

**WEST OF TWIN PEAKS CENTRAL COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**February 24, 2014**

**13 Associations Present:**

Balboa Terrace, Roger Ritter  
Forest Hill, Walt Farrell  
Forest Knolls, Kristine Zaback  
Golden Gate Heights, Sally Stephens  
Greater West Portal, Avrum Shepard  
Ingleside Terraces, Paul Conroy  
Midtown Terrace, George Wooding  
Miraloma Park, Karen Breslin  
Monterey Heights, Copley Crosby  
Pine Lake, David Golden  
Saint Francis Homes, Carolyn Squeri  
Westwood Highlands, Dave Bisho  
The Woods, Judy Clarke

**Guests Present:**

Mitch Bull, Westside Observer  
Emily Salgado, Assm. Phil Ting's Office  
John Farrell, Forest Hill  
Lee Hsu, GWPNA  
F.X. Crowley  
Matthias Mormino, Sup. Norman Yee's Office  
Tim White  
Kathy and Mike Montague, Pine Lake  
Gus Guibert, Forest Hill  
Walter Capland, Forest Knolls  
David Pilpel

**7 Associations Absent:**

Lakeshore Acres, Lakeside Property Owners, Merced  
Manor, Mount Sutro Homeowners, Sherwood Forest,  
Sunnyside, Twin Peaks

**Officers Present:**

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

**Meeting called to order:** 7:30 pm, there was a quorum (13 of 20).

**Minutes:** The draft minutes for the January 27, 2014 meeting were approved with one correction – Treasurer Squeri reminded delegates to file IRS forms if your organization was a 501(c)(3) or a 501(c)(4) (Add 501(c)(4)).

**Treasurer's Report:** Carolyn Squeri reported that WTPCC has \$4,046.70 in the bank. She distributed the Council's 2013 Financial Statement. She noted we are a lean operation starting 2013 with \$3,127 in the bank, with dues paid during the year of \$2,610, and total expenses throughout the year of \$1,712. We ended 2013 with \$4196 in the bank. Paul Conroy moved that we accept the Treasurer's Report, Avrum Shepard seconded, and the Report was accepted.

**Vice-President's Report:** Roger Ritter said that there was information on the Waterfront Height Limits ballot initiative available at the sign-in table.

There was no President, Secretary's or Parliamentarian's Report.

**Committee Reports:**

**Public Health Committee:** George Wooding reported that low-income US citizens who have been enrolled in Healthy SF are having problems since the Federal Government does not consider it an acceptable alternative to

the Affordable Care Act, yet the acceptable alternatives have high deductibles that are low-income citizens cannot afford. The Health Commission voted to deal with the problem at a later date, while continuing Healthy SF coverage until then. Wooding noted that a pedestrian had been killed at Yorba and Sunset. Cars hit three people every day in San Francisco. He also noted that people on Treasure Island are finding small toxic waste on the island that was supposed to have been cleaned up by the Navy.

**Transportation Committee:** Avrum Shepard noted that both SFMTA and CTA want input on issues. The CTA (County Transportation Agency) is becoming more active than they have been in the past. If you're interested in this, he can send more information. George Wooding added that he thought CTA was telling SFMTA what to do when it is supposed to be a fiduciary agency only. Matthias Mormino noted a community meeting tomorrow (Feb 25, 6 to 8 pm, SF State, 800 Font) evening for the Transit Effectiveness Project, to discuss changes to the 17, 18, 27 and 36 MUNI lines.

**Public Safety Committee:** Roger Ritter reported that Supervisor Yee is proposing legislation on marijuana dispensaries on Ocean Ave. The Council will appoint a Committee to deal with this issue. He asked for volunteers, and Roger, Paul Conroy and Dave Bisho, responded, with the suggestion to include Denise LaPointe.

Dave Bisho then moved that WTPCC oppose a third medical marijuana dispensary on Ocean Ave. He noted that Yee's legislation that prohibits dispensaries within 500 feet of one another opens the door for more on Ocean Ave. Dave Golden seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Matthias Mormino noted that the two existing dispensaries are far apart, and the 500-foot limit would mean there couldn't be a third one. He said Yee wants to find the right tool to keep a third one out, which might be a cap on number allowed on one street or in one neighborhood, or perhaps the 500-foot limit. He wants to work with WTPCC on this issue.

There was no Technology, or Open Space Committee Report.

#### **New Business:**

**Bike Lane Legislation:** Emily Salgado, from Assemblymember Phil Ting's Office described AB 1193, Ting's bike infrastructure bill. She said it would add a definition of a cycle track to codes, which would allow Caltrans to implement design and safety standards for cycle tracks (like on Fell or Market, where you have a separation between bikes and cars e.g., by white pylons). Currently, since there are no standards for cycle tracks, when San Francisco wants to implement one, they have to get a special exemption, which costs money and time. This legislation, by adding cycle tracks to codes and getting Caltrans to implement standards, would mean that SF would bring San Francisco into compliance with state codes and would mean that SF would not have to apply for a special exemption for any additional cycle tracks, saving time and money. The legislation would not require cycle tracks, however, and does not address bike lanes. Delegates expressed concerns with out-of-control bike riders, that the streets are becoming less safe because of narrowing streets and increasing width of sidewalks, bike lanes, etc. Delegates noted that only 7% of San Franciscans ride bikes, so a bike-only or bike-preference approach is irresponsible. Salgado argued there are benefits to the local economy of bike riding. She added that Assm. Ting would like to organize an Annual Bike Fair for families to focus on bike safety and education (e.g., here's how to ride a bike safely).

**SFPUC Proposed Rate Increases and Safety Improvements:** Tyrone Jue, Communications Director for the SFPUC, and Crispin Hollings, from SFPUC Finance, reported on proposed rate increases to water and sewage rates. Jue noted the SFPUC has proposed a four-year rate increase, mostly for water system upgrades. He noted that the SFPUC provides water to 2.6 million people and provides energy to City Departments, as well as providing sewer service in San Francisco. Propositions A and E in 2002 provided for seismic upgrades to the Hetch Hetchy water system and tripled rates over time to pay for the improvements. Hetch Hetchy improvements are 80% complete (should be done in 2018), and are running 2% over budget of \$4.6 billion. Hollings described the rate increase – the PUC is proposing a rate increase of 8.9% per year for the next four years. This compounds, so at the end of the four years, the rate will have increased by 34% from what it is now. For example, a single-

family home that uses about 4,500 gallons of water/month, currently pays \$87/month, or about \$1 per person per day. If the rate increase goes into effect, at the end of the four years, the same home will pay \$120/month, or about \$1.30 per person per day. San Francisco is in about the middle when compared to other agencies – some communities pay more, some pay less. The rate increase is not a done deal. The Rate Fairness Board will hear the proposal on March 14, and in May, the PUC will be asked to take action. If the Board of Supervisors takes no action, the rate increase will take effect on July 1, 2014.

The rate increase will fund infrastructure projects and start a program to upgrade sewers. For example, they want to replace the Eastern Waste Treatment Plant (at 3<sup>rd</sup> St and Evans). Jue noted that San Francisco is the only city in California that has a combined sanitary and storm sewer system. That means street runoff is treated before being released into the Bay or ocean, which is good, but during storms, the runoff can overwhelm the treatment system, resulting in untreated water being released. As they upgrade the sewer system they plan to look at how to slow down how storm runoff gets into the treatment system to reduce untreated discharges. For example, there is a 250 million gallon storage box under the Great Highway (from Fulton to Sloat), where storm water can be held before entering treatment system. Jue also noted that they want to diversify water sources, especially during droughts, to include groundwater and recycled water. The PUC now carries 220 million gallons/day. They are planning for 4 million gallons/day to be from groundwater, as an insurance policy in case of prolonged drought. He said that PUC water projects have taken into account projected population growth in the future. In San Francisco, even though our population is up, our water use is down by 17%. When asked, Jue noted that 2/3 of PUC water use is outside of San Francisco. Those communities are picking up 2/3 of the cost of regional improvements. Wholesale rates to other community water districts are adjusted annually. While they are proposing that SF rates increase 8.9%, they are proposing that wholesale rates to other water districts increase by 20%. For more information, see a presentation on the agency's 10-year financial plan made at the February 11, 2014 PUC meeting, and check out sfwater.org.

#### **New Business:**

Roger Ritter noted that Supervisor David Chiu has accelerated the timeline for his secondary unit legislation. It will now come to the Board March. WTPCC has opposed this kind of legislation in the past, and will invite Sup. Chiu to our meeting next month to discuss it.

Kristine Zaback submitted a resolution calling on the MTA to keep service on the 36 Teresita bus as it is now, with the current route and current level of service. The MTA has proposed eliminating loops of the current route that are the only service to the Forest Knolls and other neighborhoods. If approved, there will be no MUNI service to those neighborhoods. Paul Conroy moved to adopt the resolution, Carolyn Squeri seconded. The motion passed by voice vote. Zaback will present the resolution at a MUNI budget meeting tomorrow (Feb 25, 6:30 pm at 1 South Van Ness).

**Meeting adjourned** at 9:04 pm.

Minutes submitted by Sally Stephens, Secretary

#### **2014 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:**

Fourth Monday of every month – January 27, February 24, March 24, April 28, May (TBD because the normal meeting day falls on Memorial Day), June 23 (annual meeting), September 22, October 27, November 24. No meetings in July, August, and December. *All meetings are at 7:30 pm. Location is 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 – Sunnyside – Twin Peaks Improvement Association – Westwood Highlands – The Woods