

# GREATER GOLDEN HILL PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES

## March 13, 2013 -- Approved

The meeting took place at Balboa Park Golf Course Club House on Golf Course Drive. Chair Ruchelle Alvarez called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. The agenda had been posted in accordance with the Brown Act. A quorum was present.

**Members present:** Ruchelle Alvarez, Richard Baldwin, Cheryl Brierton, Susan Bugbee, Janice Davis, John Kroll, Richard Santini, Pat Shields, David Strickland, David Swarens, Matt Thomas, Angela Vasconcellos. **Members absent:** John Kroll

The minutes from February were approved unanimously..

### ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

A motion (Swarens/Santini) was added as follows:

Move the following item from Information to Action: A request for the City of San Diego City Council, Mayor and City Attorney to refrain from altering the Municipal Code in an attempt to find a scheme to approve the Plaza de Panama Project, and

A request for the City of San Diego City Council, Mayor and City Attorney to rescind the Plaza de Panama Project Plan Amendments approved on July 2012 and to reinstate the previous 1989 Balboa Park Master Plans.

City Planner Bernard Turgeon reviewed the rules for moving agenda items from Information to Action and determined a 2/3 vote of the GGHPC was required. The motion failed. 4 in favor, 4 opposed, 3 abstaining.

The motion will be added to the action agenda for the GGHPC meeting of April 2012. Eighteen plans are currently under consideration for the Plaza de Panama, according to staff reports.

An inquiry on this same subject was directed to Mayor Filners' representative, who reiterated the Mayors' opposition to the Saunders/Jacobs plan.

### GOVERNMENTAL REPORTS

**Mayor's Office** (Linda Perrine, 619-236-7174). The GGHPC warmly welcomed the representative from the Mayor's Office. Committee members asked these questions:

- (1) What is the mayor's position on the Hwy 94 build-out? David Strickland will e-mail Perrine information on the issues.
- (2) What progress is being made on re-establishing a Planning Department? Allen Jones is the contact person on the mayor's staff, but specific questions or information can be sent to Perrine.
- (3) Will the mayor establish an informational website with a contact system? Perrine is working on a contact system. Donna Frye will be making a related announcement March 14.
- (4) Will the mayor to continue his meetings with the public? Yes, at 9 AM the first Saturday of every month at City Hall.

**Police report:** Officer Kevin Vazquez has taken over from Officer Suzy de la Pena as the contact person. He announced that the SDPD has a new shared website for neighbors in lieu of the Neighborhood Watch programs. The URL is [nextdoor.com](http://nextdoor.com). A video can be viewed at [neighborhood.com](http://neighborhood.com). He will obtain information on the new sex offender e-mail system announced by the District Attorney's Office. A suspect has been arrested in the recent drug-related outbreak of residential break-ins around 31st/A Streets.

**33<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District/Gavin Deeb.** The \$85 billion in budget cuts known as the sequester are in effect March 1 through September 30..

**Council District 3/Courtney Thomson** reported:

- 1) The sequester has resulted in job loss in San Diego.
- 2) The Balboa Park lily pond has been repaired.
- 3) The Councilman's next community coffee will be in Little Italy in April.
- 4) Code Compliance went to Food Bowl in response to a sidewalk blocking complaint but found no one there. Another attempt will be made on a Saturday or Sunday.
- 5) GGHPC should contact her when we have established a subcommittee/recommendation concerning street lights.
- 6) A request has been submitted to City staff for repair of the sidewalk in front of Mazzara's.
- 7) Councilman Todd Gloria is waiting for a budget proposal before taking a position on re-instating the City Planning Department.
- 8) Some 8 to 18 plans are under consideration for the Plaza de Panama. The councilman has also requested information on options from the City Attorney. GGHPC requested that Gloria be reminded that GGHPC had opposed the Jacobs plan.

**City Planner** Bernard Turgeon deferred his report in favor of the presentation by Parks & Recreation Planner Howard Greenstein (see below).

#### **NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT**

A representative of a community group in Golden Hill/Sherman Heights urged that a cover-up park be placed over any SR 94 overpass/double decker. David Strickland will meet to update Valerie on current information available to GGHPC concerning this matter, as well as opposition/concerns by GGHPC to the project.

A resident requested that traffic/parking issues be considered in prioritizing any new parks.

#### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- 1) 2759-2767 B Street (12/apartments/6 condos). No one present.
- 2) City staff evaluation/recommended prioritization of candidate park sites in Golden Hill, as identified in prior community meetings/charettes. This will be an action item on the April 2013 GGHPC agenda. Howard Greenstein, Park Planning, City of San Diego, was also asked to address a pedestrian/bicycle lane along Golf Course Drive and inclusion of the path in the public facilities plan. Greenstein will provide GGHPC with the pictorial power point used for his presentation.
- 3) Greg Cross provided an update on additional well testing in the 32nd Street canyon. Also present was Dave Shoop of URS Corp, the City's hydro-geologist consultant. Prior testing was inconclusive, due to possible contamination between the underground formations. An approximate 200-foot-deep second well will be drilled 10 feet from the prior well. There will be daytime drilling & installation that will last up to 5 days and a 48-hour pump test at night, with sound attenuation. Cross reassured GGHPC that the shallow well would not endanger water supplies to the 32nd Street Canyon open space vegetation, and that noise would not be an issue. Notice will be provided to near-by residents. Cross will keep GGHPC informed of developments.
- 4) Plaza de Panama. This will be an action item on the April GGHPC agenda. David Swarens requested that GGHPC members let him know what additional information they may need to vote on his proposed motion (see above).

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

None.

## **ACTION ITEMS.**

(1) **Elections.** There were 8 candidates for 8 slots on a two-year cycle. Following balloting and counting of the ballots, all 8 were elected for a two-year term, as follows: Ruchell Alvarez, Cheryl Brierton, David Burkhart, John Kroll (in absentia), Matt Thomas, Richard Strickland, David Swarens, Angela Vasconcellos. Richard Baldwin requested that his status be reviewed for the next GGHPC meeting, in case an election is required.

(2) **Organization of Historic Subcommittee.** Susan Bugbee and David Swarens will serve as co-chairs. Meetings will be held on the last Wednesdays of every month, at 6:30 pm, in the Golf Course Clubhouse. The next meeting will be on March 27, to discuss acorn street lighting and subcommittee organization.

### **3) Subcommittee Restructuring.**

- A) Membership/Elections Subcommittee. Ruchell Alvarez moved, David Strickland seconded: A GGHPC representative will perform this function, in lieu of a subcommittee. Motion carried unanimously.
- B) Land Use/Code Compliance Subcommittee. David Strickland moved, Susan Bugbee seconded. To combine these subcommittees. Motion withdrawn, tabled for further discussion at April GGHPC meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.