep the Warner Grand Theater open until such time as a new operator is chosen and is able to assume the full operation of this facility. Closing the Warner Grand would have disastrous economic consequences for our fragile downtown and damage the wonderful mix of programming that has been painstakingly developed over the past few years.

Additional Information:



**Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
April 12, 2010 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes
Peck Park, 6:30pm**

1. **Call to Order:** President Dan Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:39pm
2. **Roll Call:** Board members in attendance were: Bob Bryant, Dan Dixon, John Greenwood, Craig Goldfarb (arrived at 7:29), Gabriel Rivas, Paula Mazzarino (arrived at 6:57), John Mavar, Meryl Moilov, Philip Nicolay, Ray Patricio, Cpt. George Thompson, Pete Burmeister and Diana Nave. The following board members were excused: David Arvonio, Barbara Schach, John Mavar, Laureen Vivian and Mary Hamlin. Approximately 14 stakeholders present.
3. **Approval of Minutes of the February, 2010 Meeting:** **Bob Bryant made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2010 Meeting with a revision in the roll call, seconded by George Thompson and approved unanimously by the board.**
4. **Report from LAPD:** **Officer Ashcroft reported that violent crime is down and violent assaults are down but property crime is still a problem.** He reminded residents to lock their garages because access to homes is often through unlocked garages. Last week there were 25 burglaries in San Pedro. The LAPD has "truancy task forces" in force. The burglaries bother Officer Ashcroft the most. Pete Burmeister made a suggestion to stakeholders that they watch their neighborhoods and call if there are kids loitering. The Harbor Division Front Desk number is 310-726-7700, ask for the watch commander. The officer also commented that in a 2 hour period 40 tickets were written on Summerland for excessive speed.
5. **Presentation by Angels Gate Cultural Center:** John Greenwood, who is also on the Board of the Cultural Center, introduced the new Director, Deborah Lewis. Deborah talked about her qualifications and the foundations/art organizations she has previously run. Angel's Gate is still providing an array of community classes. For example, at 9:30am every morning there is a yoga class. They also have dance classes and art classes. She invited everyone to attend the Open Studios Day being held May 16th for an opportunity to see how the artists work. This event will include presentations and workshops. Ms. Lewis talked about the lease issue of the property and explained how the master plan was created. Information is available on their website www.angelsgateart.org. Prop K funding is for a master plan for the park area and not the Cultural Center. The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council's donation was used to finish the narrative so that the Cultural Center will be able to get capital through a capital campaign. At the Center's next board meeting they will be discussing the plan. By the end of the year they have to present the master plan to the Department of Recreation and Parks. John Greenwood commented about the barracks and their condition and the need for upgrading of the facilities. Deborah offered to return to our meeting to give us an update in a few months.
6. **Councilwoman Hahn's Office:** Ana Dragin reported on:
 - a. **Warner Grand Theater update:** Issue goes before Council this Friday. Cultural Affairs Dept is working with the CCD to make sure the theater does not go dark.
 - b. **ASTAC installations:** DOT said the entire process is about 25% complete. Ana has not yet received an answer to a previous board member inquiry about cameras at the intersections.
 - c. **Peck Park Child Care:** Sofia Pina Cortez, Superintendent for the District, gave an update which she referred to as a "bitter message." The Mayor told them to lay off 125 full time

employees and take a \$25 million reduction in their budget. They are going to reduce the number of hours that they offer services. On March 16th they met with parents and answered their questions. The bottom line is that the elimination of a licensed child care program means they won't be offering full child care all day long. The good news is that this summer they will be offering Summer Day Camp 7am-6pm with their recreation staff. In the next fiscal year, the summer program may be impacted as well.

7. Dan Dixon announced an upcoming fundraiser for the POLA High School called the "First Annual POPs Scholarship Dinner and Silent Auction, May 1, 2010 6-9pm, to be held at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. (For more info contact Christie Rochte at 310-528-1602).
8. **Port of Los Angeles:** Augie Besmalinovich reported on:
 - a. Upcoming Public Workshops with the San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan (CAAP) which will be held on Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 7:00pm at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, San Pedro and on Tuesday, April 27th in Long Beach at the City Council Chambers.
 - b. Over 100 people attended the workshop on March 18. www.lawaterfront.org shows details of the presentation.
 - c. 22nd Street Park was being considered as a new location for the Taste in San Pedro, however, it was deemed unsuitable for various reasons.
 - d. The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council was thanked for allowing him to provide updates etc. to the Northwest stakeholders.
 - e. Lisa Wunder, Environmental Specialist, gave an update on the POLA Air quality Monitoring Program. Real time data can be viewed at www.caap.airsis.com. Pollution levels are down significantly because of the Clean Air Action Plan, as well as State and Federal Actions regarding ships and the fuels they consume.
9. **Public Comments:**
 - a. **Pete Burmeister**, commented on the deterioration of North Gaffey Street which is splitting due to the trucks. He feels Kinder Morgan should pay for some of the repair.
10. **Motion Re: Warner Grand:** **A motion was made by Diana Nave that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council urge the City to develop a plan to keep the theater open until such time as a new contractor has been selected and is able to fully take over the operation. The motion was seconded by John Greenwood. Unanimous vote in favor.**
11. **Planning and Land Use Report:** (Written report in agenda packet).
 - a. **JCC Homes:** They do not yet own the property and have not started construction. They will not assume ownership until there is a certification that the soil is clean. When JCC went before Planning Commission they anticipated that there would be two phases of construction because the front section of the property is more contaminated than the back. They did not anticipate the size of the contamination. They have asked the City to adjust the lot line so that they can complete the sale on the back half and start construction sooner. Money for the park is in a trust fund. The money gets paid in as each unit is sold.
 - b. **JCC Homes Motion:** The following motion was brought forth from the Planning and Land Use Committee and passed unanimously by the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board: ***The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council supports the lot line modification to Tentative Track #62465 as requested by JCC Homes and sees no need for a public hearing on said modification provided that the project density, parking, street layout, ingress and egress and other conditions of approval remain unchanged.***
 - c. **Rancho Holdings Motion:** Pat Nave provided an update on the issue which relates to the safety of the former AmeriGas facility. The NWSPNC previously approved \$10,000 for a contract to study the dangers. The facility was sold to Plains and the name changed to

Rancho Holdings. The Planning and Land Use Committee decided that the best use of the funds is to contract for a Hazardous Footprint Analysis and recommended the following motion: *The NWSPNC reaffirms its allocation of \$10,000 to conduct a Hazardous Footprint Analysis of the Rancho Holdings facility at 1800 N. Gaffey and delegates to the President, Dan Dixon, the authority to negotiate a contract for the work.* Discussion included the following comments:

- i. **Pete Burmeister** suggested the other neighborhood councils be considered in assisting with the funding of such a study.
- ii. **Phil Nicolay** wants to know what the council will receive for \$10,000 and was told that it would include a report in writing with backup material and computations, and three scenarios for possible events (Blast, Fire, and Toxicity).
- iii. **Craig Goldfarb** feels the real danger is how the gas is being transported out and that is a more likely danger and the study won't include train and truck transportation.
- iv. **Jody James** commented that the EPA has told her that she won't be happy with the information we are given even using the Freedom of Information Act. This is not a sane place to have this facility based on Earthquake faults etc. The city should be liable because they allowed this to happen. She appreciates the NWSPNC supporting such an analysis.
- v. **Bob Bryant** asked if the motion passed, would the funds be available?

After discussion, amendments were made to the motion which was seconded by John Greenwood and passed by unanimous vote of the board. The final motion follows:

The NWSPNC reaffirms its allocation of up to \$10,000 to conduct a Hazardous Footprint Analysis of the Rancho Holdings facility at 1800 N. Gaffey and delegates to the President, Dan Dixon, the authority to negotiate an agreement for the work with the understanding that \$4,000 will come from FY 09-10 funds and that the remaining will be subject to approval by the board in the FY 10-11 budget.

- d. **Motion Re: China Shipping Mitigation:** Construction is under way on the continuation of the Beautification Project. The Board of Harbor Commissioners is not going to break the lease on the smog shop that is part of the NWSPNC mitigation proposal. There was an extensive discussion on the proposed swimming pool projects. Doug Epperhart commented that the Coastal San Pedro NC has asked questions and received no answers. Basically, LAUSD gets a road and the Dept of Rec and Parks gets a swimming pool. There is some litigation involved with the issue also. After discussion the following motions were passed with 1 abstention and a unanimous vote in favor by the rest of the Board:
- e. **Motion 1:** *Whereas our pending request for China Shipping Mitigation funds has made it difficult to comment on the proposed Mitigation projects, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council hereby formally withdraws our proposal from the current round of funding.*
- f. **Motion 2:** *Whereas, the construction of the Hey Rookie Pool as approved by the Los Angeles Harbor Commissioners would produce three public swimming pools at the south end of San Pedro (including the new Angels Gate High School and the pool at the Boy Scout camp that will become public in the next few years), And whereas the cost of constructing the Hey Rookie Pool at the Gaffey Street location is going to be extremely costly, estimated to be \$7 million, twice the cost of the pool at Angels Gate High School, And whereas the northeast area of San Pedro has few public recreational facilities and does not have a public pool, but has the majority of San Pedro's low income population,*

Therefore, be it resolved that the NWSPNC recommends that the Harbor Commission reconsider the location of the Hey Rookie Pool by opening up the pool location to other options through a Request for Proposal process.

- g. **Ponte Vista:** I-Star now owns this property and they are working on a plan. We do not have any additional information at this time.
- h. **VOA Housing:** The mitigated negative declaration has not been released, therefore, this item was put over until the next meeting of the Planning and Land Use Committee scheduled for Monday May 3rd at 6pm at San Pedro City Hall, 4th Floor.
- i. **SB1818 (Density Bonus Ordinance):** There are some motions before the City Council on this issue asking that some changes be made. (The two motions were attached to the Agenda Packet and will be made available on the NWSPNC website).

12. Treasurer's Report:

- a. Craig Goldfarb submitted the following written report of funds spent:

Credit Card Expenses

3/08/10 – Big Nicks \$50 - sandwiches
3/08/10 – Smart and Final \$24.87 – cookies and water
3/08/10 – The Mailroom \$391 – Administrative Asst Expenses
3/22/10 – The Mailroom \$1,500 – Postage for the newsletter
3/23/10 – Epperhart Co. \$600 – Newsletter
3/27/10 – Calif. Pro Sports \$159.03 – Baseballs for Bloch Field
3/31/10 – Sun River Dist. \$687 – Pitching Machine for Bloch Field
3/31/10 – Anaconda Sports \$587.90 – Batting Helmets for Bloch Field
4/01/10 – Lang Equipment \$999.76 – Chair sliders for 7th Street School
4/07/10 – The Mailroom \$427 – Administrative Asst & Website Expenses
4/09/10 – Calif. Pro Sports \$175.55 – Baseballs for Bloch Field
4/09/10 – The Sporting Plate \$52.00 – Misc. for Bloch Field
TOTAL.....\$5,654.16

Petty Cash Expenses

Petty Cash Balance \$492.28
U.S. Post Office \$185.00
TOTAL.....\$307.28

- b. **Diana Nave made a motion to approve the above report, seconded by John Greenwood, and unanimously approved by the Board.**
- c. **Budget Committee:** The following Motion was brought forth from the committee: *Whereas we have limited funds until the end of the fiscal year, and whereas three organizations have not submitted invoices or the necessary documentation to get approved funding, be it Resolved that if nothing is received prior to April 15, 2010 then these funds will be released for other purposes. Those three organizations include the Beach Bash \$1000; the Teen Conference \$1,250 and the Tri-city Falcons \$500, to be contacted by Dan Dixon. Unanimous vote to approve amending the motion to include that the released funds be re-allocated for the expense of the newsletter. The amended motion was passed unanimously by the Board.*
- d. **Motion on criteria for Requesting NC funds.** The following Criteria for funding community projects was provided by the Budget/Finance Committee as well as an explanation of the Documentation required to receive funding:

Criteria for Funding Community Projects:

- 1) Money expended in one fiscal year must be paid in that fiscal year. Any money not spent must be reauthorized in the next fiscal year.
- 2) There is not enough money to fund all beneficial projects. Priorities for funding:
 - a) Projects/events that primarily benefit the NWSPNC area.
 - b) Joint projects/events with other neighborhood councils.
 - c) One time projects/events with a particularly strong need.
 - d) Projects/events that inform the community about the NC and can generate attendance at meetings and/or candidates for Board membership.
 - e) Projects that help further the goals of the neighborhood council.
- 3) The board should consider looking for projects proactively that help us meet our goals.
- 4) Projects with financial implications should be reviewed by the budget committee before presentation to the Board.

Documentation for Getting the Funding:

If you make a motion for funds you need to specify where in the budget it will come from and that motion should include adding it to the budget. You are the contact person for the vendor and, as such, need to work with them to supply the needed information:

- a) You will need an invoice or a quote that is numbered, clearly made out to the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council and giving the name and address of the vendor.
- b) You will need either a complete copy of the minutes with the motion in it, or where it is in the budget as a line item (i.e. operations, outreach and community development.)
- c) You will need a copy of an item such as a brochure, t-shirt, banner, etc. showing that the Northwest San Pedro NC was a participant in the event.
- d) You will need a letter from the organization requesting/thanking us for the participation in the event on letterhead stationery.
- e) We need to provide an additional letter from the board member responsible as to the community benefit.

Pete Burmeister made a motion that we adopt the above Criteria and Documentation for Funding as presented by the Finance Committee. The Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion (Dan Dixon abstained).

13. **Port Committee:** Phil Nicolay gave a short report which included the following comment:
 - a. The Board of Harbor Commissioners will comply with the China Shipping settlement and the PCAC will continue to exist. The community continues to evolve and change. The PCAC needs to get involved with what's next.
14. **Update of City Budget.** Doug Epperhart reported on the following:
 - a. This year the Budget Reps are meeting every other week with Deputy Mayor Larry Frank. The work is restructuring the NC system and the finances thereof. It is already different and it will be dramatically different a year from now. The current transitional plan is to have 18 positions in a merged department and then outsourcing of the funding and the rest of the department. There will be four or five city employees who will work with the NC funding system. They need feedback for this "work in progress" and for the city budget itself. People are being laid off, there is a spending freeze and it will be necessary to use the city's reserve fund to get us through the end of the year. Come July 1st, they will probably lay off thousands of employees. More information can be found on the following website: www.BudgetLA.org.

15. **Election update:** Candidate filing has closed, although write in candidates can still sign up. It was commented that Ray Patricio will not be running for re-election.
16. **Emergency Preparedness:** The CERT training being sponsored by the NWSPNC is coming up and they already have 22 people signed up for the training. Training begins in May.
17. **HANC (Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils):** A written report was provided. Diana Nave commented that the HANC group made a list of problems with the city clerk running NC elections. Diana also commented that we have been getting a lot of good feedback from our newsletter.
18. **Secretary's Report:** Diana Nave provided a written report in the agenda packet. Highlights of the report were a letter sent to Janice Hahn on behalf of our NC outlining the motions approved at our last meeting, as well as emails and phone calls received by the Secretary.
19. **Youth and Education –** no report.
20. **Chair's Report:** Dan Dixon gave background information on two possible motions. After discussion the following motions were made.
 - a. **A motion was made by Phil Nicolay that the NWSPNC ask the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) to recommend modification of the required posting of neighborhood council meetings to one public location and on Neighborhood Council websites. The motion was seconded by Gabriel Rivas and approved unanimously by the NWSPNC Board.**
 - b. **A motion was made by Diana Nave that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council take the necessary steps to request the naming of the trail in Peck Park Canyon for San Pedro resident Ray Patricio. The motion was seconded by Bob Bryant and passed unanimously by the NWSPNC Board.**
 - c. **Cell Tower Task Force.** Will be discussed at a later date.
21. Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by Kristina Smith
NWSPNC Administrative Assistant