



# CENTRAL SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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## STAKEHOLDER MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015

THE PORT OF LOS ANGELES HIGH SCHOOL

250 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, San Pedro

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by President James Allen. (**Quorum of 14 Board Members**). Approximately 80 stakeholders present.

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Roll Call/Attendance</b>
James P. Allen	Present
Frank Anderson	Present
Scott Andrews	Appointed
Rudy Caseres	Present
Sue Castillo	Present
Karen Ceaser	Present
Brandon Debrichy	Absent
Donald Galaz	Present
Katherine Gray	Present
Jose Guerrero	Present left at 9:05 pm
Alexander Hall	Present
Grant Hartwell	Excused
Hrant Harutyunyan	Present
Debra Hunter	Present
Khixaan Obioma-Sakhu	Present left at 9:05 pm
Danielle Sandoval	Present
Carrie Scoville	Present left at 9:05 pm

2. **President's Report:**

- a. **Board vote to confirm new board member** – Scott Andrews made a brief statement of his background.  
The Board then appointed Scott Andrews to fill the vacant board seat with 13 yes (Anderson, Caseres, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Guerrero, Hall, Harutyunyan, Hunter, Obioma-Sakhu, Sandoval, and Scoville), 0 no, and 1 abstention (Allen)
- b. **Report on Port Meeting with Neighborhood Council Presidents:** President Allen reported that the majority of the meeting centered around the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council's position on the Port's budget. The Port's commitment to spend \$20 million per year on waterfront development projects is considered by the community to be the minimum, not the maximum amount. The Port maintains that \$20 million is a maximum and could possibly be less. They continue to dispute that there is any extra money to be invested in waterfront development projects.
- c. **Report on Meeting with Councilman:** President Allen reported that at the meeting with Councilman Buscaino it is apparent that many of the Neighborhood Councils in CD-15 have many of the same issues. Yet some areas have far greater problems than we do here in San Pedro. At the end of the closed session meeting Councilman Buscaino selected Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council's President, Ray Regalado, to co-chair his new San Pedro Community Homelessness Task Force.

- d. President James Allen announced that Clean San Pedro is to be the recipient of a \$1.5 million grant.
  - e. **Motion to write a letter to DONE to extend the expiration date on ethics training from two years to four years:** Stakeholder Bob Gelfand commented that he believes state law requires all elected officials to have ethics training be every two years. Accordingly, President Allen withdrew the motion and will refer to DONE legal counsel for further guidance.
3. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:**
- a. John Stinson commented on homelessness continuing to be dealt with by enforcement. The homeless need to be off the street, they need housing/shelter.
  - b. John Ulloth commented that they now have 5,000 signatures on the Save the Red Car petition.
  - c. James Washington commented on the closure of the Red Car despite construction not starting for two years.
  - d. Giavonna Trivison commented about the tiny house homeless issue and not understanding why the Board continues to support tiny houses when she feels so much of the community is opposed.
  - e. Monica Weston commented that a majority of the community is opposed to the tiny houses and the Board by supporting the tiny houses is not representing the community.
  - f. Melanie Labrecque commented that she is concerned about the Boards support of tiny houses when what she heard is that they are not legal.
  - g. George Palaziol commented that he is concerned that the Board violated the Brown Act and the communities trust related to the Board's support of tiny houses.
  - h. Terelle Jerricks, Managing Editor of Random Lengths News (RLn), commented that for the last few months RLn has been covering the homeless issue. Accordingly, he is concerned about the wholesale recycling of stacks of RLn papers based largely on ideological grounds. He went on to outline the possible penalties for doing so. He is also concerned about the level of incivility of many of the public conversations and personal attacks on individuals.
4. **Public Safety Reports:** (LAPD, CPAB, Port Police, LAFD, etc)
- a. **LAPD Senior Lead Officer Junior Nua:**
    - i. Foot beat units have been implemented in downtown San Pedro. They also want to cover the Gaffey corridor.
    - ii. Crime statistics for all the Harbor Division areas were presented with particular emphasis on the Central San Pedro area.
  - b. **CPAB meeting** – Alexander Hall
    - i. Funding has been received to construct a children's library in LAPD Harbor Division station.
    - ii. The meeting is the third Thursday of each month (September 17, 2015) at 6:30 pm, at the LAPD Harbor Division Police Station.
5. **Update on Micro Brewery Project on 7<sup>th</sup> and Centre proposed by James Brown, San Pedro Brewing Co.:**
- a. The owner of San Pedro Brewing Company is proposing to build a commercial micro brewery called Port Town Brewing Company in the old Liberty Auditorium/7<sup>th</sup> Street Garage at Centre and 7<sup>th</sup> Street.
  - b. There is a zoning variance request hearing on October 7<sup>th</sup> to allow the project and he would like a letter of support from the Council.
  - c. His architect presented some renderings of the project.
  - d. The Board realized that there is not enough time to submit a new letter. Accordingly, the Board agreed to re-submit the previous letter of support with a brief cover letter of explanation
6. **Land Use Planning and Public Works Report:** Sue Castillo reported:
- a. The Jack in the Box project on Gaffey is moving forward.
  - b. The Port is initialing a study on converting a large portion of Port owned waterfront property to residential use. Though, Sue Castillo and Carrie Scoville believe it is against state law to have housing on tidal lands.
    - i. Board member Katherine Gray commented that at a recent Economic Development meeting at the Chamber of Commerce a representative from Senator Isadore Hall's

office stated that the Senator has introduced a bill to override the Coastal Commission to rezone those areas for residential use.

- ii. Senator Hall's District Representative commented that it is correct that it is state law that tidal lands cannot be used for residential, and yes Senator Hall did introduce a bill to amend the zoning of tidal lands for permanent residential housing (SB 399).
- iii. Some other concerns expressed by Board members and stakeholders included:
  - I. The preservation of tidal lands for their originally intended purpose.
  - II. Getting more residential into downtown San Pedro, not the waterfront.
- c. Stakeholder Leslie Jones asked about several pending development projects on Gaffey.

7. **Presentation by City Controller, Ron Galperin on "Controller Panel LA":**

- a. Mr. Galperin started with a story about street repair and how it influenced his path to becoming the City Controller.
- b. The Controller is one of three city wide elected positions. The Controller's office is responsible for the City payroll, payables for goods and services, and financial and performance audits. They also have a waste, fraud and abuse unit.
- c. Shortly after he took office he launched the open data initiative, for greater transparency. The outcome is the Control Panel website at [controllerdata.lacity.org](http://controllerdata.lacity.org) and the DWP Utility Panel at [controllerdata.lacity.org/dwp](http://controllerdata.lacity.org/dwp).
- d. On these sites you can see every revenue item with budgeted amounts and every expenditure; and also the CheckbookLA for the entire City.
- e. Mr. Galperin gave an in depth live demonstration on use of the sites.
- f. Some of the Board and Stakeholder questions related to the following:
  - i. Prop K funds. <http://sanpedrocity.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Central-August-2015-revised-minutes.pdf>
  - ii. Port expenditures.
  - iii. Councilmember discretionary funds.
  - iv. Expenditures on homelessness.
  - v. Document destruction and retention costs.

8. **Reports from Public Officials:**

- a. **Congresswoman Janice Hahn's office.** German Castilla, District Staff Assistant reported:
  - i. He read a statement on behalf of the Congresswoman in response to comments by the Federal Maritime Commission Chairman in support of a third party audit of PierPass, <http://hahn.house.gov/press-release/congresswoman-hahn-supports-third-party-audit-pierpass>
  - ii. In October they are having their annual prayer breakfast.
- b. **Senator Isadore Hall's office.** Representative, Avalino Vellencia reported:
  - i. Introduced Erika Velazquez the new representative for San Pedro and Wilmington.
- c. **LAUSD Board member Dr. Vladovic's office.** Director of Communications, John Larson reported:
  - i. A committee has been formed by LAUSD to examine the school start date, Dr. Vladovic supports the start date being moved to after Labor Day.
  - ii. On Sunday, September 13, 2015, from 2pm – 5pm, at Rancho Dominguez High School there is a forum hosted by the US Naval Academy to let students know about education opportunities at the academy.
- d. **Councilman Joe Buscaino's office:** San Pedro Field Deputy, Ryan Ferguson provided a written report (please go to [centralsanpedro.org](http://centralsanpedro.org) for the full report), some of the highlights are as follows:
  - i. Ryan stated that he will be on vacation from September 11<sup>th</sup> through September 14<sup>th</sup>, if you need anything please contact Nicole Wells.
  - ii. Thank you to those who attended the homeless forum. His written report includes a recap of Councilman Buscaino's action plan for the immediate future, including the launch of the San Pedro Community Homelessness Task Force to be co-chaired by Ray Regalado, President of the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council.
  - iii. The report also includes updates on the following issues:
    - I. The Lilyan Fierman Walkway
    - II. The Eighth Street Townhomes

- III. The crack in the Warner Grand terrazzo
- IV. The Rancho San Pedro feasibility study
- V. Legislative updates
- iv. Board members had questions on legislative items as follows:
  - I. Board member Karen Ceaser asked about CF#14-0655 related to the now standing Committee on Homelessness.
  - II. Board member Danielle Sandoval asked about CF #15-0727 related to public restrooms, showers, and storage facilities for homeless.
  - III. President James Allen asked if Councilman Buscaino intended to ask anyone on the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council to be on the newly formed San Pedro Community Homelessness Task Force.
  - IV. Board member Karen Ceaser read an August 28<sup>th</sup> letter from the Public Works Committee signed by John A. White, the Legislative Assistant of Public Works and Gang Reduction Committees, to several City Council members related to CF #15-0980.

9. **Port Committee Report:** Frank Anderson, Chair

- a. President James Allen commented that the Port is planning to do an economic feasibility study, as mentioned earlier, to develop public owned properties that will impact either waterfront development or downtown San Pedro. There will be a public presentation in the next 60 to 90 days from the developer of the Ports O' Call side of their plan.
- b. Even though the Port has said they will discontinue the Red Car temporarily, they have issued a report that states to do the full plan, that was previously approved, would cost approximately \$200 million dollars.

10. **Ad Hoc Parks Committee:**

- a. The Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, new Harbor District Supervisor, Deanne Dudman, introduced herself and Warren Young, the new Director of Anderson Park Senior Center. Contact email for Warren Young is [warren.young@lacity.org](mailto:warren.young@lacity.org). President Allen stated that some of the grant funds received by Clean San Pedro are earmarked for Anderson Park.
- b. No action was taken on approval of a letter to Carl Cooper regarding Neighborhood Council Board members being on PAB's as it had been approved at a prior meeting and already sent out.

11. **BREAK**

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

- a. The committee discussed the possibility of posting video recordings of portions of monthly stakeholder meetings. They discussed having podcasts and live feed videos as well.
- b. They continue to discuss rebranding the Neighborhood Council. They had a presentation from Dave Behar proposing to produce videos and social media marketing. However, since the meeting, Mr. Behar has withdrawn his proposal. Accordingly, the committee will now look for other sources for these services.
- c. Committee Chair Donald Galaz would like the Board to submit rebranding concepts, and to take action on the submissions.
- d. It was brought to his attention that there are several Neighborhood Watch programs in the Central San Pedro area. He wants to contact them to do outreach with them such as block parties.
- e. They discussed inviting speakers to the monthly stakeholder meetings, similar to Controller Galperin this evening.
- f. They continue to discuss the Facebook admin situation.
- g. They want to have a booth at First Thursdays and Farmers Markets to get feedback and suggestions from Stakeholders.
- h. President Allen asked to issue a new RFP to create a new brochure. Committee Chair wants more input from Stakeholders.
- i. They discussed the Sidewalk Art Project related to addressing the holes on the sidewalk outside Godmothers and Happy Diner by utilizing public art. In its current state it is a public safety issue.

- j. The next meeting will be on posted on the web site once a date is set.
- k. Board member Alexander Hall is meeting with Mr. Young from Anderson Park and will discuss the availability of having committee meetings there.

13. **CD15 Issues Report:** Grant Hartwell -

- a. No report due to Board member Grant Hartwell's absence.

14. **Homelessness Committee Report:** Karen Ceaser, Chair

- a. The committee is having a round table discussion on Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, at 6pm, at the Croatian Cultural Center in partnership with LAPD's Community Relations Sergeant Catherine Plows. Topics to be discussed include; various resources available, the services and providers currently available in the community, like shelters, what needs are unmet and unfunded, and pending City Council motions.

15. **Finance Committee Report:**

- a. Board Approval of Bank Statements and Monthly expenditures. **Motion by Donald Galaz to approve the August MER and Bank Statements, seconded by Karen Ceaser, passed with 10 yes (Anderson, Caseres, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Harutyunyan, Hunter, and Sandoval), 0 no, and 1 abstention (Allen).**
- b. Motion to approve a budget of \$5,000.00 for the proposed Sidewalk Art Project at two locations on Centre Street north of 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Board member Donald Galaz would like Stakeholders have an opportunity to possibly vote on which submissions will be selected. **Motion by Karen Ceaser to approve a budget of \$5,000.00 for the proposed Sidewalk Art Project at two locations on Centre Street north of 7<sup>th</sup> Street, seconded by Alexander Hall, passed with 9 yes (Anderson, Caseres, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Harutyunyan, Hunter, and Sandoval), 0 no, 1 abstention (Allen), and 1 recusal (Castillo).**
- c. Motion to approve Neighborhood Purposes Grant for Rainbow Services for purchase of appliances for transitional housing in the amount of \$2,455.00. **Motion by Karen Ceaser to approve Neighborhood Purposes Grant for Rainbow Services for purchase of appliances for transitional housing in the amount of \$2,455.00, seconded by Alexander Hall, passed with 10 yes (Anderson, Caseres, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Harutyunyan, Hunter, and Sandoval), 0 no, and 1 abstention (Allen).**
- d. Update on status of proposed additional funding of \$5,000.00 for each neighborhood council. The City Council has approved the additional \$5,000.00 but it has not yet been distributed. The funds must be used for operations expenditures.

16. **Budget Advocate Report:**

- a. Regional Budget Day is Saturday, October 17, 2015, from 9am to 12pm, at Port of Los Angeles High School.
- b. Reminder that the Congress of Neighborhoods is September 26, 2015, at 7:30am, in Los Angeles City Hall.
- c. The budget advocates wrote letters about union contracts coming up for renewal and the 2024 Olympics bid.

17. **Other Reports:**

- a. **HANC** (Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils) Report - Frank Anderson
  - i. There was a presentation by the DWP related to proposed rate increases and infrastructure requirements.
  - ii. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) is looking for liaisons to the Department of Public Works and Animal Services from Neighborhood Councils.
- b. **PBID Report** - Katherine Gray
  - i. They have hired a new Executive Director, Loretta Parker, she is due to start later in the month.
  - ii. They are discussing raising assessments by three percent.
  - iii. They are looking into buying two more trolleys.

c. **ACE Report** - Andrew Silber – Not present

18. **Approval of Minutes:** Approval of August 2015 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes. Motion by Sue Castillo to approve August 2015 Board and Stakeholder Meeting Minutes, seconded by Alexander Hall, passed with 10 yes (Anderson, Caseres, Castillo, Ceaser, Galaz, Gray, Hall, Harutyunyan, Hunter, and Sandoval), 0 no, and 1 abstention (Allen).

19. **Announcements:** None

20. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 pm. The next meeting is October 13, 2015.

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