



CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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STAKEHOLDER MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2015

THE PORT OF LOS ANGELES HIGH SCHOOL

250 W. 5th Street, San Pedro

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm by President James Allen. (**Quorum of 12 Board Members**). Approximately 150 stakeholders present.

Board Members	Roll Call/Attendance
James P. Allen	Present
Frank Anderson	Present
Sue Castillo	Present
Karen Ceaser	Present
Donald Galaz	Present
Katherine Gray	Present
Jose Guerrero	Absent
Alexander Hall	Present
Grant Hartwell	Present
Hrant Harutyunyan	Excused
Debra Hunter	Present
Khixaan Obioma-Sakhu	Present
Danielle Sandoval	Present
Carrie Scoville	Present

2. **President's Report:**

- a. President James Allen gave a brief overview of the recent NC President's meeting with Port that he attended, as well as speaking briefly on other topics.
- b. **Appointment of Alexander Hall to Ad Hoc Park Committee Chair position.** Motion by Grant Hartwell to approve appointment of Alexander Hall to Ad Hoc Park Committee Chair position, seconded by Donald Galaz and passed with 11 yes (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, 1 abstention(s) (Allen)
- c. **Appointment of Donald Galaz to fill vacancy of Vice President position.** Motion by Sue Castillo to approve appointment of Donald Galaz to the position of Vice President of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council, seconded by Debra Hunter and passed 11 yes (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, 1 abstention(s) (Allen)
- d. **Board vote to confirm new board member(s):**
 - i. Rudy Caseres candidate statement – one of the main things he wants to bring to the board is for the board to be more welcoming, more friendly to new people, he wants a large crowd at stakeholder meetings to be the norm, and for people to feel welcome to speak up even if their opinion isn't popular. He wants there to be diversity in the attendees, which is the one of the main things he wants to bring to the board, to have that kind of atmosphere here.
 - ii. Brandon Debrichy statement – he works in San Pedro for California Realty and was involved in the Los Angeles Waterfront Access Redevelopment Coalition, to try and bring funding to San Pedro to revitalize our waterfront, on those topics as well as others, he would like to bring whatever help he can to San Pedro. It is very important to him and his family, they have been here for over 100 years. He would like to make a difference.

Motion by Donald Galaz to table the vote to confirm new board member(s) until all 4 candidates are present, seconded by Debra Hunter. The motion failed 2 yes (Galaz and Obioma-Sakhu), 9 no (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 1 abstention(s) (Allen)

Two other candidates, Scott Andrews and Anthony Perez, were not in attendance. Ballots with all four candidates named were distributed. Rudy Caseres and Brandon Debrichy received the majority of votes and were both elected to the Board.

- e. **Announcement of special guest for September Stakeholder meeting.** Ron Galperin, the City of Los Angeles Controller, will be a speaker at the September Stakeholder meeting.

3. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

- a. **Leslie Jones** with the Community Police Advisory Board distributed information on the Literacy Club. This nonprofit organization builds small libraries for youth at police stations for use by children who might be there for various reasons. The books are available for the youth to take home with them. She is requesting \$1,500.00 from the Central San Pedro Neighborhood council to fund building such a library for the Harbor Division Police Station. For the initial stocking of books perhaps they could stamp the inside cover with recognition of the Council's contribution.
- b. **John Ulloff** gave updates on the Port Development and the Red Car. He and others, including Janice Hahn, attended a Port Commission meeting at which they presented petitions to save the Red Car. He asked again that the Council contact Councilman Buscaino, Port Officials and the Mayor about finding ways to keep the Red Car beyond the slated September 27th end date.
- c. **Michael Gatanz** related to two things he just saw; 1) the new mobility plan, his concern is where does that put San Pedro with regard to transportation center, are we in or out?, and 2) the proposed plan for housing developments located around transportation centers. Is the housing plan for LA in general? There is a lot of housing shortage, downtown cannot grow, improve and change, without having residential housing in the downtown area and having transit accordingly.
- d. **John Stinson**, President of the San Pedro Art Association, wanted to thank the Council for its support of the Harbor Wide Student Art Competition, which is closing August 16th, from 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm at Crafted. There is a new Chamber of Commerce show, open Monday – Friday, from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm.
- e. **JK Drummond** commented on the lack of a transit center in downtown San Pedro. He also requested that someone come and make a presentation on the Mobility Plan.
- f. **Frank Anderson** announced that the 36th Annual Labor Solidarity Parade is Monday, September 7, 2015, at 10:00 am.

4. **Homelessness Committee Report:**

- a. **Motion to approve bylaws change adding the Homelessness Committee as a Standing Committee of the Central San Pedro NC Board.** The bylaws would read:

“The Committee to End Homelessness shall monitor issues related to its areas of responsibility that affect the Council area and its stakeholders by diligently monitoring and engaging with the L.A. City Council’s committee on Homelessness, social service agencies, and outreach teams, working directly with the homeless, and report such issues to the Governing Board. The Committee will also propose appropriate responses for the Governing Board’s consideration.”

Motion from Committee, passed with 11 yes (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, 1 abstention(s) (Allen)

- b. **Motion requesting support of the Central San Pedro NC board in having the Homelessness Committee move forward with the “Tiny House Project.”**

Karen Ceaser commented that at the July Committee meeting she invited Elvis Summers to give a presentation. Mr. Summers built a tiny home for a homeless woman in East Los Angeles. The organization Helping the Homeless in Need San Pedro, and Ms. Ceaser, as an individual, then began building a tiny home for a homeless San Pedro resident. They have built a tiny home each weekend since. The recipients of these tiny homes are very appreciative. Ms. Ceaser has spoken with Greg Spiegel, the homeless policy director for Mayor Garcetti,

about the issue. He is very receptive and will be working with the Council's Committee to End Homelessness.

Tiny houses are meant to be transitional housing, while the four primary agencies in San Pedro work to find permanent affordable housing for homeless. The process to find housing is moving more quickly than it has in the past.

Ms. Ceaser stated that the Neighborhood Council is not providing any kind of financial support. All the financial support that the tiny houses have received has come from concerned citizens.

Board member Sue Castillo asked if LAPD had a position on the issue.

Board member Grant Hartwell asked Committee Chair Karen Ceaser what she envisioned the Committee doing as far as supporting the tiny house project.

Committee Chair Karen Ceaser responded that she is working with various people/land owners, etc. to find a location to put the tiny houses out of the public right of way. They are continuing to build tiny houses in anticipation of having a location.

Public Comments on agenda item 4. b.:

- i. **Elvis Summers**, came tonight to address any concerns and answer questions. It comes down to very simple things food, water & shelter, the three important things for human life. Among the homeless there are drug users that don't care, but the majority of people don't want to be homeless. They need transitional housing. He understands the people want a good, clean safe community. The homeless are real people that need help. If you want a good, safe community you have to come together and build it.
- ii. **Ryan Ferguson**, field representative for Councilman Joe Buscaino, read the following statement on behalf of the Councilman:

"My goal as Councilman is to improve the quality of life for residents in my district by ensuring the safety of neighborhoods I represent. Therefore, I cannot support the placement of the tiny houses on our public streets. They are a threat in many ways to our public safety. I am consulting with the City Attorney and city staff to confirm the legality of these structures. I want them removed immediately because I do not believe they are a solution to the homelessness epidemic we are currently experiencing in Los Angeles. Instead, we need more permanent supportive housing which is a proven effective means of reintegrating chronically homeless individuals and families. This is the best way to help those with psychiatric disabilities or chronic challenges by addressing their basic needs for housing first, and providing ongoing support."
- iii. **Bill Boisselle-Schalaba**, Secretary for the San Pedro Art Association (SPAA) commented that when homeless that want help go to the County for services, the county provides a single individual with approximately \$180.00 per month, two weeks in a motel that is dirty and full of drug users. He knows this as a SPAA member died in that life. He doesn't want to see that happen to people trying to get their lives together.
- iv. **Kathleen Sanchez**, we can't wait for the city process to help the homeless, it takes forever. This is something that needs to be looked at right now. It can't just be put on a list to deal with later. These tiny homes as transitional housing are helping homeless people.
- v. **Robert Stone**, there are a lot of people out on the streets. He has spoken with some of them. It seems a large majority of them don't care. They feel they get everything for free so why work for it. Why try and get a job, why try and find work, everything comes to them for free. The tiny homes are not safe or sanitary. Don't just find them a tiny home, teach them how to get a job, get a resume, and help them help themselves.
- vi. **Frank Noland**, his understanding of the charter of the Neighborhood Council is to help build a cohesive neighborhood. He commends Elvis Summers and the other people involved in building tiny houses. He believes that the people building tiny houses have their heart in the right place but their head in the wrong place. Putting them on the city streets is not the answer. For the Council to approve the tiny homes being on the street is not creating a cohesive neighborhood.
- vii. **Robert Brandin** read the following statement: I've addressed the Board several times on the need to seek a positive outcome for those living on the streets and residents. I've come to the following conclusion; we need the entire community to get behind whatever we do. Tiny houses in the street, however well intentioned, will not receive that support. There's another committee comprised of professional advocates, faith based community, community members and others working to implement something that might, we hope. There should be a plan to present and ready to implement this fall and I would suggest to the Council, and everyone on it, that we not work at cross purposes. Let's work together.

- viii. **Elise Swanson**, President of the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce, expressed strong concerns about the tiny house project. She has looked at the tiny house structures in person and has serious concerns. She does not believe that this is a humane, sanitary or safe way to house human beings. This is not transitional housing. She worked for a previous elected official as the Director of Housing. Concerns include that 1) there is no sanitation, 2) this is not transitional housing, there are no bathrooms, 3) they have wheels so if hit by a car they could be propelled down the street (this is a great concern to people), 4) who is cleaning them and checking on them? There are a lot of issues around safety and sanitation. Elise applauds the neighborhood council for taking up this difficult issue. As President of the Chamber of Commerce, she takes daily calls from very frustrated businesses who are trying to find solutions to what's happening in downtown. It is a very difficult and delicate situation. "We want to have compassion for the homeless community, but we're also working to improve the economic vitality of downtown San Pedro and the waterfront. So it's just very, very delicate. We do need to work together. I want to echo what Robert Brandin said 'we need to work together on finding solutions'." Elise urges the neighborhood council to work with established, experienced homeless providers in the area (such as Harbor Interfaith Services, Volunteers of America (for homeless veterans), LAHSA, South Bay Coalition to End Homelessness, etc. These organizations are on the front line, and their staff is experienced in working in these difficult situations. "But let's band together, let's help Harbor Interfaith find a site, or an apartment building that they can build and rehab. That's something they're looking to do. Let's work together as a community and locate property where this can happen. But the tiny house project I think is just fraught with peril, though well intentioned."
- President James Allen asked if her comments were the position of the Board of the Chamber of Commerce. She responded that she did email Executive Committee of the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce. "I did let them know what I would be saying tonight. They did give me approval to speak on behalf of the Executive Committee of the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce."
- ix. **Richard Lopez**: He wants to speak on the tax payer's point of view. He has not heard the specifics on the liability and the health problems that this must create. He is concerned that the liability could be really, really great. The liability related to crime and narcotics issues.
- x. **Wendy Harris**: She feels they had good intentions, but that it was not well thought out. It's also a magnet for other homeless people to come here, they're given more freebies, and now you get a home. Feels their hearts are in the right place, she is more than willing to help figure something else out, "but the tiny homes got to go."
- xi. **Jamie Burton**, Owner of Playground Fitness, thinks this is a great *idea*, but it's not well thought out, there are too many liabilities and too much at risk. She doesn't know the solution, but this is not it. She agrees homeless people need help but this is not the right answer. It creates a whole new set of problems. She spoke about an article last year in San Pedro Today about an organized transitional homeless encampment in San Francisco.
- xii. **Mona Sutton**: She wants to appeal to the Board to please remember to represent all stakeholders. The Board also has a responsibility to support Central San Pedro in its revitalization. In her time in San Pedro she has worked tirelessly for the good of all, everybody, from the homeless, for safety, security, cleanliness, and the revitalization of San Pedro. She challenges the Board to put their energy into pushing the powers that be, Mayor Garcetti, the City Council and the State, to find a solution. Having the tiny houses in our un-revitalized business district is very negative and she doesn't think it's positive for the homeless either.
- xiii. **Debbie Stinson**: She thinks the tiny houses need to be on a lot of their own with a garden so they can grow their own food and have sanitation services. She supports the tiny houses as transitional housing that at least provides people shelter from the weather and provides a small amount of security, particularly for women. She finds it frustrating that there are people complaining but they don't have an answer.
- xiv. **Allyson Vought**: San Pedro has become a haven for drug users, thieves and ne'er-do-wells that have no interest in seeking public assistance. We cannot walk our streets without seeing and smelling the sanitation issues of the homeless. You are not helping by putting out these tiny houses. There are 11 shelters and 3 assistance facilities within 5 mile radius of our downtown. Use your outreach to help these people resource these facilities. You're placing homeless as a priority and forgetting that you are here to represent the people of San Pedro and improve our quality of life. I do have a solution for this, people who want these tiny houses, open up your house to them, let them live in your back yard. Don't burden us with your solutions, this is not a solution.
- xv. **Laurie Jacobs**: She applauds Karen, Sue and anybody who has been involved, for the work they've been doing with the homeless. The fact that the tiny houses has raised so many people's ire, and got them fired up, maybe is doing something right here. Because shame on us that this issue has gotten so out of control. How many people say they want to be involved but they're

not? They are here to complain about the tiny houses. Maybe the tiny houses are not the best idea but they're doing something to put shelter over these people's heads and get awareness out there. This is just wrong, there's too many people with a NIMBY attitude. She has been to some of the meetings where people think people are homeless because they want to be and are lazy. They are not. Who are we to judge, who are we to decide what the reason is that people are out there? Who are we to make those decisions? That is just wrong. These are people that need help. Granted some of them won't take our help because they've been hurt so much by the government and turned down by things, putting them in a shelter for three days where they have to give up all their belongings and then are put back out on the street is not a solution. This is a very complex issue. There are a lot of reasons why people are homeless. We can't judge them we need to help them. We need to be more proactive. Again, shame on our community for this having gotten to this point. She is a very big Joe Buscaino supporter, but she is a little disappointed that he so quickly just took the stance that this is unsafe. She would have rather he had come and said 'okay I see what you're doing, let's talk about it. Where can we put those tiny houses?' instead of just immediately making judgement and saying no.

- xvi. **Irene McGee:** "My friends call me Smokey, I am one of those homeless people that have one of the little tiny houses, and it's a blessing that Elvis built a house for me, before then I was living in the streets. I got double pneumonia living in the streets. Now I feel safe and I'm warm, and I'm happy. I'm not all the way content but I'm getting there. You know it's a start for me and I'm very blessed. I don't agree about people throwing their feces in the streets and all that, that's not true. People are homeless because they don't have a choice. Some of them are homeless because they want to be. I got homeless because my husband died in '04 and that put me on the streets. And now I'm in a safe haven and I'm thankful.
- xvii. **Alexis Tago:** She is speaking on behalf of mothers with kids. She is not for the tiny houses project simply because she feels that it does bring a haven for more homeless. Just the other day she had to stop some people from harassing some young kids walking. There are mothers who are not able to take their kids to and from school, so they do catch the bus. These tiny homes look like doll houses so they can attract children. You teach your children not to play in the street and then they see people living in the street. So why is that okay? She and her children pick up trash and volunteer around town. She supports finding a solution to homelessness and poverty. As a mother of five children she works very hard to not be in a position to be homeless.
- xviii. **Board member Carrie Scoville** commented that she will support the motion, though she doesn't think it's perfect. She doesn't think it's the solution but it is something and in absence of that we don't have much. She thinks the Board should be open to considering all options. She would prefer the government step up and do something about this, but they're not doing enough. She doesn't think that people want to be on the street. She doesn't think that they are necessarily even here voluntarily. She believes they get dumped here by other agencies or by other cities and that's why they are here in San Pedro. She also sees neighborhood councils that vote against housing ordinances to support high density housing and she is glad that Central SP NC is taking this up and taking on the homeless and showing its support.
- xix. **Board member Sue Castillo** commented that she will support the motion, she doesn't feel the tiny houses are an ideal solution by any means, but she still thinks she would rather see people in the tiny houses than sleeping and defecating on the sidewalk. It's not perfect, it's better than doing nothing.
- xx. **Board President James Allen** commented that he received an email from the Mayor's Deputy stating that Mayor Garcetti is authorizing \$50 million for housing subsidies in the City of Los Angeles, and has made a commitment to building 100,000 affordable units in the City of Los Angeles. Having said that we all know that these building projects are going to take a lot of time and even with that commitment that would not be enough to solve the housing problem in the City of Los Angeles which has been plaguing the city for many years.
- xxi. **Board member Debra Hunter:** She thinks making a step is more important than doing nothing. If it were at all possible to put it off until government got around to solving this problem that would be great. But in the meantime we've got the weather going to change, there's supposed to be a lot of rain this year, a roof overhead is better than nothing. It's better than sleeping on concrete and the statement Ryan Ferguson read is not the statement I responded to on Facebook this afternoon. Joe's original comment was "just get rid of it." Her comment was "support the tiny houses and bring in shower trucks, make public restrooms available, we can't say that we don't want them urinating and defecating in public and then closing up every possible public restroom that they can use. The human body just doesn't work that way, whether you live indoors or not." She thinks the tiny houses are a start. She thinks there is some advantage to continuing construction while looking for a better location for them than being on the street. Because otherwise we'll be at a rush to try and build them very quickly once they find a location. And it's a

hardship on everybody. She would love to see downtown thrive like other downtown areas, and she understands that that can't happen if there's a lot of detrimental things happening in the area. But we've got to start somewhere.

- xxii. **Board member Katherine Gray** commented that in the Councilman's statement he said that his goal as Councilman was to improve the quality of life for residents. Well it should be for all residents and she thinks that these tiny houses do improve the quality of life of people who are homeless. She does believe though that the reason we are here tonight talking about this is that the city has been totally ineffective in dealing with the problem, all they want to do is study it and study it. She was at the Homeless meeting when they decided to build the tiny houses and it sparked such a positive thing. It was amazing how quickly they got the houses built. But she thinks in the motion 'that we support the tiny house movement, but that we request that they find a better location', she doesn't think that having them on the streets is a good idea. So that they find a location for them as soon as possible, she thinks that should be in the motion.

HOMELESS AD HOC COMMITTEE MOTION

The following motion was on the agenda "Motion requesting support of the Central San Pedro NC board in having the Homelessness Committee move forward with the Tiny House Project."

*The above motion was presented by the Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness. Motion to amend by Karen Ceaser adding additional language as follows: "**Be it resolved that the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council (Central SPNC) supports the tiny homes initiative, not with any financial support, but as a policy, and that we continue to look for alternative spaces for these homes to be placed that are not on city streets; and urge the city to assist in the search for alternative locations. Furthermore, that a community forum be held, sponsored by the Central SPNC within the next 30 days, at a location to be announced within the Central SPNC area in order to have a further discussion with the community in regards to dealing with the homeless issue.**"*

Motion to amend seconded by Sue Castillo, and passed with 11 yes (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, 1 abstention(s) (Allen).

Motion by Karen Ceaser to approve the motion as amended, seconded by Sue Castillo, and passed with 11 yes (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, 1 abstention(s) (Allen).

5. Public Safety Reports: (LAPD, CPAB, Port Police, LAFD, etc)

a. LAPD: Senior Lead Officer Junior Nua, Senior Lead Officer

- i. **Update on recent homicides.** Year to date as of August 3rd there has been a 23% increase in part one crimes. There were three shootings; 24th and Leland, 13th and Mesa, and 20th and Gaffey, two of which were homicides. All three shootings were gang related and they have made an arrest in all three incidents.
- ii. Board member Danielle Sandoval had concerns about the motorcycle gang, the Mongols, being at Godmothers on Sunday.
- iii. Sergeant Catherine Plows, Harbor Area Community Relations Section, LAPD Harbor Division responded to Board member Sue Castillo's question related to tiny homes, asking what is the status of these "vehicles without engines," but they have wheels and they are on the street? Plows clarified that they are not vehicles, they are not conveyances, they are objects in the road way. As of today LAPD met with the City Attorney's office and they developed a plan and they will be removing the tiny homes. These structures do not fall under the issue of homeless encampments; accordingly they do not have to post a 72 hour notice of removal. However, LAPD with LAHSA spoke to the occupants of all three of the tiny houses and offered them emergency housing which was declined. A plan is in place to have the Bureau of Sanitation remove the houses.
- iv. Board member Donald Galaz asked Officer Nua about the Rancho San Pedro Housing Movie Night. Officer Nua commented that it was a great and very successful event. Providence Little Company of Mary provided free immunizations for the children. He expressed his appreciation of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council for its

financial support and he thanked Board members Frank Anderson, Donald Galaz, Debra Hunter, and Jose Guerrero for all their help.

6. **Port of Los Angeles Presentation on Sampson Way/Red Car and the Town Square/Ports O' Call project** by Augie Bezmalinovich, Community Affairs Advocate at Port of Los Angeles:
 - a. **Red Car** – Mr. Bezmalinovich played a video from the March Board of Harbor Commissioners meeting. Some of the highlights were:
 - i. The Red Car started operating in July of 2003, it is a one and a half mile line that runs from Swinford Street to 22nd Street, it has 2 replica cars and one restored car.
 - ii. The current line bisects the Sampson Way project, the Downtown Plaza project, and skirts along the Ports O' Call parking lot project. The current alignment would significantly reduce traffic flow that these projects are trying to improve.
 - iii. Construction is scheduled to start in early 2016 and will last approximately 18 months.
 - iv. The plan is to suspend Red Car service after this year's Lobster Fest.
 - v. The Red Car will not return on its existing alignment. The railway project does allow for a future rail line consistent with the Red Car feasibility study.
 - vi. The feasibility study had several recommendations including having the Red Car run low, street level types of cars.
 - vii. Board member Donald Galaz commented that he would like to see the Port incorporate a youth vocational program with the Red Car maintenance if they do build a facility.
 - viii. Stakeholder JK Drummond asked about the type of low cars, will they be modern, replica Red Cars or something else? Mr. Bezmalinovich responded that it has not yet been decided.
 - b. **Town Square/Ports O' Call Promenade** - Mr. Bezmalinovich played a video from a Board of Harbor Commissioners meeting. Some of the highlights were:
 - i. A Personal Service Agreement between the City of Los Angeles Harbor Department and Populous Inc. for the engineering, architectural and landscaping design services for the San Pedro Waterfront, Town Square and Ports O' Call Promenade was approved in the amount of \$2.34 million for a three year contract.
 - ii. President James Allen asked about the continuation of the Letter of Intent (LOI) between the Port and LA Waterfront Alliance. He thought that they were required to hold a public meeting to review their plan within 90 days of last meeting. Mr. Bezmalinovich replied that negotiations continue between the Port and LA Waterfront Alliance and on July 13th the Port approved a non-binding term sheet for development of the Ports O' Call site and extended the LOI through the end of year to continue negotiations to finalize a ground lease. The Developer intends to have a public presentation of their revised development concepts within 90 days of the July 13th BOHC meeting.
 - iii. Board Member Carrie Scoville asked the following questions:
 - I. For how long will the Red Car be suspended?
 - II. For a meeting of its importance why was it held in the morning and not in the evening when more people could attend?
 - III. Is Populous Inc. a contractor in the City of Los Angeles?
 - IV. Mr. Bezmalinovich responded that there is no future restart date for the Red Car; the BOHC meetings are occasionally held in the evening, however, by and large they are held in the morning; he doesn't know where Populous is located.
 - iv. Stakeholder John Ulloff asked if Neighborhood Councils or the public were ever given an alternative that would keep the Red Car running. President Allen responded, no.
7. **Port Committee Report** - Frank Anderson, Chair
 - a. Report from Neighborhood Council Presidents meeting with the Port.
 - i. They discussed the Red Car, the Sampson Way Realignment and Ports O' Call issues as outlined above, including a plan to demolish all the existing buildings south of the Maritime Museum.
 - ii. There was a white paper introduced related to zero emission vehicles.
 - b. **Motion** to support Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council's Resolution Re: The Port's Waterfront Plan. The following resolution from the Northwest SPNC was presented for support:

RESOLUTION CONCERNING LOS ANGELES WATERFRONT AND OTHER PROJECT FUNDING

Whereas the Los Angeles Harbor Department has committed to \$100 million in funding for six Los Angeles Waterfront projects in its Five Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) published in June 2015,

Whereas the Harbor Department policy is to invest 10 percent of its net operating income before depreciation in future waterfront development projects,

Whereas the Harbor Department has stated that this 10 percent commitment of funding based on net revenue would be considered a floor and not a funding ceiling,

Whereas the Department has underrun planned CIP funding recently, and obtains Board of Harbor Commissioner approval to reprogram CIP funds for other purposes but still has unused CIP funding. For example, this year the Board approved the reprogramming of \$30 million in 2105 CIP funds, and the Director reported to the Board in July that the Department estimated that \$56 million 2015 CIP funds would not be spent, which would have been funded by borrowing and/or income from revenues.,

Whereas the "cash and cash equivalents" provided in the Harbor Departments Financial summary as of March 31, 2015 increased from \$289 million as of March 31, 2014 to \$413 million as of March 31, 2015, while operating expenses increased from \$167 million to \$180 million for the same period,

Whereas the reserve maintained by the Port to ensure a AA bond rating, equivalent to 500 days operating expenses, is estimated to be about \$247 million,

Whereas the Port's "cash and cash equivalents," as of March 31, 2015, appears to exceed the required reserve amount by approximately \$167 million,

Now therefore, be it resolved, that the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council (NWSPNC) requests that the Harbor Department explain:

1. Why underutilized CIP funds cannot be reprogrammed to Los Angeles Waterfront development projects,
2. Why "cash and cash equivalents" exceeding the 500 day reserve amount cannot be considered as a funding source for future Waterfront Development or other projects included in approved EIRs for San Pedro and Wilmington.
3. What additional funding sources, aside from grant funding, would the Port consider to augment the 10 percent net revenue commitment?

The NWSPNC also requests that once the design concept has been agreed to by the Port and the developer of Ports O' Call, that the Port develop a Master Plan, budget and schedule for future Los Angeles Waterfront projects and that this planning and reprogramming of projects outlined in the approved EIRs include representatives from the Harbor area neighborhood councils.

Motion by Grant Hartwell to approve the motion to support Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council's Resolution Re: The Port's Waterfront Plan, seconded by Danielle Sandoval and passed 10 yes (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, 2 abstention(s) (Allen and Gray)

8. Land Use Planning and Public Works:

- a. **Discuss and consider motion Re: Community Improvement Project.** The Committee provided the following information on the proposed Sidewalk Art Project:

Proposed Project: Custom-designed artistic paving treatment to be produced and installed at two (adjacent) public sidewalk locations on the west side of Centre Street, north of Seventh Street. These locations are unfilled (empty) tree wells in a 5-foot wide sidewalk, each approximately 30-inches wide by 50-inches long (for a total of approximately 22 square feet of paving). It is proposed that this project be carried out as a collaboration between the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council (CSPNC) and the San Pedro Waterfront Arts District ("the District"). A Call for Artist Proposals' and Design Approval to be carried out primarily by the District, with a sign-off by CSPNC, to verify appropriate credit to the City and CSPNC.

Project Constraints:

--Proposed paving must receive a permit from the City of Los Angeles. Pavement must meet the City specifications. Department of Cultural Affairs approval may be required.

--Sponsorship recognition by the CSPNC must be incorporated in some fashion.

Initial recommended funding by the CSPNC at \$5000.00 level. Funding needs include:

--Artist design and production

--All materials

--Laboratory testing for slip resistance (if required)

--Installation Labor

--City Permit & Plan Review

--Administrative overhead for the District

Next steps:

1. CSPNC recommittal of project funding.
2. The District to approve project collaboration (will we need to do a letter of agreement?).
3. Consult with the Office of Joe Buscaino.
4. Visit the Dept of Public Works Bureau of Engineering (BOE) to determine process and fees.

Motion by Sue Castillo to approve the proposed Sidewalk Art Project at two locations as outlined above, seconded by Donald Galaz and passed 11 yes (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, 1 abstention(s) (Allen).

- b. **Discuss and consider motion to support the reinstatement of directly daily bus service between San Pedro and Los Angeles.** The following letter was presented for approval

DRAFT Letter to the MTA, attention of Philip Washington, CEO (copy to the office of Joe Buscaino)

The Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council strongly supports reinstatement of direct daily bus service between San Pedro and Los Angeles. However, extending the Silver Line Service with their oversize buses is NOT RECOMMENDED unless the MTA finds it possible to extend this service all of the way south to 22nd Street.

If oversize buses are utilized for this service improvement, all 22nd St. turnaround loop options should be explored. Note that it is assumed that this bus service will generally travel along Pacific Avenue in San Pedro. Turnaround options to be considered should include:

TURNING AT 22ND STREET

- Right and west to Grand Ave. returning to Pacific Ave as closely as possible to 22nd St.
- Right and west to Gaffey St. returning to Pacific Ave. as closely as possible to 22nd St.
- Left and east to Mesa St. returning to Pacific Ave. as closely as possible to 22nd St.

TURNING A BLOCK OR SO NORTH OF 22ND STREET:

- Left and east (as buses did in the past) to Mesa St., and then south to 22nd St returning via 22nd St. to Pacific Ave.
- Right and west to Grand Ave. and back to Pacific via 22nd St.
- Right and west to Gaffey St. and back to Pacific via 22nd St.

If a Gaffey Street loop is chosen, we support a northbound-only stop on Gaffey Street as a new Transitway bus option.

Motion from committee to approve Board Letter to MTA with request to reanalyze turning of the standard size buses in San Pedro and specifically at 22nd Street and Pacific, passed 11 yes (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, 1 abstention(s) (Allen)

9. Ad Hoc Parks Committee

- a. **Discuss and consider motion to appoint Alexander Hall as Chair of the Ad Hoc Parks Committee.** Action taken in Item 2.b. above.
- b. **Discuss and consider motion to approve letter to the Park Commission** (with copy to HANC), regarding adherence to Brown Act and Park Policy, as well as requesting greater community engagement in park issues. The following letter was presented for approval:

*Commission President Sylvia Patsaouras
Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department
Office of Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 86328
Los Angeles, CA 90086-0328
RE: Park Advisory Board protocol*

Dear Commissioner Patsaouras:

It has come to our attention that the LARAP management in our area have a vague understanding of the necessity to adhere to the Ralph M. Brown Act as it relates to Park Advisory Boards and the advance posting of agendas and/or the open public meetings.

Could you please advise the supervisors and staff at all of the San Pedro parks of their obligation to adhere to the intent of this law and their obligation to hold open and publicly posted meetings.

Sincerely,

Motion from Committee to approve sending the above letter passed with 9 yes (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Sandoval, and Scoville), 1 no (Gray), 1 abstention(s) (Allen).

10. **CD 15 Report** - Grant Hartwell had a discussion with Buscaino's representative Ryan Ferguson. He has compiled a working list of issues ranked by priority. This list will be tracked with a time line of actions.

11. **Reports from Public Officials**

a. **Councilman Joe Buscaino's office, San Pedro Field Deputy, Ryan Ferguson** provided a written report (please go to centralsanpedro.org for the full report), some of the highlights are as follows:

- i. The Gaffey Street Conceptual Plan: They are working with LANI and RRM Design Group to finalize the Plan and it should be released within the next few months.
- ii. The Lilyan Fierman Walkway: Studio 111 is in the process of submitting to B permit application to the Bureau of Engineering and they hope to start construction late 2015 or early 2016.
- iii. Sidewalk improvements: For the past year the City has been repairing sidewalks adjacent to City-owned facilities. The Public Works & Gang Reduction Committee and the Budget & Finance Committee are currently working on developing a policy to fix sidewalks adjacent to private property.
- iv. The crosswalk at Pacific Avenue and O'Farrell Street: An inquiry has been made to the Los Angeles Department of Transportation. They concluded that because this intersection is signalized, it has the lowest priority in terms of being eligible for a crossing guard.
- v. Downtown San Pedro is in the current draft sign ordinance as proposed for sign district eligibility. See written report for more detailed information.
- vi. Rancho San Pedro feasibility study: The contractor for the study, Economic Planning Systems (EPS), is on schedule with their scope of work. They are roughly 85-90% through the process, and remain on schedule to complete the study by the end of August. They will have a final report within the next few weeks.
- vii. The billboard property at 427 N. Gaffey (at the end of the freeway) is now owned by the City. However, the current billboard lease holder has the option to renew the lease into 2019. The City is working with the lease holder to find another location for the billboard.
- viii. Dr. Vladovic's representative John Larson included a report with the following items:
 - I. The Olguin Campus Pool will be closing to the public on August 16th as school will be back in session on August 18th.
 - II. Dr. Vladovic's term as LAUSD Board President ended in July. Board Member Steve Zimmer is now the President.
 - III. Dr. Vladovic is currently working with LAUSD staff to address pushing the start date of the school year back to a reasonable date.
 - IV. Currently a search is underway for a permanent LAUSD Superintendent.
- ix. Upcoming events:
 - I. RPV Planning Commission Meeting on the Western Avenue Design Guidelines is Tuesday, August 11th at 7:00 pm, at Fred Hasse Junior Community Park.
 - II. Alma Park Summer BBQ and Emergency Preparedness is Saturday, August 15th, at 11:00 am.
 - III. Light at the Lighthouse Music Festival is Saturday, September 5th from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, at Point Fermin Park.

b. **Congress Woman Janice Hahn office, Field Representative, German Castilla**

- i. Congresswoman Hahn attended the July 13th, BOHC meeting at which the Red Car closing was discussed and she expressed her concerns. She is distraught that such a symbol of San Pedro will be taken away with no certain plans for its return.
- ii. Castilla also reviewed a few legislative items involving the Congresswoman.

12. **Outreach Committee Report** - Donald Galaz, Chair

- a. Due to the meeting running so late Committee Chair will submit an on line final report on the Music by the Sea Outreach project and committee discussion of "rebranding" and reprinting of outreach materials for future outreach projects.

13. Finance Committee Report

- a. Discuss and consider Board approval of Bank Statements and Monthly expenditures. **Motion from Committee to approve July expenditures passed with 10 yes (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, 1 abstention(s) (Allen)**
- b. Discuss and consider Board approval of Strategic Plan to be submitted to Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. **Motion from Committee to approve the Strategic Plan as presented passed with 10 yes (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, 1 abstention(s) (Allen)**

14. Budget Advocate Report

- a. Update on October 17, 2015 Regional Budget Day – this agenda item was not addressed due to time constraints.

15. Other Reports:

- a. **HANC** (Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils)- No Report
- b. **PBID Report** - Katherine Gray
 - i. President Allen received an email from Steve Robbins stating that Board member Katherine Gray is not a member of PBID, not a stakeholder of PBID, etc. and accordingly do not want her to attend and report on their meetings to the Board. President Allen invited both Mr. Eisenberg and Mr. Robbins to report on PBID at Board meetings in lieu of Ms. Gray, since their non-profit organization is in the district of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council. He further suggested that at the next PBID meeting Ms. Gray attends she explain to the PBID that she is the CSPNC's liaison to their committee reporting on their activities that take place within the Central San Pedro NC's Council district and if they would like to come and explain what their duties and obligations are to the greater community that they are welcome to come to speak. Ms. Gray believes she is a stakeholder and that she is shocked that they would object to her attendance and reporting.
- c. **ACE Report** – No report.
- d. **Animal Services** – No report.

- 16. Approval of Minutes:** Approval of July 2015 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes. **Motion to approve the minutes seconded by Danielle Sandoval and passed 10 yes (Anderson, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Hall, Hartwell, Hunter, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, 2 abstention(s) (Allen and Gray)**

- 17. Announcements:** None

- 18. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm. The next meeting will be on September 8, 2015.

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