

Eastern Area Communities Planning Committee

General Meeting Minutes

February 11th, 2025

A video of this meeting is available at:
<https://youtu.be/1mTCPkkfbpQ>.

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm.

Members present

Lynn Edwards (Chair), Rolando Park
John Hogan, (Treasurer), Redwood Village,
online
Alex Zukas, El Cerrito
Andy Huelskamp, Oak Park
Bettina Rausa, Member at Large

Emily Perez, Rolando
Jen Eastman, Webster
Kristen Hurst, Webster
Laura Riebau, El Cerrito, *online*
Richard Diaz, Oak Park, *online*
Sonia Lang, Rolando Park

Quorum: Yes

Adoption of Agenda or Agenda Changes

Lynn Edwards made a motion to add an action item. Groundwork is applying for [CalEPA's Environmental Justice Action Grant](#) to support three key initiatives:

1. Expansion of our resident empowerment training program
2. A restoration project on city-owned parcels along National Avenue in Southeastern San Diego
3. Micro-grants (\$5,000/year for community planning groups and \$2,000/year for neighborhood councils) to support community engagement capacity

Bettina Rausa seconded the motion. Changes were approved unanimously.

Communication from the Public on Non-Agenda Items

- Cesar Javier from City Heights discussed a complaint regarding a house at 5238 Streamview Dr., not in the Eastern Area. He claims this house has a ceramics manufacturing business that has been in operation since 1994. He further claims that residents are complaining that this business is in a residential area and is creating negative health impacts on the residents.
- Sarah Hernandez – Sarah lives on Streamview Dr. This past Saturday evening a car that was not able to properly navigate the roundabout collided into two cars on Streamview. Hernandez believes that there is something wrong with the roundabout due to the fact that there have been multiple accidents in this same location. She and many other residents would like a review of how the roundabout is constructed and would like to find a solution to the problem before someone is seriously injured.

City, County, and State Representatives' Reports

- Bruce Williams – Community Representative for Webster and Oak Park, District 4, Councilmember Henry Foster III
 - The councilmember is making staffing changes and D4 has a new rep., Chandra Clady.

- Laura Riebau asked about the Crossroads Redevelopment account and if funding is available.
- On Thursday the 13th, there will be a town hall meeting at Porter Elementary from 6-8pm to talk about the budget.
- Fatima Maciel – Community Representative, Office of the Mayor
 - Council voted to explore long-term shelters in various locations, possibly the old library downtown. The City Council website has an option to see the presentation online.
 - Parking meter rules are changing. The cost will increase to \$2.50 an hour, possibly to include Sundays and holidays. Meters will be active until 8pm.
 - Budget priorities can also be view on live stream on the City Council website.
- Karen Montufar-Federico – Senior Community Representative for Supervisor Montgomery-Steppe
 - County issues, reach out to Karen
 - New beds for outpatient patients with behavioral health conditions
 - County is starting a development of a healthy San Diego task force
 - Election is in April; if no decision is made, there will be a general election in June.
 - Grant funds are available deadline for this fiscal year is April 1st. Workshop will be on zoom see the website for registration.
- Roberto Marin – Community Representative for District 9, Councilmember Sean Elo-Rivera
 - They removed 7.5 tons of trash from Chollas Parkway. There were 5 live propane tanks found and weed abatement was completed. Everyone who was in the camps is in a shelter right now.
 - Looking for projects for murals and tree plantings in D9.
 - University Bikeway is going through a rebidding phase, but the 70 trees are still intact (25 trees are in City Heights; 44 trees are between 54th to College, 0 trees between College to Aragon).
 - Chollas Triangle Park should be going in soon and that's the reason for a delay with lighting. Richard asked if Chollas Triangle Park could be expedited.
 - Roberto will discuss with Andy Field about expediting the park.
- Sam Gonzalez – Representative for 39th Senate District, State Senator Dr. Akilah Weber Pierson
 - Young Legislation programs – for high school students to get them interested in legislation. Applications are due March 1st.
 - Women of the Year nominations due tomorrow.
 - Senior advisory applications open until the end of the month. If you have any questions, you can contact Sam Gonzales.
 - Bill submissions are due at the end of the month.
 - If you have questions about bills, you can ask.

Information and Action Items

- Information: Groundwork presented on two key Chollas Creek Watershed initiatives and wants input from members: 1) the Sunshine-Berardini Field renovation, which will enhance recreation and expand trail connections; 2) the Chollas Creek Bikeway Plan, which was reopened at Groundwork's request for more community feedback after initial input to the city was insufficient.

Ozzie Meneses presented a slide show about who Groundwork is and what they do. They want feedback about the Chollas Creek Bikeway Plan and Sunshine-Berardini Field Renovations. Both projects are being led by the City and there has not been a lot of connection from the City with residents that are involved or live in the areas where these projects are planned. Daniele wants to make sure that there is a traffic signal at the entrance of Sunshine-Berardini field.

- Action: Letter of support for Groundwork's application for CalEPS grant. Ozzie commented that Groundwork needs this grant to support ongoing operations of neighborhood councils. Kristen made a motion to approve the letter, Alex seconded. Approved unanimously.
- Action: Going forward after the April election – hybrid meetings, maintaining the website, community engagement, etc.

What will happen after Lynn terms out? The hybrid setup will be available for the meetings. The board needs to think about a transition and who will take the lead as Chair.

Review, Correction, and Approval of Minutes (January, Lynn)

No corrections for the minutes. Motion to approve by Alex, seconded by Andy. Unanimously approved.

Subcommittee Reports

- Election Subcommittee update – Alex and Bettina
 - There are seven vacancies: Oak Park 2 vacancies, and one for each of the rest of the neighborhoods. Call for candidates has been posted. Election will be held at our next meeting.
- Community updates
 - Redwood Village/Rolando Park: Streamview Dr dumpster day – filled two dumpsters in 2 hours. The first of 4 dumpster days.
 - Oak Park – has partnered with Encanto due to the Radio Tower building and Oak Park already has the towers in their neighborhood.
- Parks & Recreation – Daniele Laman
 - Chollas Lake Little league opening day coming up; they have 10 teams, they are hoping to get the San Diego Friar for the opening.
- CPC January Meeting – Laura
 - Mobility master plan was discussed
 - Forming a fire safe council
- Mid-City Community Plan Update – Lynn
 - No update on where the meeting will be, but the date is March 19th
 - Comments from the community about not building in high-risk fire areas and creating appropriate evacuation routes for communities that have high density rates.

For the Good of the Order and Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.