CSFN NEWS





FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT FOR CSFN GA JAN 19, 2021 A NEW WAY TO HOLIDAY!

CSFN overcame the virus and had its Holiday Event on Zoom as a Happy Hour! First, we introduced ourselves for the benefit of our guests and described our organizations. Then, President Charles Head (SHARP) introduced SF Chronicle columnist and Deputy Sheriff Kevin Fisher-Paulson spoke to us about our great city as a "big small town "that had weathered many crises and would recover from Covid-19 and its attendant horrors. Following this, Mari Eliza (EMIA) gave us Roberto Martinez of CANA Mission Food Hub, and Mary Harris (OMI-NIA) introduced Maurice Rivers of OMI-Cultural Participation Project. Both of them were honored for their work in providing Covid-19 testing and for arranging food security for their neighborhoods. In addition, we had prizes for Best Attendance Guess and for Trivia Quizzes and even ended with a sing along of "O Holy Night "led by Glenn Rogers (PmAC)! A fine time was had by all!.

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME?

The English novelist H.G. Wells penned a novel of this name, made into a movie in 1936. It imagines a post-war world ravaged by a plague that threatens to kill half of humanity. A thuggish leader is brought to heel by an international group of scientists whose help he had spurned. "Wings Over the World" prevails and ushers in an era of peace and prosperity. But an anti-science backlash ensues, and protesters try to stop the launch of a rocket to the stars, its rise into the sky suggests a happy future for humanity.

What about us? We are coping with several crises but are struggling to overcome them. First, we are seeing the victory of science and technology. The scientists are prevailing, the vaccines are being distributed and the inoculations are happening. (We still have to maintain our protocols for now) Second, we cannot relax our vigilance toward the nay-sayers, the anti-truth tellers, and those who would deceive us. Third, we have to correct the problems of online learning, so that the students who have suffered remotely can get back to a safe, stable educational environment. (In this I speak as a retired teacher and the father of a special-education instructor)

Locally we have problems to overcome, which preceded the pandemic but were made worse by it. The homelessness crisis is still here, and there remains much to be done for the unsheltered. The political gridlock of our city must be resolved, and there is a legacy of municipal corruption to be overcome, with transparency and accountability as our hallmarks in all areas. Police reform and race relations are paramount problems to be ameliorated. There is the persistent conundrum with housing, with many groups advocating different solutions to seemingly intractable Issues. (Investment capital is key, more than zoning, regulation and NIMBYism)

Our city, our state and our nation are facing financial insecurity. There are growing debt crises, and not just of the student kind. Tenants face eviction, landlords face foreclosure, and governments face cutbacks from lack of revenue. Our small businesses are broke: I was a restaurant owner in Miami, and I know the problems they have. We need an economic comeback, but the timing is uncertain. Some economists see one sooner rather than later, once students return to school, workers are re-employed and people have money to spend and the courage to shop again. Equality is the key; all groups must have a place at the table. We have to embrace our diversity and treat each other fairly, with freedom and justice for all.

Charles Head, CSFN President



AGENDA FOR CSFN GA JAN. 19, 2021

- 1. SIGN IN AND ANSWER ATTENDANCE QUIZ
- 2. PROGRAM; CONTROLLER'S REPORT ON CORRUPTION
- 3. OFFICERS REPORTS
 - A. President
 - B. Vice President
 - C. Recording Secretary
 - D. Corresponding Secretary
 - E. Treasurer
- 4. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - A. Ex Comm
 - B. By Laws
 - C. Government and Elections
 - D. Land Use and Transportation
 - E. Other
- 5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- 6. NEW BUSINESS
- 7. ADJOURNMENT

Charles Head, CSFN President



MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 17, 2020 CSFN ASSEMBLY MEETING ON ZOOM

- I. CALL TO ORDER: President Head called meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.
- II. SIGN-IN & ENTRY POLL: Quorum confirmed 17 attendees:
 - A. 13 member organizations present (13 delegates + 1 alternate)
 - B. 3 guests
- III. PROGRAM: November 2020 Local Election Recap from Christopher Bowman

IV. OFFICER'S REPORTS

- A. PRESIDENT: (Head) Attended BOS meeting. 2-hour discussion on memorandum of understanding with City and Police Officers' Association passed with provision of further negotiations before December BOS meeting. BOS also passed Contractors Reform and Transparency regulations and all-electric buildings act for new buildings. Supervisor Mandelman upset that no mental health conservatorships have been carried out.
- B. VICE PRESIDENT: (Rogers) Meeting this evening with Sierra Club to make them more aware of Treasure Island cleanup concerns.
- C. RECORDING SECRETARY: (Beckman) October General Assembly Meeting Minutes presented in the newsletter.
 - 1. Approval of Minutes: No comments, additions or corrections made. With no revisions requested, **minutes accepted as presented**.
- D. CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: (Fontes) Received the key to the mailbox and will coordinate with Cindy on picking up the file box.
- E. TREASURER: (Scott) Financials presented through October. Nominal activity \$80 in revenue, \$13 expenses. \$60,000+ in bank. Loss for the year to date.
- V. PROGRAM UPDATES: Rescue SF update from Carolyn Kenady and Marlayne Morgan. Continuing three-pronged approach, 1) end sleeping in the streets, 2) prevent people from falling into homelessness, and 3) focusing on mental health issues of people living on the streets.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. EX COMM: See website for details.
- B. BYLAWS: (Zvanski) Working on the final copy of approved CSFN bylaw revisions. We are in compliance with latest Roberts Rules of Order.
- C. LU&TC: (Eliza) Read the newsletter and follow the blog on CSFN web site for issues and updates. COVID testing site relocations and congestion pricing plans are current concerns.
- D. G&E: (Wooding) Report in the newsletter.
 - 1. Sent election updates in report, but it was not included in the newsletter. Recommend going to SF.gov site to look at updated results. Eliza asked Wooding to send his full report and she will include in online newsletter.
 - 2. Head stated that SHARP may submit a resolution to G&E for reform or abolishment of ranked choice voting.
 - 3. Head suggested that G&E review the Ethics Commissions reports with Larry Bush regarding city corruption investigations. Wooding thinks review should also be put on the mayor.
- E. LEGISLATIVE LIAISON: (Boken)
 - 1. State legislature will reconvene on Dec. 7.
 - 2. Regarding MTC proposal to mandate 60% telecommuting, the county transportation authorities/BOS voted unanimously to oppose. The MTA board continued the item with probable revisions to Dec. 2.
 - 3. Biden housing plan praised by Weiner and SPUR, so Boken read the entire plan. It has some very good ideas, and some red flags including zoning reform that sounds like the YIMBY Act that CSFN opposed.
 - 4. Alex Padilla or Xavier Bacerra most likely candidates to replace Kamala Harris. Recommend CSFN meet with Senate appointee once announced.
 - 5. Eliza asked Boken to send her info for the website.
- F. EVENTS: Committee report in newsletter.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. RESOLUTIONS: No new or past resolutions discussed.
- B. CONVERSATION CONTINUES: Telegraph Hill Dwellers concerned for local businesses and would like CSFN to consider the idea of helping neighborhoods promote their districts to other neighborhoods.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. HOLIDAY HAPPY HOUR: The plan is for an online party details discussed in the newsletter. Kevin Fisher-Paulson has agreed to be our speaker
- B. FUTURE MEETINGS: January program might be about Congestion Pricing or Permit Processing.
- C. CSFN ELECTIONS: Nominating committee will be selected in January.

D. HOLIDAY HAPPY HOUR POLL: Yes 7 / Maybe 3 / No 1

IX. NEXT MEETINGS:

- A. DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY: Wednesday, Dec. 16 at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom
- B. JANUARY 2021 GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING: Tuesday, Jan. 19 at 6:30 pm on Zoom
- X. ADJOURNMENT: At 8:10 p.m. in memory of Ramona Albright.

Submitted by Cindy Beckman, CSFN Recording Secretary



Agenda for the 12-2-2020 LUTC meeting:

1. Solar power Issues:

I have been keeping track of solar bills and other issues on this site since our building looked into installing an EV system and I started doing research on the subject. https://artaudsolar.wordpress.com/ It took us a while to get there, but we are installing an EV system on our roof right now. I believe that Charles just had one installed. I hope to find a survey on how many CSFN members have solar. I know that Kathy Howard and Maurice Franco have solar.

Protection from the CPUC and state regulatory actions are covered in this PBS Special that ran repeatedly during the holiday week. if you haven't seen it I suggest you watch it for a good explanation in what is needed and what various states have done to promote solar energy or subdue it as a viable alternative.

Jonathan Scott's Power Trip

kqed – play video

Solar energy evangelist and "Property Brother" Jonathan Scott journeys all across the U.S. to uncover why clean, renewable energy isn't available to all. While traveling to learn both the obstacles and opportunities for achieving energy freedom, Jonathan talks with conservatives fighting for solar freedom; sits down with farmers struggling to make ends meet; engages coal workers desperate for a new, healthy means of making an income; the Navajo Nation who built a utility-scale solar plant; religious leaders who made a desperate attempt to help meet their community's energy needs; and politicians at the forefront of the battle for energy freedom...(more)

Efforts to inform the pubic about the possible alterations in the net-metering charges around being directed by these two organizations, and Think their is a new one to add to this list: votesolar.org - this is the organization that has an online petition and letter set up that they are sending out to alert people to the net metering issue. This is a national organization. solarrights.org - California - Solar Rights Alliance

David Rosenfeld, the Executive Director, who lives in Oregon, has offered to help us with any local email lists we may need to send out when there is an important action pending. They have been focused on California.

Another national group that works at the Federal Level: https://www.solarunitedneighbors.org – national

At this point I will only raise the issue of net-metering concerns today. Later we can get into the need to protect the solar systems from shadows casts by tall buildings and the right hot sun issues.

2. Congestion Pricing:

1. SFMTA is in a big decline and they of course want to blame everyone else for the fact that their calculations failed to produce the results they anticipated. I call it government interference backfiring on the perpetrator. Essentially the SFMTA got caught up in their own anti-car hysteria.

They lost track of the number of cars they require to pay into their Muni system to keep the faire low enough for riders. I think there were some calculations that showed that the bulk of Muni fares, over 50% as I recall, were covered by driver's licensing fees, parking fees and fines and traffic infractions, towing charges, and probably some bridge tolls.

That scheme required a minimum number of cars to support it. Now that the number of cars on the streets has been severely cut back, parking fees are not collected, and most of the traffic is essential workers who need to drive for their jobs. Delivery services are on the rise. In short, the SFMTA has driven the cars off the streets and now they are lamenting the lack of car revenues.

2. There are two obvious options for SFMTA to take.

They could cut costs by stopping the non-Muni road alteration projects and stop the red lane and other non-essential projects during the shutdown and use those funs to operate the Muni for the people who need it. They could stop the future plans for large projects like the Potrero Yard, laying off the planning and PR staff to keep the operators employed. They could revers their anti-car "slow streets" and "shared streets" and encourage private vehicles to get back on the road to use their parking meters and garages to collect more revenue. The could even charge a licensing fee to register bikes. (gasp?)

Or they could establish a congestion pricing scheme - continuing to blame the few cars and drivers that are left for not paying "their share" of the Muni bill and seeking ways to get more money out of the few cars that are left. This plan could be to charge each car for parking on the streets each day and or charging a fee for each time a car drives across a boundary.

This is the conversation we can start to have.

3. What else is new and wonderful?

I will post this in the chat for anyone who misses it ahead of time

Mari Eliza, Chair LUTC

Neighborhoods P.O. Box 320098 San Francisco, CA 94132 415-262-0440 Name of Organization			Member Renewal			
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Current Offic						
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