



CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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Board Retreat 2016–2017 – Notes Saturday, November 5, 2016 8:30 am - 2:00 pm CROATIAN CULTURAL CENTER 510 W. 7th Street, San Pedro, CA 90731

1. **Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am, by President Mona Sutton. (A quorum of 13 Board Members). Approximately 4 stakeholders were present.

Board Members	Roll Call/Attendance
Frank Anderson	Absent
Terry Bonich	Present
Michael Collins	Present
James Dimon	Absent
Donald Galaz	Present
Jose Guerrero	Absent
Christian Guzman	Present
Alexander Hall	Present
Leslie Jones	Present
Michael Koth	Present
Joanne Rallo	Present
Debbie Rouser	Present
Danielle Sandoval	Present
John Stammreich	Present
Mona Sutton	Present
Allyson Vought	Present
Vacant Seat	

2. **Inspirational Message** – Tunette Powell
 - a. Ms. Powell started by quoting an African Proverb 'If there are no enemies on the inside the enemies outside cannot harm you'. The inside being this board. The board is like a body, each member representing an arm, a leg, a hand, and for the body to function properly all the parts must work together.
3. **President's Message & Introduction of CeSPNC Candidates** – Mona Sutton
 - a. President Sutton gave an overview of the board's past and her hopes for its future. Some highlights follow.
 - i. President Sutton thanked board members for their energy, commitment and service.
 - ii. We have the opportunity to reset and let all that came before go. We all have great potential. We can set a standard of civility.
 - iii. She hopes that the board will be heard by electeds, city departments, and stakeholders. And hopes to make real progress.

- iv. She wants to make sure that the goals the board sets are realized. Accordingly, she wants to set realistic goals.
 - v. She wants the board to do outreach, outreach, outreach and be event oriented. She hopes to partner with the other San Pedro neighborhood councils.
 - vi. She hopes to leverage the council's funds to impact Central San Pedro, as a whole, to insure realization of the council's mission statement.
- b. Candidate – Aiden Garcia-Sheffield
- i. Mr. Garcia-Sheffield gave a brief introduction of himself and an overview of his reasons for wanting to be on the board. He read a prepared statement.
 - ii. He answered questions from the board.
4. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items** – None
5. **CeSPNC Mission**: President Sutton read the council's mission statement.
6. **Sensitivity Training: Effective Communication & Diffusing Difficult Situations**:
- a. The goal is to represent stakeholders while still being ourselves.
 - b. How we speak to each other during meetings, we need to be sensitive and respectful of one another.
 - c. Let's let the passion come through in the most respectful way going forward.
 - d. Let's not let the community see us being anything but respectful to each other.
 - e. The community that elected us knew us, knew that we could bring civility and respect to this council.
 - f. We need to bring a little fun and lighten up with our stakeholders.
 - g. A new level of understanding and respect for each other going forward.
7. **Big Vision and Goals** – Octaviano Rios, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment
Short & Long Term – Solutions – Tools – Outcome
- a. Mr. Rios commented that board members should pick something and work toward that goal and vision. Everyone has personal goals, priorities, and solutions. Pick your top ONE item.
 - i. Leslie Jones; Outreach, she really feels that it is so important to reach out to the community. We really need to reach out to the children in our community and teach them about the consequences of pollution. She wants the Land Use Committee to get information in a timelier timeframe. Wants to have the Land Use Committee try to get the designers to honor the Great Streets plan.
 - ii. Michael Collins; The city's lack of attention to Gaffey Street and Pacific Avenue. There are some businesses that take really good care of their buildings and then right next door other businesses that do not. There are no guidelines for how businesses should keep their façade. Also, the lack of police presence. He wants to see a cleaner and better kept, Central San Pedro, particularly in downtown. He would like to get a set of rules for, and improve the aesthetics, of San Pedro. Perhaps they could partner with building and safety, and the planning department, to create and implement guidelines.
 - iii. Alexander Hall; He wants the council to really become the voice of the community, and have stakeholders be involved. He wants to have CeSPNC be the most listened to neighborhood council in the city by filing community impact statements (CIS's) and going to city council committee meetings and hearings. He wants to utilize organizing tactics, for example letter writing, phone calls, social media postings to electeds and visits to electeds. Take the issues to the elected.
 - iv. Michael Koth; He wants to see downtown flourish again, he wants to change the perception of downtown and make it more family and youth friendly. He wants Central San Pedro businesses to unite and create their own solutions and then have them take those solutions to the proper entity that can help them, and improve the vitality of downtown.
 - v. Allyson Vought; Her passion is transportation issues; an example would be to have a water taxi. She wants communities to get connected, anyway to better the community. She wants to continue to unite the board and represent the community as a whole. She

wants the council to be effective by using all the resources at hand, to be a voice of reason, and to be respectful.

- vi. Debbie Rouser; Her passion are parks and open space in general in San Pedro. She is also concerned about infrastructure and public safety/police. She wants better public safety and to work with nonprofits and the city when applicable to achieve it.
 - vii. John Stammreich; He wants the council to be a venue for stakeholders to seek answers, action and resolution of issues affecting Central San Pedro. He wants to have well-structured meetings and discussions that demonstrate that stakeholders' voices are being heard, addressed and valued. He wants to be quick to identify next steps and solutions. He wants to enable the committees to be effective with sound bylaws, standing rules and follow up.
 - viii. Mona Sutton; Her Immediate goal is the same as John Stammreich above, and to have this board be a relevant entity that puts forward a stakeholder voice to electeds and city entities, and for stakeholders to know we will listen. She wants to be the most effective conduit to city electeds and entities. She wants to be a leader for this board.
 - ix. Donald Galaz; Commented that the city gives money to neighborhood councils to keep them quiet and busy. The city electeds do not listen, they are not doing what the community wants. He wants vocational studies/programs brought back to schools. He wants LAUSD to have vocational studies/programs again.
 - x. Terry Bonich; His passion is public safety, and to have more police. He wants to get the Harbor Division jail open. He wants to get stakeholders more involved with public safety through neighborhood watch.
 - xi. Christian Guzman; He wants the council to facilitate, and encourage, a sustainable life style for our stakeholders. So, whenever we can he wants the board to; support granola energy, promote conservation of resources, and try to move forward with reducing pollution. He wants to foster and promote sustainability, indigenous plant life, conservation of resources, and pollution education.
 - xii. Joanne Rallo; She wants to listen to stakeholders and be their voice to the city. She wants to engage the community and make them feel comfortable that they can come to the coucil to improve the overall quality of life of the community. She wants to work with the surrounding neighborhood councils on common issues, and get stakeholders to be more involved. She wants to include Spanish speaking and younger stakeholders. She wants to bring it back down to basics so that we don't forget about how we should be interacting with the community.
 - xiii. Danielle Sandoval; She wants to unite with the other neighborhood councils to educate and empower the community. She wants the community to have a stronger voice in the budget and budget process. She wants to hold educational workshops for stakeholders about the budget/budget process, and information about what neighborhood councils are and do.
- b. Mr. Rios summarized as follows. The council wants to; be the most listened to by city hall, have the safest community, be the most engaged and inclusive, be the most vocal, have the most visited downtown, be the most connected in terms of infrastructure, be the problem solver, be the most relevant, have the most employed, be the most representative, be the most responsive, have the best parks and open space, be the most connected to city services, be the most persevering, and the most collaborative.

8. **Board Training** – Octaviano Rios, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

Understanding the role of DONE – What is the role and limitations of Board Members – Overview of Best Practices

- a. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) is there to be an administrative arm for neighborhood councils.
- b. Within DONE they have funding support staff to help make sure neighborhood councils are spending their funds in compliance with the law.
- c. Mr. Rios gave an overview of DONE staff structure and responsibilities.
- d. He discussed the structure of the city and possible resources available to the council.

- e. He presented an overview of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) website to demonstrate the tools that are available there.
9. **Council File Training** – Danielle Sandoval
- a. Ms. Sandoval gave an overview of the lacity.org under [MEET YOUR GOVERNMENT](#) services page.
 - b. She recommended that everyone subscribe to the City Clerk office hot sheet.
 - c. She provided information on the City Council file system and how to utilize it to receive information.
 - d. She discussed how community impact statements relate to council files.
10. **Roles and Responsibilities of Committees** – Danielle Sandoval
Transparency – Calendaring – Accountability
- a. When creating an agenda be detailed, do not generalized and do not use acronyms, items must be spelled out.
 - b. Committee chairs need to set, and keep the same, meeting date and time each month.
 - c. We need to be mindful that we are voting on what the community wants, not necessarily what we as individual want.
11. **Bylaws Review and Proposed Amendments** – John Stammreich
- a. Changes to the Bylaws need to be made by May of 2017, before the moratorium for making changes kicks in.
 - b. Mr. Stammreich wants to make sure that if there are any obstacles to what board members want to do that the Bylaws and Standing Rules help to remove any obstacles and make it possible for them to get things done.
 - c. An Agenda Template should be part of the standing rules.
12. **Outreach & Community Improvement Projects** – Donald Galaz & Danielle Sandoval
Community Partnering – Strategizing & Effective Spending
- a. Every committee should be doing out reach for their committee.
 - b. Each Committee chair needs to come up with one to three community benefit events with a budget. Something to consider for events is how many stakeholders it is going to reach.
 - c. Consider events that we can partner with other entities, i.e., LAPD, CD15, Recreation and Parks, etc.
13. **Lunch Break**
14. **Topics for brainstorm discussion include but are not limited to: outreach; communication; stakeholder participation; pressing local issues, etc.** The following are some of the items for consideration.
- a. Sustainability
 - b. Police
 - c. Youth programs
 - d. Opening the Harbor Division jail
 - e. Anti pan handling ordinance
 - f. Rancho LPG
 - g. More cohesion between area businesses
 - h. Greater distribution of tech jobs, get them here in San Pedro
 - i. Proper allocation of infrastructure, of funds for street services proportionate to what we pay in taxes
 - j. Code enforcement, make city entities accountable, accountability from city services
 - k. CD15 non-responsiveness
 - l. Street sweeping and parking sign accountability/enforcement
 - m. Illegal dumping, raise fines
 - n. Area buses diesel emissions, upgrading to clean burning buses and traffic mitigation
 - o. Graffiti abatement and lack of action

- p. Get resources/personnel from agencies/departments to come give information in the Harbor Area
- q. Metro, public transportation, rail
- r. The top three items from above to take to the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Council's (HANC)
 - i. Police/ Opening the Harbor Division jail
 - ii. Fair share of infrastructure
 - iii. 311 app/code enforcement

15. **Break Out Session: The CeSPNC Board will break out into smaller groups and brainstorm ideas.**

16. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheryl Akerblom,
for the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council