

Barbary Coast Neighborhood Association
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
March 3, 2014
640 Davis Street #13, San Francisco, CA 94111

The meeting began at 6:15 pm and was called to order by President Bob Harrer.

Board members in attendance in addition to President Harrer: Morton Beebe, Bill Benkavitch, Geri Koeppel, Kathleen James, Carol Parlette, Ranee Lan, Diana Taylor.

Board members absent: David Albert, Jim Cunningham, Mary Lou Licwinko.

Also in attendance: Bill Hannan, GGTA President.

1. Quorum Call. When the meeting was called to order, there were seven Board members in attendance.

Presentation by Tim Hester - Waterfront Height Initiative - Proposition B. Tim thanked the Board for its support last fall in helping defeat the height increase for the 8 Washington Street high rise luxury condominium project. He said that this new initiative is for the public trust land along the waterfront that is controlled by the SF Port. Any development on this land that would increase the height limits as they existed on January 1, 2014 would require voter approval. This initiative is not meant to stop any specific project, only give the voters the opportunity to determine whether a height increase, if required for the project, would be allowed. Tim stated that if developers know this requirement, it will make for better developments.

There are three projects in the planning process that would be affected by this Proposition. They are the Warriors Arena Complex, the Mission Bay development, and Pier 70. Tim also talked about the lawsuit filed against the City by several developers claiming that only the SF Port has the authority to approve development. A hearing is set for March 13, 2014.

Tim then answered questions from the Board. The Board thanked him for the presentation, and he left the meeting. **See Item 4.a.**

2. Approval of Minutes. The minutes from the January 29, 2014 Board meeting were previously approved by email and posted on the BCNA website. The new approval process will continue.

3. Treasurer's Report. Carol Parlette presented the Balance Sheet, Income Statement and a revised Budget Summary Report dated 3/3/14. She reported that the account balance is \$9,936.40. No expenses have been incurred yet. Most of the income reported came from the second mailing of the dues renewal notice. **The Board approved the Treasurer's Report unanimously.**

4. New Business.

a. Waterfront Height Initiative. (See Presentation by Tim Hester previously addressed in these minutes.) After Tim left the meeting, President Harrer led a discussion about Proposition B. Pros and cons of the Proposition and its effect on the BCNA neighborhood and throughout San Francisco were addressed. At the end of the discussion, the Board voted on whether to support Proposition B. **The Board voted to support Proposition B.** Kathleen James asked to be recorded as a No vote on the Proposition. **President Harrer agreed to contact Tim Hester and apprise him of this vote.**

b. Proposed Affordable Housing Project (Broadway & Front). President Harrer updated the Board on the status of this project. There is some opposition in the neighborhood to having affordable housing rather than moderate income or market-rate housing. The next step will be the commenting on the proposed MOU between the SF Port and the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH). This project will likely be on the March 11, 2014 SF Port Commission Agenda. **BCNA, as a co-signee of a joint letter to the SF Port and MOH will make public comment as to whether the concerns expressed in the joint letter are addressed in the MOU.**

c. Possible Sponsor of Candidates' Night. The Board discussed being a co-sponsor of a Candidate's Night as part of the November 2014 election process. The Board decided that the best time would be in the fall (after Labor Day) rather than staging an event for the June Primary. No decision was made. The subject will be discussed at a future Board meeting.

d. Vision Zero. The Board discussed this movement whose purpose is to reduce accidents between cars with pedestrians and bicycles. This is a City-wide issue. The Board decided to take no position until further details emerge.

e. Proposed Fare Increase on Muni F Line. The Board took a position against this proposed fare increase. **Geri Koepfel agreed to draft a BCNA response and forward to the Board for review. After review and approval, Geri agreed to send the response to the SFMTA.**

f. Priority Issues: How Do We Address? The Board deferred this discussion to a future meeting.

g. June Osterberg and the Newsletter. President Harrer advised the Board that June will be writing articles on her own schedule, due to personal issues. She does not want a continuing commitment and does not want to be paid. **The Board agreed to let June continue in a way that best suits her, and that she will be paid for the articles already written. Bob agreed to call June and discuss what she'd be comfortable with. Carol Parlette will send June a 'Thank You' card with payment in it for the articles written.**

5. Old Business

a. **8 Washington: Now What?** Discussion was deferred to a future meeting.

b. **Membership.** Kathleen James presented several ideas about capturing names of attendees at BCNA events and providing membership application/renewal forms. Also she suggested having the BCNA List of Accomplishments as a handout at upcoming Socials. **Kathleen will work with both Carol Parlette and David Albert on this issue.**

c. **Newsletter Transition.** Geri Koeppel updated the Board on her website, transitioning to a completely new one and her working with a new web developer. The website should be up in about one week. The Board discussed paying Geri for any articles she prepares and posts on behalf of BCNA. **Geri agreed to talk to her attorney about receiving payment for BCNA content.**

The Board discussed BCNA content oversight for articles to be posted on the website. In particular, the difference between 'news' and 'policy' is of concern. The review process needs to be better defined, yet not be a hindrance to timely posting of content. **Bob Harrer agreed to talk to BCNA former President Bill Sauro and report back to the Board at a subsequent meeting.**

d. **Port-BCDC Working Group.** Discussion was deferred to a future meeting.

e. **Sue Bierman Park; Lighting, Homeless.** GGTA President Bill Hannan and Geri Koeppel met with SF Recreation and Parks representatives. They reported that vegetation is in the process of being cut back. Additional light poles would be too expensive to install. Increasing brightness of existing fixtures is still being looked into.

f. **Warriors Arena Project.** Discussion was deferred to a future meeting. (Note: As part of the Proposition B presentation mentioned earlier in these minutes, the Warriors are looking into an alternative site for the proposed arena, in conjunction with the SF Giants, and their proposed Mission Bay project.)

g. **Central Station Police Advisory Board.** There was no update on the CSPAB.

h. **The Gateway Report.** The GGTA Report was deferred to a future meeting.

7. Approve Next Meeting Dates.

a. **Board Meeting.** President Harrer presented several dates for consideration. **Bob agreed to email the Board with these dates. He will advise the Board of the preferred by the Board members.** Location is to be determined.

b. Sunday Social Event. Diana Taylor updated the Board on the **Sunday, March 16, 2014 Social**. She has arranged for a **guided walking tour of the BCNA neighborhood**. Following the walking tour, the social will convene at **Barrique**, located at **461 Pacific Avenue**. **Ranee Lan** is working with Diana on this event. A reminder email will be sent and the **Social information** will be posted on the **Barbary Coast News website**.

c. Annual Meeting Plans. President Harrer proposed two dates in early June. He agreed to email the Board with these dates. He will advise the Board members of the preferred date. Further, after the date is set, Bob agreed to contact **Steve Chen** at **5A5 Steak Lounge** and ask Steve if he will host the meeting. A speaker has not yet been arranged.

7. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Benkavitch
Secretary