

May 20th , 2010

General Neighborhood Meeting

Location: San Francisco Day School (350 Masonic Avenue)

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

## AGENDA

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Meet and Greet (7:00pm – 7:30pm)

### Introductions

1. Board Member/Volunteer Introductions
2. Host Thank You
3. Block Party Sponsors and Volunteer Thank You

### **General Announcements**

Doug announced the PG&E rate hearings in early June and encouraged people to attend the hearing.

Leslie from the Hearing and Speech Center of Northern California provided an introduction of her organization. Provide clinical services and social services to help cope with hearing loss, operate as usual. Hearing loss can have emotional impacts. They also operate a “mainstream preschool” and an elementary school for kids age 7 and under. Afterschool program as well. Goal of helping people keep operating in society. Welcome volunteers for events and help at the Center.

### **Informational Speakers**

1. Planned MCD at 350 Divisadero Hearing June 9th

Leela described the petition to oppose the MCD, NOPNA's reasons for opposing, and circulated it with a request to sign.

Jarie provided additional background on NOPNA's reasons: troubled by the secretive way that the owner came into the neighborhood

## 2. Wiggle Gateway concept – Morgan Fitzgibbons

Introduced the Wiggle Party, a group of bicyclists riding the wiggle seeking to make our community a leader in sustainability. Described the route of the wiggle. Plans to help businesses around the route make sustainable choices in the products they use and encourage residents to patronize these businesses and eat locally.

Also looking to mark the wiggle more. They've done some things like chalking the route, would like to install landmarks along the route. Currently hoping to get the BoS to designate the Wiggle a historic route. Seeking support from neighborhood groups.

Wiggle Party parties - 2nd Wednesday, 8:30p socializing, agenda 9p-10p, 1571 Fulton St, in the basement.

## 3. Zygmunt Arendt House – Kendra Fuller, Tenant Services Supervisor

Housing for homeless seniors, started in mid-February. Residents are starting to get to know each other, and they are now starting to recruit volunteers. Opportunities include leading exercise classes, organizing a community garden (starting on June 9), joining the residents for meals.

Question about whether NOPNA seniors would be eligible to live there. Unfortunately, residents are placed at Arendt House through City agencies.

## 4. Divis Corridor Update – Ellyn Parker

Acid Etch removal project underway - 24 businesses will be served. 4-5 have been cleaned up so far. NOPNA is the fiscal sponsor for the grant paying for

Divisadero business developments: New flower shop on 200 block, pizza place in Hotel Metro space, pannini shop in old On the Corner space, taqueria in old B's BBQ space

Bike SF focused on Divisadero

## 5. Masonic Work – SFBC, Michael Helquist

MH is representing the MTA Livable Streets manager. Upcoming meetings about what to do about Masonic and various hazards. Relying on an established practice for gathering community input - series of 3 meetings. 1st is a general meeting explaining the process, gather input and information from neighbors. 2nd

meeting will introduce possibilities and options. 3rd meeting will present refined options. Funding has been in place for 1 year.

1st meeting will be June 16th at SF Day School. More information available on various websites: NOPNA, BikeNopa, Fix Masonic

#### 6. Friends of the Urban Forest - Greg

Working to organize another tree planting in our neighborhood. They will subsidize 80% of the tree costs this year. Eager to launch planting because he's spoken to many residents who are interested in doing this.

Organizing meeting next Tuesday also at SF Day School, 6p in classroom #3. NOPNA planting will involve a website as a test of a new initiative.

Questions asked about doing sidewalk gardens. They want to do more, but the City charges more for pulling more than 1 flag of concrete. They are doing 4 test sites this year.

Older trees can have root problems. They have some strategies and Greg offered his phone number to follow up. FUF has learned from past mistakes and refined their recommendations for trees that are most likely to flourish in a particular location.

### **Featured Topic**

#### 1. Bay 2 Breakers Disruption - Angela Fang (race organizer) and Sam Singer (PR)

Jarie reviewed comments from quick response online survey, which were also sent out to B2B organizers.

AF & SS represent the race organizers. Apologized for activities that took place off the course and quickly opened the floor to comments from the neighborhood.

Broderick St. resident described the scene he has witnessed by his house and noted that the City and race organizers may be legally liable.

SS described their view of the problem as outsiders, "pirates of the panhandle." Currently meeting with supervisors about the problem. Tried to ban alcohol and outlaw floats. Banned kegs and glass bottles.

Banning alcohol does not address the supply from corner stores - someone in the neighborhood sold 350 cases of beer that day. Good day for him, bad one for residents.

House parties in the neighborhood supplying drunken revelers. Police are not addressing the problems.

Broderick St. resident since 1962 observed that the last few years have become a frat party, qualitatively different from how it was before. The problem is the people who come to party rather than run. Runners are great (the first half), the partiers are terrible (second half).

Resident described erecting a 4'x8' barrier in front of his front steps to block people from urinating.

ING pays for all the city services on race day, from public safety to sanitation to Park & Rec. Asked for neighborhood support on an absolute alcohol ban.

Many residents in the room don't view this as a race worth keeping. It's become something other than what we want.

Former Alamo Square resident (now living in Nopa) was surprised to learn that living off the race route is worse than on the route. There's plenty of staff on the route monitoring things - we need more off the route. She felt threatened in her home by people who were ringing doorbells and rattling her front gate. Another woman on the same block (Broderick btwn Fell and Hayes) was afraid to leave her house.

Police were totally non-responsive.

ING organizers need to address solutions, not just listen to neighbors vent.

Questions about # porta potties and garbage cans.

Suggestion for earlier race time so that the tail party end doesn't get a chance to start up. Race conclusion has been extended later in past couple years.

Are we the worst hit? Are there other neighborhoods that have as many problems as us? AF noticed that drinking in our 'hood was worse this year and partly

There's no incentive to get past our neighborhood.

Singer is not interested in the B2B party - he wants to keep it a race.

AF has met with the partiers and they have no interest in being responsible for changing things. Very much want to ban alcohol.

What is your plan to engage this neighborhood earlier and probably year long to address these issues ahead of time. We need to really get ahead of this for next year, which will be the 100th anniversary. AF welcomes a neighborhood advisory group/committee.

Suggestions to change the route to avoid the bottleneck at Alamo Square.

Barricade streets and restrict passage to people in the neighborhood.

Shut it down for a year.

Debriefing process will end next week. Then start planning for 100th anniversary. AF agreed to engage with a NOPNA-organized neighborhood advisory committee.

Can you restrict the race to participants? Who enforces? It is a porous course.

Race has been losing money for years. Is there any charitable benefit to the race? Perhaps if it was to benefit the park or another cause it would get people behind it.

ING will not be sponsor next year.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15p