

**Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association
Steering Committee Meeting
March 3, 2009**

Call to Order: President Avrum Shepard called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

President Report: Avrum Shepard reported that **Sean Elsbernd** could not attend, but reported to him that there is a \$600 million deficit that the Board of Supervisor are dealing with. What is unknown is if the unions of City workers will negotiate to modify their contracts to give up pay increases in the labor contracts to save staff jobs.

Police Report: Officer Kevin O'Leary reported that in Taraval Station the staff level is good. There are a lot of new recruits and Taraval Station is still a training station. The number to call for Taraval Station is 553-0123. **Don Enochson** asked about the possibility of a crosswalk between Ulloa and Vicente on West Portal and if the problems that would cause MTA could be solved. He said we need an engineer type to discuss what remedies could be implemented to make the Ulloa/West Portal Ave. intersection safer. **Matt Chamberlain** suggested that we contact San Francisco State and see if a Civil Engineering Class could take on a class project to study this safety issue. **Matt** volunteered to contact SFSU.

Cynthia Pagan, President of the West Portal Avenue Association, discussed the Community Benefits District that the merchants have been in the process of organizing for two years. The merchants have raised \$7500, and she asked that GWPNA match that sum. The City would then match that total of \$15,000 for an end total of \$30,000. Then WPAA could hire a consultant for \$25,000 who would initiate the process of establishing a Community Benefit District program on West Portal Avenue. The sum of \$7500 was not agreed upon by the Steering Committee; however, there was a discussion about contributing either \$2500 or \$3000. It was decided not to vote on the amount at the 3/3/09 meeting. **Avrum Shepard** said that there is a financial and quality of life benefit to residential property owners with the implementation of a Community Benefits District, although they are not assessed for the costs. **Don Enochson** suggested we get more statistics regarding the benefits that resulted from the Community Benefits District from other neighborhoods, such as, Noe Valley.

GWPNA Permanent Meeting Location: There was a discussion about a permanent meeting place for GWPNA. **Anthony Cuadro** from CitiBank said a room at the bank could be available on the 1st Tuesday of the month. **Karen Tarentola** and **Tim Colen** volunteered to explore that possibility. **Avrum Shepard**, regarding other options he has investigated in the past month, reported that Recreation and Park personnel have given him 2 different answers regarding whether GWPNA could meet at the West Portal Playground Playhouse if it paid. He approached St. Brendan but they could not guarantee that a room would be available on a consistent basis. The Miraloma Clubhouse would not charge for use of their facility; **Carolyn Klemeyer** said that that location was too far away and not in the West Portal area. Other possibilities: Taraval Police Station and Waldorf School. **Avrum Shepard** announced that next month, on April 7, GWPNA will meet at CitiBank at 130 West Portal Avenue and continue to search for a permanent site |

Re FogCutter/Membership: Four proposals were voted on: (1) - **Fred Martin** moved that new residents be given free membership. **Steve Suacci** seconded and it was passed. (2) - **Fred Martin** moved that if a member brought in 3 members, he/she would be refunded their membership fee. **Don Enochson** seconded motion and it was passed. (3) - **Bert Hill** moved that West Portal merchants could have names printed in the FogCutter as sponsors by contributing \$25.00. **Steve Suacci** seconded motion that was passed. (4) – A motion was made and passed to send the Fogcutter to the 2000 plus residents of the West Portal area.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm

Steering Committee Members Present:

Sheila Bost
Eric Castongia
Matt Chamberlain
Rae Doyle
Bruce Engle
Don Enochson
Bert Hill
Carolyn Klemeyer
Fred Martin
Cecile Michael
Helen Naish
Pat Shanahan
Avrum Shepard
Steve Suacci
Karen Tarantola
Bud Wilson

Guest Present:

Cynthia Pagan, WPAA
Christopher Burnett, WPAA
Officer Keven O'Leary, Taraval Police Station
Anthona Cuadro, CitiBank