

**GREATER NORTH PARK COMMUNITY PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
**2901 NORTH PARK WAY, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR**  
**P.O. BOX 4825, SAN DIEGO, CA 92164**  
**APPROVED MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 18, 2007**

- I. Called to Order:** 6:33 pm.
- II. In Attendance:** Sal Arechiga, Ed Cronan, Vernon Franck, Vicki Granowitz, Brenda Martin, Judith O'Boyle, Dean Petersen, Keoni Rosa, Rob Steppke, Rene Vidales; Stephen Whitburn arrived at 7:04 pm  
**Absent:** Ravin Armelin, Carol Gonzales.  
**Secretary Report on Attendance:** Ms. Armelin has been absent twice and Ms. Gonzales has been absent at three non-consecutive meetings.
- III. Motion to Adopt September 18, 2007 Agenda** (with modification that the Information Item on the website is to be pulled and the Information Item on the Fire Department is moved up earlier in the Agenda.): **Vidales/Martin 10-0-0**
- IV. Chair's Report/CPC**
- A.** Community Plan Update- The Chair and the Chairs of Golden Hill and Uptown Planners met with the new head of City Planning, Bill Anderson. City Process for Community Plan Update not settled yet
  - B.** Priority List for Greater North Park Public Facilities Financing Plan will be forwarded to Vicki Burgess at City Planning. GNPCPC will need to vote on a completed document regarding these at a later date.
  - C.** Bylaws are continuing through the process to be docketed for City Council approval.
- V. Motion to approve August 21, 2007 minutes: O'Boyle/Cronan 10-0-0**
- VI. Treasurer's Report:** Balance unchanged- remains at \$345.22
- V11. Announcements**
- 1.** Mr. Steppke announced that the grant request to Supervisor Roberts' office was approved. This will be used for the development of the GNPCPC website.
  - 2.** The Chair announced that a Special Election will be held on November 20 to fill the two vacancies on the GNPCPC. The Annual Election will be on March 18, 2008. Registered members must have attended a meeting in the six months prior to these elections in order to be eligible to run for a position.
  - 3.** Bertha Klann announced that there is a petition in circulation to address the number of Smoke Shops in the community.
  - 4.** Sheila Hardin of CCDC presented the Summer report regarding Downtown. It mainly deals with quality of life issues. CCDC encourages everyone to stay connected to downtown and maintains a comprehensive website. A cultural event is coming up on October 14 in Little Italy, FESTA, commemorating Columbus Day. The Balboa Theater will have a Gala on its reopening in October of this year.
  - 5.** The Chair announced that there will be a Workshop dealing with Alcohol Licensing and Education on October 15, from 6-7:30 pm. Representatives from ABC, Police Vice Unit, Development Services and the Planning Department will be there. The Workshop will be at the North Park Lions Club (3941 Utah.) Development Services is holding a What To Know When Reviewing Projects Workshop on Thursday, September 27 from 6-8 pm. In addition, there will be Historic Resources Training on Saturday, October 6 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.
  - 6.** The Chair also announced that nominations for the NPCA Renaissance Awards will be accepted through October 15<sup>th</sup> and the winners will be announced on November 10<sup>th</sup> at "Ray at Night."

## VIII. Non Agenda Public Comment

1. Steve Chipp, Executive Director of Financing at St. Augustine High School announced that their renovation projection was finished. A dedication ceremony will be held on Wednesday, October 24 at 9:00 am and an Open House on Sunday, October 28 from 1-4:00 pm. The project cost was just under 17 million dollars and the school now has 98 underground parking spaces and 44 surface parking spots. St. Augustine has been at its present site since 1923. Mr. Chipp, on behalf of St. Augustine, appreciated the community's support for this project.

## IX. Information Item

1. Battalion Chief John Thompson from Station 14 and Brush Manager Deputy Fire Marshal Barbara Favors appeared before the Board. Chief Thompson wants to re-connect with the community and find out any concerns or issues that the community may have regarding the Fire Department. Chief Thompson noted that Station 14 has an Engine, a Truck (w/ ladder) and a Brush Management vehicle. Station 14 is one of the busiest fire stations in the City. The Engine had 283 total responses, of which 232 were medical/rescue. The Truck had 98 total responses, of which 52 were medical/rescue. The Engine is usually sent on a medical case, but the Truck will go out if the Engine is not available. Their response time is under five minutes for medical emergencies. The surrounding Fire Stations are very busy as well. The Station is willing to donate to help with local matters, as the firefighters deduct money from their own take home pay for such matters. Ms. Favors addressed the need for 100 feet of clearance surrounding homes near the canyons. Ms. Favors indicated that communities could seek grants to fund Fire Safety Councils. Ms. Favors noted that the North Park area is at high risk, as the surrounding brush has not burned in years. While noting that the equipment at Station 14 is fully staffed, if the Brush Management Rig is sent out, one of the other vehicles- the Engine or the Truck- is shut down as the four member crews for either the Engine or Truck are used for the Brush Rig. In response to questioning, Chief Thompson said that speed bumps tear up the Fire Department vehicles.

## X. Elected Officials Report

1. Todd Gloria (rep for Congresswoman Susan Davis, U.S. Congressional District 53): Congress is back in session. Congress is looking to complete the budget, work on Iraq funding and reauthorization of NCLB. Congresswoman Davis has introduced an amendment to reduce the use of DRE voting and further the use of paper ballots.
2. Kirsten Clemons (rep for Lori Saldana, CA State Assembly District 76): The legislature is in recess. 960 bills were passed to the governor. Ms Saldana has before the governor AB927 concerning proportional funding for Senior Housing and AB1460, a Green Building Bill. AB567 addresses the need for regulating HOA's and a hearing on this will be held at the Caltrans Building in Old Town on October 30 at 5:30 pm.

## XI. Consent Agenda

(Members present at PFPA September 6, 2007: Rene Vidales, Salvador Arechiga, Judith O'Boyle, Jeffrey Wergeles, Katherine Calvin)

1. **Public Facilities Financing Plan for the Fiscal Year 2008- DRAFT.** The results of the Public Facilities survey by GNPCPC Board members were presented. The following two motions are made:
  - a. **Motion to forward to GNPCPC the results of the Facilities Survey from the GNPCPC members for approval with the condition that these priorities will be reconsidered as part of the Community Plan Update. Petersen/PFPA On Consent 10-1-0 (Martin opposed.)**
  - b. **Motion to recommend that the GNPCPC, during its Community Plan Update in January, ensure that all projects listed in the Facilities Summary are the most appropriate to be included. Considerations should include timeliness of project, overall community impact, appropriateness for committee action, and to avoid redundancy. Petersen/PFPA On Consent 10-1-0 (Martin opposed.)**

2. **Letter to MTS regarding elimination of Bus Route Transfer.** A letter addressed to Mr. Paul Jablonski, CEO of the MTS regarding the proposed MTS changes was presented. The following motion is made:
  - a. **Motion to oppose the elimination of the MTS Transfer Program with a letter sent to Mr. Paul Jablonski, CEO of the MTS, and to send a copy of the letter to Council member Toni Atkins. Petersen/PFPA On Consent 10-1-0 (Martin opposed.)** Mr. Steppke was assigned the task of mailing these letters.

## **XII. Additional Information Items**

**GNPCPC Election to fill two vacancies on November 20:** Mr. Steppke announced that one of the positions has a term that ends in March '08 and the other position runs until March '09. The person with the second most votes will fill the shorter termed position.

## **XIII Action Items**

1. **KFC 2829 University Avenue.** The building has been demolished and construction is already planned. Extensive discussion regarding this matter was held. Mr. Steppke, as well as Mr. Lewis and Ms. Studebaker from the audience, pointed out that a number of codes appeared to have not been followed in issuing KFC its building permit. No prior notice was afforded to the GNPCPC nor the community at large prior to the demolition at this site. The work on the site appears to go beyond "maintenance, repair or alteration." The new work appears to not be planned to coincide with new regulations concerning frontage and setbacks. It appears that KFC is going to keep their front parking area, and expand the building's footprint. Mr. Petersen voiced concern about involving the City Attorney's Office and the likely delay that entailed. The following motion was made (and called to vote by Franck)  
**Motion to request that the City Development Services Department and the City Attorney's Office immediately review KFC's building permit for interpretation and application of code. Steppke/Martin 10-1-0 (Petersen opposed.)**
2. **Policy Change regarding Burlingame Historic District:** The District is currently a Voluntary Historic District. As originally created, the District was eligible to convert to a Traditional Historic District, once 85% of the contributing homes wanted to join. According to staff, if the non-contributing homes and the demolished home are backed out of the count, currently there is 90% participation. Also, the City would like to do away with Voluntary Districts. Mr. Franck was concerned about restrictions imposed by the Traditional Historic District and their impact on property rights. This matter will be heard at the Historic Resources Board on September 27 at 1:00 pm in the Council Committee Room on the 12<sup>th</sup> Floor of the City Administration Building. Following discussion the following motion was made:  
**Motion to support the replacement of the Voluntary Historic District of Burlingame with a Traditional Historic District. Steppke/ O'Boyle 10-0-1 (Franck abstained as does not know enough concerning Historic Districts.)**

## **XIV. Subcommittee Reports**

1. **Urban Design/Project Review,** Vernon Franck, North Park Main Street Office, 3076 University Ave., 6pm, 1st Monday. First Monday. **Next meeting October 1.** At the last meeting there was a presentation by the Linkery regarding their new location at 30<sup>th</sup> and North Park Way. Also presented were a Condo Conversion Project and a project on Vancouver. Upcoming projects are the Commonwealth Café and a Map Waiver on Utah. The Subcommittee has not received any word regarding the Bluefoot Lounge or OLP.
2. **Public Facilities/Public Art,** Sal Arechiga/Rene Vidales, North Park Main Street Office, 3076 University Av, 6:30pm, 1st Thursday. **Next meeting October 4.** The Subcommittee considered issues concerning Mission Ave. regarding traffic and parking. The City has resolved the parking issues there. Also considered were the Priorities for the Financing Plan, and the MTS Bus Route Transfer Policy, as noted earlier. La Boheme is planning to resurface the roads around their project, beginning on September 19. In the future, the Subcommittee will be considering the issue of angled parking on Arizona, between University and Lincoln.

3. **Policy/Community Relations**, Rob Steppke, North Park Main Street Office, 3076 University Ave., 6:30 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday. **Next meeting October 10.** Work was deferred on the website. Work will speed up. Now that the grant request has been approved. They had a brief discussion on the Fair Banking issue. Concern was noted that this is a big issue and the Subcommittee should consider how far into this issue they wish to become involved. The next meeting will consider the upcoming elections in November and March for the GNPCPC. On October 5 there is a hearing at SANDAG regarding the Bus Transfer issue.

**XV. Liaison Reports**

1. **Project Area Committee-** Roger Lewis. No quorum was present and those present discussed various matters including planned parks in North Park.
2. **Public Safety & Neighborhood Services-**Stephen Whitburn. The Alcohol and Entertainment Working Group continues its work on substantive alcohol related issues. The next step is structural issues. Until those are resolved, the Group will continue to informally consider all alcohol applications.
3. **Maintenance Assessment District.** Brenda Martin. MAD is trying to complete the installation of all currently approved lights. MAD is concerned about local tree destruction. Will target those next year that voted against the MAD in the vote last summer.
4. **North Park Parking Management Working Group-** Rene Vidales. Working on its presentation to be made before the GNPCPC in November.
5. **NP Parking Garage/Art Selection Working Group-** Sal Arechiga. Put together a flyer for the RFQ for the artists.
6. **Balboa Park Committee Liaison-** Vicki Granowitz. The Mayor is considering locating a homeless shelter for the winter in Balboa Park. The Committee is opposed to this.
7. **North Park Main Street-** Ed Cronan. There is consideration being given to expanding the Business District. The Commonwealth Café is looking to stay open late and the KFC matter was discussed.
8. **Needle Facilitation Committee-** Vicki Granowitz. Did not meet.

**XVI Future Matters**

1. Secretary Dean Petersen appointed Brenda Martin as Acting Secretary for the upcoming October 16, 2007 GNPCPC Board Meeting.
2. Rene Vidales noted that there is a large CRICKET sign on University Ave. that appears to violate code. UDPR will consider this matter.
3. Rob Steppke announced that the last units at La Boheme are to be auctioned.

**XVII Next Meeting on October 16, 2007**

- XVII. Motion to Adjourn Petersen/Whitburn 11-0-0**  
**Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.**

**Submitted by:**

**Dean Petersen, Secretary.**