

Old Town San Diego
Community Planning Group

Thurston Coe, Chairperson
2836 Juan Street
San Diego, California, 92110

December 12, 2012

MINUTES v.1

Whaley House Courtroom this meeting to order at 3:10 pm

- **Members Present:** Chuck Ambers; Thurston Coe; Ann Dahlkamp; Patricia Fillet; Marie Pedrin-Gizoni; Fred Grand; Geoffrey Mogilner; Lorna Rice; Richard Stegner; David Swarens; David Thornton
- **Members Absent:** Bruce Coons; Marie Pedrin-Gizoni; Diane Lowery; Fred Schwartz
- **Guests:** Tait Galloway - City of San Diego PSP 533-4550 tgalloway@sandiego.gov
Avi Plaseyed, City of San Diego; Erica Ueland; Linda Jacobo, Decendents of Early San Diego linda92117@yahoo.com; Ed Seegmiller 619.298.3317; Garratt Aitcison, State Parks 619.688.3388 gaitchison@parksca.gov ; Myra Herman, City of San Diego

Non-Agenda Public Comments: None

Modifications: None

Treasurer's report: None

Action Items:

4. Approval of October and November Meeting Minutes

6a. Community Letter to Mayor of San Diego, San Diego City Council, and San Diego Development Services drafted by Geoffrey Mogilner on behalf of OTSDCPG.

6b. Continued presentation of Juan Street Reconstruction.

Comments to action items:

4. October Meeting Minutes Approved, 5 Yes; 2 Abstain; 5 Absent; 2 did not vote due to late arrival.

November Meeting Minutes Approved, 8 Yes; 4 Absent; 1 Abstain; 1 No

6a. Geoffrey Mogilner presented the revised draft letter and explained that as a group, this is an important letter to be submitted to The City of San Diego, Mayor of San Diego, and the San Diego Development Services Department. David Swarens asked to remove "Manifest Destiny" language from the letter. Thurston Coe as Chairperson will sign final letter, as well as all the members of the OTSDCPG and that Geoffrey Mogilner is recognized as the primary author of the letter. Final vote: 10 Yes; 4 Absent

6b. Avi Plaseyed and team member presented the final discussion on the Juan Street Improvement and is asking for the OTSDCPGs vote to support this project, they were here a year ago with the first presentation, and November 2012. The discussions began with David Swarens pointing out that there were no details and not enough time for the OTSDCPG to review thoroughly and would have appreciated the correct materials to review and that City Representatives should have been prepared to present to OTSDCPG. Chuck Ambers was present at the City Design Review Board on November 15th 9am and assured the OTSDCPG that there is a summary of all the details at the Review Board.

Avi Plaseyed, City Representative discussed the Scope of the Project is to replace in kind and that only two colors will be used for the alignment. Issue: Color of the truncated ramps – desire to be dark grey if does not meet standard use yellow.

Thurston Coe brought up that there now is only one drain and Avi assured drains would be installed, where needed. Fred Grand also mentioned the significance of catch basins and the need to get the water off the street; again, Avi discussed that currently, the drains are inadequate. Patricia Fillet asked about the reassurance of archaeological monitoring during the entire project and Avi said there would be onsite monitoring at all times and that the installation of drains in this area will avoid any archaeological sensitivities. Geoffrey Mogilner asked if there were any discussion on the type of curbs during the presentation at the Design Review Board in November and perhaps softening of curbs will help, maybe block grant funds and that specificity to use cut-granite would be preferred. Avi had no comment to this suggestion and mentioned that we have to think of maintenance in perpetuity. Chuck Ambers answered Geoffrey Mogilner's question, that this specificity of the type of curbs to be used and if any funding available did not come up. Avi said the curbs would be standard 6" curbs. Garratt Aitchison from State Parks stated that rolling curbs is currently an issue within Old Town. Ann Dalhkamp asked for specifics on lighting and Avi stated that all lighting will be 150 ft. apart and will replace if needed. Richard Stegner pointed out that if there is an opportunity to install something more historic in keeping up with Old Town features, why not have the City install at this time? Myra Herman explained that if any modifications to the environmental design were to occur at this point in time, the engineering department has to approve. Avi also said this could be reviewed and see if this will be feasible. Thurston Coe asked for further detail on closure of one side of the street first, since his business and others will be affected and if a cover plate will be provided on the side of the street. Avi assured that there is a 72 hour window for curing and that there will be some inconvenience for businesses; Concrete usually takes 14 days to cure/stabilize and that there will be access at all times to the restaurants and businesses in this area. There will be 160ft. increments/staggering and that there will be signs and floating traffic. If the property is large with two lots, one will always be available. Ed Seegmiller stated that the lighting is specific on the side of the street where the Mormon Battalion is located and asked if that will be replaced? Avi said no, the lighting is new and will not be replaced. Richard Stegner asked if Heritage Park will be closed for up to 72 hours? Avi said there would be plenty of notice given. David Swarens pointed out that businesses would have access to their businesses, if they have two lots for access and asked the City to keep their commitment to provide access to business owners. Myra Herman mentioned that the standard protocol for the City of San Diego is to inform all businesses and that the City has a database of all addresses that will be affected and will send mailers to all the businesses. Avi assured that the city will do their best to minimize impact and asked for the OTSDCPGs help in notifying those individuals/businesses that may miss any information. Patricia Fillet asked about parking impact in this area and if this has been discussed? Avi said yes, this is a good point and this was discussed and shuttles will be used. Geoffrey Mogilner motioned to endorse project as described, but with a proviso – the OTSDCPG and the Chamber of Commerce work together to request block money or federal monies for split curbs within Old Town San Diego District; this Proviso should not delay the project. Avi stated that if OTSDCPG seeks federal funds then federal issues will need to be addressed for environmental process and may delay the project. Myra Herman mentioned that the design element, separate from this project could be discussed in the Community Planning Update for the Community. The design change will create a huge delay for further design/review. David Swarens stated that streetscape is already being discussed for the Community Planning

Update. Myra Herman further pointed out that having the City make the changes would impact the funding issue, then the Federal funding would remove the improvements. Richard Stegner stated that even if funding were found, the original improvements would be dismantled. Geoffrey Mogilner stated that granite curbs are not going to be a maintenance issue and that the motion is that it doesn't delay the project. Fred Grand mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce would have to become involved, with a summary or review. Lorna Rice commented that maybe it's not advisable to "go there" if you want something changed, and then it becomes your problem. Geoffrey Mogilner stated that since he is the maker of the motion, and does not want to delay the City with the project, however, for aesthetics, maybe the project should be approved and motion later for the granite curbs. David Swarens stated that he wished more time was given to discuss in detail and that certainly we can address standards during the Community Planning Update. Geoffrey Mogilner withdrew motion. Geoffrey Mogilner stated that the project is endorsed with color concrete (sombbrero bluff sidewalks) and Fred Grand seconded: 11 Votes Yes; 3 Absent

Geoffrey Mogilner offered another motion: to seek additional available funding and request if possible, community block funding for split-granite sidewalks and rain gutters. Richard Stegner seconded and stated that the Chamber is looking for additional funding. Avi mentioned that community block funds couldn't be used for construction improvements. Richard Stegner also pointed out that Old Town does not qualify for block funding, due to higher income. Lorna Rice stated maybe historic grant funding could be possible. 7 Votes Yes; 2 did not vote, due to leaving early; 3 Absent; 2 Abstain

Information Items:

Deanna, representative from Assembly Woman Toni Atkins office announced that Rachel Gregg is moving to another community and provided an update on the CALTRANS building and that the building is still up for purchase.

Announcements:

Annual Christmas Dinner at Café Coyote.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10pm.

Respectfully submitted, Patricia Fillet