

WEST OF TWIN PEAKS CENTRAL COUNCIL MINUTES
September 24, 2012 – DRAFT

16 Associations Present:

Balboa Terrace, Roger Ritter
Forest Hill, Walt Farrell
Golden Gate Heights, Sally Stephens
Greater West Portal, Avrum Shepard
Ingleside Terraces, Paul Conroy
Lakeshore Acres, Bill Chionsini
Lakeside Property Owners, Joyce Richardson
Midtown Terrace, George Wooding
Miraloma Park, Karen Breslin
Monterey Heights, Copley Crosby
Pine Lake Park, Don Dutil
Saint Francis Homes, Carolyn Squeri
Twin Peaks Improvement, Denise LaPointe
Westwood Highlands, Dave Bisho
The Woods, Judith Clarke

Guests Present:

Marc Christensen, METNA
Glen Hatakeyana, METNA
Matt O’Grady, SF Parks Alliance
Jeanette Dutil, Pine Lake Park
Jane Shepard, GWPNA
Blue Mudbhary, Westwood Highlands
Gustin Guibert, Forest Hill
Lisa Spinali, Sunnyside
Estelle Smith, Sunnyside
Lee Hsu, GWPNA
Barbara Chionsini, Lakeshore Acres
Ann Clark
Loretta Wasacz, GWPNA
Bonnie Preston
F.X. Crowley, Candidate for Supervisor

3 Associations Absent:

Merced Manor, Mount Sutro Homeowners,
Sherwood Forest

Officers Present:

Matt Chamberlain, President
Roger Ritter, Vice President
Carolyn Squeri, Treasurer
Sally Stephens, Secretary
Avrum Shepard, Parliamentarian

Meeting called to order: 7:32 pm, a quorum was present

Debate on Proposition B – Clean and Safe Parks Bond: We heard a presentation from Supervisor Scott Wiener in support of the Bond, and one from former Supervisor Aaron Peskin in opposition to the Bond. Wiener spoke first and described some of the projects included in the Bond (e.g., removing arsenic from playground wood at Christopher Playground, renovating the Glen Canyon Rec Center where floors slope and don’t meet the walls, Balboa pool in significant disrepair) and argued that they are desperately

needed. He said that defeating the Bond will not send a message to Rec and Park Dept (RPD) management. Instead, those who get the message will be the kids who won't get a new pool or will have to play on unsafe wooden play structures. Peskin argued that recent RPD management decisions (e.g., Arboretum fee, renting out clubhouses in long-term leases that shut the public out) have been controversial and unpopular. A vote for the Bond will tell RPD that those management decisions are okay and should be continued or expanded. He suggested voters draw a line in the sand against "privatization" of parks and clubhouses by opposing the Bond. He said RPD needs maintenance dollars, not capital dollars. Both presenters answered questions from members and the audience. George Wooding moved that WTPCC not support the Bond, send a letter to member organizations asking them to not support the Bond, and send a letter to RPD and the Mayor asking that RPD become a more fiscally responsible agency. Karen Breslin seconded. The vote was 5 in favor of the motion, 1 opposed, with 10 abstentions. Because a majority of those present did not vote in favor of the motion, it did not pass.

Guest Speaker – Justine Fenwick from NextDoor.com: Fenwick showed a 90-second video and introduced members to NextDoor.com, a free online resource for people in neighborhoods to communicate with one another. The site verifies that you actually live in a neighborhood before allowing you to join, and allows neighbors to post information for everyone else who is signed up to see. It includes a neighbor directory, a section for neighbors' recommendations on just about anything, and affinity groups (e.g., parents group, pet owners group) that neighbors can set up and join. Lisa Spinali and Estelle Smith have used NextDoor.com in Sunnyside and noted that many seniors are not online and can miss out on information posted on a service like NextDoor.com. They also expressed privacy concerns, although Fenwick noted that they never sell information to anyone.

Discussion on Admitting Sunnyside Neighborhood Association: Don Dutil had attended a meeting of Sunnyside Neighborhood Association (SNA) and found the relatively new organization to be viable and well-structured, and recommended that they be allowed to join. Dave Bisho, adding that SNA has regular meetings, moved that WTPCC accept Sunnyside Neighborhood Association as a member. Dutil seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: The draft of the minutes for the June 25, 2012 meeting were approved – moved by Avrum Shepard, Don Dutil seconded.

Officers' Reports: Matt Chamberlain reported that Off the Grid is no longer proposing to put food trucks on 14th Avenue between West Portal and Portola. Instead they now want to put food trucks one night a week in the municipal parking lot on West Portal. He

also noted that there are four other ballot propositions of interest to members – Prop A on City College, Prop C on housing, Prop E on Gross Receipts Business Tax, and Prop F on Hetch Hetchy. If anyone would like to present yes or no on any of these, please let him know. He also said WTPCC had sent Thank You letters to all those who helped with the Supervisor Candidates Forum in September, including the moderators, the principal of Aptos School, and the custodian who came early to let the sound person into the building to set up. Several member groups – Balboa Terrace, GWPNA, Miraloma Park, Monterey Heights, Pine Lake Park, and Westwood Highlands – made contributions to offset the costs of the Supervisor Candidates Forum. WTPCC still needs \$700 to cover all the costs. If any members want to contribute, they can send a check to WTPCC.

Treasurer's Report: Carolyn Squeri reported that WTPCC has \$3982 in the bank. Matt Chamberlain noted that it has been suggested that WTPCC might want to do more than just collect dues, but perhaps could hold other events, e.g., a fundraising dinner, to raise more money. We can discuss this at a future meeting.

Committee Reports: Avrum Shepard noted that Lee Hsu is helping with the Technology Committee.

New Business: George Wooding noted that Laguna Honda would like to come to a future meeting to thank us for our support in helping them win an orchard in a national contest.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:59 pm.
Minutes submitted by Sally Stephens, Secretary

2012 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

Fourth Monday of every month – January 23, February 27, March 26, April 23, ay 21 (note the date change for May due to the Memorial Day holiday), June 25 (annual meeting), September 24, October 22, November 26. No meetings in July, August, and December. *All meetings are at 7:30 pm and take place in the Forest Hill Clubhouse.*

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS: Balboa Terrace – Forest Hill – Forest Knolls – Golden Gate Heights – Greater West Portal – Ingleside Terraces – Lakeshore Acres – Lakeside Property Owners – Merced Manor – Midtown Terrace – Miraloma Park Improvement Club – Monterey Heights – Mount Sutro Homeowners – Pine Lake Park – St. Francis Homes – Sherwood Forest – Twin Peaks Improvement Association – Westwood Highlands – The Woods