

**Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2003, St Brendan's Parish Hall**

Opening

Mary Burns called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Present

Attendees were invited to introduce themselves. A sign-in sheet was circulated. Steering Committee members present were Mary Burns, Joseph Basuino, Charles Browne, Tim Colen, Rae Doyle, Bruce Engle, Helen Johnson, Carolyn Klemeyer, Mary McDermott, Helen Naish, Doris Neumann, Chris Radich, John Sarraille, Jackie Sarraille, Howard Strassner, and Bud Wilson. Also present were Marilyn Amini, Donald Enochson, Jim Esser, Eileen Fanelli, Jill Kent, Walter Kent, Ken Kruszka, Marilou Lascari, Lolita Sweet and Tom E. Wharton.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

President's Report

Mary Burns made a special award to John and Jackie Sarraille for special efforts in gaining police enforcement to get an RV parked on 14th Avenue off the street. She also called on Tim Colen who asked that the steering committee endorse a special candidates' night to be sponsored by the West Side Democratic Club and some neighborhood groups. It was asked that he ensure that former Police Chief Tony Ribera, a Republican, be included. A motion by Howard was adopted asking that a precondition for sponsorship include the participation of other neighborhood groups and assurances of bipartisanship. Bud Wilson then spoke up and indicated that SPEAK was also interested in having us co-sponsor a candidates' night, and after discussion, it was decided that it was better for GWPNA to align itself with another non-profit organization for this purpose, rather than a political organization such as the West Side Democratic Club.

Guest Speaker

Lolita Sweet, Public Outreach Officer, SF Department of Environment, reported on the success of the Sunset Scavenger “fantastic 3” garbage collection, which she said was needed so San Francisco could meet state requirements for recycling of garbage. A concern was raised about persons leaving their “fantastic 3” containers on the street or visible in front of their homes and creating an eye sore, and Ms. Sweet stated that an enforcement (and fine) program was in the works. She also urged all to turn in for replacement mercury thermometers, which she said contained sufficient mercury to be poisonous. Helen Johnson volunteered to collect and turn in mercury thermometers.

Report on Status of Projects

Website Update

An appeal was issued for a content writer to assist Avrum Shephard with the web site: www.GWPNA.org. Rae Doyle and Carolyn Klemeyer expressed interest in helping to write up a brief history of GWPNA, as well as other items for the website.

Report of Committees

Lake Merced

Tim Colen, recently named Chair of the Lake Merced Task Force, reported that the water level was rising, but not fast enough.

Laguna Honda Neighbors

Eileen Fanelli reported that a meeting was scheduled for May 24 at St. John’s to discuss urban improvements and developments, and specifically to develop outreach materials.

Bylaws Committee

Bruce Engle said the drafting committee would meet May 28, and would consider provisions to provide for financial procedures and to assure conformity with the requirements of the 501 (c) 3 status of the organization. .

Finance

Chris Radich reported that GWPNA is a tax-exempt organization under the Internal Revenue Code section 501 (c) 3. It also is organized as a California corporation. Annual, tax-exempt organizations such as GWPNA are required to file informational tax returns with both the Internal Revenue Service and California Franchise Tax Board if the defined filing requirements are met. He said he had reviewed both the IRS and Franchise Tax Board filing requirements. Both grant filing exceptions to organizations with “gross receipts in each tax year that normally are not more than \$25,000.” “Normal” is defined as gross receipts of \$25,000 on average, based on the current year and the two prior years.

GWPNA’s income for the last three years was:

2002	\$37,580.52
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2001	\$ 9,587.01
2000	\$11,861.00
Total	\$59,028.53
Three Year Average:	\$19,676.14

Chris concluded that based on the test documented above, GWPNA is not required to file either a Federal or California informational tax return for the year ended Dec. 31, 2002.

Nominating Committee

Tim Colen reported that the Nominating Committee was preparing a slate of officers and Steering Committee members for the general membership meeting and election at our June meeting. He stated that anyone who was interested in being nominated to be a member of the Steering Committee should have a current SC member as a sponsor, and then there would be a vote of the Steering Committee as to whether the person would be put on the ballot for general election. He asked that all such nominations be turned in to him.

West Portal Playground

No report.

Edgehill Mountain Open Space and Stewardship

No report.

West Portal Vision Committee

In a lengthy discussion of the Housing Element and the Peskin legislation to permit secondary units with a 1250 foot radius of transit corridors, it was decided that these matters would be put before the Vision Committee to come up with a recommendation on which the steering committee could act. On a motion by John Sarraille, duly seconded, it was agreed that the Vision Committee would consider holding a workshop on the matter. It was agreed that we would ask if Tony Hall would sponsor a Town Hall meeting on these two important issues, after which it could be determined if a separate GWPNA workshop would be necessary.

Delegates to Other Organizations

WTPCC: It was noted that the WTPCC will appeal the decision that the Peskin legislation does not require an EIR.

CSFN:

No report.

West Portal Merchants

No report.

New Business

It was reported that the Taraval Station would get a new police captain, as the current captain had been reassigned to headquarters.

Marilyn Amini asked to present a concern she has that challenges the authority of the President of GWPNA, and GWPNA itself, to make public statements on “behalf of the members” of the association. Her written concerns had been previously distributed to the Steering Committee members, and although we ran out of time at this meeting to discuss it, there is a consensus among the Steering Committee members that this concern has no merit.

Adjourn

Mary Burns adjourned the meeting at 9:10 pm.