



THE GRAFFITI BATTLE GOES ON

Graffiti harms our neighborhoods.

Graffiti vandalism is growing at an alarming rate. It is an epidemic that erodes our quality of life. If left unabated and unchallenged, graffiti spreads and tends to attract other forms of urban blight and criminal behavior to your neighborhood.

Graffiti is a crime.

Per California Penal Code, any person who defaces property that is not his own is guilty of a crime, punishable by imprisonment and/or community service and fines. Damages of more than \$400 may be treated as a felony, even if the vandal is a minor. Parents are financially responsible for the criminal misconduct of their minor children.

Graffiti is very costly.

The Department of Public Works receives more than 17,000 graffiti complaints a year and spends about \$3.4 million annually removing graffiti; the city as a whole spends over \$22 million, and this does not reflect the personal and private costs of graffiti vandalism. These are funds that could be spent far more effectively on badly needed services.

Graffiti is everyone's problem.

If you own or manage property or operate a ground floor business that has been graffiti-tagged, you are legally responsible for removing the graffiti. By keeping your property or business graffiti-free, you help in a big way to preserve the quality of life in your community.

What is law enforcement doing about graffiti?

The District Attorney's Office, under the leadership of Kamala Harris, has finally begun adopting a more aggressive policy in prosecuting these crimes. In 2007, the DA's Office filed over 200 such cases, nearly double the 2006 figure. Most are settled out of court: only 5 to 10%—the national average—ever go to trial, and of those, only a handful of offenders face actual jail time or formal probation. Unfortunately, the weak link in the graffiti justice chain is the judicial branch of government: judges rarely give graffiti cases before them the attention they deserve. In San Francisco it is extremely rare for offenders to get felony probation or do any jail time. Most simply do community service cleaning up graffiti, often multiple times.

Property owners have a responsibility.

Fighting graffiti vandalism effectively requires equal

parts law enforcement AND quick removal. With this in mind, the Board of Supervisors passed the Graffiti Removal and Abatement Ordinance, requiring property owners to remove graffiti from their property. Failure to abate graffiti within 30 days can result in a court order for DPW to abate the graffiti at the owner's expense, with resultant fines, abatement, and administrative and attorney's fees. For complete information on how to respond to a Graffiti Notice, go to www.sfgov.org/site/sfdpw_page.asp?id=32790.

What you can do about graffiti.

You can stop graffiti from spreading by doing the following:

- Remove the graffiti from your property as soon as possible. Remove the graffiti within 24–48 hours. Don't wait for a DPW Graffiti Notice to act. Experience shows that if you remove graffiti from your property right away, and if necessary, repeatedly, taggers eventually go away.
- Use only matching paint. Keep a can of matching paint and graffiti remover on the premises.
- Photograph the graffiti before removing it. This provides evidence of the crime, and often helps in identifying the perpetrator.
- File a police report. This is important, and too often neglected. If your property is graffiti'd, use the form at www.sfgov.org/site/police_index.aspx, or file a police report directly at your local precinct.
- Report graffiti anywhere in the city by calling 311 or e-mailing 28Clean@sfdpw.org. DPW gives special priority to removing racist or obscene graffiti.
- Join Graffiti Watch, a citywide volunteer effort to prevent and remove graffiti from public property such as utility and light poles, mail, and traffic signal boxes. The goal is to keep our streets and sidewalks graffiti-free through community involvement and enforcement. DPW supplies training, paint, and tools. Since it began in 2004, hundreds of dedicated volunteers have committed to adopting four heavily-tagged blocks in their neighborhoods and keeping them graffiti-free for at least one year. For more information, call 311 or Merle Goldstone at (415) 641-2625
- Support Fiona Ma's AB 1767 legislation. Arrested vandals often get away with their crime by civilly compromising

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President's Message

After the May election I will turn over the reins to a new president. I do this with mixed emotions. Anyone who has held this position knows it is a demanding, time-consuming task. I quickly learned, as the saying goes, you can't please all of the people all of the time. At the same time I will miss the challenge and interaction with members, working with other city organizations and bringing CSFN's neighborhood message to City Hall.

When I took office, I had three main goals:

1. Return the CSFN treasury to solid black. This has been accomplished and funds are now available for ballot measure arguments and other matters. I have also begun exploration, along with the soon-to-be president-elect Gary Noguera, the process of expanding our revenue stream beyond that of dues and the Dinner to exploring grant options.
2. Join hands and forces with other organizations in the city. For too long CSFN had been going it (mostly) alone. There is a wide range of groups in SF that share common interests with us. Hopefully, we will continue to work on numerous issues with other organizations in the coming years.
3. Restore the tarnished image of CSFN without compromising our policies and principles. CSFN now has the respect of City Hall, Commissions and Task Forces. Respect and power go hand in hand, and I believe CSFN is now a stronger, more respected organization. We may not always agree or get what we want, but our voices are heard and noted.

Have I accomplished all I had hoped for? No, I have not. Major issues like Market-Octavia, the Eastern Neighborhood Plan etc. are still working their way through the process. I am confident that the incoming ExComm will continue to fight the good fight.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank past and present ExComm members, committee members and delegates. I greatly admire how people find the time, while working and/or raising a family, to put so much energy and passion into CSFN. We have accomplished much together.

With experience comes knowledge. I believe very strongly that outgoing officers should mentor incoming officers. I plan to continue to work with any and all officers who request my advice so the transition can be as smooth as possible.

It has been an honor and a privilege to be your President.

All the best,

...Judith Berkowitz (EMIA)

Eastern Neighborhoods Planning Hearings

Upcoming Eastern Neighborhoods Planning Hearings
The Eastern Neighborhoods Adoption Hearings are scheduled to take place in May and June. Hearings will take place at both the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors. A schedule of upcoming hearings and topics covered is listed below. The hearings schedule along with a more detailed list of topics can also be found on our website at:

http://www.sfgov.org/site/planning_index.asp?id=25288#schedule

Planning Commission Hearings:

- **May 15:** Topics include the proposed Zoning Map and Places for Jobs.
- **May 22:** Topics include a discussion of what it takes to have "Complete Neighborhoods", including transportation, open space, streets, building heights and design, community facilities, and historic preservation.
- **June 5:** Topics include housing and public benefits.
- **June 12:** Topics include a discussion of how the Eastern Neighborhoods Program would be implemented.
- **June 19:** Topics include discussion of projects that are already in the planning process, certification of the EIR, and addressing additional questions from the Planning Commission.

Board of Supervisors Land Use Committee Hearings:

- **May 19:** Topics include the proposed Zoning Map and Places for Jobs.
- **June 2:** Topics include a discussion of what it takes to have "Complete Neighborhoods", including transportation, open space, streets, building heights and design, community facilities, and historic preservation.
- **June 9:** Topics include housing and public benefits.
- **June 16:** Topics include a discussion of how the Eastern Neighborhoods Program would be implemented.
- **June 23:** Topics include discussion of projects that are already in the planning process, certification of the EIR, and addressing additional questions from the Board of Supervisors.

Info: <http://en-hearings.sfplanning.org>

If you have any questions, please contact 575-9097

or email Eastern.Neighborhoods@sfgov.org

...Judith Berkowitz (EMIA)

How to Reach Us

President: Judith Berkowitz • sfjberk@mac.com • 824-0617

1st VP: Gary Noguera • garynoguera@earthlink.net

2nd VP: Penelope Clark • penelopeclark@yahoo.com

Secretary: Dick Millet • milletdick@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Jim Lew • emtjal@sbcglobal.net

Member-at-Large: Sue Cauthen • scau1321@aol.com

Member-at-Large: Joan Girardot • 346-5525

Member-at-Large: Angelique Mahan • angelmahan@hotmail.com

Parliamentarian: Evelyn Wilson • evelynwilsregparl@earthlink.net

Graffiti

(Cont'd from p 1)

their way out of prosecution. AB 1767, introduced by Assemblywoman Fiona Ma, would do away with this practice. Please show your support by writing a letter to Fiona Ma at 455 Golden Gate Ave., Suite 14600, SF CA 94102. Or email her aide at nick.hardeman@asm.ca.gov. Emails are good, but letters are always best.

The City's Graffiti Reward Fund now rewards citizens with \$250 for information leading to arrest and conviction of graffiti vandals. For more information call 311.

... Christopher Putz, Graffiti Abatement Officer, SF P D., and Merle Goldstone, DPW Graffiti Watch Coordinator

ETCHED GLASS

There are two companies that remove etching from glass. This is really Big for folks, both merchants and homeowners, because it's pretty expensive to replace a window, especially plate glass on a storefront.

They use a small machine which looks like a buffer, but it actually melts the top layer(s) of glass so the etching is "erased."

They do a very professional job; you can't tell there was ever any etching after they are finished.

These companies will also install an anti-etch film on the exterior of windows, so they cannot be etched.

CONTACT INFO:

- **D-Scratch**, 415-225-6491, Mark Johnston
Glass Graffiti, Acid Etch & Glass Scratch Removal Service
- **Glass Scratch Removers**, 510-885-0400,
www.glasr.com, Allan Champion

SFGH Rebuild & Helipad Update

In early December the neighbors of SFGH were told to expect the Helipad Draft EIR to be published around 12/30/07. This did not happen as planning staff was working to publish the Draft EIR for the building of the new SFGH. The hospital held a public meeting in February '08 to unveil the new plans for SFGH. The neighbors found that the hospital has made many changes in their plans for the new building since the initial public meeting last August. Most significant is that the rectangular building which had been initially proposed has been changed to a two-story rectangular base supporting a five-story circular tower with floor-to-ceiling glass windows all around this tower. These exterior rooms are the patient rooms. This design creates a 140' structure which is 35' above the current 105' zoning height limit.

The Draft EIR for the new SFGH was published on March 8. Written comments were submitted before April 22 deadline.

The Hospital is proposing to build the new hospital on the "park" space between the older brick buildings facing

Potrero Avenue. This will eliminate 51,000 square feet of open space. Because there will be a garden on the 7th floor of the new building, the DEIR states that there will only be "a net loss of 43,000 square feet." It goes on to say this is not a "substantial loss, given the open space resources available throughout the City" (p. S-34)

The design also calls for the elimination of the West Drive which currently links 23rd Street to 22nd Street. There will now be an entrance on 23rd Street for the public and ambulatory patients and the 22nd Street entrance will be reserved for ambulance traffic. This DEIR also states that they no longer plan to move the helipad proposed for the 7th floor roof of the Main Hospital Building, from that building to the roof of the new hospital.

While the new hospital will have 32 more acute care beds there will not be "an equivalent growth in services." "Instead, existing overcrowded conditions and code requirements for space (determined by accepted medical

(Cont'd on p 8)



Isam Hasenin, DBI Director and Bill Strawn, DBI communications spoke of department goals and implementation at April's CSFN meeting.



Debra Walker, President of the Building Inspection Commission added the commission's perspective.

LU&H Committee Reports

April 14, 2008

The CSFN Land Use & Housing Committee meeting was held on April 14, 2008 at the Northern Police Station Community Room. The meeting was called to order at 5:42PM by chair Hiroshi Fukuda. The committee considered the following issues:

1. Market-Octavia Plan was on the BOS agenda today for a second and final vote.
 - a. Planning Department has found M/O to be consistent with the 1990 General Plan. The Planning Commission, not the Planning Department, needs to find consistency with the 1990 General Plan.
 - b. The City has refused to consider the diversity of needs i.e. size of families, working people/families, and possible remedies.
 - c. Seismic safety not properly addressed.
2. Japantown Center/Mall: 3D, the new owners have not informed the Japantown community and city about their plans for the garage. They did agree to hire a project manager and structural engineer.
3. Merger/demolition policy will be codified by Board of Supervisors.
4. Planning Commission rules changes is on the calendar for Thursday 4/17/08. The Planning Commission is set to approve new Commission RULES. CSFN will ask for a continuance.

The meeting adjourned at 7:13PM.

The next committee meeting will be on Monday May 12, 2008 at the Northern Police Station Community Room at 5:30 PM.

May 12, 2008

The CSFN Land Use & Housing Committee meeting was held on May 12, 2008 at the Northern Police Station Community Room. The meeting was called to order at 5:46PM by chair Hiroshi Fukuda. The committee considered the following issues:

1. Market-Octavia Area Plan Notice of Determination was issued on April 30, 2008. Guest Mary Miles provided an update and suggestions on future action.
2. Art Academy: John Bardis reported on the lack of a credible Institutional Master Plan, and all the group housing controlled by the Art Academy which is out of compliance with the San Francisco Planning Code. **RESOLVED**, The Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods strongly urges the Board of Supervisors to hold hearings on the Academy of Art University failing to comply with the laws of San Francisco and the State of California by illegally converting to group housing San Francisco's critically scarce most affordable housing in seventeen buildings owned or leased by the Academy of Art University without the required conditional use permits for these seventeen buildings, without an approved Institutional Master Plan, and without an approved Environmental Impact Report on the Master Plan.
3. Japantown Center/Mall: All options have not been seriously discussed i.e. continuing Redevelopment Agency for additional Community control and tax benefits.
4. Mission/Eastern Neighborhood Area Plan will be heard by the Planning Commission this month. It is still poor even after heavy revision. There is much neighborhood opposition.
5. Transbay Transit District Meeting Report: Major issues: Big giveaway of public lands, seismic standards are obsolete, fire safety, infrastructure problems not addressed i.e. water, sewer, and power.

6. 733-27th Avenue project has issues with Residential Design Guidelines, Section 101.1 to conserve and protect neighborhood housing and character, and historic preservation, see resolution.

The meeting adjourned at 7:43PM.

The next committee meeting will be on Monday June 9, 2008 at the Northern Police Station Community Room at 5:30 PM.

RESOLUTION: Renovation & Construction

Whereas: State law requires that San Francisco's General Plan addresses issues of land use, conservation, and open space; and

Whereas: the Priority Policies of the General Plan state, in part "That existing housing and neighborhood character be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods;" and "That landmarks and historic buildings be preserved.;" and

Whereas the San Francisco Residential Design Guidelines are mandatory, and require that the Planning Department must: (1) determine the existing character of a neighborhood; and (2) determine whether proposed construction is compatible with, and has respect for existing patterns, designs, dimensions and construction; and

Whereas these Residential Design Guidelines also require that the height and depth of proposed construction be compatible with the existing scale of the mid-block open space; and

Whereas Section 101.1 of the Planning Code establishes policies to conserve and protect the City's existing neighborhood housing and character; therefore be it

Resolved that the Coalition of San Francisco Neighborhoods urges the Planning Commission to insure that housing renovation and construction be consistent with the aforementioned laws, regulations, codes, guidelines and the like.

...Hiroshi Fukuda (RCA) Chairman



Michael Cohen, Director, Mayor's Office of economic and Work Force Development spoke for prop G.

FENCES AND NEIGHBORS Mediation & Community Boards

“Good fences make good neighbors” may sound dated or even quaintly rural. But after 32 years of helping S.F. residents mediate their disputes, Community Boards can attest to its truth. While residents have emotional and financial investment in their homes, often they only meet their neighbors when there’s a conflict over parking, noise, construction, building maintenance, property lines, trees and—believe it or not—fences.

We receive calls daily from residents having problems with their neighbors. Most are angry and frustrated, but are also concerned about not wanting to antagonize the other parties, potentially making their situations worse. They’re also uncomfortable or fearful of talking with the other person face-to-face. It’s difficult to have a rational discussion when strong emotions like anger are at play. Community Board’s philosophy is to treat these conflicts as opportunities for constructive dialogue rather than just annoyances, grievances or possible legal bills. Our mediators make it possible for them to focus on the subject at hand and create their own resolution.

Community Boards is the longest-running, no-cost mediation program in the U.S. All S.F. residents have access to professional quality dispute resolution delivered by skilled volunteer community mediators. Our mediation services aim equally at resolving disputes as well as repairing or improving neighborhood relationships. Our mediations are over 90% successful, with the shared solution still effective months later. Ultimately, we provide opportunities for residents to become better neighbors. We help repair the fences and the relationships!

Our successes are due to our 150+ active volunteer community mediators, who come from all walks of life and are true peers of those parties discussing the problem. In preparation, volunteers must take our 40-hour Basics of Mediation training. They also receive advanced trainings throughout the year. The skills they learn and practice as peacemakers become important life and professional skills.

We invite people to bring their problems to us. We also help with housemate, family, landlord/tenant and many other types of disputes. Our staff gives each party personalized attention. They’re also knowledgeable about the multitude of services available throughout S.F. for addressing problems not appropriate for mediation. Whenever possible, we refer callers to these additional resources.

We also invite people to become active members of their communities by training as one of our volunteer community mediators. Our trainings are a dynamic mix of lectures, discussions and roleplays. Not only are they practical and easily accessible, they frequently are transformative experiences for the participants. “Basics” will next be

offered in June and September. We’re always eager to increase our pool of diverse volunteer mediators.

We would love the opportunity to share additional information with each neighborhood association. We can provide speakers for your regularly scheduled meetings. If you have questions about our dispute resolution services or trainings, please visit our website, www.communityboards.org, or contact Jim Garrison, communications coordinator, (415) 920-3820 x104, jgarrison@communityboards.org.

*...Jim Garrison, Community Boards
Submitted by Mary Helen Briscoe (PROSF)*



Alicia Swartz, POWER, spoke for prop F.



Johnny Carter spoke in favor of prop G.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Land Use & Housing • Monday 5:30 pm June 9 • Northern Station • Chair Hiroshi Fukuda • ninersam@aol.com • 386-2632
Gov't & Elections • Chair Melinda LaValle • melindalavalle@aol.com
Bylaws • Chair Evelyn Wilson • evelynwilsregparl@earthlink.net • 566-7826
Open Space • Chair Nancy Wuerfel • nancenumber1@aol.com • 731-6432, R. Albright • 621-9621
Water Task Force • Chair Joan Girardot • 346-5525
Transportation • Gary Noguera • garynoguera@earthlink.net • 469-8899

CSFN Draft Minutes General Assembly Meeting April 15, 2008

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by President Judith Berkowitz at 7:01 pm at Northern Police Station, Tuesday, 18 MARCH 2008 with introduction of Delegates and Guests.

QUORUM ASCERTAINED: 26 organizations and 10+ guests attending.

PRESENTATION by HOST ORGANIZATIONS: Forest Knolls Neighborhood Org. (FKNO) and Francisco Heights Civic Ass'n (FHCA) provided the refreshments.

PROGRAM: ISAM HASENIN, Director of the Department of Building Inspection (DBI), made a PowerPoint presentation of how DBI operates and its plans for improvements, joined by Debra Walker, Building Inspection Commissioner and William Strawn, DBI.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

- **PRESIDENT**, Judith Berkowitz (EMIA): see p. 2 of April '08 N'ltr.
- **1st VICE PREZ**, Gary Noguera (MPIC): see p.7 of April '08 N'ltr.
- **2nd VICE PREZ**, Penelope Clark (RHN): No Report.
- **RECORDING SEC'Y**, Position "still O P E N". see p 6 of April 08 Newsletter for 18 March '08 General Meeting Minutes "APPROVED" as amended, by verbal vote.
- **TREASURER**, Jim Lew (NBN): No Report.
- **CORRESPONDING SEC'Y**, Dick Millet (PBNA): Correspondence binder at side table for membership review.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**, Gary Noguera (MPIC) Chair, p. 7, April 08 Newsletter.
- **BYLAWS COMMITTEE**, Evelyn Wilson (SPEAK) Chair: No Report.
- **LAND USE/HOUSING COMMITTEE**, Hiroshi Fukuda (RCA) Chair: We have lost our Opposition to Planning items of the Market/Octavia Plan. We will seek "other" avenues in order to achieve of goals. • Planning Commission rule changes are coming up, ie: Discretionary Review procedures.
- **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**, Gary Noguera (MPIC) Chair: No Report.
- **GOVERNMENT & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE**, Melinda LaValle (CHNA) Chair: No Report.
- **OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**, Nancy Wuerfel (SPEAK) chair. No Report
- **WATER TASK FORCE**, Joan Girardot (MCIPOA) chair: CEQA requires certification of sufficiency of water for project developments & PUC says we have (?) enough water. Joan alerts CSFN member-ship to monitor all new projects for "water sufficiency" as they come up. Urges use of State law when testifying on projects.
- **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**, Barbara Austin (FHCA)

chair: See p. 3 April N'ltr. The following are the Committee CSFN Officer nominations for 2008–2009 term:

President: Gary Noguera (MPIC); 1st VP: Mark Sherman, (CHA); 2nd VP: Penelope Clark (RHN); Recording Sec'y: Judith Berkowitz (EMIA); Corresponding Sec'y: Dick Millet (PBNA); Treasurer: Jim Lew (NBN); ExCom Members-at-Large: Sue Cauthen (NBN), Joan Girardot (MCIPOA), Angelique Mahan (EDIA).

There were no "floor nominations." Nominations CLOSED by Hand Vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 1) **PROPOSITION "F" (50% Affordable):** affordability requirements for Redevelopment at Hunters Point. Pro and Con arguments for revote of CSFN's position to OPPOSE Prop "F", Moved: Crowley (THD), 2nd, PASSED (16-5-4) by Roll Call Vote.
- 2) **PRESIDIO PARADE GROUND DEVELOPMENT:** see p. 1 & 5 April 08 N'ltr. Resolved that the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN) opposes a large museum on the Presidio until the Presidio Trust develops traffic, transportation and parking plans and integrates them satisfactorily with those of the City, CalTrans and the affected neighborhoods; if the Presidio Trust cannot or does not do this, the Coalition (CSFN) will urge our elected officials to oppose any plan for a large museum in the Presidio; and be it further Resolved that the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN) opposes, and urges our elected officials to oppose, any buildings or activities that compromise the historic significance of the Parade Ground either by their purpose and function, architecturally, by the size, color and design of the proposed new building(s), or by the level of activity, that will be generated by the new use(s). Moved, Carola Shepard (PHRA), 2nd, PASSED (22-0-3) by Roll Call Vote.
- 3) **OPEN GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION:** see p. 5 April 08 N'ltr. Resolved the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods supports the Open Government Legislation and encourages the Board of Supervisors to pass this Ordinance, File No. 071596. Moved: Kathy Howard (RCA), 2nd, PASSED by (22-0) Hand Vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Moved and 2nd – Joan Girardot (MCIPOA) "The CSFN shall Consider and Vote on future ballot propositions ONLY if both Pro and Con positions have been debated before the General Assembly."
- 2) Moved and 2nd – Kathy Devincenzi (LHIA) moved to amend the motion by adding: "unless the official proponent of or opposition to the measure was timely notified and failed to appear."

ADJOURNMENT: 10:06 pm

...*Dick Millet (PBNA) Acting Recording Secretary*

Candidates' Statements

GARY NOGUERA (MPIC) • PRESIDENT

I have been doing public service in SF since the early 1980s focusing on a broad range of clients. I was a foster parent to several runaway teens, served as a Board member for "Little Brothers – Friends of the Elderly" and currently I am a CASA volunteer (court appointed special advocate) where I serve as a sworn officer of the court mentoring a child in the foster-care system, and serving as his voice in court. I have 5 years of service there and multiple years as a Board member of MPIC. I At MPIC, I am chair of the transportation committee and a member of the graffiti watch team. I became a delegate to CSFN 3 years ago where I have served as 1st VP, and representative to the Transit Effectiveness Project.

On the work front, I was at Sprint for 20 years, and managed a team of top experts on internet, cell, international etc. selling to the Fortune 100. I was also an acting 2nd level manager for 6 months with full responsibilities for 60+ people.

MARK SHERMAN (CHA) • 1st VICE PRESIDENT

I have lived in San Francisco for over a decade. I am an investment manager and teach part-time as an adjunct faculty at St. Mary's College. I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Cow Hollow Association. I am interested in city policies and their effect on the protection and enhancement of our diverse neighborhoods.

PENELOPE CLARK (RHN) • 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

I came to San Francisco in 1960 to study interior design at the Rudolph Schaeffer School of Design which had moved to its final location on Potrero Hill. I worked as an interior designer for a number of years (I am still a member of A.S.I.D., but retired). Ultimately I became interested in antiques — principally from China and Japan. After having an oriental antique shop for many years I now sell antiques privately, mainly wholesale. After renting on Russian Hill since 1962, I am now a homeowner.

After doing several building projects for myself, I became very interested in how the City's Planning and Building Departments operate, and worked on the Design & Zoning Committees for Russian Hill Neighbors. I realized that it is important to be concerned with the City's policies for the entire city, not just one's own neighborhood, so I joined the CSFN Land Use & Housing Committee in 2005.

JUDITH BERKOWITZ (EMIA) • RECORDING SECRETARY

Serving as Recording Secretary brings me back to my beginnings on ExComm when I assumed the RecSec job from Lorraine Lucas (HAIA) in 2000. I have served as CSFN President these past three years, working, and I think succeeding to bring responsiveness from the City to its neighborhoods' needs.

I have served in successive CSFN roles: Recording Secretary, 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President; and am the past Land Use & Housing Committee Chair. I work on both the Government & Elections and the Newsletter Committees as well. Also, I currently sit on the (City's) Public Safety Working Group along with others in CSFN. During the past three years as President I have continued to serve as EMIA's Alternate Delegate. I would be honored to continue to serve CSFN again this coming year.

DICK MILLET (PBNA) • CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

I am an Architect and have lived in SF since 1962. I bought a home in Potrero Hill in 1969 and have lived there ever since. I have been involved in Potrero Hill neighborhood activities all that time, holding various offices in the Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association, including president for nine years. I have been a delegate to the CSFN for some years and held the offices of Treasurer for 2, Corresponding Secretary for 1, and Recording Secretary for 2. I have volunteered in Supervisor Sophie Maxwell's office for 6 years on Monday and Friday.

JIM A LEW (NBN) • TREASURER

I have been a neighborhood activist for some 20 years as a member of North Beach Neighbors. I served as its president for two years. I was its newsletter editor for five years. I currently am on its Board of Advisors. I have also previously served on the CSFN Executive Board as treasurer for a number of years.

In order for volunteer organizations like North Beach Neighbors and the Coalition to survive, different individuals must step forward to carry on their good work so that that they can survive as viable entities. But for them, there would be no one standing to protect and enhance the neighborhoods. I am willing and able to contribute my effort towards that very worthy task.

SUE CAUTHEN (NBN) • MEMBER-at-LARGE

A Coalition delegate for over 20 years, Sue Cauthen has been active in both Telegraph Hill Dwellers and North Beach Neighbors. She has served as vice president and corresponding secretary of CSFN and welcomes the opportunity to interact with every one of you to see that City Hall listens to neighborhood voices.

Sue works to assure that neighborhood libraries provide educational and leisure time activities to all communities in equal measure. She is a longtime member of the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force and believes that government must be open, available and accountable for participatory democracy to work.

JOAN GIRARDOT (MCIPOA) • MEMBER-at-LARGE

CSFN past president, current chair CSFN Water Task Force and liaison to SFPUC. Experience on numerous City Advisory committees over 15 years. BOS appointee to Doyle Drive Task Force, Presidio Work Group, Marina District Task Force, Harbor Advisory, Presidio Restoration Advisory. Assisted founding of NERT Program.

Believes strongly in CSFN mission to bring together neighborhood activists from all over the City, to find common ground and foster a City-wide voice for the neighborhoods at City Hall.

ANGELIQUE MAHAN (EDIA) • MEMBER-at-LARGE

A native San Franciscan, I have live in the Excelsior all of my life and am a proud Graduate of Mercy High School. After returning from my second stint in college I became active in the Excelsior District Improvement Association.

I have served on EDIA's Executive Board for the past 3 years and have served 2 years as Vice President and one as 2nd Vice President. I have been a Delegate to the District 11 Council, and have been a Delegate to CSFN for several years. It is my honor and privilege to represent my community and serve on the CSFN Executive Committee.

2 Motions: 2 Arguments

These two arguments refer to the two motions in New Business in the draft minutes found on page 6.

Argument 1: “Those who do not learn from the past are doomed to repeat it.” Currently, we have two motions before us. One states “the CSFN shall consider and vote on future ballot propositions only if both Pro and Con positions have been debated before the General Assembly,” the other was an addition to the motion: “Unless the official proponent of the measure or opposition was timely notified and failed to appear.”

I am against the motions because the first motion is too restrictive and the second is not needed. Contrary to what some may choose to believe, there have been instances when the CSFN has invited both Pro and Con positions on a ballot argument to the General Assembly Meeting and one side didn’t show. The CSFN shouldn’t be held hostage if one side decides to not attend the meeting, which would then deny us the opportunity to vote on a proposition.

We don’t need a new motion to ensure we hear from both sides of an issue. Instead, we need to follow our current procedure. Our process requires both sides of an issue to be debated before the General Assembly. The member organization, a CSFN committee, or the ExComm is responsible for inviting the parties.

If one side doesn’t attend, the person responsible for inviting the parties advises the delegates of his or her attempts to contact that party. The delegates then decide if the person’s attempts were valid. Depending on the delegates’ determination, they can either vote to postpone or vote on the proposition. Therefore, we do not need a more restrictive motion; we just need to follow our current procedure.

Many years ago, we debated this issue and after much discussion, we passed the above procedure. We passed it because it requires we hear from the Pro and Con positions, and at the same time, it still allows us to vote on a proposition even if only one side decides to attend the meeting. Let’s remember our history before we pass a restrictive motion.

Therefore, I recommend a no vote on the first motion, which would then make the second motion moot.

...Lorraine Lucas (HAIA)

Argument 2: Campaign consultants make it their business to learn the rules of organizations that issue ballot arguments. The language of the motion drafted by our distinguished past-president Ms Girardot would map out an obvious path to immobilizing the CSFN so that it could not take a position. A campaign that thought CSFN would vote against its position would simply fail to appear for the debate at CSFN.

My alternate motion would plug that loophole.

...Kathy Devincenzi (LHIA)

Executive Committee Report

April 23rd, 2008

The CSFN ExCom was called to order at 7:12 PM at Northern Police Station by Chair Gary Noguera. Present were ExCom members Berkowitz, Noguera, Wilson, Girardot, Cauthen and Mahan. Clark and Millet were unexcused absent. Lew was excused absent. There was a quorum.

Reports: President Berkowitz: Meetings she will attend include: • the April 30th Transbay Transit Center District Plan effort. • She will attend the SFT Annual Dinner on May 21st, and • the May 14th Emerge California Annual Reception, this is the Democratic Party’s program for women interested in political involvement and supporting women candidates. • There will be a presentation of the proposed CCSF Chinatown campus • She and the 1st VP will meet with candidate for 1st VP, Mark Sherman to brief him on his duties.

1st VP Noguera: Continued discussions and efforts about grantwriting. Another meeting set for May 12th with Karen Wood of MPIC, who is helping us pro-bono to teach us the process. • A special committee meeting was convened: Conduct and Decorum. Members of the committee were comprised of the ExCom; we met to discuss how members’ inappropriate behavior concerning CSFN should be treated. A decision was made to defer any action; however future action will take recent incidents into account. The Conduct and Decorum Committee was then dissolved.

2nd VP Clark: Absent

Treasurer Lew: No report

Secretary Millet: Absent

Program for June: District Attorney Kamala Harris

Unfinished Business: New member applications

Adjournment: The April ExCom meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

The next ExComm meeting will be May 28th at 7:00PM at Northern Station.

...Gary Noguera (MPIC) Chair

- • • • •
- **2008 NEN Clean & Green Summit** •
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- Our first summit of 2008 is just around the corner! The •
- NEN 2008 Clean & Green Summit will be held in the •
- Mission at Cesar Chavez Elementary on Saturday, May •
- 31st. We’ll have a resource fair, great break out groups •
- and, for the first time, walking tours of the surrounding •
- neighborhood to see real solutions people like you have •
- created. •
- We’ll provide lunch and of course admission is free. •
- Space is limited — so sign up today. •
- For more details visit here: [http://www.empowersf.org/](http://www.empowersf.org/events.htm) •
- events.htm •
- To sign up visit here: <http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaID=158576&CFID=9343624&CFTOKEN=24255973> •
- 4255973 •
- See you on the 31st! •
-
- ...Daniel Homsey, NEN Coordinator, •
- daniel.homsey@sfgov.org, 554-7114 •
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- • • • •

AGENDA

General Assembly Meeting

May 20, 2008

- 6:30 I. Sign In and Refreshments
- 7:00 II. Call to Order/Ascertain Quorum
 - A. Introduction of Delegates and Guests / Short Announcements
 - B. Hosts
 - 1. Fair Oaks Community Coalition — FOCC
 - 2. Golden Gate Heights Neigh. Assn — GGHNA
- 7:10 III. Approval of April Minutes
- 7:15 IV. Special Order of Business — Election of 2008 Officers
- 7:25 V. Program: "Graffiti Watch" and Abatement Programs
 - Speakers: Mohammed Nuru, DPW; Officer Christopher Putz, SFPD; Andi Roye, DA's Office
- 8:10 VI. Officers' Reports
 - A. President
 - B. Vice-Presidents
 - C. Secretaries
 - D. Treasurer
- 8:20 VII. Committee Action Items — written reports in Newsletter
 - A. Land Use & Housing
 - B. Open Space
 - C. Water Task Force
 - D. Transportation
 - E. Government & Elections
- 8:40 VIII. Unfinished Business
 - Policy on voting for ballot measures:
 - 1.) Vote on future ballot propositions ONLY after Pro and Con positions have been debated — Girardot
 - 2.) Amendment to the above Motion "... unless the official proponent of or opposition to the measure was timely notified and failed to appear." — Devincenzi
- 9:00 IX. New Business
- 9:15 X. Adjournment

CSFN meets the third Tuesday of the each month except for December at Northern Police Station, Turk & Fillmore Streets (Parking in rear off Turk) Public Transit: Muni #22 Fillmore, 31 Balboa & 38 Geary Lines

Visitors Please Sign the Visitors Roster

Neighborhood Views is published monthly, the official voice of the Coalition for SF Neighborhoods, Inc., a 501(c)4 organization.
To Submit Articles: email articles by the 5th of the month to mhbriscoe@pacbell.net.
Articles reflect the opinions of the submitter, not necessarily the opinion of the CSFN. We invite material from member organizations as well as rebuttal to articles already printed. We reserve the right to edit where necessary. Member organizations receive the newsletter without charge. Subscription: Members/\$10, Nonmembers/\$15.

*Coalition for SF Neighborhoods
P.O. Box 32098 San Francisco 94132*

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Tuesday
May 20

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2	President's Message
2	Eastern Nghbrds Planning
3	Hellpad Update
4	LU&H Reports
5	Community Boards
6	April Draft Minutes
7	Candidates' Statements
8	Motions Pro & Con
8	ExCom Report
9	EMIA Interview