



## CSFN Draft Minutes: General Assembly Meeting August 18, 2009

1. **Call to Order.** President Judith Berkowitz (EMIA) brought the meeting to order at 7:05 pm at Northern Police Station.
  - a) *Quorum declared.* Delegates and alternates representing 16 CSFN member organizations, 7 guests and 1 representative of the California State Assembly attended.
2. **Short Announcement:** Kristine Magnuson of The Public Press spoke. There was comment from the Assembly.
3. **Introductions.** Delegates and guests introduced themselves. Hosts Sharon Eberhardt (CIA) and David Crommie (CVIA) described their organizations' objectives, history, and current issues.
4. **Minutes.** The July 2009 General Assembly draft minutes was approved as printed on p 1 of the August 2009 newsletter.
5. **Officers' Reports.**
  - a) **President Berkowitz (EMIA) discussed:**
    - i. AB 1272 stalled in Senate committees
    - ii. Request to planning department for tracking changes between 2004 & 2009 Housing Element
    - iii. Requested assembly delegates and members to sign up for committees
  - b) **1st VP Clark (RHN)**
  - c) **2nd VP Mahan (EDIA)**
  - d) **Recording Secretary Quesnel (EVPA)**
  - e) **Corresponding Secretary Millet (PBNA):** mail distributed
  - f) **Treasurer Lew (NBN)**
6. **Committee Reports**
  - a) **Land Use & Housing:** Chair Hiroshi Fukuda (RCA) discussed the following issues:
    - i. Universal Planning Notification
    - ii. Japantown Area Plan
    - iii. Market/Octavia Plan: There was discussion regarding the funding of Mary Miles' lawsuit
    - iv. Park Merced Plan
    - v. Bike Plan
    - vi. DR reform
  - b) **Water Task Force:** Chair Girardot (MCIPOA) came up dry!
  - c) **Transportation:** Chair Noguera (MPIC) discussed:
    - i. Plea for more committee members
    - ii. Involvement in MTA discussion of disabled placards and parking policies
  - d) **Bylaws:** Chair Wilson (SPEAK)
  - e) **Open Space:** Chair Wuerfel (SPEAK)
  - f) **Gov't & Elections:** Chair LaValle (CHNA)
7. **Unfinished Business.**
8. **New Business.** Motion to appropriate \$1000 to Mary Miles to finish photocopying the record in the Market/Octavia lawsuit.  
AYE: 14, NAY: 0, Abstain 0  
Motion passed
9. **Program. November 2009 Ballot measures.** Lorraine Lucas (HAIA) Acting Chair, Gov't & Elections Committee.
  - Prop A: Budget Process**  
Greg Wagner of the Mayor's Office presented comments in favor
  - Prop B: Board of Supervisors Aides**  
Howard Epstein spoke in opposition
  - Prop C: Candlestick Park Naming Rights**  
Howard Epstein spoke in support  
Milo Hanke and Leigh Ann Boughman of San Francisco Beautiful spoke in opposition
  - Prop D: Mid-Market Special Sign District**  
Dee Dee Workman [former E.D. of S.F. Beautiful] spoke in favor  
Leigh Ann Boughman [E.D. of S.F. Beautiful] spoke in opposition
  - Prop E: Advertisements on City Property**  
Milo Hanke of San Francisco Beautiful spoke in support
10. **Closed Assembly discussion** (voting delegates and members of member orgs only)
11. **Notes on Propositions**
  - Prop A: Budget Process — Govt & Elections Cmte recommended support**  
AYE: 10, NAY: 4, Abstain: 0  
Motion carried  
**CSFN supports passage of Prop A**
  - Prop B: Board of Supervisors Aides — G&E Cmte recommended opposition**  
AYE: 14, NAY: 0, Abstain 0  
Motion carried  
**CSFN opposes passage of Prop B**
  - Prop C: Candlestick Park Naming Rights — G&E Cmte recommended support**  
AYE: 10, NAY: 4, Abstain: 0  
Motion carried  
**CSFN supports passage of Prop C**
  - Prop D: Mid-Market Special Sign District — G&E Cmte recommended support**  
AYE: 2, NAY: 12, Abstain: 0  
Motion failed  
**CSFN takes no position on Prop D**
  - Prop E: Advertisements on City Property — G&E Cmte recommended opposition**  
AYE: 4, NAY: 8, Abstain: 1  
Motion failed  
**CSFN takes no position on Prop E**  
**Floor motion to support Prop E**  
AYE: 7, NAY: 5, Abstain: 2  
Motion failed
12. **Adjournment.** The August 2009 CSFN General Assembly meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM in Memory of Bud Wilson.

...Demian Quesnel (EVPA) Recording Secretary

# Lt. Col. Elbert BUD WILSON, USAF, Ret. – IN MEMORIAM

November 20, 1922 – September 23, 2009

On July 23, 2009 Elbert (Bud) Wilson passed from this mortal life. Throughout his life, Bud dedicated himself to service. First he served his country in the air force; and in his retirement years, he devoted himself to his community, to veterans' affairs and animal rights issues.

Bud served as president of the Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association (GWPNA) twice, once in the 1980s and again in the 2000s. For many years he was the GWPNA delegate to the West of Twin Peaks Central Council, the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, and the Merced Lake Task Force.

Over the years Bud Wilson partnered with city officials in projects to benefit the West Portal neighborhood, animal rights and veteran affairs. He made lasting friends. On July 28 and 29, among the many of those friends who attended the vigil and memorial service at St. Brendan's Catholic Church were former mayor Frank Jordan, former District 7 Supervisor Tony Hall, District 7 Supervisor Sean Elsbernd, Mike Farrah of the Mayor's Office, and State Senator Leland Yee. Supervisor Tony Hall also sang at his vigil, including the song, *Dixieland*, in honor of his southern roots. He was buried at the Dixon Military Cemetery with military honors where his fellow veterans paid their final tribute to their fallen comrade.

Upon graduating from high school, Bud joined the air force and won his pilot's wings in 1944. He piloted the famous P-38 fighter plane in World War II in the Pacific theatre, participating in the retaking of the Philippines from the Japanese army. For the next 24 years, Bud served during two more conflicts: the Korean and Vietnam Wars. One of his assignments after World War II was aide to General Archie Olds with whom he toured the Orient and met Claire Chenault and Chiang Kai Shek. He concluded his air force career with an assignment in the Pentagon. During his military career, he received 17 medals and commendations.

After his military career ended, Bud became an entrepreneur, selling and repairing antique clocks in San Francisco. When he met a lovely woman named June Ayling, his bachelor days ended also. In 1984, he and June bought a house on Ulloa Street intending to retire together. Bud looked forward to continuing his passion of antique clocks as a hobby.

Bud's soon found out that his fighting days were not over. By 1987 he became enmeshed in a neighborhood battle. A developer planned a five-story, 350 foot wide, 60,000 square foot, 150 unit residential care facility on the southwest side of Edgehill Mountain, a half block from his house. Aside from the obvious objections to increased traffic, noise, and congestion in a single family home neighborhood, a more sinister aspect of the project emerged. The site was at the foot of an abandoned quarry that had operated unregulated for years and had a long history of landslides. To house vulnerable seniors in this site was unacceptable to Bud and his neighbors.

Bud's fighting spirit and leadership qualities erupted to the surface. Bud recruited two of his neighbors to help in the fight: a lawyer who lived on Ulloa Street, and a geotechnical

engineer, who lived on Edgehill Mountain. He also recruited hundreds of his neighbors and the Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association to join in the fray.

Because of inconsistencies between the neighborhood's geotechnical engineer findings and the findings of the developers' geotechnical engineer, the developer was ordered to conduct an EIR on August 3, 1989. The neighbors won their battle when the developer opted to withdraw from the project.

A more suitable development of 13 single family homes did not draw opposition from neighborhood and GWPNA because they recognized that despite the slide hazard of the site, some development would occur at the site.

But the 13 single family home project would come to grief on January 7, 1997. Bud and his supporters would be vindicated for blocking the residential care facility when a massive landslide hurtled down onto 10 of the completed houses piling debris high against the houses. The occupants of the homes had to vacate their homes for several months until the debris could be cleared away, their homes repaired, and the hill stabilized. The retirement home project plans showed buildings built up to the Edgehill Mountain slope. An estimated fourth of the residential care facility would have been buried under debris. The single family homes escaped more severe damage because the houses were set back from the slope by a wide access road.

Bud was elected president of Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association in 1989. He became an expert on neighborhood and commercial zoning codes and served on many committees working on quality of life issues in West Portal.

There was a never a good cause that Bud didn't like. He supported his wife June in advocating animal rights. June has served on the San Francisco Animal Welfare Commission. Since 2006, each year Bud and June have organized a group of service and military dogs and their handlers to join the Veterans Memorial Day parade to honor these canine heroes.

Ten years ago, Bud was appointed to the Veterans Affair Commission by the Board of Supervisors and served as president in 2006–2007. He joined the fight to have the Battleship USS Iowa established as a museum berthed in the San Francisco Bay. But this was a fight that Bud would lose when Mare Island was chosen as the site instead.

Bud was born in Miami, Florida. His maternal grandmother was a full-blooded Cherokee Indian. He was immensely proud of his Indian heritage and requested that he be buried with the Indian blanket his Cherokee Indian grandmother had given him when he was a child. His other request was that he be buried in a national cemetery in company with his fellow soldiers. Bud was no diamond in the rough. Like a cut diamond, he had many facets and, like a cut diamond, his many facets caused him to shine brilliantly in his lifetime. His many friends will miss his intelligence, wisdom, humor, dedication and his fighting spirit.

...Rae Doyle (GWPNA)

# Land Use & Housing Committee Report

**September 7, 2009**

All neighborhood activists: we need to support Mary Miles in her effort to overturn the flawed Market Octavia Better Neighborhood Area Plan. We need to support any and all pro bono attorneys in their efforts to litigate against the City especially in the area of land use.

The Planning Department and the City Attorney's Office has disregarded the State Supreme Court's decision to invalidate the 2004 Housing Element and has passed both the Market Octavia Better Neighborhood Area Plan and the Eastern Neighborhood Better Neighborhood Area Plan and has approved new construction based on those Area plans. The following is taken from the City's Notice of Preparation for the Housing Element, "the San Francisco Superior Court ordered the City to refrain from enforcing, relying upon, approving or implementing policies and objectives identified as changes from the 1990 Residence Element, together with their accompanying interpreting text and implementation actions until an EIR is prepared and certified for the 2004 Housing Element."

It is deplorable when the citizens of San Francisco or any city must take legal action to overturn illegal actions by the any city department. If we don't support Mary Miles, can we expect any other attorney to step forward and correct an injustice? Please make out a check to Mary Miles and mail it to Jim Lew at the CSFN PO Box!

...*Hiroshi Fukuda (RCA) Chair*

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## Update on Assembly Bill 1272

Unfortunately AB 1272, the bill that threatens local government control over local land use issues and that also would exempt helipads from an Environmental Impact Report is still a huge threat. After author State Assemblymember Jerry Hill withdrew it from both the Senate Local Government Committee and the Senate Environmental Committee, it got assigned to the Senate Health Committee to be heard sometime after December 2009.

This will be a harder committee to educate because of the knee jerk reaction along the hackneyed lines of "medical helicopters save babies." Now that this is a state issue, any of your friends or family in California can sign our online petition. Getting signatures, plus planning for our October fundraiser are our current priorities. We need the money to rehire the lobbyist in the fall so that he can educate the Health senators and other interested parties.

...*Karen Cliffe (EMIA)*

# Executive Committee Report

**August 28, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Vice President Clark. Those present were Judy Berkowitz, Penelope Clark, Jim Lew, Lorraine Lucas, Angelique Mahan, Dick Millet and Gary Noguera. Notified absence: Demian Quesnel. Absent: Sue Cauthen and Evelyn Wilson. There was a quorum.

## Officer's Reports:

**President Berkowitz** noted a recent article in Forbes Magazine which reported that San Francisco has the second highest residential vacancy rate in the country—exceeded only by Kansas City. The push for greater density appears to be more revenue driven than need driven, particularly since the City has been unable to figure out how to meet the real need for affordable housing.

**First VP Clark** reported that the Discretionary Review legislation allowing the Planning Department to rule on whether a DR meets the criteria of "exceptional and extraordinary" circumstances, which would allow it to be heard before the Planning Commission, has been assigned to the supervisor's Land Use Committee under the 30 day rule. It could be heard by that committee any time after September 11. Anyone interested in speaking before the Committee on the subject is advised to check their upcoming agendas.

**Second VP Mahan** attended a recent NAACP meeting featuring new **Police Chief George Gascon**. The new chief said he would like to set up a Blue Ribbon Commission on community policing. VP Mahan said she hoped it would include neighborhood watch programs and emphasis on the PAL programs with police participation rather than delegating them to non-profit groups. After a brief discussion, everyone agreed that Chief Gascon should be asked to come and speak to the CSFN members at an upcoming general meeting.

**Corresponding Secretary Millet** reported that the Chinatown subway project is slated to begin in 2010, with a projected completion in 2018. He also said that Portrero Hill is gaining a mini park through the Better Streets Program. Another discussion was held on San Francisco **Assessor Ting's** advocacy for changing the Proposition 13 limitations on commercial property. Of particular interest was how this might affect residential rental and small neighborhood commercial property. Consequently, Excom members agreed that Assessor Ting also be asked to address the General Assembly at a meeting this fall. Police Chief Gascon will be given the choice of the September or October meetings, and it is hoped that Assessor Ting will be available for either one. The November General Assembly meeting will feature a wrap-up on the fall election.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM.

...*Penelope Clark (RHN) Chair*

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**Land Use & Housing** • Monday 5:30PM Sept 14 • 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, Ramona Albright 621-9621  
**Water Task Force** • Chair Joan Girardot • 346-5525  
**Transportation** • Chair Gary Noguera • garynoguera@earthlink.net

## **SFMTA Requests Public Input on Proposals to Change Parking Meter Hours and Handicapped Parking Policies**

It's Back! The San Francisco Municipal Transit Authority (SFMTA) is again proposing to extend parking meter hours city-wide. Also on the table is a proposal to reform handicap parking policies by levying a charge on handicap placards and making them effective only in front of blue curbs and in handicap spaces in off-street parking lots.

On Monday August 17, Jay Primus and Mariana Parreirus of SFMTA sought the opinions and views of the two proposals from neighborhood representatives of the West of Twin Peaks Central Council, the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, Marina Community Association, and Greater West Portal Neighborhood Association. The objectives of the two proposals were listed in the following order:

- Increase parking availability
- Reduce circling of vehicles
- Encourage walking, biking and public transit use
- Improve traffic flow
- Improve business vitality
- Provide a small increase in parking revenue

Two options were presented for extending meter hours. One option proposed activating meters citywide on Sunday from 11:00 am to 6:00 pm and extending the current Monday through Saturday hours of 9:00 am to 6:00 pm to 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. Also, in areas where SFMTA finds it warranted, extend the meter hours to midnight. The second option has the same proposals but would extend Monday through Saturday hours to 10:00 pm and Sundays to 9:00 pm.

Attendee Brad Andersen of the Marina Community Association was concerned about why the proposal was presented to the neighborhood representatives on the eve of the deadline. Jay Primus had stated that the proposal would be presented to the SFMTA management on Friday August 21. All neighborhood representatives present also questioned the statements by the SFMTA that representatives from twenty organizations had signed off on the proposal. The SFMTA folks refused to provide a list of who had approved, but listed one person from the San Francisco

Chamber of Commerce. Anderson said that in the past the Marina Community Association had been polled, and 80% of its members were opposed to putting meters in the Marina Green and opposed to extending the meter times. All representatives present declared that their organizations are opposed to extending meter times.

SFMTA representatives presented data indicating increasing abuse of handicap placards. They presented a graph charting the increase of blue placards from 1997 to 2008 in relation to the increase in population in San Francisco. In the eleven years, the population rose 15 percent while the number of placards issued rose 140%. The city has 25,000 metered parking spaces and there are 60,000 placards issued. Cards can be obtained by a note written by a doctor, a nurse, or a nurse practitioner. Jay Primus pointed out the financial incentive for abuse. A commuter could save \$7000 in a year with a handicap placard. In a survey in January 2004, 18% of metered spaces were occupied by cards with handicap placards.

The SFMTA proposes to extend the number of blue curbs spaces in the city, and not honor the placards in any metered parking space. However, they would offer discounted "smart cards" to low-income disabled persons. Some of their proposals would require changes to state law.

The SFMTA has been studying the city's parking issues for five years. They estimate that the change in meters will generate from 2 to 3 million dollars a year. When they were presented before the Board of Supervisors during budget discussions in April, the Board suggested they justify the extension of meter times. The August 17 meeting with representatives from neighborhood groups was part of the process to justify the parking meter extension and handicap placard reforms. They will present the plans to the SFMTA Board in September, and if approved, they can present it to the Board of Supervisors for legislation in the summer of 2010.

The SFMTA is seeking opinions and views from the neighbors about the two proposals. These are the people to contact: Nathaniel Ford, SFMTA Executive Director: 701-4720, [Nathaniel.Ford@sfgov.org](mailto:Nathaniel.Ford@sfgov.org); Jay Primus, SFMTA Director of SFPARK, 701-5413, [Jay.Primus@sfmta.com](mailto:Jay.Primus@sfmta.com)

...Rae Doyle (GWPNA)

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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



**Special thanks to Office Depot for photocopying services!**

**Housing Element 2004 and 2009  
Environmental Impact Report (EIR)  
Notice of Preparation (NOP)**

A public scoping will be held to receive oral comments concerning the scope of the EIR.

**6:30 – 8:00 PM**

**Wednesday, September 30**

**Suite 400, 1650 Mission Street**

Written comments will also be accepted at this meeting and until the close of business on

**October 5, 2009.**

Written comments should be sent to

**Bill.Wycko@sfgov.org**

**Bill Wycko, San Francisco Planning Department  
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400  
San Francisco CA 94103**

It is interesting that the City knows what type of housing is needed, but continues to build market rate housing that only 11% of the residents can afford. Middle-income housing continues to be in short supply and middle-income families cannot afford to purchase a home in San Francisco, the prime example: Supervisor Chris Daly!

The City continues to decrease parking while promoting Muni, car share, biking, and hiking. The problem is that Muni is under-funded, not dependable, and is not very good north to south. Many residents use Muni to commute to work, but need an automobile for shopping, appointments, kids' activities, weekend trips, etc. Why does City Hall reserve all those parking spaces for City officials; should they not set an example?

There is plenty of material in the Draft 2009 Housing Element that needs to be looked at in the EIR. Come tell what you think needs to be included!

Notice of Preparation:

<http://www.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/planning/2007.1275E-San%20Francisco%202004%20and%202009%20Housing%20Element%20NOP.pdf>

Draft Housing Element 2009:

<http://housingelement2009.sfplanning.org/>

**Hosting Schedule**

- Sept** • Dolores Heights Improvement Club — DHIC  
East Mission Improvement Assn — EMIA
- Oct** • Cow Hollow Assn — CHA  
Diamond Heights Community Assn — DHCA
- Nov** • Ewing Terrace Neighborhood Assn — ETNA  
Fair Oaks Community Coalition — FOCC

**How to Reach Us**

**President:** Judith Berkowitz • sfjberk@mac.com • 824-0617  
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**Recording Secretary:** Demian Quesnel • dquesnel@usa.net  
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**Member-at-Large:** Lorraine Lucas • wozopozo@pacbell.net  
**Member-at-Large:** Gary Noguera • garynoguera@earthlink.net  
**Parliamentarian:** Evelyn Wilson • evelynwilsregparl@earthlink.net

<b>AGENDA</b>	
<b>General Assembly Meeting</b>	
<b>September 15, 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. Dolores Heights Improvement Club — DHIC 2. East Mission Improvement Assn — EMIA
7:10	III. Approval of August 2009 Minutes
7:15	IV. Officers' Reports A. President B. Vice Presidents C. Secretaries D. Treasurer
7:25	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. Unfinished Business
7:45	VII. New Business
7:50	VIII. Program: Police Chief George Gascón
	IX. 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 [sfiberk@mac.com](mailto:sfiberk@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 two copies of the newsletter without charge. Subscription: Members \$10, Nonmembers \$15.

*Coalition for SF Neighborhoods  
P.O. Box 320098 San Francisco 94132*

**Next Meeting**  
Tuesday  
Sept 15

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