

**Barbary Coast Neighborhood Association**

**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**

**November 11, 2010**

**550 Davis Street, Unit 25, 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, Bob Harrer, Rane Lan, Mary Lou Licwinko, Jonathan Middlebrook, Carol Parlette, Diana Taylor.

Board members absent: Morton Beebe, Felix Rodriguez.

1. Quorum Call. When the meeting was called to order, there were nine Board members in attendance.
2. Approval of Minutes. The minutes from the September 16, 2010 Board meeting were approved unanimously. These minutes had previously been sent to Board members for comment.
3. Treasurer's Report. Carol Parlette distributed the Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Budget Summary Report dated 11/11/10. The current balance is \$4,583.19. Main expense was the membership dues mailing. And, there will be the expense of the fall Newsletter. The Board adopted the Treasurer's Report unanimously. President Sauro stated that the number of BCNA members/prior members is close to 200, including additional new members from the Gateway Apartment complex. President Sauro also stated that the deadline for article submissions for the fall Newsletter is Monday, November 15 and the 'stuffing party' is Friday, November 19.
4. Old Business.
  - a. Alternative NE Embarcadero Study and "Neighbors" Lawsuit

#### i. Present Time-line and Activity Sheet

President Sauro updated the Board on these two critical initiatives, including his recent meeting with Brad Paul, who is the spokesperson for the Neighborhood Coalition coordinating the Study and the Lawsuit. A very strong team has been created with attorneys Susan Brandt-Hawley and Sue Hestor, Asian Neighborhood Design (AND), Friends of Golden Gateway (FOGG), Golden Gateway Tenants Association (GGTA), Telegraph Hill Dwellers (THD), BCNA and several other neighborhood groups.

President Sauro presented a draft Time-line showing the upcoming actions for both the Lawsuit and the Alternative Study. A new revision of the Study should be available for review in early December. He also discussed the Term Sheet that the SF Port has approved for the 8 Washington Street proposed development, and how one-sided it is in favor of the developer.

#### ii. Discuss Fund Raising Ideas

President Sauro and the Board then discussed the expense of both the Alternative Plan and the Lawsuit and the Coalitions need to raise funds on an ongoing basis. He offered to draft an email to BCNA members letting them know how to contribute to these causes. A motion was made and seconded to do this email. The Board voted unanimously to approve the sending of the email. The draft would be reviewed by the Board before it is sent.

In closing this discussion, President Sauro stated that BCNA's involvement promotes a positive and constructive consensus and this is a logical connection since BCNA joined the Alternative Study and the Lawsuit Coalition.

#### b. Neighborhood Playground Effort

##### i. Present Renderings

President Sauro distributed drawings for the proposed playground on the SF Recreation & Parks Department land near the Hyatt Hotel that is currently being used for a parking lot by the SF Port. He stated that the land is available to use as the playground – approximately 3,500 square feet. It will cost between \$300-500 thousand to build the playground. The City will need to agree to the design, which will have a fence around it and will not have lights. To proceed, a main issue will be to obtain a fiscal sponsor and to raise the money. It is hoped that the YMCA will be that sponsor. He said that several

other sponsors were looked at but they had onerous indemnity provisions in their contracts which made going forward impractical.

## ii. Fundraising Plans

The Board discussed ways to raise money for the playground once a fiscal sponsor has been established. There are five big employers in the area that could be solicited. One possible way to raise money would be to have a party at the playground site – perhaps in late February (after a sponsor has been designated).

## c. Successful BCNA Fall Party

The Board members sincerely thanked Steve Chen for hosting the party at his 5A5 Steak Lounge. All agreed that the complementary beverages and food were outstanding. Also, Brad Paul the guest speaker provided great insight about the Alternative NE Embarcadero Study and the “Neighbors” Lawsuit.

## 5. New Business.

### a. Ferry/Sue Bierman Park.

Golden Gateway Tenants Association (GGTA) President Phil Ryan, in a discussion with President Sauro stated that the SF Recreation & Park Department is leaving large electrical boxes as permanent structures in the Park. These boxes were installed for the Peter Pan show earlier this year. City law says that no permanent structures are allowed. BCNA is working with GGTA to petition for their removal.

### b. Affiliating With Other Associations.

President Sauro stated that some GGTA leaders have suggested affiliating with BCNA. The main purpose of the affiliation would be for information exchange and joint responses to common concerns. The Board discussed whether other neighborhood groups such as homeowners associations might also be interested, even having a representative on the BCNA Board.

The consensus was that seeking affiliates from the associations is a fine idea and BCNA should think hard about what benefits can be offered to them as affiliates. Any decision on the idea will be deferred to a later date. President Sauro agreed to have initial discussions with the GGTA.

c. NEWAG Discussion.

Diana Taylor updated the Board on two items from the recent NEWAG meeting. First, the Hornblower Cruises & Events Company plan for the Alcatraz Plaza complex does not meet the National Park Service requirements. Second, the SF Port proposal for 60 motorcycle parking spaces at Pier ½ faces near unanimous opposition.

6. Approve Next Meeting Dates.

a. December. There are no events planned.

b. Board Meeting. The next Board meeting will be Thursday, January 20, 2011. Location and start time will be announced by separate correspondence. President Sauro asked Board members to check their calendars and advise him whether they will be attending.

c. Sunday Social Event. The next social event will be in late February – perhaps February 20 – and could use the neighborhood playground fundraiser as a focus point. (See Item 4.b. Neighborhood Playground Effort)

7. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Benkavitch

Secretary