

Barbary Coast Neighborhood Association

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

September 16, 2010

5A5 Steak Lounge, 244 Jackson Street, San Francisco, CA 94111

1st DRAFT

The meeting began at 6:05 pm and was called to order by President Bill Sauro.

Board members in attendance in addition to President Sauro: Bill Benkavitch, Steve Chen, Mary Lou Licwinko, Jonathan Middlebrook, Carol Parlette, Felix Rodriguez, Diana Taylor.

Board members absent: Morton Beebe, Bob Harrer.

Also attending: Ranee Lan, Board nominee.

1. Quorum Call. When the meeting was called to order, there were eight Board members in attendance.
2. Discussion with Possible Board Replacement Member, Ranee Lan. President Sauro explained the rules for replacing a Board member who resigns (the Board votes, rather than the entire BCNA membership) and introduced Ms. Lan to the Board. Ms. Lan told the Board about herself. She is married with a two year old daughter and lives in the neighborhood. She has previously worked in e-commerce. She loves the neighborhood, wants to stay here and wants to be involved with neighborhood issues. She is part of a mother's group for kids under 4. The Board thanked Ms. Lan for her comments and President Sauro asked her to leave the room.
3. Vote to Approve Board Member Replacement. The Board discussed Ms. Lan and felt that she would be an excellent addition to the Board. President Sauro offered a motion to accept Ms. Lan on the Board. The motion was seconded.

The Board voted unanimously for Ms. Lan to become a Board Member.

Ms. Lan returned to the room and was warmly welcomed to the Board.

4. Approval of Minutes. The minutes from the July 15, 2010 Board meeting were approved unanimously. These minutes had previously been sent to Board members for comment.

5. Treasurer's Report. Carol Parlette distributed the Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Budget Summary Report dated 9/15/10. The current balance is \$2,355.62. Main expense was the summer Newsletter. The Board adopted the Treasurer's Report unanimously. Further, BCNA membership renewal notices will be sent in the fall, and those annual renewals will improve the account balance, Ms. Parlette stated.

6. SF Planning Department NE Embarcadero Study – Follow Up. As a follow up to an action item from the July 15, 2010 Board meeting, President Sauro recapped events leading to the Study. Diana Taylor had agreed to coordinate a review of the SF Planning Department Study relative to the BCNA guidelines. The objective of this review is to develop a coherent BCNA position on the Study. Jonathan Middlebrook, Felix Rodriguez and Bob Harrer agreed to help with this review. The initial draft has been completed and forwarded to other Board members for comment. President Sauro stated that this is an evolving position paper, and that the Board will polish it a bit more. Once completed, this review will be discussed with and approved by the Board so that a clear BCNA position is established for use in public dialog and forwarding to SF government leaders.

7. Presentation by Brad Paul, Executive Director of Neighbors to Preserve the Waterfront. Mr. Paul addressed the Board regarding the alternative NE Embarcadero Study. He explained how he got involved and that this alternative Study is a more comprehensive plan than offered by the City. (The BCNA Board had previously voted unanimously in August to become part of the neighborhood alternative Study coalition.)

Mr. Paul also explained the rationale behind the lawsuit filed against the San Francisco Planning Commission and the Port of San Francisco regarding the actions taken by these City government agencies on the SF Planning Department's Study.

The principal issue is these agencies are in violation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA requires the City to conduct environmental review prior to taking action approving or implementing the Northeast Embarcadero Study in any way. Because there is substantial evidence to support a fair argument that the planning guidelines and recommendations contained in the Study may

lead to development with significant environmental impacts, an environmental impact report is required prior to its approval or use.

Without environmental review, the City has created the ability for the developer to justify action (pre-approval). The lawsuit, if successful, will undo the action taken.

The Board had several questions for Mr. Paul, which he answered. A brief discussion followed. The Board then thanked Mr. Paul for his presentation, and he left the room.

8. Old/Current Business

a. NE Embarcadero Study

i. Discussion & Vote to Join 'Neighbors' Lawsuit. After Mr. Paul left the room, the Board discussed the consequences of the SF Planning Department actions, not only in the BCNA neighborhood, but throughout the City. Discussions included community process needs, membership responses to the BCNA survey, and 'what's right'. A motion was presented to join the lawsuit, which was seconded. The Board voted 8-1 to join the lawsuit.

ii. Discussion & Vote to Join Lawsuit with the Coalition of San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN). A motion was presented to join the lawsuit as part of CSFN. The motion was seconded. After a brief discussion, the Board voted unanimously to join the lawsuit with CSFN. (The CSFN represents many local neighborhood groups. BCNA is a member of CSFN. Should a majority of the member groups join the lawsuit, then CSFN would also join.) President Sauro agreed to contact CSFN and advise them of the BCNA position.

b. Alternative Study Report – September 13, 2010. President Sauro updated the Board about the Workshop he attended earlier in the week concerning the alternative Study. The Study is being managed by Asian Neighborhood Design (AND) as an alternative to what was produced by the SF Planning Department. This Study is a much more comprehensive one, and is addressing a balance of revenue for the Port, active recreational needs and other neighborhood concerns. More elements will be added as the Study progresses.

c/d. Reconsideration of Approving Bocce Ball Court Construction/Update on Playground Creation. President Sauro restated the BCNA position of 'no problem' with the bocce ball court development. There is a need for a playground for kids in the neighborhood. At Rincon Hill and South Beach, there are

almost 1,000 kids, and there is not one playground within a mile of the Ferry Building. President Sauro agreed to follow up on this issue. He will see if a playground is feasible on a parcel of land near the bocce ball court site – controlled by SF Recreation & Parks Department and currently leased to the SF Port for parking – as a candidate for a playground.

9. New Business.

a. Desirability of Area Swap Meet/Sale. President Sauro led a discussion about the desirability to conduct a swap meet/sale in the neighborhood. This event would give people an opportunity to trade or sell items they no longer need but may be useful to others. This event would also give neighbors a chance to meet other neighbors. There was some interest from the Board, and President Sauro said he'd follow up on the idea.

b. Contributions to Board Member Liability Insurance. President Sauro stated the annual fee for Directors & Officers (D&O) Insurance had been paid. He said that any Board member payment for a share of the expense would be appreciated.

10. Approve Next Meeting Dates.

a. Social. The Board discussed what the best time and location would be for a BCNA social. The Board decided that Sunday, November 7, 2010 at the 5A5 Steak Lounge would be an ideal time and location. The Board thanked Steve Chen for offering his restaurant for the Social. Details will be provided as the date approaches.

b. Board Meeting. The next Board meeting will be Thursday, November 11, 2010. Location and start time will be announced by separate correspondence.

11. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Benkavitch

Secretary

