

SOUTHEASTERN SAN DIEGO PLANNING GROUP (SSDPG)

MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Location: Neighborhood House, 841 S. 41st Street, San Diego, CA 92113

April 9, 2012, 6:00 p.m. – 7:55 p.m.

This Planning Committee covers the area south of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Freeway (Highway 94), east of Interstate 5, north of the border of National City, and west of Interstate 805. It includes the communities of Sherman Heights, Logan Heights, Grant Hill, Memorial, Stockton, Mount Hope, Mountain View, Southcrest, and Shelltown.

Present: Robert Leif, Maria Riveroll, Reynaldo Pisano, Andrea Carter, James Lawrence, Vincent Noto, Paul Sweeney, B.D. Howard, Maria Riveroll, Reggie Womack

Absent: Liliana Garcia-Rivera, Ben Rivera

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND INTRODUCTIONS
2. APPROVAL OF TODAY'S AGENDA (ADDITIONS, CHANGES, OR OMISSIONS)
Motion by Pisano, Seconded by Leif, MSC (7-0-0)
3. APPROVAL OF March 12, 2012 MINUTES
 - a. First by Pisano, and second by Womack, MSC (6-0-1)
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS (two minutes per public speaker, on non-agenda items only)
Point of clarification: If potential members are involved in an area non-profit, you are eligible to join the Planning the Group.
5. STAFF REPORTS
 - a. **Bruce Williams report for Council President Young (District 4)**: Council is just coming back from recess. During our first Council meeting back, the Council passed a \$75 million bond. That will provide funding for our infrastructure needs. I passed out an email blast, you can go online to our website to check it out.
 - b. **Marta Zapata report for Councilmember David Alvarez (District 4)**: April 21, 2012 will be Chicano Park Day. The Museum of Art will be at the old bread factory on Julian Avenue. On April 28, Rebuilding Together san Diego will be beautifying a home for a senior. Harbor Drive will be closed in Barrio Logan because sewer lines are going to be prepared. The work will take place during the first week of May. April 22, at the Balboa Theater there will be a fundraiser for a non-profit that presents classical music to kids. This will be held at 1 PM. The Councilmember will have office hours in Sherman Heights next Thursday from 3-5 PM. The Mazatlan meeting will be a week from next Wednesday.
 - c. **Ricardo Flores report for Representative Susan Davis**: Not present.
6. CONSENT ITEMS: None
7. Action Items:
 - a. Election of Officers
 - b. Maria Riveroll was elected as Chair.
 - c. Reynaldo Pisano was re-elected as Vice-Chair
 - d. B.D. Howard was re-elected as Secretary.
 - e. Reggie Womack was re-elected as Treasurer.

8. INFO ITEMS:

- a. CPI by Trinh Le, Organizer– CPI is currently offering Budget 101 presentations to community groups to make information about the City of San Diego’s budget process more easily accessible to communities, so that everyday residents can participate in the process and influence how the budget shapes their neighborhoods. The participation of neighborhood groups and organizations is important because of the intimate knowledge you have of the needs and concerns of your neighborhoods.

Research and action center for working families. Not a lot of people know how the budgeting process works in the city. This group is made up of 21 community groups. Why care about the budget, because there is a lot of money. The budget impacts jobs and the delivery of services. Who are one of many players in the process: The mayor proposes the budget. They have a budget and finance committee. Important aspects to know about the budget are the budget priorities. The mayor will present that information to council. The Mayor takes into account a revised Budget on May 23. The general fund, property tax, sales tax, the enterprise funds, and service and tax funds, among other things brings revenue into the city. 50% of the budget goes to waste water. The way the CIP budget is funded on a multi-year basis. The whole CIP budget is \$7.1 billion. Challenge to CIP is to determine which projects are funded. This District received \$13 million in CIP funding for projects. In order to save money, some people think that the pensions should be cut allowing services to expand throughout the communities.

Community Budget Alliance wanted the Mayor and council to distribute equitably to all Districts. Open budgetary process, Review real estate assets, and implement key measures around affordable housing. Strengthen the policy regarding CIP projects. CPI is a non-profit with a board, www.onlineCPI.org.

In the future the CPI handouts should contain board members, who fund your organization.

- b. Walmart by Aaron Rios Public Affairs and Government Relations made the presentation–Walmart will be opening San Diego’s first Walmart Neighborhood Market this fall; it will be located in the former Farmer’s Market building on Imperial Avenue between 21st and 22nd Streets. The store will help revitalize a vacant, abandoned property, while preserving the historic character of the building. The new store will be approximately 45,000 square feet and will feature a wide variety of products similar to a typical grocery store, including fresh produce, meats and dairy products; deli foods and bakery goods; household supplies; and pharmacy items.

Walmart’s goal is to create around a dozen projects and generate 1,100 Walmart jobs. We also want to increase the amount of minority owned, female contractors. Walmart operates 167 of these supermarkets around the country. A Walmart neighborhood market is a certain amount of square feet. It will employ 65 people. This will be more like a supermarket. This site is at the old Farmer’s Market. Parking will be shared with Autozone, and the adjacent property on the other side of the Walmart. The goal will be to preserve the historic nature of the building. The presenter will check whether a CUP is needed for the added parking. Walmart also has a cheap prescription medicine program. This project will revitalize the current building. Hopefully this Walmart will bring shoppers back to the community. Walmart purchased \$600 million worth of services from local suppliers. We will try to add

many local jobs for the community. Average pay in California is \$12.74 an hour. Walmart offers 401 K retirement, medical and dental. Walmart has helped create 9500 jobs for the community. Walmart will be environmentally friendly. The store will not be solar powered, but will be solar ready.

Walmart gave a lot of money to local non-profits in the area. Walmart has all of the permits for the store. Walmart will be selling alcohol and will be purchasing produce from local suppliers. The original plan includes street parking. A truck plan will be provided to the residents. The hours of operation will be 24 hours. The closest neighborhood markets are in Las Vegas or Phoenix.

Genetically Modified Produce will be sold. The average wage for entry level employees will have to compare to other stores in the area. Full-time is 34 hours or more, and if you work for Walmart you are eligible for benefits after working for 6 months. Health care benefits will be for less than \$30 a month. The building is a brick building, and it will remain brick.

The store will be 24 hours, but the CPU may state that the store has to close at 12AM. Community relations officer needs to be available. The issue of the alcohol of beer and wine license, there will not be a limit to the alcohol sales if you are selling a lot of groceries (look up the square footage). There was a question regarding whether Walmart is interested in donating a pedestrian activated street lights. This committee has previously seen a conditional use permit, there was 60 people attending the meeting. It had a long laundry list of conditions. Walmart should review that. As a member of the CCDRC they may want a representative of Walmart. Walmart motorhome policy is dependent on the local ordinance.

There was a question about Walmarts donations to non-profits. Walmart gives to the national organizations and then the local branches submit request.

9. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (two minutes per Board member)
10. PLANNER'S REPORT
11. CHAIR'S REPORT
 - a. Robert gave his farewell address as Chair and thanked everyone for being patient while he served as chair.
12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (two minutes per Board member on non-agenda items only)

ADJOURNMENT: by **7:55 p.m.**