

## Why you should Vote No on Proposition B

**P**roposition B - bad for the City and bad for San Franciscans who love their parks

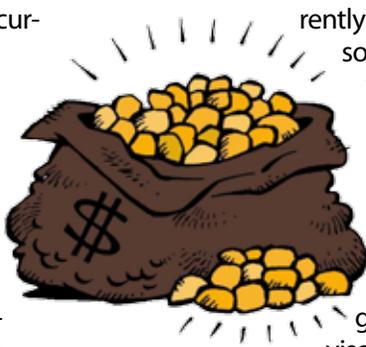
What do the League of Women Voters, Sierra Club, San Francisco Tomorrow, Green Party, Republican Party, Libertarian Party, various Democratic and other clubs, and the *SF Chronicle* all have in common with the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods? They are all opposing Proposition B on the June 2016 Primary ballot.

### What is Proposition B?

It is a charter amendment that sets up a \$4.5 billion set aside for the Department of Recreation and Park (Rec & Park).

### How is Rec & Park funded now?

Rec & Park currently gets funding from various sources, including appropriations from the General Fund. This discretionary funds pool of discretionary funds is also used to support departments such as the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. During the yearly budget process, the Board of Supervisors holds public hearings and decides which departments get what percent of those discretionary funds.



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### How would Rec & Park be funded under Proposition B?

Proposition B:

Mandates \$4.5 billion exclusively for Rec & Park over 30 years with no public or Board of Supervisors oversight on how the money will be spent. The Board is your voice on the budget; if the Board loses their authority over Rec & Park's funding, then so do you.

Takes away the possibility of using those funds for other City needs, such as housing, public health, youth services. No matter how desperately the City would need funding for an emergency, no one would be able to touch the \$4.5 billion Rec & Park set-aside.

Could raise taxes: According to the *SF Chronicle* Proposition B could raise taxes: 'It's flatly disingenuous for those glossy Prop. B mailers to assure voters in underlined letters that the parks funding would come "without raising taxes." They should have added the clause: "we hope." ... The fact is, the money will need to come from somewhere.' (*SF Chronicle*, 4-21-16)

Contains a so-called "equity analysis" with no teeth in it - Rec & Park would both create the equity analysis and evaluate its own performance! No matter how unfairly Rec & Park doles out the money, neither the public nor the Supervisors would have the authority to change it.

Doesn't even tell the public where the money would be spent. Rec & Park would decide exclusively how most of the \$4.5

*Cont. to page 7*

## MAY 17, 2016 PROGRAM

### Presentation from SF Beautiful

*Darcy Brown, Executive Director*

### Building New Student Housing for SF Colleges and Universities

*David Seward, UC Hastings, Michael London, USF*

## CSFN Endorsements for June, 2016 Election

**A** Mayor's Public Health and Safety bond ..... **Yes**

**B** Set aside for Rec & Park out of General Funds ..... **No**

**C** Inclusionary Housing..... **No Recommendation**

(less than 2/3 voting aye)

**D** All officer involved shootings to be heard by Office of Civilian Complaints ..... **Yes**

**E** Family Paid Leave ..... Not considered

## Presidents Message

**I**want to thank everyone for electing me to a second term as President of CSFN. I will work hard—and so will several other CSFN members— to represent neighborhood interests at City Hall.



It has been awhile since a new member joined CSFN and it is time to expand our membership. If you know of a neighborhood group that might join us, let me know.

The June 7th, 2016 Presidential Primary Election with local Propositions and candidate elections is just around the corner. A quick review of some of the Propositions that CSFN took positions on may be helpful:

**Yes on Proposition A**—The Public Health and Safety Bond. To incur the following bonded debt of the City and County requires \$350 million to finance the construction, acquisition, improvement, seismic strengthening and betterment of critical community and mental health, emergency response and safety, and homeless shelters and service facilities related costs necessary or convenient for the foregoing purposes. Neighborhoods need strong health programs and facilities.

**No on Proposition B**—The Park, Recreation and Open Space Charter Amendment (see articles from Howard and Wooding).

**Proposition C**—the Affordable Housing Requirement Charter Amendment missed getting the CSFN endorsement by one vote! This Proposition will increase inclusionary housing/affordable housing from its current rate of 12% to a maximum of 25% before the BOS adopts new inclusionary housing requirements.

*Cont. to page 7*

## Prop B: A Bad Set-Aside

**V**ote No on Proposition B, a Charter amendment providing funding for parks, recreation, and open space.

This Charter amendment was designed by District 2 Supervisor Mark Farrell, Chair of the Board's Budget and Finance Committee with the help of Phil Ginsberg, General Manager of the Recreation and Parks Department (RPD).

Let's review Prop B's \$4,568.6 billion set-aside budget.

The Prop B set-aside consists of A General Fund appropriation baseline amount of thirty years X \$64.0 million which equals \$1,920.0 billion. Plus a fixed annual "Baseline Appropriation increase of \$3 Million for ten years attached to a twenty year baseline of \$30 million that ends in 2046 for a total of \$765.0 million. An Increase in "baseline appropriations" due to annual growth in the discretionary revenues after 2026 [assuming 2% annual growth] equals \$449.6 million. An Open space Fund set-aside of \$1,434.0 billion from 2016 to 2046.

Prop B will take approximately \$4.5 billion out of the discretionary portion of the General Fund over the next 30 years. City voters will have no control over this set-aside for 30 years.

The RPD's set-aside is terrible financial policy. In 2008, City voters overwhelmingly passed Proposition "S," a policy that disallowed any set-aside of City revenues unless the set-aside identifies a new funding source, includes limits on annual increases, and automatically expires after 10 years.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* recommended an emphatic "NO" on Prop B in its April 21 editorial. Embarrassing Ginsberg, the *Chronicle* Editorial Board stated, "It's flatly disingenuous for those glossy Prop. B mailers to assure voters in underlined letters that the parks funding would come 'without raising taxes.' They should have added the clause: 'we hope.'"

In other words, RPD is lying to the public. RPD intends to take its 30-year set-aside funds directly from the General Fund. Over two-thirds of the Department of Public Health's budget comes from the General Fund, so City Supervisors would have to choose between either helping a sick, homeless child, or hiring a new RPD employee for \$200,000 a year. While the sick kid languishes, the RPD employee would probably be soliciting additional funds from Park donors.

City Controller Ben Rosenfield stated "This proposed amendment is not in compliance with a non-binding, voter-adopted City policy regarding set-asides. The policy seeks to limit set-asides which reduce General Fund dollars that could otherwise be allocated by the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors in the annual budget process."

Rosenfield also stated "The proposed amendment would create a new baseline funding requirement for parks, recreation, and open space that would grow over time. These funds are currently part of the City's General Fund discretionary revenues, available for any public purpose. As funds are shifted to meet the proposed baseline established in the amendment, other spending would have to be reduced or new revenues identified

to maintain current service levels."

Prop B doesn't delineate which projects the Open Space funds will be spent on. It claims that there are between \$1 billion and \$1.7 billion in deferred maintenance in the parks, yet the word "maintenance" has been deleted from the legal text of Prop. B. No one knows on which projects the money will be spent, or how it will be spent. Citizens will not know where or how RPD will spend this money.

Financial managers, like Ginsberg, typically publish a list of projects they would like to accomplish in their bond measures. This isn't the case with Prop B. Ginsberg hasn't provided such a list, which will make it all but impossible for anyone to monitor how the increased funding is eventually spent.

Additionally, upon recommendation of the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors may authorize the issuance of revenue bonds or other evidences of indebtedness, or the incurrence of other obligations, secured by the Park, Recreation and Open Space Fund for acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation and/or improvement of real property and/or facilities and for the purchase of equipment. The public has no control, or oversight, over any of these revenue bonds, or any other forms of indebtedness, such as Certificates of Participation.

Other than accepting awards for privatizing RPD assets and charging the public more fees to use our own City recreation and parks facilities, Ginsberg has been a poor manager. Why did Mark Farrell — a bright and capable Supervisor — ever sponsor this financial mess?

The RPD has already been turned into a fund-raising organization. RPD employees are paid to attract event sponsors, donations, and fees. The Open space portion generated approximately 26% annually. The General Fund provided the RPD with an additional 36% annually and the Earned Revenue Fund generated 38% annually.

The Earned Revenue Fund consists of revenue from parking garages, paid parking, concessions, Citywide rentals, permits, facility rentals, stadiums, golf courses, marinas, and other sources.

The Earned Revenue Fund is growing rapidly and is not part of Ginsberg's Charter amendment. A quick analysis shows that the revenue generated from park privatization generates the largest part of the RPD Budget.

Where is the responsibility and good governance in the Prop B set-aside? Budget set-asides are the simplest financial tool the City can use. Each year the City automatically places more and more revenue into set-asides.

Prop B is really an indictment of the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) and Ginsberg. If they want to grow the RPD's budget, they should increase the RPD's budget. The RPD and BOS need to work harder and do their jobs. They don't need to create a set-aside.

Ginsberg's Prop B even excludes the BOS from active budget oversight. "Following [RPD] commission approval, the Department shall submit the Capital expenditure plan to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors shall

consider and by resolution express its approval or disapproval of the Plan, but may not modify the plan.”

People need to understand that the seven RPD Commissioners and Ginsberg are all appointed by the Mayor. As much as Prop B advocates claim Prop B has oversight, nobody will really know what the RPD is doing with this set-aside money.

Citizen budget advocate and RPD expert Nancy Wuerfel states “So, without a prescription in the Charter of what these funds MUST PAY FOR, we are handing over great gobs of cash without benefit of requiring work be done on an annual basis which should then OFFSET THE NEED for more General Obligation Bonds to do what could have been done without expensive bonds. Or the need to sell off the future value of the Open Space fund in revenue bonds to get money for projects nobody even knows are being funded with Open Space funds, because leveraging the OSF is just not visible to anyone, much less understandable. It is like signing a marriage contract today for your infant daughter to a wealthy man for some fast cash now — was this really the best use of your daughter’s future?”

Controller Rosenfield has stated “approximately 40% of the General Fund is already earmarked or locked in some way by voter initiative.” The higher the level of set-asides in the General Fund, the less the BOS has to do.

Magnanimously, Prop B also states, “The City shall implement its efforts to increase revenues in a manner consistent with the City’s policy of charging City residents a lower fee than that charged nonresidents for the use and enjoyment of Department property.” First of all, it is the citizens property and there was a time when our open space and parks were free. Thank you Phil Ginsberg for letting us pay less than tourists for the property we are already paying taxes on.

Denis Mosgofian, the District 5 representative on the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Committee, speaking to Supervisor Farrell on November 4, 2015 said “Here’s the problem I have: In reading through language like this you’re supporting it, you’re pitching it, and when we’re listening we’re all park supporters and we all want to believe that what’s being proposed it going to serve. Except that what you originally proposed made a lot of sense, but what I’m looking at here doesn’t provide that kind of specificity, so I went back and I looked up the language of the 1975 Open Space Fund, which specified up to 40% should be dedicated to maintenance. It specified a number of other particular expenditures, directives, and then in 1988 and 2000 it still had some of that specificity. By the time you get down to this piece of legislation it doesn’t have that specificity, so given that — and given that instead of having a very robust support for the park system, it’s gone way down to \$3 million — to me it looks like a bait-and-switch.”

Ginsberg’s “The sky is falling” routine is getting stale. If Prop B passes, people are going to start wondering why they will need to pass an upcoming capital improvement bond measure for RPD in 2018. I expect to hear voters saying, “Didn’t we just give RPD a 30-year set-aside in 2016?”

*George Wooding, Midtown Terrace Homeowners Association*

## Draft Minutes for the General Assembly Meeting

April 15, 2016

1. **Call to Order.** President Wooding (MTHA) brought the meeting to order at 7:05PM in the Northern Police Station Community Room.
  - a. Quorum declared. 22 delegates and alternates represented 18 CSFN member organizations. No guests signed in.
  - b. Agenda approved.
  - c. Introduction of delegates and guests: Allison Heath (PBNA) presented Rodney Minott, a neighborhood activist who succeeded in persuading Kaiser Permanente to relocate from Potrero Hill to Mission Bay
  - d. Hosts:
    1. Marlayne Morgan (CHNA) talked of issues especially important for Cathedral Hill, particularly seniors, pedestrian safety and transportation planning.
    2. Karen Cromie (CVIA) introduced her president who talked of getting the GGP recycling center removed and a community garden put in, the importance of the commercial area, and the necessity of paying for cleaning the sidewalks often.
2. **Officers’ Reports.**
  - a. President Wooding ( MTHA ) repeated his information on SOTF in the Newsletter.
  - b. 1<sup>st</sup> VP Morgan (CHNA) – no report
  - c. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Vacant
  - d. Recording Secretary Head (SHARP) said the draft minutes were on p. 4 of the NL. He testified before the RPC which voted in favor of the SF Deltas organization to bring pro soccer to Kezar Stadium in 2017. He reported on the BOS Land Use Committee meeting.
  - e. Corresponding Secretary Rogers (PMAC) said the Chrystal Springs Reservoir issue is tabled for now, and he is working on the Sisterhood Garden project.
  - f. Treasurer Scott (PHRA) – no report.
3. **Committee Action Items**
  - a. Executive – in NL. President Wooding talked about trailing legislation on AHBP.
  - b. Bylaws – Chair Claire Zvanski (EDIA.) –no report.
  - c. Dinner – Chair Marlayne Morgan (CHNA) no report
  - d. Government & Elections. Chair Charles Head (SHARP) said that it did not meet in March but would meet on May 13 to hear about the SOTF initiative proposal. Also at least five issues are coming up so far for the November ballot.
  - e. Land Use. No report.
  - f. Media Relations. No report.
  - g. Open Space. Nancy Wuerfel and Kathy Howard (SPEAK) –no report.
  - h. Transportation. Chair Mari Eliza (EMIA) had materials about MTA and mentioned pushback against the regional AA ballot measure.
  - i. Water Task Force. Chair Joan Girardot (MCI&POA) – no report.
  - j. Nominations. Paul Webber listed the incumbent candidates: Mary Harris is to run for a vacant member at large position but another was still unfilled, as was the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP

position. Secretary Head called for nominations from the floor; Chooi Eng Gross (SHARP) nominated Eileen Boken for 2<sup>nd</sup> VP and Claire Zvanski for member at large, and they accepted, after which nominations were closed. There will be no contested offices, so the election in May will be by acclamation.

4. Approval of the Mar. 15, 2016 GA minutes – they were approved unanimously.
5. Unfinished Business – Kathy Devincenzi's motion about membership, postponed from the Feb. 16 meeting, was read from this month's NL. It was proposed, debated vigorously and approved 14-5.
6. New Business – Marlayne Morgan (CHNA) proposed the motion "CSFN supports the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Initiative and agrees to be a nominating agency." Mary Harris (OMI-NIA) proposed that it be declared an emergency. It was so declared by a vote of 15-3-1 and passed by a vote of 14-4-1 after much debate.
7. Program: Let's Fix BART was presented by two speakers from Bay Area Rapid Transit with film and other materials about the needs of the agency that will require it to put a \$3-4 billion bond on the Nov. ballot.
8. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25.

... Charles Head (SHARP) Recording Secretary

## Executive Committee Report • April 2016

The CSFN ExCom met on Wednesday, March 23 at the Northern Station. Chair Morgan called the meeting to order at 4:30 and established a quorum, with Wooding, Head, Rogers, Scott and Clark present. Guests Mary Harris (OMI-NIA) and Claire Zvanski (EDIA) also attended.

President Wooding reported on a brainstorming session of Land Use and Transportation Committee members to develop General Assembly Programs for 2016-2017. Some possible topics are:

Building New Student Housing for SF Colleges and Universities

Changing How the City Appoints the SFMTA Board  
Planning code changes to Neighborhood Commercial Districts (NCDs)

Tearing Down the 280 Onramp at China Basin

All Delegates are encouraged to send new program ideas to President Wooding.

Treasurer Scott will continue to work on requesting quotes for Errors and Omissions Insurance for the ExCom, and is also working on fiscal year 2015-2016 actual expenditures to help in the preparation of the 2016-2017 Budget.

The ExCom discussed ways to implement the membership eligibility requirements outlined in the March motion. It was agreed that the organization's representative (officer or delegate) will display a copy of their current membership list to Secretaries Head and Rogers at sign-in at an upcoming General Assembly, effective May 17, 2016. The Secretary will then check off on the sign in form that the yearly eligibility requirement has been met. If any problems are encountered, the organization will be notified in writing as to the next step.

VP Morgan discussed the distribution of the CSFN Newsletter. In the last year, the electronic distribution of the Newsletter has increased from 50 to 150 recipients per month, while declining from 50- 20 monthly mailed copies. All but three of the recipients of the mailed version also are receiving an electronic copy each month. Also, the cost of printing and mailing has continued to increase, with a single mailed copy costing nearly \$2.00 per person.

The ExCom voted unanimously to discontinue the printed version, effective July, 2016. Printed copies of the agenda, draft minutes and resolutions will be provided at the General Assembly starting with the July 19 General Assembly.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

*Submitted by Marlayne Morgan (CHNA)*

## Govt. & Elections Committee Report

We did not meet in April but will meet 6 pm Friday May 13 at Taraval Station to talk about upcoming ballot measures, the summer schedule for the fall election, and the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force Initiative.

*Submitted by Charles Head (SHARP)*

## Candidate Statements

### President - George Wooding (MTHA)

I am very proud to be the President of CSFN and am happy to serve the membership for another year.

I believe the CSFN family is quickly becoming a stronger and better organization. Our volunteers are talented, knowledgeable and formidable. We are working closely with the planning Department and SMTA—they don't always want the help—to keep them from changing the character of the neighborhoods as they want to add density and entice development throughout the City. In addition, Google buses, Caltrans, DTX, BART, and the many SFMTA overcharges and other foibles are all reviewed by CSFN.

Mayor Lee appointed me to join his inclusionary housing task force. The goal was to work on effective affordable onsite housing levels. CSFN has also been diligently working on the 1481 Post Street, 75 Howard, 160 Folsom Street, the 5th & Kirkham project and the M5 project on the old Chronicle site.

CSFN is starting to be known downtown as a good friend or tough adversary. We are respected.

Our financial transparency and status is solid thanks to Treasurer, Greg Scott

The Government and Elections Committee chaired by Charles Head has been great. Ballot arguments have been published and ballot sponsorships have increased.

Special thanks to Marlayne Morgan, my running mate. Her organizational skills keep things running. She did a great job chairing CSFN's annual dinner and the CSFN Newsletters have been terrific. *Labor ipse voluptas.*

### First Vice President- Marlayne Morgan (CHNA)

I'm currently serving as the operating officer for CSFN, overseeing the administration and producing the monthly newsletter. With a background in political advocacy and community organizing, I have helped build a number of neighbor/community coalitions, including the 25 member Healthcare, Housing,

Jobs and Justice Coalition (H2J2) which successfully revised the CPMC five campus Institutional Master Plan; Taxpayers for Public Safety, which helped defeat the SF Jail Rebuild in 2015, and most recently, the VanNess Neighborhood Alliance (VNNA), composed of organizations working on housing and transportation issues on the VanNess Corridor.

CHNA joined both CSFN and the SF Neighborhood Network in 2007 and has remained an active participant in both organizations. I have served as a CSFN delegate since 2007, a Member at Large in 2014, and First Vice President in 2015.

I believe that transportation planning is the critical piece that must be put in place before we approve thousands of new housing and commercial units, and I want CSFN to have a voice in the transportation planning process, as we have had in the Affordable Housing Bonus Program (AHBP).

#### **Second Vice President- Eileen Boken, (SPEAK)**

I am the current SPEAK VP and CSFN delegate. I also serve on the CSFN G&E Committee.

I am currently advocating in opposition to:

- AHDBP at the Planning, Historic Preservation and Small Business Commissions.

- RPD re Palace of Fine Arts and Kezar Stadium.

- SFMTA re L-Taraval Rapid Project.

I am currently advocating in support of:

- Monterey Bay Natl. Marine Sanctuary re inclusion of Ocean Beach waters.

- Bay Area Air Quality Management District re refinery emissions caps.

- California Coastal Commission re staffing and AB2002 ex parte communications.

I have participated in:

- MOHCD re Mayor's working group for inclusionary housing.

- DPW re Irving Streetscape.

- CEQA revisions submitted to state.

- State Senate hearing re Bay/Delta issues focusing on Twin Tunnels.

- Planning & Conservation League symposium on water, land use and CEQA.

- Bay Institute summit re Golden State Waters.

#### **Recording Secretary, Charles Head (SHARP)**

Past President of Sunset Heights Association of Responsible People (SHARP) and am Chairman of CSFN Government & Elections Committee. I have lived in SF since 2003 and until recently worked in Oakland as a high school history teacher. I have now retired from that position. In between I was on the SF Civil Grand Jury for a year, and recently I joined the Taraval Police Station Citizens' Advisory Board. My wife and I have two adult children each and four grandchildren. I hope to learn more about the city by riding all of Muni's routes. It is important to me to get a better grasp of this wonderful community, combat the challenges to it and grow with the possibilities of it.

#### **Corresponding Secretary, Glenn Rogers (PmAC)**

I am the Delegate to CSFN from the Parkmerced Action Coalition (PmAC).

I am an active Member of Parkmerced Action Coalition (PmAC) and METNA, the Merced Extension Triangle Neighborhood Association. I am a native San Franciscan with a long

memory of the history of San Francisco. I am a landscape architect with a passion for the environment. Sadly, this is an unusual quality for those in my profession. As a member of the California Native Plant Society I have an understanding of the plants that grew here in San Francisco before development. I am an investigative journalist and have had numerous articles published on Parkmerced and other topics.

#### **Greg Scott, Treasurer (PHRA)**

I'm with Pacific Heights Residents Association (PHRA) 25 years, its president over 12 years. I've done PHRA's federal and California filings over 15 years. I've served as CSFN Treasurer over the last year.

I'm a CPA. Last June I reached PwC partners mandatory retirement after 38 years. I am still working half time on tax and accounting with businesses and individuals. Thus I have more time to volunteer.

I was asked to take on CSFN's accounting and filings since the treasurer was ill and things had fallen behind; I have made progress. I filed California reactivation forms and have done most filings. I have recommendations for CSFN accounting policies. I have full access to bank statements including electronic copies of checks, so I have reconstructed the accounting,

CSFN's annual income and expenses are very simple. I support full transparency regarding financials.

My previous civic experience includes board officer roles with Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Lycée Français La Pérouse, Grace Cathedral and PHRA.

#### **Member at Large, Penelope Clark (RHIA)**

I am the delegate for the Russian Hill Improvement Association (RHIA) which is concerned with land use activities on the north slope of the hill (where I live), particularly the open space that was the unused Francisco Reservoir at Bay & Hyde. Four neighborhood groups have been successful in turning the reservoir land into usable, publicly accessible open space.

It is important for the residents of San Francisco be concerned with the land use policies of the city's government, so I became RHN's representative to CSFN in 2005, and am now the representative for RHIA. I have served on both CSFN's Land Use and the Government & Elections Committees as well as on the ExComm.

Thank you for the opportunity; I will do my best to serve you well.

#### **Member-at-Large, Mary C. Harris (OMI-NIA)**

I am proud to be a San Francisco Native. I am the CSFN Delegate, and the President of OMI Neighbors in Action. (OceanView, Merced Heights, Ingleside) I am also the President of the District 11 Democratic Council. I volunteer on a dozen neighborhood and nonprofit organizations in the OMI and Excelsior neighborhoods. In addition I am NERT certified, and a graduate of the Citizen's Police Academy.

I was formerly on the Park & Rec Open Space Committee (PROSAC), and the DCYF Citizen's Advisory Committee. I would like to see our CSFN meetings run according to our By Laws, by parliamentary procedure, with brevity, and mutual respect. I think the CSFN should continue to show citywide leadership, and take strong stands on neighborhood issues.

# A Few Things You May Not Know About San Francisco Beautiful

By Darcy Brown, Executive Director

Can you imagine San Francisco without the iconic cable cars or cluttered with ugly electronic billboards? What would the Golden Gate Bridge look like with two decks? Thanks to San Francisco Beautiful none of these imaginings happened.

In 1947, then Mayor Lapham decided that cable cars were obsolete and proceeded to pave over the tracks. San Francisco resident Friedel Klussman decided to do something to stop the destruction of the cable cars. Together with 27 women's civic groups, she formed the *Citizens Committee to Save the Cable Cars* that forced an amendment to the city charter compelling the City to protect the ubiquitous symbol of San Francisco. This auspicious victory began the nonprofit organization, **San Francisco Beautiful**.

For the past 70 years, San Francisco Beautiful has been the only organization that has advocated for the continued preservation of civic beauty and neighborhood character that is unique to San Francisco. Here are just a few highlights of the many, many contributions San Francisco Beautiful has made and fought for over the years:

1940's and 1950's- planted miles of trees and encouraged City Hall to focus on maintaining the cleanliness of the City by joining forces with the California Anti-Litter League.

1960's- preserved the unique triple gold light posts that line Market Street and stopped the construction of a large restaurant in Golden Gate Park; began the annual Beautification Awards which recognize members of our community who contribute to the beauty of our neighborhoods.

1970's- rehabilitated the Old Mint and insisted that citizen approval be obtained prior to the construction of skyscrapers; stopped the addition of a second automobile deck to the Golden Gate Bridge.

1980's- preserved the Greenwich Garden Path, the Vallejo Stairway and over twenty unique stairways throughout San Francisco; sponsored graffiti cleanup and mural projects for youth; worked with other nonprofits and city government to plant greenery in low income housing complexes including the Northbeach housing project and the Tenderloin.

1990's- contributed a grant to illuminate the Palace of Fine Arts and Aquatic Park; funded landscaping for the Jelani House Residence in the Bayview that houses drug addicted mothers; created an option for tax payers to contribute 1% towards public art and grants to residents for neighborhood projects that developed into the Community Challenge Grant program through the City Administrators office. In partnership with the Department of Public Works, San Francisco Beautiful created the Graffiti Advisory Board which monitors graffiti and deploys best practices to find solutions.

2000's- drafted legislation that allows restaurants and cafés to provide sidewalk seating to patrons.

As you can see, this is quite an impressive list of accomplishments that have had a significant impact on the character of San Francisco and we aren't finished yet. San Francisco Beautiful drafted and fought for a law to stop the proliferation and addi-

tion of electronic billboards and won by a landslide at the ballot box. We are now working to tighten the regulations on billboards so that our City isn't cluttered with ugly advertisements.

In 2015, we partnered with the Municipal Transportation Agency and launched the Muni Art Project that transformed Muni busses into rolling art galleries featuring the work of up and coming local artists. The project was so successful that the MTA decided to double the number of busses to 100 in January 2017.

Our 2016 slate of projects also include a recently completed mural on Ivy Street just behind the restaurant Absinthe and the beautification of Ivy Alley, which will become a lovely walkway. The Blue Bridge that spans Geary Boulevard at Fillmore Street is about to be beautifully enhanced over the next two years as is Lower Fillmore from Geary to Ellis Street. We just sponsored the Graffiti Huddle that brought together organizations from all over the City to find constructive ways to combat graffiti and in the Fall, San Francisco Beautiful will once again produce the Beautification Awards to honor our neighbors and neighborhood organizations for their contributions to the beauty and livability of our City.

San Francisco Beautiful is funded through grants, corporate sponsorship, and individual and neighborhood group membership. We invite you to become a member and join us so that we can continue to keep San Francisco Beautiful.

For more information, please visit our website: [www.sfbeautiful.org](http://www.sfbeautiful.org).

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**Candidate Statements** *Cont. from p. 5*

I believe it's time I took a turn on the Executive Committee, and I would be honored to have your support.

**Member at Large, Claire Zvanski (EDIA)**

Your support for me for Member at Large is very important if you believe in CSFN. I believe in CSFN and have worked hard to keep my Association, EDIA (Excelsior District Improvement Association), involved and supporting CSFN. I retired after working for the City for 37.5 years where I learned the inside workings of our City government. I was also an elected commissioner for 26 years. I bring process and procedure to the board. Additionally, I am an officer in Sigma Phi, a local chapter of parliamentarians. I proudly replaced Evelyn Wilson as CSFN's parliamentarian. I've been attending the Executive Committee meetings regularly ever since.

If you believe, as I do, that CSFN is pivotal to representing the neighborhoods at City Hall, then you will endorse my position on the CSFN board. The Bylaws are clear that all governance belongs to the General Assembly and it is my goal to bring all issues back to you, the delegates, for decisions.

Thank you for your nomination and support.

**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 3rd (third) of the month to: Newsletter Editor (2nd VP) in Microsoft Word-compatible document (i.e. no pdf's) in-line or as attachment. 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, Non-members/\$15.

## DECORUM IN DEBATE

Acrimony? Bitterness? Contentiousness? Begone, such shibboleths! Embrace the dulcet delights of civil discourse by following these simple rules:

- Address the moderator as “the Chair”. Direct all discussion to this person and never use delegates’ names when channeling the conversation. Try this: “Mr. Chair, the previous speaker is mistaken” instead of “Laurie, you’re lying!”
- Wait until you have the floor and do not give it up until you are finished making your case, for you only get to speak again once more after all others have done so. Interrupt not, lest ye be interrupted...
- Listen for the call of the Chair and expect it to be fair, for the Chair does not participate in debate (or only does after giving the gavel to the next ranking officer present).
- Rise to speak when no one else has the floor and wait to be recognized, as in “The Chair recognizes Mr. Gillespie.

“State your motion: “I move that...” and then sit. If there is a second, the Chair will state “A motion has been made and seconded to...” and then will ask for debate, or seeing none will ask “Are you ready for the question?” so a vote may be taken. You get to speak first and last on your motion and may even vote against it, but you cannot speak against it.

• Debate is made to the Chair; it is confined to the merits of the motion and not to the motives or quirks of others. Amendments may be offered to improve the motion but must be approved by the body and then the motion is voted upon as amended. There is no such thing as a friendly amendment.

Thus can harmonious discussion be achieved and discordant debate banished... (or at least postponed indefinitely!)

*Submitted by Charles Head, adapted from his study program presented at the April Sigma Phi meeting in San Francisco.*

### President’s Report *Cont. from p. 1*

I hope you received the invitation to the Rally for Proposition C this Saturday at 11 am at the Women’s Building located at 3543 18th Street, with Supervisors Kim and Peskin. A precinct walk will follow the rally—all are welcome.

The SFMTA will hold a public hearing on a variety of street engineering changes around the city, including restrictions on parking, the construction of wider sidewalks, and more bike lanes. If you can’t make the meeting, you can review the proposed changes and submit comments via writing or email to [sustainable.streets@sfmta.com](mailto:sustainable.streets@sfmta.com) with subject line “Public Hearing.” The public hearing will be held Friday, May 6, 10:00am, City Hall, Room 416, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place.

CBS recently reported that a poll by a prominent business-backed group shows that one-third of Bay Area residents say they’re considering leaving the congested, pricey region in the next few years. Of the 1,000 people polled by the Bay Area Council, 34 percent said they may move away, citing high housing costs and traffic as reasons. The poll also found an uptick in the number of residents who believe the Region is on the wrong track: 40 % versus 28 % last year.

The survey found that people who have lived in the region for five years or less are the most likely to want to leave. Approximately 54% of San Francisco’s growth is coming from young, single adults. This is a highly transient group. The dissatisfaction with housing and transportation will have a tremendous impact on the future of our neighborhoods.

*George Wooding (MTHA)*

### Prop B *Cont. from p. 1*

billion would be spent.

The City Controller has stated that Proposition B violates a voter-approved city policy against set-asides and “would have a significant impact on the cost of government.”

Of course, Rec & Park needs funding - so does every other city department. Opposing Proposition B would not deprive Rec & Park of funding; they can still make a case for their needs

during the budget process.

San Francisco has seen a lot of financial ups and downs over the years. To respond to the changing needs of the people of San Francisco, we must have a say in how our money is spent and how our parks are managed.

(For more information on Proposition B or to take part in No on B activities, go to [www.sfvotenopropositionb.info](http://www.sfvotenopropositionb.info).)

*Katherine Howard, CSFN Open Space Committee*

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**Bylaws** Chair Claire Zvanski, [czvanski@hotmail.com](mailto:czvanski@hotmail.com). Ongoing meetings.

**Gov’t & Elections** Chair Charles Head, [charleshead@hotmail.com](mailto:charleshead@hotmail.com). 6pm, second Friday, Taraval Police Station.

**Land Use & Housing** Chair, George Wooding, [gswooding@gmail.com](mailto:gswooding@gmail.com). Ongoing meetings

**Open Space** Chair Nancy Wuerfel, [nancenumber1@aol.com](mailto:nancenumber1@aol.com), 731-6432, Co-chair Ramona Albright, 621-9621. Ongoing meetings.

**Transportation** Chair Mari Eliza, [mari.eliza@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mari.eliza@sbcglobal.net) Ongoing meetings.

**Water Task Force** • Chair Joan Girardot, [csfnwatertaskforce@gmail.com](mailto:csfnwatertaskforce@gmail.com), 346-5525. Ongoing meetings.

## ExComm—How to Reach Us:

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## CORRECTIONS TO NEWSLETTER

Turn in written submissions to ExCom Chair ([marlayne16@gmail.com](mailto:marlayne16@gmail.com))



## May 17, 2016 • CSFN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AGENDA

- 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 Jordan Park Improvement Association**
    - 2. Laurel Heights Improvement Association**
- 7:10 III. Officers' Reports**
- A. President**
  - B. Vice Presidents**
  - C. Secretaries**
  - D. Treasurer**
- 7:15 IV. Committee Action Items**  
—written reports in Newsletter
- A. Executive**
  - B. Bylaws**
- C. Government & Elections**
- D. Land Use & Housing**
- E. Media Relations**
- F. Open Space**
- G. Transportation**
- H. Water Task Force**
- 7:25 V. Approval of April 19, 2016 Minutes**
- 7:30 VI. Unfinished Business**
- 7:45 VII. New Business**
- 8:00 VIII.a Program-Presentation from SF Beautiful,**  
Darcy Brown, Executive Director
- 8:15 VIII.b Program-Building New Student Housing**  
**for SF Colleges and Universities,**  
David Seward, UC Hastings, Michael London, USF
- 9:15 IX. Adjournment**