

**Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association  
Steering Committee Meeting  
May 6, 2008**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Bruce Engle

**Minutes:** The April 2008 minutes were not available for approval

**Police Report:** Sgt Michael O'Brien is the community liaison to GWPNA. His e-mail is Michael.O'Briane@sfgov.org. He reported that Taraval Station is now a police training station. Taraval Station has issued more moving violations than any other station in the city. A massage parlor at 16<sup>th</sup> and Taraval was closed because of citizen tip.

**Parkmerced Presentation:** Representatives of Parkmerced developers presented plans for a 20 year project that will add from 2,000 to 4,000 units per year to the existing 3300 units at Parkmerced. The plans are to make the complex environmentally sustainable, and reduce the use of water and energy. The goals are to make the complex family oriented and more pedestrian and bike oriented. They hope to accomplish this with smart travel, use of websites, carshare, social networks, and carpooling. Web site: info@parkmerced/divisioncom and telephone # is 227-0630.

**Lake Merced:** Tim Colen, member of the Lake Merced Task Force, said that along with the SFPUC, the Task Force was working on a Lake Merced Watershed Plan. Since time and money will be spent on this project, the two groups want to assure that Lake Merced and adjacent land is put to the "highest and best use". Currently, the Pacific Rod and Gun Club (PR&GC) occupies 11 acres of public land adjacent to Lake Merced. The SFPUC and Lake Merced Task Force are looking for alternatives that will better fill the recreational needs of new residents when Westside housing projects, now being planned, are built. One plan would be to establish an animal rescue center. Tim asked that GWPNA support the plan to find alternative uses for Lake Merced public land. Rae Doyle suggested that GWPNA hear opposing views before taking a position

**District 7 Supervisor Sean Elsbernd** took questions on **1) garbage cans** He said that the Chronicle article overstated the penalties of people leaving their garbage cans out. People have until the next evening to move the garbage cans. If anyone gets a ticket for garbage can violations, call Sean. **2) Privatization of Golf Courses**, There was also an article re privatization of golf courses. Sean questioned if R&P can manage public golf courses as effectively as a private entity. He pointed out that 35 gardeners, who are assigned to City golf courses, could be reassigned to neighborhood parks. **3) Legislation on Interim Controls**, Questioned about legislation regarding interim controls on Westside development, Sean said that nothing is in writing about interim controls or studies on the cumulative impact of numerous planned housing developments. He has been speaking to neighborhood groups near 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Everyone has understandable concerns about Parkmerced, Stonestown, Ardenwood, and 47<sup>th</sup> and Sloat. When legislation is introduced, he will be sure all concerned parties will be allowed to examine the legislation. **4) Edgewood Home closing:** The city is investigating ways to avoid Edgewood Home closing but can't make any promises. **5) Stern Grove trees:** The death of Kathleen Bolton when a branch fell on her was tragic, but unfortunately steps aren't taken to remedy a hazard until a death occurs

**Report on CSFN:** Rae Doyle reported CSFN discussed the importance of having both sides of issue discussed before CSFN takes a position on that issue. The Fisher Museum was discussed

**Report on WTPCC:** Rae Doyle reported that Carmen Policy of 49ers discussed the possibility of 49ers staying in SF if Prop G passes.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm**



11 acres of public land for Pacific Rod and Gun club. The shooting Club has 300 members, half of whom live outside the city. The club uses the site for shooting 15 -18 hours a week. The Lake Merced Task Force together with the PUC are embarking on a watershed master plan to look at all of the uses, particularly the nature and recreational uses around the Lake to determine what is the best and highest use of public land. Because there is so much competition for the use of this land, it may be difficult to justify continuing to have the Rod and Gun Club continue to use this site.

More and more groups are competing to use this land for various purposes. The SFPUC will be putting money and time into Lake Merced. In the past there were activities on the Lake for youth such as trout fishing and rowing. The Lake has deteriorated in recent years, but it is coming back.

As the Westside is being developed, a lot of new people will be looking for to the Lake for recreation needs.

Tim asked for support from GWPNA to continue on the path to find another location for the Pacific Rod and Gun Club and develop the site for recreation programs. Bud Wilson is working to establish an animal rescue center at the Lake. Various possibilities will be considered during the Lake Merced Watershed Plan.

The PRG Club rent out the facility for banquets and barbecues.

Rae Doyle suggested that before GWPNA supports the relocation of the PRG Club, that GWPNA should hear their side of the issue.

Bud Wilson suggested that the site should include a wild life center because SF does not have one because it would be an educational facility.

Seat Elsbernd discussed a recent Chronicle article re DPW cracking down on people who leave their garbage cans out. He said that the article exaggerated. Deadline to get cans off street is the day **after** the pickup day. There are hardship provisions for people who cannot get the cans out of the view of the street. He offered to accept calls from anyone who gets a ticket. A task force has been formed to look at alternate uses of golf courses. **Privatization of Golf Courses** Sean questioned if R&P can manage public golf courses as effectively as a private entity. He pointed out that 35 gardeners taking care of golf courses. They could be working on parks and playgrounds. If there is a way to help the neighborhood parks and generate more money for the city, he would look into it

Spector of privatization. One golf course in the city that is privately managed is Glen Eagle in McLaren Park. Marilyn Amini asked about legislation for "interim controls". Sean said he has been talking to neighborhood organizations Arden Wood Neighbors, Lakeside, Lakeshore Acres, Ingleside Terrace, all the organizations along 19<sup>th</sup> avenue to get a sense of what they want to see. Every one has understandable concerns about Parkmerced, Stonestown, Arden Wood, 4<sup>7th</sup> and Sloat, about legislation to study the "cumulative effects" of west side development but the legislation is in draft form. Interim Controls are connected to CEQUA. He emphasized that nothing has been written about interim controls and when there is he will deliver to GWPNA. There is a lot to it **Edgewood Home closure**. The city is looking is investigation if they can help, but Sean can't make any promises **Stern Grove** "What is BOS going to do about funding the work that recommended in 2004. It was a tragic accident and unfortunately, as in other incidences in the city, nothing gets done until someone gets killed.

Police Report: Sgt Michael O'Brien has been assigned the Taraval Station representative to GWPNA. His e-mail is Michael.O'Brien@sfgov.org. Taraval Station is a training station and ten

new recruits are training now. At 16<sup>th</sup> and Taraval and massage was closed as the result of a tip. Taraval Station issues the most moving violations in the city.