

Major Candadates to appear at CSFN Mayoral Debate September 16th



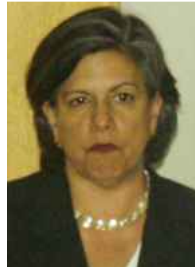
Alioto



Ammiano



Gonzalez



Leal



Newsom



Ribera

Angela Alioto, Tom Ammiano, Matt Gonzalez, Susan Leal, Gavin Newsom and Tony Ribera will take part in the Coalition's Candidate Forum. Neighborhoods Mayoral Forum. It will take place on September 16 in the Auditorium of the State Building at 455 Golden Gate at 7:PM in place of our usual General Membership Meeting.

KGO NewsTalk Radio host Ray Taliaferro will host this year's Coalition for San Francisco. All groups in the Coalition are encouraged to inform their membership of this opportunity to engage the candidates on neighborhood issues.



Chronicle Editor Dick Rogers Keynote

The Radisson Miyako Hotel in Japantown will be the setting for the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods 31st Annual Dinner.

The three course dinner will be followed by San Francisco Chronicle Editor Dick Rogers, who also serves as the newspaper's Readers' Representative, or community liason. Mr. Rogers will be addressing the importance of San Francisco's neighborhoods and how the neighborhoods can best influence the newspaper to provide coverage on our issues and viewpoints. Awards for service to neighborhoods will take place as well.



Japantown's Peace Pagoda

It will take place in the Sakura Room, and the menu will feature: a Balsamic Mushrooms & Olives, Peppers & Blue Lake Bean Salad, Goat Cheese Crostini

The entree will offer a choice of:

1. Ginger-Mirin Glazed Half-Chicken with Sesame Rice Cakes and Wok-Fried Vegetables
2. Roasted Chilean Seabass & Scalloped Potatoes with Tomato & Olive Wild Sauce
3. Stuffed Portobello Mushrooms.

Desert will be: Strawberry Charlotte & Bavarian Cream filled between Lady Finger Wafers served with a Strawberry Puree.

Special Meeting Set for Sept. 23rd

President Barbara Meskunas has called a special meeting of the General Assembly of the Coalition to resolve the question of the impending lawsuit regarding secondary units and to discuss a response to the upcoming Housing Element.

It will be held at the Northern Police Station at 7:PM .

Planning Takes On Discretionary Review

The Planning Commission set a Hearing to "introduce" the topic of improving the current Discretionary Review Process. The policy review states that two proposals are under consideration by the Department: pre-application and administrative screening. The report states:

"Approximately 7,800 building permits are processed by the Planning Department annually. More than half are approved "over the counter." Of the remaining 3,700 applications, six percent receive requests for additional review by the Planning Commission; this process is commonly referred to as Discretionary Review.

"This very small percentage of applications constitute an overwhelming amount of time for the Planning Department Staff, Planning Commission, Project Applicant, Neighbors and General Public at an extremely high cost."

It also complains: "There is a disproportionate amount of time spent processing DR's. Of the DR's filed by the public and acted upon by the Planning Commission, 92% were approved as recommended by staff or with modifications "

Purportedly, Department Staff is seeking comment and direction from the Commission regarding DRs, with the goal of improving the procedures "for the benefit of the community, Staff, and the Commission."

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THANK YOU!

How To Reach Us

President: Barbara Meskunas, brmeskunas@cs.com
1st Vice President: Doug Comstock, dougcoms@aol.com
2nd Vice President: Judith Berkowitz, sfjberk@mac.com
Treasurer: Babette Drefke, 282-5919
Recording Secretary: Steve Gruel, steve.gruel@usdoj.gov
Corresp. Secretary: Dick Millet, milletdick@aol.com
Member at Large: Jim Andrew, jwandrew@yahoo.com
Member at Large: Francisco DaCosta, frandacosta@att.net
Member at Large: Sharon Eberhardt, sme314@aol.com

Parliamentarian: Evelyn Wilson, 566-7826
EvelynWilsRegParl@earthlink.net

Website: www.csfn.net **262-0440**



Government & Elections Committee Recommends Bylaw Change for Ballot Measure Endorsements

The Government & Elections Committee met Friday, September 5, at the Lucky Penny Restaurant on Masonic. Besides putting the final touches on our September 16 Mayoral Candidate Forum, we discussed our bylaws in regards to the number of votes required for a ballot measure to be endorsed or opposed by the CSFN.

As you may remember, after much effort at our August meeting, we were able to endorse only one ballot measure – D Small Business Commission. (Proposition J Separate Shelters for Seniors, Disabled, and Families was an early-endorsement.)

Currently our bylaws require no less than a quorum, which is 1/3 of the total number of member organizations, for endorsement. We have 39 member organizations; so that is 13 votes. When there are only 16 delegates voting it is almost impossible to get such a consensus, partly because of abstentions.

First of all, it was agreed that, in setting up the meeting agenda, the Ex-Comm would put ballot measures on before any other business or presentations, right after reports and general business. That way voting would occur before delegates begin drifting out.

The Government & Elections Committee recommended the following bylaw change to the Bylaw Committee:

“Approval of a recommendation to support or oppose a ballot measure shall require not less than two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates voting, not including abstentions, which shall also be not less than 25% of the total of member organizations.”

For example: there are 21 delegates voting and the vote total is: 14 Yes/4 No/3 Abstentions. The measures would pass. The abstentions would be not counted as votes so there would be 18 total votes cast. 2/3 of 18 is 12 votes, which is more than 25% of our total membership (39 x 25% = 8).

The Bylaw Committee will study the recommendation and bring it to the October General Membership meeting.

*...Submitted by: Rebecca Silverberg, Chair
Government & Elections Committee*

COALITION FOR SAN FRANCISCO NEIGHBORHOODS

Acting Editor: Doug Comstock

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To Submit Articles: email articles by the first of the month (as text) to: dougcoms@aol.com or call 386-4934.

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. Articles are written by the editor unless otherwise designated. We reserve the right to edit where necessary. Member organizations receive the newsletter without charge. Copies: Members/\$10 Non-members/\$15

CSFN General Assembly Minutes for August 19

Call to Order: President Barbara Meskunas / BANG brought the meeting to order at 7:11 at Northern police Station.

a. A quorum was declared with 21 members present.

b. Introductions: Delegates and guests introduced themselves.

Host Frank Noto of Golden Gate Heights Neighborhood Association cited his organizations' participation in the 16th Avenue tile steps project and their work with the DPW and DPT to mitigate neighborhood parking.

Host Mary Burns of Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association described her organizations' history and present fund-raising to renovate their playground, tennis courts and club house.

Minutes. The July minutes were amended as follows: Under Committee Reports,

Section a - "Natural Areas Advisory Committee" should read "Natural Areas Progress Citizens Advisory Committee (NAPCAC)"

Section c - "...Sierra Club made a deal with the PUC to drop their appeal to adopt EIR findings 1.5 hours after a contract for the work was already awarded." should read "...Sierra Club made a deal with the Public Utilities Department to drop their appeal of Mitigated Negative Declaration Contract for work awarded by the PUC 1.5 hours prior to the Board of Supervisors' hearing". Apologies to the Sierra Club.

Under Announcements - Add, "District 11 Council was a driving force behind NMTIA keeping their firehouse". Amended minutes were approved.

Officers' Reports:

a. President Meskunas called for sponsorship checks to be sent in by the end of the week as invitations will go out this weekend.

b. Exec. VP Comstock brought to a vote the membership of Francisco Heights. Membership was approved unanimously.

c. Treasurer Drefke reported \$4057.70 in the treasury. Parliamentarian Evelyn Wilson in an audit report noted that some records were missing and urged that a budget be adopted in November for the next fiscal year.

Committee Reports:

Land Use and Housing's Judith Berkowitz recommended 2 resolutions to the membership for a vote:

Resolution to oppose the Planning Commission's "Intent to Adopt" action on the Housing Element until the Housing Element is amended and acceptable, and until all SF property owners be noticed and given opportunity to have input. The resolution passed.

Resolution to oppose any proposal to exclude the R-1 zoned areas from the Secondary Unit Legislation was sent back to committee.

Supervisor Fiona Ma presented her proposed legislation to ban signs on public property and institute fines for unsecured handbills on private property. Supervisor Ma and associate Barbara Moy urged support of the proposed legislation.

c. Water Task Force: Joan Girardot reported that the Advisory Board voted in to oversee the PUC now has applicants who do not fairly represent commercial and residential retail customers. Among those applying, one is a PUC employee, one a consultant to PGE, one a real estate broker, one a member of the Chamber

of Commerce. CSFN members are urged to ask Supervisors Dufty and Gonzalez to defer selection until more candidates are available.

d. Open Space Task Force: Katherine Howard reported that the Rec and Park Department will work actively to preserve and protect significant trees in the Concourse of GG Park. Tys Sniffen of the Natural Areas Progress Citizen Advisory Committee asks that those interested in the latest news and community input process, see the NAPCAC web site: www.sf.gov.org. The group meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at City College, Building 221 at 6:30.

Program: Rincon Hill Development pros and cons.

Clark Manus of Heller Manus Architects showed slides of the project consisting of two 350 and 400 foot towers with 800 units each, parking, retail stores, ground floor and roof top gardens accessible to the public. He cited housing, tax revenue and 150 permanent jobs as advantages to the City. Ried Bement, a Rincon Hill resident spoke for the Hills Plaza Neighborhood Association who opposes the project. While high density does not pose a problem the extreme height will block views and be out of scale of the neighborhood and the City. The bulk of the project with 100% lot coverage, 80 foot podiums, insufficient separation of towers and 40% less open space than required negatively impact the area. Above all there was no community input in the planning process and the result was insufficient coordination with Mission Bay, or with transportation and traffic infrastructure, schools and neighborhood retail needs.

Government and Elections Committee Endorsements Propositions A school repairs supported by Board of Education member Jill Wynns failed.

Prop G rainy day fund, backed by Todd Reidstrom of the Controller's Office failed.

Prop H police misconduct, supported by private citizen Jay Wechter and opposed by Kathy Mahoney, counsel to the Police Officers Association failed.

Prop M aggressive panhandling, supported by Michael Sweet and opposed by Ellis Wilson failed.

Prop N disabled taxi permit, supported by Jim Nakamura and opposed by Ruach Grafis failed.

Prop D small business commission, supported by Rebecca Silverberg was endorsed.

Prop K transportation tax supported by Tom Radulovich also failed.

Old Business:

Prop L minimum wage failed.

A by-law amendment to allow a membership committee to recommend acceptance of a new group to the executive committee which will make a recommendation for approval at the next monthly meeting was approved. A motion to postpone a decision to join the PON lawsuit to a special meeting to be called by the chair was passed.

New Business: SPEAK proposed an emergency resolution to endorse Eileen Boken as its CSFN delegate to the 2004 Institute of Transportation Studies (ITS) symposium both as an attendee and as a presenter. She will speak on lack of community input in airport development. Her comments are to be included in the Airfield Development Bureau audit. The resolution passed.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:26.

...Mary Helen Briscoe, Acting Secretary, SFPRO

COALITION FOR SAN FRANCISCO
NEIGHBORHOODS

PO Box 320098 • San Francisco • 94132



October 1st,
7:00PM
Radisson
Miyako Hotel
1625 Post Street

2003
MAYORAL DEBATE

September 16th, 2003 • 7:00PM
State Building • 455 Golden Gate
Host • Ray Taliaferro, KGO Radio

Next Meeting

WEDNESDAY
September
23rd



Committee Meetings

Land Use & Housing • Monday, 7:00, October 6th at
Northern Police Stn. • Judith Berkowitz 824-0617 •
sfjberk@mac.com

Bylaws Committee

Chair: Evelyn Wilson: EvelynWilsRegParl@earthlink.net
566-7826

Government and Elections Committee

Chair: Rebecca Silverberg: srebecca@aol.com 584-0535

Land Use and Housing Committee

Chair: Judith Berkowitz: sfberk@mac.com 824-0617

Newsletter Committee

Chair: Ramona Albright 621-9621

Open Space Task Force

Chair: Tys Sniffen: tys@ideamountain.com 929-7746

Transportation Committee

Chair: John Barry: jackbarry99@earthlink.net 564-0225

Water Task Force

Chair: Joan Girardot: 346-5525

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