



## Protect Our Critically Important DR Process

Since 2002 the Planning Department has actively attempted to change the Discretionary Review (DR) process to “streamline” the process for developers. Current Planning Department materials promoting such change state, “Reform the DR process with both the CPC (City Planning Commission) and staff as intended beneficiaries.” For over fifty years Discretionary Review (DR) has been a critically important process utilized by San Francisco residents to request modification of projects that residents determine will have a detrimental effect on their property, the property of others, and/or the neighborhood.

The San Francisco Charter vests the Planning Commission — which Commission is created, pursuant to the Charter, to constitute the permit-granting authority of the City & County of San Francisco — with discretionary powers to review any and every permit’s potential effect upon surrounding properties and residents. In its April 2, 2009 Executive Summary, the Planning Department points to “...the Planning Commission’s authority to review Code-complying projects and take action *if the Commission finds the case demonstrates “exceptional and extraordinary circumstances.”* [emphasis added.] If, and when the seven-member Planning Commission determines that there exists “unusual and/or other-than-ordinary circumstances” related to a proposed project, the Commission can, on that basis, take Discretionary Review and impose such modifications on the project as the Commission deems desirable.

Planning Department is promoting “reform” that would cause the Commission to delegate, and thereby abrogate, its Charter-vested discretionary review powers to a newly-created Planning Department “Residential Design Team” (RDT), which would — **in the place of the Planning Commission** — “exercise discretionary review powers” and make determinations/findings regarding the merit of those issues raised in any and every DR application and have the power to deny a DR hearing before the Commission, via a “DR rejection letter” to the applicant. **The RDT would thereby function as “gatekeeper.”**

**CSFN strongly opposes hearing of DR requests by any entity or person(s) other than the Planning Commission.**

The Planning Department-proposed change to the current DR process would arbitrarily abort the long-standing benefit of DR hearing before seven Commissioners — with different expertise and interest in the exercise of sound discretion is optimized. Question has been raised regarding “tainting” of the critically important DR process if the Planning Department usurps the Commission’s role in the consideration of requests for “exercise of discretionary review powers” due to potential bias and/or conflict of interest of Planning Department staff whose salaries

are influenced by satisfied customers = project sponsors/ developers.

The Planning Department derives its planning review authority from the San Francisco Municipal Code under the Business & Tax Regulations Code, Article 1 Permit Procedures Section 26, which states as follows:

“Subject to Subsection(b) below, in the granting or denying of any permit, or revoking, or the refusing to revoke and any permit, the granting or revoking power may take into consideration the effect of the proposed business or calling upon surrounding property and upon its residents, and inhabitants thereof; and in granting or denying said permit, or revoking or refusing to revoke a permit, **may exercise its sound discretion** as to whether said permit should be granted, transferred, denied or revoked.” [Emphasis added]

This Section was first interpreted by the City Attorney’s Office in City Attorney Opinion No. 845, wherein was the caution that the authority granted to the Commission by this Section is “a sensitive discretion and one that must be exercised with the utmost restraint”. This opinion stated,

“With the great increase and concentration of population, problems have developed, and constantly are developing, which require, and will continue to require additional restrictions in respect to the use and occupation of private lands in urban/communities.”

Opinion No. 845 was reaffirmed on April 30, 1979 by City Attorney Opinion No. 79-29, wherein is stated the following: “...it should require no argument that the discretionary review powers (of the Planning Commission) not only are contemplated by the San Francisco Charter and Municipal Code but also are essential to the rational, comprehensive application of land-use regulations in the modern, densely populated urban population of San Francisco.” This Opinion points to San Francisco Charter Sections, “which empower, and impose duties on **the City Planning Commission** related to drafting, implementing and securing compliance with the City’s Master Plan [now called General Plan]. See also the City Planning Code Section 101 which sets forth as a guiding purpose of the City Planning code itself, the objective of guiding, controlling and regulating “**future growth and development in the City in accordance with Master Plan [now General Plan] of the City and County of San Francisco.**” (Emphasis added)”

This sensitive, and critically important Charter-vested discretion cannot be delegated. The Planning Commission can

delegate ministerial procedures — i.e., processing applications, reviewing projects for compliance with Codes and Residential Guidelines/Standards — **but not Charter-ordained discretionary powers.**

CSFN believes that the number of DR requests will be reduced dramatically **if**

- 1) a vigorous Pre-Application Process is insured [per Department's 4/2/09 Hearing Power Point #14];
- 2) Planning Department is engaged with potential DR-request applicants in the early steps of the development process;
- 3) internal application and design review process is improved, with RDT feedback to potential DR-request applicants insured;
- 4) story poles, or 3-d renderings or models are required now, to be utilized "to better inform neighbors and the community of the size and location of a proposed project." [language from 4/2/09 Power Point];

Many steps can and must be taken now to dramatically reduce the number of DR requests filed, **short of any delegation of the Commission's Charter-vested discretionary review powers to another entity or person(s).**

[http://www.sfgov.org/site/planning\\_index.asp?id=96759](http://www.sfgov.org/site/planning_index.asp?id=96759)

[http://www.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/planning/Coalition for SF Neighborhoods.PDF](http://www.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/planning/Coalition%20for%20SF%20Neighborhoods.PDF)

...CSFN Land Use Committee

## Resolution Concerning Health Care Principles

**Resolved** that the CSFN endorses the following principles before any new health care acute or sub-acute plan is approved:

- Healthcare services, including hospitals, clinics and other providers, should be equitably distributed throughout the city.
- Equitable and just access to healthcare services should be achieved through balanced distribution of payer mix and revenue sources throughout the city.
- Hospital planning should prioritize healthcare services that meet identifiable community health needs, complementing the public health infrastructure to support the health of the entire city, rather than boutique and destination services.
- All healthcare providers should comply with conditions laid out in a Healthcare Master Plan for the entire city, developed in a participatory process led by the City and County of San Francisco, to expand health equity as the market-based healthcare system continues to unravel during the current economic crisis.

...Marlayne Morgan (CHNA)

## St Luke's Hospital – Rethinking the Rebuild

St. Luke's Hospital is a vital part of San Francisco's healthcare delivery system. It is also the economic engine of the Valencia triangle, both as an employer and as a patron of local businesses. We can't afford to lose St. Luke's.

To date, however, the conversation about the future of St. Luke's has been at the 30,000-foot, "Blue Ribbon Panel" level, between high-level policymakers, labor, healthcare experts and community benefit organizations.

There was no neighborhood seat on the Blue Ribbon Panel, none of the Blue Ribbon Panel meetings were held at or near St. Luke's, and several of the Blue Ribbon Panel members have never been to St. Luke's. Nevertheless, the Blue Ribbon Panel sited the location of the replacement hospital.

The proposed site plan is to back the loading dock, garbage and ambulance driveways of a ~100-foot tall building up against small-scale residences that have no back yards at all. More importantly, there are no windows or doors on the César Chavez Street frontage for the first two floors; The intent is to move the main entrance from César Chavez & Valencia to tiny 27<sup>th</sup> Street – with no access to transit. This is a terrible site plan; and alternatives need to be studied.

To really save St. Luke's, it needs to become a neighborhood-serving business that invites local residents, nearly all of whom have health insurance, to look to St. Luke's as their medical home – rather than avoiding it as they do now.

Rebuilding an inviting, accessible St. Luke's that attracts neighbors from Noe, Bernal, Diamond Heights and the Mission, is good by design, and it's good for San Francisco.

... Gillian Gillett (EMIA)

## Roma Guy to Speak on Health Planning Resolution

Roma Guy, who in 2008 served on CPMC Blue Ribbon Panel (which recommended rebuilding St. Luke's Hospital), will speak in favor of the proposed health planning resolution on April 21. Ms. Guy is recently retired from the faculty of San Francisco State, College of Health and Human Services, and has served three terms on the San Francisco Public Health Commission. She currently co-chairs the Health Committee of the California Women's Agenda and is Chair of Board of Directors of Health Access (a state-wide coalition of 37 community, faith-based and union members). She also chairs AD13 (Democratic Party Advisory), for Assemblyman Tom Amminano's District, and is a member of the Coalition on Health Planning- SF.

In 2005 she was one of the 1000 women nominated worldwide for the Nobel Peace Prize.

...Marlayne Morgan (CHNA)

# CSFN Draft Minutes General Assembly Meeting March 17, 2009

1. **Call to Order.** President Gary Noguera (MPIC) brought the meeting to order at 7:05 at Northern Police Station.
  - a. *Quorum declared.* Delegates and alternates represented 23 CSFN member organizations. 5 guests signed in.
  - b. *Agenda approved.*
  - c. *Introductions.* Delegates and guests introduced themselves. Hosts Greg Scott (Pacific Heights Residents Assn, PHRA) and Hiroshi Fukuda (Richmond Community Assn, RCA) described their organizations' objectives, history, and current issues.
2. **Minutes.** The February 2009 General Assembly draft minutes were approved as printed on p 4 of the March newsletter with the following additions:

**Resolved** that the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods urges the Planning Commission to deny the Conditional Use Permit for proposed renovations to the Masonic Center. **Motion carried 20-1-2**

**Nominees to Nominating Committee:** Melinda LaValle CHNA (accepted), Kathy Devincenzi LHIA (accepted), Gerry Crowley THD (accepted), Nancy Wuerfel SPEAK (declined), Mary Harris OMI-NIA (declined), Karen Crommie CVIA (declined), Ellen Kerneghan PBNA (declined).
3. **Officers' Reports.**
  - a. **President Noguera** (MPIC)
  - b. **1<sup>st</sup> VP Clark** (RHN) No report
  - c. **2<sup>nd</sup> VP Mahan** (EDIA) Has written the letter urging the Planning Commission deny the CU Permit for the Masonic Center renovations.
  - d. **Recording Secretary Berkowitz** (EMIA) Draft minutes on p 6 of February NL. See additions, corrections to February minutes above.
  - e. **Corresponding Secretary Millet** (PBNA) No report
  - f. **Treasurer Lew** (NBN) submitted a written report. Still a few unpaid member organizations. Will phone delegates and/or officers of those associations.
4. **Committee Reports**
  - a. **Land Use & Housing:** Chair Hiroshi Fukuda (RCA) noted the Committee report is on page 6 of the March newsletter.
    - Please note article concerning Discretionary Review (DR) on page 6. • DR will be heard on April 2 (not on March 19) at the Planning Commission. • 2009 Housing Element will be presented to 2gether on March 26 • 2009 Housing Element will be presented to Eureka Valley at Rec Center • Market-Octavia funds for copying the record still welcomed.
  - b. **Water Task Force:** Chair Joan Girardot (MCIPOA) is involved in continuing fight against tiered rates. Contrast with suburban customers. Water 15% raise in rates each year for 10 years. • Sewer 13% raise for 2 years + 8% + 9% ... • No oversight body. • Third tier removed from water rates. • Three tiers still remain for sewer rates. • We need uniform volume rate. • Contract expires on June 30 with the 28 suburban customers. • SF has lowest per person water consumption; but being asked for even lower consumption while developing higher density; tens of thousands of new residences • City calls for more conservation, recycled water, ramping up ground water program (pumping from aquifer). • New contract cuts SF

## Nominating Committee Report

The current Executive Committee deserves our thanks for a job well done this past year. The Nominating Committee will propose that many of the current officers eligible to continue in their posts do so to provide continuity to CSFN. At the same time, we looked for new faces to join and give new perspectives.

At the top, Gary Noguera (MPIC) will be unable to serve as president next year for personal reasons, and so that left a big hole for us to fill. The Nominating Committee felt that we needed someone with at least a minimum of Executive Committee experience who would be willing to fill the job. Turns out, that's a very short list! After reviewing the bylaws for eligibility, we asked Judy Berkowitz (EMIA) if there was any way she would consider reprising her role as president. While she did serve three years consecutively, now that there has been a year break, she is eligible for that position again. She agreed to be nominated.

For new ideas and input: Demien Quesnel (EVPA) agreed to be nominated for Recording Secretary and Lorraine Lucas (HAIA) has agreed to the nomination of At-Large member. Balancing out the rest of the officers, the following have agreed to be nominated again in their current posts: Penny Clark (RHN) 1st Vice President, Angelique Mahan (EDIA) 2nd Vice President, Dick Millet (PBNA) Corresponding Secretary, Jim Lew (NBN) Treasurer and Sue Cauthen (NBN) At-Large member. Also Gary Noguera will be nominated to round out the final At-Large member position.

...Melinda LaValle (CHNA) Chair

### Draft Minutes

Cont'd from previous column

back to 81 million gallons / day.

- c. **Nominating:** Chair Melinda LaValle (CHNA) directed attention to the committee's written report on page 3 of the March NL. The committee will be contacting existing ExComm members, then eligible orgs' delegates, and will have their slate / recommendations prepared by April. The committee will meet late next week to finalize.
5. **Unfinished Business.** CHNA reso on p 1 of March NL will be considered at the April meeting when the GA can hear from both sides of the matter.
6. **New Business.**
7. **Program.** Zabe Bent of the SFMTA presented congestion pricing (\$3 charge for peak periods in AM and PM. Potential discounts, exceptions. [www.sfmobility.org](http://www.sfmobility.org)
8. **Adjournment.** The March CSFN General Assembly meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM.

...Judith Berkowitz (EMIA) Recording Secretary

### How to Reach Us

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**Parliamentarian:** Evelyn Wilson • [evelynwilsregparl@earthlink.net](mailto:evelynwilsregparl@earthlink.net)

# Land Use & Housing Committee Reports

## March 30

A special meeting of the CSFN Land Use & Housing Committee was convened by Chair Hiroshi Fukuda on Monday, March 30, 2009 at 5:42 p.m. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The Committee considered the following item:

DR hearing is scheduled for April 2, 2009. The DR policy has been revised but not available until March 26, 2009, it is over 50 pages of revisions. We will ask for a continuance to evaluate the changes. Major changes are two Phases. Need more time to study revisions

The next regular meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, April 13, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station located at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 P.M.

## April 13

The Regular Meeting of the CSFN Land Use & Housing Committee was convened by Chair Hiroshi Fukuda on Monday, April 13, 2009 at 5:44 p.m. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The Committee considered the following items:

1. DR Policy revised to Phase one and Phase two. Oppose revisions. Strong Pre-application process is great, but the Residential Design Team must not be able to reject DRs.
2. Certificate of Occupancy, AKA Secondary Units — need to follow at the Board of Supervisors
3. Housing Element 2009 Informational Hearing April 16, 2009 at Planning Commission.  
Planning staff will be giving another brief informational. Ask for a continuance because a preliminary draft of this section of the Housing Element is expected to be released on April 16, 2009, same day of the hearing.
4. Japantown Better Neighborhood Area Plan: financial feasibility analysis is unacceptable. no phasing of project, no merchant retention, dramatic rent increase, condo prices of \$930,000.
5. DR in Historic Preservation Area might be at risk, need to follow at Board of Supervisors.
6. Housing Element 2004: Superior Court decision has COMMANDED the City to refrain from enforcing, relying upon, approving or implementing eleven significant changes from the 1990 Residence Element i.e. increase density along transit corridors, removing 1:1 parking. Planning Department was ordered to complete the EIR by June 30, 2009.  
Need to ask for legal opinion.

The next regular meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, May 11, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station located at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

...Hiroshi Fukuda (RCA) Chairman

# Executive Committee Report

## March 25

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM by Vice President Clark. Those present were Noguera, Berkowitz, Clark, Lew, Wilson, and Mahan. Excused were Giradot, Cauthen, and Millet. Austin was unexcused absent. There was a quorum.

### Officer's Reports:

**President** Noguera had no report.

**1<sup>st</sup> VP** Clark had no report.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP** Mahan said she was continuing her outreach to members frequently absent to encourage them to attend general meetings and to get lapsed members to rejoin CSFN. Cayuga Improvement attended the last meeting since she contacted them.

**Recording Secretary** Berkowitz said she attended WTPCC meeting at which Planning Director Rahaim introduced the 2009 Housing Element and spoke of other Planning issues.

**Corresponding Secretary** Millet was in Egypt, so there was no report.

**Treasurer** Lew said he would put about half the organization's cash in a CD. He also reported that almost all member organizations had paid, with just a few still unpaid. President Noguera will phone them.

The Agenda of the April 21 General Meeting was discussed and it was decided to hold the vote on Cathedral Hill's resolution on the City's General Health Plan (listed as Unfinished Business) after the presentations by Cathedral Hill and representatives of CPMC in the meeting's program.

**Future G.A. programs:** The Bd. of Supervisors president, David Chiu, Open Space Outreach programs and Sunshine Task Force are to be considered for upcoming programs in the spring. The new Housing Element for 2009 is also to be considered for the May or June program. A decision will be made after contacting Supervisor Chiu since the board meets the same day as CSFN's general meeting. ABAG.

The excom members are not aware of any New Business at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

...Penelope Clark (RHN) Chair



### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**Land Use & Housing** • Monday 5:30PM May 11 • 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 nancenummer1@aol.com • 731-6432, R. Albright 621-9621  
**Water Task Force** • Chair Joan Girardot • 346-5525  
**Transportation** • Chair Gary Noguera • garynoguera@earthlink.net •

# Host Organizations for the April General Assembly Meeting

## Russian Hill Neighbors

Russian Hill Neighbors, established in 1981, with approximately 600 resident and merchant members, is an all-volunteer organization formed to promote a positive quality of life in our diverse neighborhood. Russian Hill is a kind of microcosm of all of San Francisco with large and small apartment buildings of varying vintages; many are rentals with others condominiums or TICs, and a wide range of single-family homes from a few grand mansions to tiny cottages tucked away behind other buildings or located on alleys. Consequently, our membership reflects the City's diversity.

As an organization, RHN sponsors social events so that neighbors can meet neighbors. We support our neighborhood parks with donations and volunteer time, and we work with the City to create new areas of beautification. Our most recent efforts have included raising funds and support for the Greening of the Broadway Tunnel area through new landscaping. I'm sure anyone traveling east on Broadway from Van Ness has noticed what a "forest" of concrete it is now. Plans have been approved by DPW, but the City's funding has been elusive in a "now you have it—now you don't," manner reflecting the City's budget problems.

Along with other close neighborhood groups, we have been working to maintain the Francisco Reservoir as Open Space/Parkland, which is its official designation. The reservoir, which has been unused for over half a century, is under control of the PUC (and its predecessor, the Water Department). Unfortunately, even though the Board of Supervisors approved the block-and-a-half area as open space, and plans for a public park were drawn up in the early 1950s, the PUC wants to sell the land at top dollar for major private development. As a result, whenever the neighbors get wind of the PUC's latest development plans, the PUC decides the land is not surplus after all. Recently, neighbors have gotten together to investigate possible avenues of funding the construction of a park, and, perhaps, forcing the PUC's hand on declaring the land surplus.

Other quality-of-life issues RHN deals with include alerting neighbors to safety (NERT) and security concerns, with regular contact with both Central and Northern police stations. We also try to deal with traffic and parking concerns, though our chronic shortage of off-street residential parking and controlling traffic on Lombard, our famous crooked street, seem to remain permanently vexing. DPT has responded by sending traffic officers on holidays and summer weekends when Lombard traffic is most gridlocked.

Neighborhood land use issues such as historic preservation and the monitoring of proposed new construction are important activities of RHN. A few years ago, we were successful in helping to gain landmark status for a wonderful group of small cottages on Filbert Street which were built for an artists' colony. More recently, due to a bureaucratic lapse by DBI, we lost an historic cottage on the 1300 block of Lombard Street. The cottage was built in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century before the street was graded, so a pedestrian bridge was built from the sidewalk to the new front door on the second floor. It is an unfortunate loss since this block contains a number of pre-earthquake buildings to which this was a significant contributor.

As an organization, RHN generally remains neutral on new

## Telegraph Hill Dwellers

Telegraph Hill Dwellers was formed in 1954 and now has more than 850 members. During its 5 decades, it has led or participated in many efforts without which Telegraph Hill and North Beach would be greatly different from what they are today. Among these efforts are the following:

- Enactment of the **40' height limit** on the south (downtown) side of Telegraph Hill, following a developer's proposal in 1956 to build an eleven-story apartment house near the corner of Montgomery and Union. Soon thereafter, this 40' height limit was extended north to the Embarcadero, to prevent construction of waterfront complexes similar to the Fontana Apartments near Aquatic Park.
- Scuttling of the plan to extend the **Embarcadero Freeway** north past Broadway along the eastern (Bay) side of Telegraph Hill, as part of a proposed over-water bridge between San Francisco and Tiburon which would have had an exit-ramp at Stockton and Francisco.
- Abandonment of the scheme to construct a **parking garage under Washington Square Park**, portions of which would have been visible at street-level. This scheme, which resurfaced once again in 1998, will hopefully become less likely to occur now that the Park is designated a City Landmark.
- Enactment of **historic district** legislation for both Telegraph Hill and the Northeast Waterfront, in the former case going far to preserve the largest concentration of pre-Earthquake residential dwellings in San Francisco.
- Enactment of the **North Beach Commercial District**, designed to preserve North Beach's special nature and stem the proliferation of banks and other commercial uses threatening to alter permanently the businesses in North Beach.
- **Greening of the hill**, undertaken in celebration of THD's fortieth anniversary, with the planting of between 300 and 400 trees all over the Hill, as requested by property owners and residents, and in conjunction with Friends of the Urban Forest.
- Restoration and enhancement of **Pioneer Park and Coit Tower**, following City plans to surround the park with a chain-link fence; this fine example of a private-public partnership is still ongoing.

**Imagine!** A North Beach and Telegraph Hill dotted with high-rises, surrounded by a freeway, hardly green at all, its historic dwellings gone or diminished, and North Beach an extension of downtown. Efforts to avoid these consequences have been worthwhile and even essential.

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### RHN

*Cont'd from previous column*

construction projects unless we feel there would be a significant negative impact on the neighborhood. A recent project which caught our attention was a proposed condominium building on the southeast corner of Van Ness and Filbert, where the developer wanted to have a 130' tower to climb up the hill along Filbert, even though this part of Van Ness is zoned with a 65' height limit. Lots of talk of a "green" building could not disguise the fact that it was vastly out of scale and would set a precedent for up-zoning the north end of Van Ness. The most recent proposal is for a 65' building, though with the current economic climate it is not known whether this project will move forward.

RHN communicates with its members through two general meeting a year, periodic newsletters, email "blasts," and postcards with upcoming events, as well as its website, rhn.org. Last year our board voted on the following mission statement to cover our many activities: "Russian Hill Neighbors is a voice for residents and merchants to preserve and advance neighborhood character and quality of life through collaboration, volunteerism, and celebration of community."

## Why You Should Consider Becoming a San Francisco Civil Grand Juror

As I awaited my turn to make a brief presentation about the SF Civil Grand Jury at the CSFN February meeting and listened to the evening's hosts enumerate vital concerns in their neighborhoods, I realized with one of those cartoon bolts of lightning how much the Jury and neighborhood groups complement each other! Be it unmarked, lethal intersections or unresponsive public servants, what individual associations attempt to resolve seem to be perfect matches to the issues grand juries regularly investigate, but for the entire community instead of one segment.

The state constitution mandates that each of the 58 counties seat a "regular" grand jury each year, with the responsibility to act as the people's watchdog over elected and appointed officials, boards, commissions, agencies, departments, and property.

Grand juries meet weekly but generally divide into smaller units to perform their investigations. After a lot of work interviewing, reviewing documents, making on-site visits, the jury issues a report in the form of background, findings, and recommendations, which is submitted to the Board of Supervisors, mayor, and the subjects of the report. Jurors swear to protect "whistle-blowers'" identities forever.

Those responsible for the matters the jury has investigated and reported upon must respond in detail, stating how and when they will implement the recommendations or why they reject them.

"Enforcement" is through the power of the people, the press, subsequent jurors' optional but frequent "continuity committees," and the spotlight shined by the SF Chapter of the California Grand Jurors' Association.

I felt like I was back in graduate school when I served, even though I didn't have the benefit of the two-day training seminars CGJA now offers statewide to all new jurors. It was an exhilarating exercise in democracy at its most personal and rewarding. I found my service on the board of my own neighborhood association greatly enhanced my ability to serve on the jury and my jury service has made me a better neighborhood activist.

To learn more about the jury, read reports and responses going back to the mid-nineties, or download an application: [http://www.sfgov.org/site/courts\\_page.asp?id=3680](http://www.sfgov.org/site/courts_page.asp?id=3680)

Jurors receive a stipend of \$15 per meeting.

If you're interested, please apply promptly to have a chance of getting on the forthcoming (July 1 to June 30) jury.

If I may answer any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me.

...Serena Bardell, '96-7 SF Grand Jury & Director,  
California Grand Jurors' Association ([cgja.org](http://cgja.org)) and its  
San Francisco Chapter. ([sbardell@aol.com](mailto:sbardell@aol.com)).  
Submitted by Gary Noguera (MPIC)

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Friends of the Music Concourse  
Golden Gate Heights Neighborhood Assn  
Greater Geary Blvd Merchants & Property Owners Assn  
Laurel Heights Improvement Assn  
Miraloma Park Improvement Club  
Mission Housing Development Corp  
OMI Neighbors in Action  
Pacific Heights Residents Assn  
Panhandle Residents Org Stanyan Fulton (PROSF)  
Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Assn  
Richmond Community Assn  
Russian Hill Neighbors  
Sunset Heights Assn of Responsible People (SHARP)  
Sunset Parkside Education & Action Cmte (SPEAK)  
Telegraph Hill Dwellers  
West of Twin Peaks Central Council  
Hon Mike Antonini     Kathryn Devincenzi, Attorney  
John Bardis             Mary C & Al Harris  
Judith Berkowitz     Judy Junghans  
Sue Cauthen             Hon Fiona Ma  
Penny Clark             Dick Millet  
Sheryl Connell         Gary Noguera

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### Hosting Schedule

- April** • Russian Hill Neighbors — RHN  
Telegraph Hill Dwellers — THD
- May** • Sunset Heights Assn of Responsible People — SHARP  
Twin Peaks Cncil & Open Space Cnservancy — TPC&OPC
- June** • Twin Peaks Improvement Assn — TPIA  
Cathedral Hill Neighbors Assn — CHNA
- July** • Buena Vista Neighborhood Assn — BVNA  
Sunset Parkside Education & Action Committee — SPEAK

<b>AGENDA</b>	
<b>General Assembly Meeting</b>	
<b>April 21, 2009</b>	
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. Russian Hill Neighbors — RHN 2. Telegraph Hill Dwellers — THD
7:10	III. Approval of March 2009 Minutes
7:15	IV. Officers' Reports A. President B. Vice Presidents C. Secretaries D. Treasurer
7:20	V. Committee Action Items — written reports in Newsletter A. Land Use & Housing B. Open Space C. Water Task Force D. Transportation E. Government & Elections
7:40	VI. Special Order of Business — Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor
7:50	VII. New Business
8:00	VIII. Program: Health Care General Plan: Cathedral Hill & CPMC Roma Guy speaking for CHNA. Geoffrey
8:45	IX. Unfinished Business: Vote on Cathedral Hill resolution re Med Center
9:00	X. Adjournment

*CSFN meets the third Tuesday of 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 Guest Register**

**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 [sfberk@mac.com](mailto:sfberk@mac.com)  
Either inline text or an attached document can be used.  
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 may receive the newsletter without charge. Subscription: Members/\$10, Nonmembers/\$15.

*Coalition for SF Neighborhoods  
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**ACTION ITEMS**  
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**Next Meeting**  
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April 21

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