



CSFN Annual Dinner!



The **CSFN General Assembly** meetings are on the third Tuesday of each month (except December) from 6:30PM to approximately 10:00PM (usually they are shorter; very occasionally longer). The actual dates are:

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| January 17 | May 15 | September 18 |
| February 21 | June 19 | October 16 |
| March 20 | July 17 | November 20 |
| April 17 | August 21 | (December 18
Annual Dinner) |

The **CSFN Executive Committee** (ExComm) meetings are usually on the Wednesday 8 days after the General Assembly meeting (except for November when it's 15 days later so as not to conflict with Thanksgiving). The meetings begin at 5:30PM and usually end before 7:30PM. The actual dates are:

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| January 25 | May 23 | September 26 |
| February 29 | June 27 | October 24 |
| March 28 | July 25 | November 28 |
| April 25 | August 29 | |

CSFN's Worker Bees: Colony Collapse Disorder...?

According to the CSFN website, the original intent of the organization which started with PAR in 1972 was to allay the fears of neighborhood residents about the changes to the Planning Code (PC) on height and bulk and over various other community issues that frustrated residents. Today, PAR spun off but we have an impressive 40+ representation of neighborhoods all very concerned about numerous changes to the PC, some of which have the potential to impact Citywide. We have seen and fought changes to the various elements of the General Plan such as the Housing Element and the Recreation and Open Space Element which has a new revision forthcoming along with an implementation plan.

All these changes require people to follow up, research and do the physical labor. A few CSFN representatives work on these projects and others are nowhere to be seen. The committee members are all supposed to do the work, but I think we need the entire organization to work. To be an effective group, we need everyone to read, analyze, summarize pieces of legislation and submit comments on issues that will affect our communities negatively and go to City Hall to convince those in power. We all need to put in our two cents' worth to protect our neighborhoods. That was the whole intent of CSFN.

So during this short holiday respite from the myriad issues that Planning Commission puts on their weekly agendas, I have been contemplating this need for more people within Coalition to do more of the hands-on work. It is very discouraging and aggravating to have only a few people trying to study, investigate and present arguments before the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors when only the same few end up doing the actual grunt work with no time off. Calls for support do not result in any additional volunteers. If nobody wants to help pitch in to work, why do we bother? To be an effective army, we need troops at the front lines. We need worker bees.

Over the holidays, I watched an interesting story on television about an SFSU professor who discovered worker bees being affected by some sort of parasitic fly larvae and how this may be contributing to the mystery of colony collapse disorder in honeybees. Then for whatever strange twist of my thought processes, at that moment, I thought about the Coalition. If we are to be a strong and respected organization representing all the many neighborhoods in the City, more people need to do more of the work rather than leave the work to just a few who only have so many hours in a day and so much life energy left to do the job.

One solution to this problem is that if we do not get at least 3–6 volunteers, or whatever number of folks is deemed needed for a project, we start drawing names and these people would have to go to their associations to recruit people to do some of the work. In this way,

there will be a steady supply of new energy to work on projects; otherwise, the few people who do any of the work on committees will never get any time off, will get burned out, and will not be working towards the end goal of forming a strong organization with super people who are passionate about their neighborhoods and about the features of those areas that they each will spend a block of time working on resolving a particular issue. I have not seen this happening within the Coalition for at least the past year. And frankly, I think the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors get bored with the same CSFN people.

I find that it is even difficult to get some more of the CSFN people to show up to support the people who have been working on the projects. If you cannot help out, maybe your relatives or friends can help with paperwork or grunt work. The historic beginning to the formation of the Coalition can go out in a whimper via a colony collapse disorder when there are no volunteers to help. And I think City Hall will be very pleased at the dissolution of the CSFN because nobody will be around to guard the hive.

How many of you know about Supervisor David Chiu's ordinance on Planning Code changes introduced in May 2011, heard in October 2011 and again on December 15, 2011 which will change some parts of Planning Code that will affect neighborhoods Citywide? I was told I misunderstand the implications of what I read such as under Sec. 207(h), but I do not think so. This ordinance is going to be passed later this January/February 2012.

I need you all to look seriously at it. Look at the proposed powers and waivers of the Zoning Administrator on open space, rear yard requirement and group housing (in all districts – coming next door to you?). I have already said my say on this and it is very strongly urged that the rest of you read, understand, speak to and write to the Planning Commission on Board of Supervisors File No. 2011.0532T. <http://commissions.sfplanning.org/cpcpackets/2011.0532Tc1.pdf>

I already brought it up in Land Use Committee and spoke on it at the December 15, 2011 Planning Commission. I am afraid they will pass it.

I think this and other issues are too important for us to sit idly by assuming that somebody else will do the work. We need to get to work. This CSFN is not a social organization but one that should be working on the issues. I ask everyone to help those working on these issues for the sake of all of our neighborhoods or at least say something at the Planning Commission. No comment means you agree.

If any of you have better ideas on getting more worker bees to keep our colony alive, please let us all know. Thank you for reading this.

...Rose Hillson (JPIA)

CSFN Draft Minutes: General Assembly Meeting November 15

1. **Call to Order.** President Judith Berkowitz brought the meeting to order at 7:00 at Northern Police Station.
 - a. *Quorum declared.* Delegates and alternates represented 20 CSFN member organizations. 7 guests signed in.
 - b. *Agenda approved.*
 - c. *Introductions.* Delegates and guests introduced themselves. Hosts Patty DeVlieg, Excelsior District Improvement Assoc (EDIA) and Rich Worner, Jordan Park Improvement Assoc (JPIA) described their organizations' objectives, history, and current issues.
2. **Minutes.** The October General Assembly draft minutes were approved as printed on p 3 of the November newsletter.
3. **Officers' Reports.**
 - a. **President Berkowitz** (EMIA) Gave a report regarding the election outcomes in regard to CSFN and thanked the donor who helped make the slate card a reality. CSFN was able to produce a slate card using Ace Mailing. It was sent out to targeted precincts. CSFN's slate won 2 of its 3 endorsed positions. • There was no SaveMuniSF report to submit (it didn't meet). • She will make a CSFN Facebook Group. • The CSFN Annual Banquet will be held December 20th, at Patio Español. Melissa Griffin will be the Featured Speaker.
 - b. **1st VP Clark** (RHN) **Executive Committee unanimously recommended to the General Assembly that CSFN add our name to the SF Beautiful Lawsuit regarding AT&T boxes.**
Motion unanimously approved 17 - 0 - 3
 - c. **2nd VP Mahan** (OMMRA)
 - d. **Recording Secretary Mahan** (OMMRA) See Item 2 above.
 - e. **Corresponding Secretary Millet** (PBNA)
 - f. **Treasurer Lew** (NBN) submitted a written report.
4. **Committee Reports**
 - a. *Open Space:* Kathy Howard (SPEAK)
 - b. *Transportation* Chair Gary Noguera (MPIC)
 - c. *Bylaws:* Chair Evelyn Wilson (SPEAK). Bylaws Committee Proposed Amendment:

ARTICLE VII. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS
(Current reading)

- I. Legal Suit Initiation and Withdrawal
 1. A motion to initiate a suit or to discontinue an existing suit shall be made at a meeting prior to the one at which a vote is to be taken.
 2. The support of a minimum of one-half of the member organizations and at least two-thirds of those voting is required for adoption. The vote shall be taken by roll call and presentation of a statement of approval from the member organizations shall be submitted on organization stationery.

ARTICLE VII. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS
(Proposed wording if amended)

- I. Legal Suit Initiation, Joining and Withdrawal.
 1. Unless an emergency is declared, a motion to initiate or to join a suit or to discontinue an existing suit shall be made at a meeting prior to the one at which a vote is to be taken.
 2. The support of a minimum one-third of the member organizations, and at least two-thirds of those voting is required for adoption. The vote shall be taken by roll call.
 3. The vote shall be final unless within 5 days of the vote one or more organizations which has supported the proposal withdraws its affirmative vote by letter signed by the organization president on organization stationery sent to the CSFN president, and the remaining affirmative votes fail to meet the minimum requirement that one third of the member organizations have supported the measure.
 - d. *Land Use & Housing:* Chair Hiroshi Fukuda (RCA) Planning Commission hearing to address Historic Preservation proposed by Supervisor Scott Wiener was postponed until December 8th. The task force working on the R.O.S.E. is currently working to consolidate reports to have a new draft prepared for deadline of December 12.
 - e. *Water Task Force:* Chair Joan Girardot (MCI& POA); gave extensive report
7. **Program.** Post Election Review and Analysis
Presenters: Chris Bowman and David Lee
8. **Adjournment.** The November CSFN General Assembly meeting was adjourned at 9:25PM.
...*Angelique Mahan (OMMRA) Acting Recording Secretary*

How to Reach Us

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Treasurer: Jim Lew • emtjal@sbcglobal.net
Member-at-Large: Rose Hillson • gumby5@att.net
Member-at-Large: Lorraine Lucas • wozopozo@pacbell.net
Parliamentarian: Evelyn Wilson • evelynwilsregparl@earthlink.net

Redistricting Task Force

The Redistricting Task Force continues to meet. You may attend any of the meetings— not just the one in your district.

The RDTF meeting schedule is here:

<http://sfgov2.org/index.aspx?page=2622>

It's now possible for you to draw the lines yourself and submit your map to the RDTF! It's pretty easy:

<http://www.redrawsf.org/>

Land Use & Housing Committee Reports

December 12

The Regular Meeting of the CSFN Land Use & Housing Committee was convened by Chair Hiroshi Fukuda on Monday, December 12, 2011 at 6:00 P.M. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The Committee considered the following items:

1. Historic Preservation — Update re: Supervisor Wiener's amendment to Planning Code Articles 10 and 11. Continued, next hearing at Historic Preservation Commission on January 18, 2012. Planning Commission hearing continued to February 2, 2012. Many Commissioners favored splitting the amendments, they stated that it is too broad, and it might better to consider one or a few sections at a time.
2. Recreation & Open Space Element (ROSE): threat to residential open space? A coalition of several groups, including CSFN are still working on a draft to be submitted to Planning Department. The other representatives are from SFDOG, GGPPA, PROSAC, SF Patks Alliance, Community Outreach Program/Friends of Recreation, Friends of Golden Gate Heights Park, Neighborhood Parks Council and SF Tomorrow.
3. Parkmerced — update: Hearing on January 19, 2012 by Judge Jackson, room 503.
4. CPMC Update: Mayor Lee and CPMC are working on developer agreement. EIR issues are not being addressed. CSFN wants serious consideration of 3C option, smaller Van Ness project and larger St. Luke hospital. CPMC item to be heard at Planning Commission for January 19, 2012.
5. Japantown Better Neighborhood Area Plan: update. Two DRs are being considered for violation of the Japantown Special Use District provisions.
6. Live Nation Masonic Auditorium: Planning Commission Hearing scheduled for January 19, 2012. Issues include the alcohol permit, the number of bars to be allowed if any, validity of the present "conditional use", and the historic usage.
7. 8 Washington St. project: it would replace a surface parking lot with 165 luxury condos, retail, restaurants and underground parking. The buildings on Drumm Street would be up to 12 stories high, while those on Embarcadero would range from four to six stories. Project area is zoned for 84 feet. Project threatens waterfront views and will set a precedent for other waterfront areas.
8. One Bay Area Winter 2012 Public Workshops (ABAG, MTC) **Let's plan together for a future** that enhances the economy, environment and social equity, and our communities' livability. Last spring nearly 800 people attended public workshops in all nine Bay Area counties to learn about Plan Bay Area and offer feedback about future land development, housing growth, transportation investment options and policy initiatives. **It's time to talk about trade offs.** We have prepared several scenarios for what the Bay Area could look like in 2040. Now we need your help in selecting desired features among the alternative planning choices, and your help in prioritizing transportation investments and policies. **Plan Bay Area** — one of our region's most comprehensive planning efforts to date — is led by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC).

Note: Registration for these workshops will open on Monday, December 12, 2011, via a link from this page.

San Francisco County Thursday, January 5, 5:45–8:30

UCSF Mission Bay Conference Center, 1675 Owens Street, San Francisco

...Hiroshi Fukuda (RCA) Chair

January 9

The Regular Meeting of the CSFN Land Use & Housing Committee was convened by Chair Hiroshi Fukuda on Monday, January 9, 2012 at 5:55 P.M. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The Committee considered the following items:

1. CPMC: Mayor Lee's "ask list" for CPMC does not adequately address need of affordable housing, comply with the Van Ness Special Use District i.e replacement of office square footage with 3 times the area for housing. Questions of project conforming to the General Plan.
2. The Redevelopment Agency/program is one of the major issues in Sacramento this year. Redevelopment was abolished by Jerry Brown to balance the state budget. There was a lawsuit filed in part by the League of California Cities. The courts have ruled that the state may abolish redevelopment. However, the state legislature could reconstitute redevelopment through bills passed in the current session. The current session starts January 9. Committee comments were the Redevelopment program could be beneficial if constraints were in place in regards to distribution equity, the ability to create jobs, avoid speculative abuse. Other comments were strongly against the Redevelopment agency because of past abuse and recent abuse i.e. Bay View, Treasure Island and loss of tax revenue creating major funding problems.
3. Parkmerced — update: Jury trial expected to be next month. Issues include illegal process by the Board of Supervisors, and lack of mitigation for traffic impact, rent control of affordable housing.
4. Historic Preservation — Update re: Supervisor Wiener's amendment to Planning Code Articles 10 and 11. There will be a San Francisco Preservation Consortium Special Advocacy meeting this Saturday, January 14th at 11:00 am in the Latino-Hispanic Room at the Main Library
5. Live Nation Masonic Auditorium project: Planning Commission Hearing scheduled for January 19, 2012. Issues include extension of the existing non-conforming C.U. permit, the validity of the present "conditional use," and the historic usage.
6. One Bay Area. Winter 2012 Public Workshops (ABAG, MTC): report: Plan Bay Area is about future land development, housing growth, transportation investment options and policy initiatives. There were three topics: transportation trade-offs, Quality of Complete Communities, and location of housing, transportation, and jobs.

Comments:

- a) Concept is great, but there was very little emphasis on funding for affordable housing. No sense in providing transit and to have housing that only 11% of SF can afford. A major issue is that of diversity, San Francisco is becoming a city for the very rich and very poor. Workforce housing is greatly needed, funding for affordable housing is absolutely required as well as funding for transit.
- b) Provide information on funding source for the \$258 billion dollars that ABAG and MTC will have, and what restrictions if any on the \$56 billions to be allocated to local entities and for the entire \$258 billions.
- c) The Data and Needs Analysis in the 2009 SF Housing Element predicts most of the jobs will be low to moderate income. 80–85% of the new units will be market rate, and unaffordable for 89% of San Franciscans. This will force workers to commute and defeat the purpose of a complete community i.e. housing and jobs together.

The next regular meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, February 13. The meeting was adjourned at 7:12

...Hiroshi Fukuda (RCA) Chair

Executive Committee Report

November 30

Penelope Clark called the meeting to order at 5:43 PM; there was a quorum. Judy Berkowitz, Penelope Clark, Angelique Mahan, Dick Millet, Rose Hillson and Evelyn Wilson were present. Excused were Jim Lew and Lorraine Lucas; Sue Cauthen was absent.

Officers' Reports

President Berkowitz reported that she, Rose Hillson, and others from Parks Alliance and other orgs concerned with parks, open space, and recreation have been having marathon meetings amending the ROSE — the Recreation & Open Space Element. They learned that while there is no official deadline for the Element, Ms. Exline had announced a December 2 deadline for public comments. Berkowitz nominated Kathy Howard to be the honoree at the December 20 CSFN Annual Dinner and party for her outstanding work with the Open Space Committee with particular reference to Golden Gate Park. She was unanimously approved. Berkowitz said she would be attending the "Save Muni SF" meeting in December, as well as SF Tomorrow's annual holiday party, which she noted is usually very well-attended. As part of her periodic outreach to member groups, she also attended a meeting of the steering committee of Russian Hill Improvement Association to familiarize its members with the activities of CSFN and urge their participation.

Judy has also been in communication with Kirsten Macaulay of the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services and has shared with her with a definition of what constitutes a legitimate neighborhood organization: A true neighborhood organization has a defined area, is run by volunteers, is concerned with more than one issue — usually includes land use, has bylaws. It may include merchants if there is an NCD within its boundaries. It does not have paid staff, is not a special interest groups or individuals with a single issue, nor is it a preservation, service, government, or "friends of" group. Ms Macaulay is updating the Neighborhood Contact List used by Planning and other City departments, and couldn't find a good description/definition.

Second Vice President Mahan noted that Supervisor Farrell along with Supervisor Elsbernd is interested in moving to repeal ranked choice voting, possibly even before dealing with reform of public campaign financing.

Corresponding Secretary Millet announced the annual Portrero Boosters' Holiday Party would be on December 11. He also said that mixed-use developments were being planned for the Portrero Plaza Safeway by Emerald Development and the Kaiser Medical site at 16th/Mississippi.

The January General Assembly program was discussed and members of the committee decided on an informational presentation of the America's Cup organization in SF, if it could be arranged.

The committee also approved the new pricing for the Holiday Party on December 20 and to reimburse Judy \$184. for costs incurred by the November election slate mailing.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

...Penny Clark, Chair

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

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David Winthrop Allen Family Trust
San Francisco Fire Fighters Local 798
San Francisco Police Officers' Assn

PATRONS

Cole Valley Improvement Assn
Dick Millet
Forest Knolls Neighborhood Org, George Wooding
Haight Ashbury Improvement Assn
Pacific Heights Residents Assn
Retired Firemen & Widows Assn of SFFD
Sunset Parkside Ed & Action Cmte (SPEAK)

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Telegraph Hill Dwellers
John Bardis
Judith Berkowitz
Penny Clark
Sheryl Connell
Steve Currier
Kathryn Devincenzi, Attorney
Tony Kelly
Hon Fiona Ma
Bert Polacci
Steve Williams, Attorney
(And thanks to Jim & Ella Mae Lew)



Special thanks to Office Depot for photocopying services!

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Land Use & Housing • Monday 5:30PM Feb 13 • Northern Police Station • Chair Hiroshi Fukuda • ninersam@aol.com • 386-2212
Open Space • Ongoing Meetings • Chair Nancy Wuerfel • nancenummer1@aol.com • 731-6432, Co-chair Ramona Albright • 621-9621
Transportation • Chair Gary Noguera • garynoguera@earthlink.net
Water Task Force • Chair Joan Girardot • 346-5525
Bylaws • Chair Evelyn Wilson • evelynwilsregparl@earthlink.net • 566-7826
Gov't & Elections • Chair Charles Head • charleshead@hotmail.com

AGENDA	
General Assembly Meeting	
January 17, 2012	
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. Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Assn — PBWA 2. Haight Ashbury Improvement Assn — HAAI
7:15	III. Approval of November 2011 Minutes
7:20	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 F. Bylaws
7:45	VI. Program: Newly-nimble Supervisor and former Planning Commission President Christina Olague joins us to talk about her out-of-the-frying-pan-and-into-the-fire appointment, her ideas, her plans.
	VII. Adjournment

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

Visitors: Please Sign the 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
 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 CA 94132*

Next Meeting
 Tuesday
 Jan 17

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