



West of Twin Peaks Central Council

A Resource for Neighborhood Organizations West of Twin Peaks in San Francisco since 1936

PO Box 27112
San Francisco, CA 94127

<http://www.westoftwinpeaks.org/>

Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

Date: Monday Sept 28, 2015

Time: 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Location: **Forest Hill Clubhouse**
381 Magellan Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94127

Associations:	Those Present shown in bold	
Balboa Terrace	Roger Ritter,	Monterey Heights Marco Magallon Susan Zurinaga
Forest Hill	Dena Aslanian William Gus Guibert	Mount Sutro Homeowners
Forest Knolls	Herbert Dunmeyer Kristine Zaback	Pine Lake Park David Golden
Ingleside Terrace	Paul Conroy Carolyn + Bob Karis	Saint Francis Woods Carolyn Squeri, Paul Hill
Golden Gate Heights	Sally Stephens	Sherwood Forest
Greater West Portal	Avrum Shepard Matt Chamberlain	Sunnyside Lisa Spinali Estelle Smith
Lakeshore Acres	Barbara Chionsini Bill Chionsini,	The Woods Judy Clarke
Lakeside Property Owners	Joyce Richardson,	Twin Peaks Denise LaPoint
Merced Manor	Mike Garcia	Westwood Highlands Bhushan Mudbhary Dave Bisho
Midtown Terrace	George Wooding	
Miraloma Park	Karen Breslin	
Officers Present:	President – Roger Ritter Vice President- Sally Stephens	Treasurer- Carolyn Squeri Secretary – David Golden Parliamentarian - Lee Hsu
Guests Present:	Matthais Mormino Glen Hatakeyan (sp ?) F.X. Crawley (sp?) Mike Buhler May Massarel (sp ?) Carl Wendorf Casey Berkowitz Ben Matranga	

Roll Call and Minutes Review:

Meeting called to order: 7:33PM

Roll Call: 11 Member associations present.

Minutes: Karen Breslin moves, Avrum Seconds minutes approved.

Officer Reports:

President / Roger Ritter:

Vice President / Sally Stephens: Nothing

Secretary / David Golden: Nothing

Treasurer / Carolyn Squeri: \$4,557 in the bank. Dues letters going out. They are going out to all organizations, showing if the association has an outstanding balance.

Parliamentarian / Lee Hsu: Nothing

Committee Reports:

Planning and Land Use / Estelle Smith: Estelle, They have kicked off the buylaws for the reviewing the 7 principals. They focused on housing. Agreed to 33% affordable housing. At the next meetings we will edit and revise principals. They want to cover open space and parks, issues. Want to include neighborhood feedback. They have had up to 100 people attending and participating in the meetings. We have the information posted on the Sunnyside neighborhood website.

Technology / Avrum Shepard: Nothing

Public Health / George Wooding: Legionnaires disease at San Quintin, They are concerned about it spreading into the rest of the city. The city is studying stress, and in particular how it affects people who have been evicted. The City is also studying sugar, and its possible impacts, maybe requiring a label being placed on containers.

Open Space & Parks / Sally Stephens: Fire response for brush fires. It was an interesting meeting. The city does have 200 fire fighters who are trained to respond. They have 6 engines in the city. They are sent to other districts already as mutual aid. They also have some smaller trucks that can respond to more restrained areas. They are worried about the southeast corner of the city. Some concern about native trees, in particular if Eucalyptuses would be targeted. That seemed to be misplaced concern. They final EIR for the natural resource area will probably come out this fall. Eucalyptuses may not be as affected by drought as some believe.

Transportation / Avrum Shepard: MTA is changing some of the schedules "as we speak." 18 bus on 46th Avenue route is being changed, seemingly leaving some of the neighborhood under served. More detailed discussion about the specifics. Folk who use the lake and do dragon boating, is also being affected. Per Matthais, we don't have any jurisdiction over the MTA, some of the changes seem to be impacting us. Per Matthais, it was a study only. Question regarding who would pay for it. Creating a working study group.

Public Safety / Barbara Chionsini: Contacted the 3 district captains to get information. Katy Tang chaired a meeting regarding ?? The district attorney was asked many comments about higher crime rates. Homeless and transients are creating higher crime. I did some research about the psych wards from SF General. We need to find out about the Triaging of psychiatric patients. We have the space to provide temporary housing. We are speaking with Chief Redmond's office. We asked him to do a presentation, if not next month, then early next year. People are very upset about rising crime, and Prop 47. Over 200 people showed up at the

meeting. Barbara will be polling the WoTPCC neighborhoods to request updates on which station serves their neighborhood and what their concerns are. Questions can be emailed to Avrum, Roger or myself.

Special Item (s): Nothing

Mike Buhler, SF Heritage re: Prop J: Presentation Followed by Questions and Answers Legacy Business:

City Wide advocacy organization for historic preservation, since 1971. Here to speak about Prop J. Historically focused on business. This measure is concerned with business, facing sky-rocketing rents, started a fund to raise awareness of the challenges facing historic businesses. Shreve's is relocating from, Gold Dust, Manor Coffee Shop (audience notes that this property is being sold- speaker responds the legislation will address that situation). After working with the board of supervisors, they agreed to support the measure. The ballot measure would provide funding for the measure. Business must be 30 years of age, and must have made a significant contribution and character of the neighborhood. Business must commit to maintaining the historic characteristics of the business. The business would be eligible for grants (\$500/employee) based on the number of employees, up to 100. Landlords can also get financial support. Goal is to incentivize the landlord and business to work together. Landlord must extend the lease another 10 years. Last year, 4000 business closed. The only other city facing this sort of pressure is New York, which is also developing legislation that mirrors SF' proposed legislation. This is a world wide phenomena, facing London Barcelona, and other world cities. Buenos Ares has a similar legislation. Its generally agreed that these businesses are important assets for the city, which bring tourism.

Question: Is there opposition represented here? **Answer:** This is only an informative.

Question: The grants are tax payer money, this seems misguided to use public funds, was there no effort to use private foundations to provide the funding for "failing" business? **Answer:** These are not failing business, they are being driven out of business by higher rents. **Follow-up questions:** Aren't we using city funds? How is this sustainable, what happens if they close after 5 years? **Answer:** The requirement is to extend the lease another 10 years. How is the money provided? **Answer:** The board would need to review the funding each year. **Would newer business have a disadvantage over older business?** **Answer:** Yes, but its not different than the advantages a historic buildings in tax credits then new buildings get. **Aren't these businesses being artificially sustained, isn't a certain amount of change good, you mentioned coffee shop in west portal, but it may change into a French restaurant. I like that idea?** **Follow-up example regarding Flax, does it force the landlord to accept the tenants offer?** **Answer:** No, the landlord is not force to negotiate a new lease with the tenant. **Does the business need to provide a business plan?** **Answer:** No, it's merely an incentive. **Can the tenant move?** **Answer:** Yes, the business can move.

Old Business & New Business (15 min)

Featured Speaker Mark Farrell: Here to talk about 2 things-

First: A measure to increase funding for our Rec. Parks System: As a born and raised San Franciscian, I spent my summers playing in my neighborhood park. For me, this is very personal. I use our parks a father now. As our city budget has grown, the Rec. Parks, funding has been stagnant. Our city has been "densify-ing". Our city may grown to as much as 1,000,000. Our parks are being used more heavily than ever. More trash, more wear and tear. 99% of rec. parks response is emergency. Less than 1% is preventative maintenance. Working with the Mayor's office to add \$3M a year to increase funding for these important public institutions. I am happy to come back when we are ready to present more formally when the ballot measure is ready?

Question: Note that trees are at risk in our parks after years of drought, and lack of maintenance?

Question: Didn't we pass a bond measure for funding rec. & parks? **Answer:** the bond measure is for major capital projects, this maintenance funding to maintain what we have already build.

Question: Always say playgrounds for kids, good to open up school playgrounds.

Question: We have had repeated bond measures repeatedly over the years. Much of the city is open space, our funding has been "looted." We continue to privatize the parks. It was the city that was taking away the money. I remember a young supervisor that was against set-asides. **Answer:** I am not a fan of set asides. But when I was shown the statistics about rec. and parks and see how comparatively have been hampered as the city budget has grown was an alarm bell for how important this is. We pass bonds for new projects but we don't have the budget to maintain them. I'm not a big fan of set-asides. But this is a small growth, only \$3M a year, and there is a lot of accountability built into the proposal. **Follow-up question:** Rec. & Park can spend the money on what ever they want, they don't do what they say they will do. **Answer:** they must come up with a strategic plan, mandated, to do it, and renew it every year. This money doesn't go directly to Rec. & Park. It will be public process as part of the fund.

Question: Do you have a copy of the measure? Yes, I can send it to you?

Question: I would like to see improved trails and lighting, there are lots of people doing bad things in the park.

Question: What about putting more structures in the park for activities? **Answer:** I think that's great. Back when I was a kid, there were rec.park directors who worked at the activity centers, and my parents knew them. I thought that relationship was important.

Question: I ended up being a playground director, before I went into teaching. In 1999 I made a proposal asking 100 corporations to give \$100M to give money to fully fund an endowment. It was 1999 when the economy gave a out, and it died. I would like to follow-up o

Second issue: Shared School Yard Project. When I wasn't at the park, I was at the local playground playing ball. When my kids were getting ready to use the school yards, I was shocked to learn that the School Yards are closed. If I can raise the money privately, can we open the playgrounds again. I have held a fundraiser, coming up this Friday. We have already opened up 28 out of the 100 schools. We give \$1000 to the PTA. We give neighbors funding too. Encourage other organizations to come in. We deep clean the playgrounds 2 times a year. We make sure the playgrounds are ready for use for school on Monday. In 3.5 years we've had only 1 call to get the school ready. The playgrounds actually get safer, and have less vandalism. In the next 2 years we plan to open up the next 50. This is an "incredible" thing, to have 80% of the playgrounds open. We plan to have grand openings. Commodore Sloat is happening this Saturday. Opening up West Portal. Finestein, in 2 years time they will all be opened up. We want you as neighborhood representatives to get the word out. We have sponsored food. Just want to make sure you all know about it, its coming to a school yard near you.

Will you be open on Sunday as well as Saturday? **Answer:** Yes.

Have you considered opening the gymnasiums too, it would be a great way to help disadvantaged youth. **Answer:** The challenge is opening the inside of the building. It's a challenge to get by the liability concerns.

How do you feel about bicycles stopping at stop signs? Answer: I think bicycles, should stop at stop signs. We are looking at the proposed legislation, but haven't made a determination yet.

What about the new lease legislation? This legislation changed up to the fire code, any amount of tenants in a particular lease. It now becomes a law. **Question:** Didn't the whole thing pass unanimously? **Answer:** No we broke up the legislation into parts. I voted only for the more portions of the law which were more restrictive.

Does this trump CC&R's of neighborhood? My understanding is that it does.

Does this allow the tenants to violate the fire code? No, its 2 per bedroom plus 1.

I write into my leases that if they include Air-N-BNB or number of tenants? This law does not touch the Air-bnb legislation. My understanding is that it overrides the landlords right to place limits in a lease.

Who would want to own rental property, will the government just take it all over? Don't encourage them.

We live in Lakeshore, and we had a house, and the kids got out of hand, so we worked with SFSU, because the kids were jumping off the roof. There were many incidents. The situation didn't improve until an incident happened when the SF Police officer's arm was broken. The legislation passed. This legislation has passed, final vote tomorrow. They are prepared to sue to stop the legislation. But Supervisor Farrell is not encouraged that suit will succeed. The mayor has not announced if he plans to sign the legislation. We are encouraged to write a letter of opposition to the mayor.

Resolution to Oppose Supervisor Avalos "Idaho Stop" legislation: Avrum discusses a resolution that will make arrest and citations the "lowest" traffic enforcements priority provided they yield to other vehicles and pedestrians. **Questions:** This is for ticketing? Yes. If they see a cyclist blowing through a stop sign they can still give them a ticket. There is a new type of business in the Sacramento, they do a pub-crawl, and have asked that they make that legal. Avrum cites this as an example of the "power" of the bicycle lobby. Avrum proposes we make a resolution that bicyclist be forced to stop and the laws be enforced. Avrum notes the difference in population between San Francisco, Boise. Question: is this a policy change, or an actual change of the law? Answer per Matthais: The City of San Francisco cannot change the traffic law as set by the state. The board is trying to set enforcement priority, which Matthais, thinks is a bad idea. Estelle made a motion to make an amended motion, Karen seconded. Discussions. Motion carries 12 in favor, 1 abstain, 1 oppose.

9:00pm Adjourn + Social

Avrum motions to Adjourn. We are adjourned.

Adjourned.

Minutes by David Golden, Secretary