

**Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association
Steering Committee Meeting – No Quorum
October 7, 2008**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by **President Avrum Shepard**. **Secretary Rae Doyle** announced that there was not a quorum present.

Minutes: 9/07/08 & 06/23/08 minutes will be approved on 11/03/08 meeting

President's Report: . There will be a Rain Barrel event on October 11 to encourage & instruct on how to use rain water. Walgreen is proposing a store on Portola Drive. Miraloma Park Improvement Club is working with Walgreens, but GWPNA will take no position on the issue.

Police Report: **Officer Kevin O'Leary** reported that his time is divided between West Portal Avenue and Ocean Avenue. He reported that homeless people are not breaking the law by sitting or standing on the sidewalks soliciting money, but he cautioned against giving them money, thereby encouraging panhandling. Sometimes they get liquor for minors. **Fred Martin** reported that there is a problem with people congregating behind Starbucks.

Proposition A – pro & con –Eric Isaac, Forestside resident & San Francisco General MD, spoke in favor of Proposition A. He said that because of a state law enacted in the mid-1900's that SFGH must be made seismically safe or be closed down by 2015. He said the plans include 32 more beds and an Emergency Dept that is double the size of the present one. Re the argument on how badly the LHH retrofit has been done and the DPH may handle SFGH retrofit badly, he claims that the SFGH is being planned better with participation by the staff in the design. **George Wooding**, Midtown Terrace resident, spoke against Proposition A. The law requiring the retrofit was enacted in 1994. The city has procrastinated and is rushing the voters to approve a bond issue that will not cover the retrofit cost, which was the case with LHH. Rather than the \$887,000,000 projected cost for the SFGH rebuild, it will be more like 1.7 billion. He said that a new law has extended the time to 2020 to make the hospital seismically safe so he suggested a **NO** vote on Prop A so that the city has time to rework the hospital plans and get them right. **Q&A:** What would happen if Prop A failed. **Eric Isaac** claimed that when the city has to come up with the money, it will take money from the General Fund and other city departments: firefighters, police, etc will have funding cuts. Also postponement will cause more cost raises. **George Wooding** countered that a general obligation bond can be brought before the voters next year. Hopefully, a more acceptable bond measure can be developed. **Avrum Shepard** ended the discussion by relating that

Supervisor Sean Elsbernd has urged people to read the legislation
Presentation of Condition Use request for converting ground floor of 99 West Portal Avenue from retail to dental office:

Art Belenson, West Portal businessman, introduced Dr. Dean Duncan, property owner and owner of second floor dental practice at 99 West Portal Avenue since 1980. He explained that he needs to expand his practice to include the downstairs area of 99 West Portal Avenue, and that he brings in many people who then shop on West Portal Avenue. Avrum Shepard commented that 99 West Portal Avenue was a prime retail location, being on the corner in the 1st Block. **Don Enochson** commented that there have been many changes on West Portal Ave. and probably we should consider forming a committee to hash this issue out and poll the community. Art Belenson reported that a CU has been filed and will take about six months to process. **Carolyn Klemeyer** agreed that a committee be formed to study ways to compromise with **Dr. Duncan**. **Fred Martin** suggested that **Dr. Duncan** put a 3rd floor on the building but **Dr. Duncan** said the cost would be prohibited. **Bruce Engle** stated that converting this space to offices may have a domino effect.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Marilyn Amini
Sheila Bost
Eric Castongia
Rae Doyle
Bruce Engle
Don Enochson
Carolyn Klemeyer
Fred Martin
Avrum Shepard
Karen Tarantola
Bud Wilson

GUESTS:

Bill Fricker
Melissa Apuya
Kevin O'Leary
Art Belenson
Dean Duncan
Eric Isaacs
Larie Sullivan
Franca Gargiuto

Steering Committee Member		Present	Absent
Marilyn	Amini	X	
Joe	Basuino		x
Sheila	Bost	X	
			x
Eric	Castongia	X	
Tim	Colen		x
Rae	Doyle	X	
Bruce	Engle	x	
Eileen	Fanelli	x	

Bert	Hill		x
Helen	Johnson		x
Emeric	Kalman		x
Stan	Kaufman		x
Carolyn	Klemeyer	x	
Ken	Kruszka	x	
Fred	Martin		x
Helen	Naish	x	
Chris	Nunes	x	
Chris	Radich		x
Avrum	Shepard	x	
Howard	Strassner		x
Steve	Suacci	x	
Karen	Tarentola	x	
Bud	Wilson		x

Guests:

Orla Fahy
 Pam Fischer
 May Mason
 Dale Milfay
 Brett Stein