



# West of Twin Peaks Central Council

A Resource for Neighborhood Organizations West of Twin Peaks in San Francisco since 1936

PO Box 27112  
San Francisco, CA 94127

<http://www.westoftwinpeaks.org/>

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Monday, January 23, 2017

**Time:** 7:30pm – 9:00pm

**Location:** [Forest Hill Clubhouse](#)  
[381 Magellan Avenue](#)  
[San Francisco, CA 94127](#)

<b>Associations:</b>	Those Present shown in bold		
	<b>Balboa Terrace</b>	<b>Roger Ritter</b>	<b>Monterey Heights</b> Marco Magallon Susan Zurinaga Paul Anderson Steve Roditti <b>Leslie French</b>
	<b>Forest Hill</b>	<b>Dena Aslanian</b> <b>William</b> Gus Guibert	Mount Sutro Homeowners
	Forest Knolls	Herbert Dunmeyer Kristine Zaback	Pine Lake Park David Golden
	<b>Ingleside Terrace</b>	<b>Paul Conroy</b> Carolyn + Bob Karis Mark -	Saint Francis Woods Carolyn Squeri, Paul Hill
	<b>Golden Gate Heights</b>	<b>Sally Stephens</b>	Sherwood Forest
	<b>Greater West Portal</b>	Avrum Shepard <b>Matt Chamberlain</b> Lee Hsu	Sunnyside Lisa Spinali Estelle Smith
	Lakeshore Acres	Barbara Chionsini Bill Chionsini,	The Woods Judy Clarke
	Lakeside Property Owners	Joyce Richardson,	Twin Peaks Denise LaPoint
	Merced Manor	Mike Garcia	<b>Westwood Highlands</b> Bhushan Mudbhary <b>Dave Bisho</b>
	Midtown Terrace	George Wooding	
<b>Miraloma Park</b>	<b>Karen Breslin</b>		
<b>Officers Present:</b>	<b>President – Roger Ritter</b> <b>Vice President- Sally Stephens</b>	Treasurer- Carolyn Squeri Secretary – David Golden <b>Parliamentarian – Matt Chamberlain</b>	

<b>Guests Present:</b>	Pat Skain Rae Doyle	
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**Roll Call and Minutes Review:**

**Meeting called to order:** 7:37pm by Roger Ritter. Late start due to heavy rainfall and low turnout.

**Roll Call:** 8 Delegates Present, No Quorum

**Minutes:** Previous Minutes not approved, will need to address at February meeting.

**Officer Reports:**

**President / Roger Ritter:** Deferring Presidents report to the end of the meeting.

**Vice President / Sally Stephens:**

**Secretary / David Golden:** Not Present

**Treasurer / Carolyn Squeri:** Not Present. Roger Ritter provided update on behalf of Carolyn. Current account balance is \$5,598.83. Membership dues letters will go out shortly. Also, all organizations who are tax exempt should remember to file their California 199N e-Postcard, and Federal 990N soon if your fiscal year mirrors the calendar year.

**Parliamentarian / Matt Chamberlain:** No Update

**Committee Reports:**

**Planning and Land Use :** Committee not active. Need volunteer for chair. This shouldn't be a huge time commitment and it's an important function to fill. If you can spare some time, please consider volunteering for this role.

**Technology / Avrum Shepard:** No Update.

**Public Health / George Wooding:** No Update.

**Open Space & Parks / Sally Stephens:** PUC is in the process of moving forward with their Natural Areas Program (NAP). They took the EIR to the Planning Commission who certified it, and the RPD is working to start their implementation plan. This includes Sharp Park in Pacifica which the City of San Francisco owns. Several different groups have filed opposition to the NAP certification. The appeal to the certification will be covered at a meeting of the Planning Commission on 2/28. Key elements of the plan include cutting down 15,000 trees at Sharp Park and 1,500 trees on Mt. Davidson. This program is funded from the RPD general fund.

WTPCC has been on the record for a long time as opposing the removal of healthy trees for no reason other than to create space for native plants. Karen Breslin asked for a letter opposing the certification of the EIR. Roger stated that we don't need to call a vote to reinforce a position the WTPCC has held for a long time, and will provide that letter. The letter will be circulated at the next meeting and posted to our web site.

A guest commented that the removal of injured and damaged trees is a standard practice and that there are many unhealthy trees on Mt. Davidson that should be removed to ensure public safety. Sally Stephens

responded that the NAP is not a “maintenance plan” for addressing old or injured trees. It’s an expensive program to clear non-native plants that may be healthy, in order to make room for native plants that can’t effectively compete with stronger, healthy non-native species.

**Transportation / Avrum Shepard:** No Update.

**Public Safety / Barbara Chionsini:** No Update.

**Featured Speakers – SF PUC (Sewer System Improvement Program)**

Chris Colwick (SSIP Communication Manager)

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San Francisco, CA 94102

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[ccolwick@swfwater.org](mailto:ccolwick@swfwater.org)

Chris was joined by Amy Kam and Emily Powell to discuss the Sewer System Improvement Program (SSIP) The SF PUC does three things: 1) Deliver water to 2.6 Million customers, 2) Operate the Sewer in San Francisco and 3) Deliver Clean (hydro electric) power.

Key data points on the PUC water and sewer system in San Francisco:

- SF Sewer System is a combined sewage and rain water system
- Includes 25,000 catch-basins to trap and hold rain water as a cushion to the sewage treatment system
- The PUC is currently in the first few years of a 20-year improvement program to make the sewer more robust (able to survive an earthquake). This program will focus over the next couple of years on the TOP most critical weaknesses of the system, then slowly expand to lower priority areas.
- 30% of the sewer system is still brick and mortar and some of it dates back 150 years to the Gold Rush era.
- The system upgrade will replace an average of 15 miles of tunnels and pipes every year
- 80% of all the sewage in the City is treated at the Bayview treatment plant.
- The PUC is about 40% of the way through the program to renovate and improve the Hetch Hetchy water system.
- During the development of San Francisco (over the last 150- years), construction crews simply paved over dozens and dozens of existing creeks and water ways. Basically any low spot in the City used to be a seasonal creek. During periods of rain, all these low-lying areas are prone to flooding. The PUC is interested in determining if rate-payers would like the PUC to remediate these problem areas.
  - Currently rate payers are covering the costs of two other major projects: 1) Hetch Hetchy improvements, and 2) Bayview waste treatment plant.
- The Hetch Hetchy program already costs a lot.
- The Bayview Sewer treatment improvement project will cost about \$2 Billion.
- The PUC estimates it’ll cost an additional \$2 Billion to remediate the low-lying areas. See attached questionnaire from PUC.

Gus Guibert pointed out that rate payers aren’t confident that the PUC will shepherd our money well.

Currently they have a Community Benefits program that requires sub contractors bidding on PUC projects to

build into their projects the cost of building parks, clubhouses, and running enrichment programs for low-income residents like art and dance programs in the BayView. PUC staff pointed out that those Community Benefits are provided at the contractors cost, not as a cost to the City, but meeting attendees countered that the money has to come from somewhere, so the contractors are padding their bids in order to be able to deliver these community benefits as part of the project.

Chris Colwick mentioned all the things that residents can do to protect themselves from flooding as well as the programs the PUC sponsors to address flooding, including:

- Adopt a drain
- Buy flood insurance
- Sand Bag program at the DPW Yard
- Sewer Operations Team that goes out to hot spots and tries to clear drains right before large storms
- Grant program to make improvements on your property and then be reimbursed after the fact - if the house meets the program criteria
- Grey Infrastructure - pipes
- Green Infrastructure - permeable terrain to allow water to go in the soil (this is a really hard thing to implement in SF because the whole city is already built over)
- Ultimately they are looking for support for rate increases to cover the cost of improvements

Paul Conroy asked if the SSIP is also responsible for the work being done in Ingleside Terraces. Yes, this is part of the standard 15miles per year Renovation and Replacement (R&R) project.

What about the work on Sloat Blvd? No, that's part of CalTrans since it's State Hwy 35 & State Hwy 1.

Questions were asked about the blending of Hetch Hetchy water with SF ground water. PUC replied that this is a "diversification program" designed to make the City less reliant ONLY on Hetch Hetchy in case of an emergency that disables the feed from there.

There were some questions about the catch basins located on the West Side of SF under the Great Highway, and whether they will withstand a rise in sea level driven by Global Warming. PUC referred to the Ocean Beach Master Plan and the associated 10-year capital plan that specifically addresses the infrastructure along Ocean Beach.

There were no actions or motions made on anything related to the PUC presentation.

**Presidents Report:** Roger Ritter announced that he will be stepping down as President immediately in order to relocate his family to Washington, D.C. within a month. Sally Stephens will retain the office of Vice President and continue to host meetings as usual. Anything that you'd normally address to the president should go instead to Sally Stephens effective immediately.

**9:00 pm Adjourn + Social :** Karen Breslin motions to Adjourn. We are adjourned.

Adjourned.  
Minutes by Matt Chamberlain