

TORREY PINES COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD
Minutes of Meeting: March 8, 2007
3/15/07

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Faye Detsky-Weil, Diana Scheffler, Janie Killermann, Mickey Belch, Philip Raphael, Cliff Hanna, Morton Printz, Tom Slipper, Pat Stewart, Laurence Lansdale, Greg Heinzinger

Absent: Don Billings, Pat Finn, Debbie Mark

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. **Meeting called to order** at 7:10 PM
2. **Agenda changes:** none
3. **Minutes:** Cliff Hanna moved, Pat Stewart seconded, approval of the December 2006 minutes (as amended) and the February 2007 minutes. The minutes were approved as amended 10 – 0 – 0.
4. **Chair announcements:**

By laws: The City of San Diego is preparing a template for all planning groups to use. Our group is ready with the information to plug into the template.

Election results: the announcement would have to be delayed pending confirmation with City staff as to correct procedures.

Thanks: were extended to departing Board member, Pat Finn, who has served as secretary to the Board for two years and as Board member since 2004.

B. DEL MAR HEIGHTS MEDIAN AND MAD

There was considerable discussion of the median and its landscaping. Concerns were expressed about the safety of the median itself as well as about the landscaping posing new hazards. It was made clear that the median itself is a City decision called for by safety considerations on this classification of roadway. Funding has not been secured for it. The vote within the assessment district will be strictly about the landscaping, primarily a neighborhood beautification plan. Detailed design of both the median and the landscaping can be a subject of further discussion.

***Action item:** Cliff Hanna, Transportation Chair, will call a meeting of the Transportation Committee to which all interested will be invited. The issue will be on the April Board agenda.*

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

Sheila Hardin, Community Relations Manager for the Center City Development Corporation (CCDC), drew our attention to events and plans for development downtown.

D. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BROWN ACT

Faye Detsky-Weil presented information from the City Attorney on implications of the Brown Act for planning groups. To provide meaningful public access to deliberations, Board meetings are to be open to the public, regularly scheduled, with an agenda available 72 hours in advance. Action cannot be taken on items not on the agenda except under specific emergency conditions. Public comment with reasonable time limits must be allowed. E-mail, or any other communication apart from regular meetings, must be restricted to the transmission of information; deliberation on

issues is not appropriate outside of the public meeting. Subcommittees, with the exception of temporary ad hoc committees, are subject to the same rules.

E. TRANSPORTATION SURVEY RESULTS

Mickey Belch presented the results of the survey. Overall, the response indicates strong support for reducing traffic by planning for additional public transportation. The numbers of responses were more than sufficient for statistical validity.

***Action item:** Mickey Belch will fine-tune the report, making it suitable for presentation at a future Board meeting, and adding a recommendation for Board action. Representatives from the relevant transportation agencies and the press will be invited along with business members of this and surrounding communities.*

F. PUBLIC INFORMATION UPDATES

- City Council District 1, Office of Council President Scott Peters:** Tyler Scherer, Councilmember Peters' Representative for the past four years, announced that he will be leaving his position to assume duties of Director of Community Relations at San Diego State University. Congratulations were offered and regrets expressed at losing Tyler. His announcements were:
 - Del Mar Heights Road has been added by SANDAG to the Regional Arterial System. Federal funding for the median has been requested through Congressman Bilbray's office.
 - Agreement within the City has been reached on the Carmel Valley Road pop-out planting and its maintenance. Turf only will be permitted, maintained by the adjacent property owner, conditional on the owner waiving the right to make any claims against the City for personal safety. Bicycle safety alongside the pop-outs will be maintained by easing the angles of the transitions.
 - The closure of Sorrento Valley Road should be regarded as permanent;
 - Caltrans plans for a bicycle path underneath Highway 5 have not changed, but funding is a challenge.
- County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price's Office:** Erika Black informed us that the Coastal Commission has approved the permit for the Visitor Center at San Elijo Lagoon.

G. ELECTION RESULTS

Since there was a period of informal voting before the official ballots were delivered as well as a tie between two candidates, Faye Detsky-Weil will check with City staff for advice.

H. APPOINTING A NOMINATING COMMITTEE

This was premature in light of Item G above.

I. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Del Mar Terrace Lighting:** Faye Detsky-Weil noted that the issue had been resolved as follows: the City had determined that more lighting was needed for safety than the number approved at the time of undergrounding; however, the City also agreed that it was not appropriate to use undergrounding funds for the additional lighting; as a result the additional lighting needs have been added as a low priority to the City's list of projects waiting to be funded.

Morton Printz proposed a motion that the Chair send a letter to Councilmember Peters and the City Council expressing our Board's concern about the safety issue and

requesting that the City pursue the installation of lighting with all due diligence. Janie Killermann seconded the motion. The motion was withdrawn after some discussion of potential legal liability for the Board.

Action item: *Morton Printz will contact City staff to find out the extent to which the Board should be concerned, and put the item on next month's agenda.*

2. **I-5 graffiti:** Faye Detsky-Weil reported that the City had covered up some of the graffiti but now there is more. The issue is complicated by the requirement that homeowners maintain their own property in spite of having had no choice in the installation of the sound walls that are being vandalized.
 - *Tyler Scherer pointed out that reports of graffiti can be made on the City's web-site. He will communicate the web address to Faye for distribution to all.*
3. **Transportation:** Cliff Hanna asked for volunteers to help contact property owners regarding the maintenance of pop-out turf along Carmel Valley Road. With respect to the I-5/SR 56 connectors, there are 3 options: no change, street improvement, or the flyover. Tyler Scherer indicated that a new consultant has been retained, and whichever approach is environmentally preferred will be the one selected.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Lawrence Lansdale moved to adjourn at 9:35 PM. _____ seconded. Passed 10-0-0.

DS 3-15-07