

## **Neighborhoods Commission (NC) Jan. 13, 2016**

informal meeting notes by L. Ames

[>link<](#) to Agenda and supporting materials: see the Jan. 2016 entry.

Three new Commissioners appointed by Councilmembers to fill vacancies:

- Mark Espinoza, D4 (Alviso)
- Mimi Hernandez, D5
- Pamela Parrish, D9

substitute Staff: Angelique Gaeta filling in for Ernest Guzman / Michelle McGurk.

### **Public Comment**

Janice Rombeck, for Co. Sup. David Cortese:

- Jan 23rd: Mentoring Fair for 12-yr-olds
- Jan 19, 6-7:30PM at 70 W Hedding: discussion on new jail proposal, funded by \$80M grant.

### **Council Liaison Report**

Andrea Hyde, staff to CM Don Rocha

- Crime-Free Multi-unit Housing (CFMH) proposal: public comment & outreach meetings: two remaining meetings:
  - Jan 14, 7 PM, at Emanuel Lutheran on Moorpark at Leigh
  - Jan 19, 7 PM, McKinley Com.Cntr at 651 Macredes Ave.
- Envision 2040 General Plan revisit: Next mtg Jan 28, 6:30, rm 118 at City Hall

### **City Budget Process**

Leland Wilcox, budget director for Mayor Sam Liccardo

- Public event Feb. 20, Sat., at Parkside Hall (on San Carlos, near Convention Cntr)  
Open to the general public; planning for 1,000 participants  
2 phases: High-level discussion, followed by more detailed Budget Game.  
New, more flexible format: "Zero Based"; can accommodate audience additions.  
Need to register beforehand, and there's an on-line component afterwards.
- Results will fold into Mayor's Budget Proposal, to be released March 18th.
- May 1st: City Manager's detailed embodiment/response
- in May: meetings in the various Council Districts
- June: final budget presented, reviewed, and adopted.

### **Crime Prevention: Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force**

Mario Maciel, Mayor's Task Force

- see presentation chart-set at link above.
- in 2015, 9 of the 29 homicides in SJ were gang-related. In comparison, Salinas (w/ 1/10th of SJ's pop.) had 40.
- a few years back, funding for gang prevention dipped and gang deaths spiked; fund level now restored and gang deaths lowered again
- Policy Team meets even-months; comprised of leads: Mayor, Chief of Police, etc.
- Tech Team meets monthly; comprised of 180 members: Com'nty based Orgs (CBO), etc.

- Inter-Agency chaired by Cindy Chavez; Com'nty Engagement by CM Rose Herrera; School/City by Mayor Liccardo.
- under auspices of Parks Dept (PRNS); includes late night gym, etc.  
Idea is to work w/ kids: "hey, what happened to you that drove you to gangs?"; deal w/ the underlying trauma; reconnect youth to families & schools.
- 30% of gang-members are female; have special needs (e.g., rape prevention/recovery; "art of yoga")
- Gang taskforce program now 25 years old. Gangs have changed over the years: now more mobile, agile, and hostile; use internet for recruitment.
- Mantra: "we value our youth."
- BEST = Bring Everyone's Strengths Together
- old strategy: siloed, not successful. Now, cross-disciplinary: everyone involved at all levels.
- Q&A: Tattoo removal? Yes, for 14-25 yr. olds, visibly noticeable: volunteer doctors w/ limited time.
- Parental awareness: many gang members are 14-19 yr old; need to connect w/ family; might need "tough love" w/ police called in and kids sent to jail.

### **Caucus Process**

Cmsnr. Gary Cunningham, ad hoc cmte chair

- Process adapted from prior years. See report at link above.
- NC discussion:
  - remove limit of 3 rounds of ballots: caucus will continue until achieve results.
  - NC Staff can work w/ Council Staff assistance on details like Nghbrhd Assoc contact info, suitable mtg locations, etc.; Council staff won't run mtg
- Need outreach to recruit candidates: via NextDoor, local weeklies, Council Office [in D6, we'll need candidates, as I understand that there will be an open seat and we need volunteers. I myself am willing to serve but also willing to be replaced.]
- With minor changes, draft report approved to be sent to Council for approval.

### **Community Input**

Cmsnr. Matt Wahlin

- different Cmsnrs do things differently. I (LLA) write these cryptic mtg notes & share them thru a Yahoo group and also discuss issues at the quarterly D6NLG mtgs, and I hear comments from D6NLG and Yahoo group which I share w/ the NC; other parts of the city function differently. Matt will meet w/ ad hoc cmte to formulate recommendations for discussion at next NC mtg.

### **Homelessness**

Cmsnr. Norma Callender

- complicated issue, well beyond scope of NC. Homelessness has many facets; NC can help w/ com'nty outreach and info. sharing.
- draft letter written. Motion: Chair to work w/ ad hoc cmte to refine draft letter for consideration at next NC mtg.

## **Chair's Report**

Chair Larry Ames

- city is updated Envision 2040 General Plan, addressing the jobs/employed resident (J/ER) ratio. Will SJ continue to be a bedroom community? Will it set unrealistically high (“aspirational”) job goals? What are impact of setting more realistic J/ER goal?
- please attend CFMH mtg tomorrow 1/14/16 or this week 1/19/16.

## **Staff Report**

Angelique Gaeta, City Manager's Office

- Council addressed Outdoor Vending yesterday: okayed Fresh Fruit & veggies vending on private property w/o permits; didn't change rules for food trucks on private property.
- Medical Marijuana: 16 dispensaries have made it thru the process & now registered w/ city. Some are now up and running. City now has to do audits and site-inspections. On Jan. 1st, State Regulations took effect, although it'll be 2 years to fully implement.

## **Next Meeting: Feb. 10th.**

- City Auditor's annual report
- NC to begin review of Illegal Dumping. Prompted a big discussion: this was top priority in our work plan, but now we are only going to get a 1/2 hr slide show? Can NC have an ad hoc cmte to review the topic? –constrained by Brown Act. Can the presentation to NC be tailored to answer Cmsn concerns? How can NC get com'nty feedback if we only get to sit & listen to 1/2 hr talk? A: staff has heard questions now, can ask for presentation to be customized; also, NC can extend the discussion beyond the single session listed in the work plan (WP); WP just gives “start dates”, but doesn't mean it has to end then. Cmsnr Pete Kolstad distributed his written comments (>[link](#)<) and asked Staff to post on-line. Had not been agendized → we could not discuss then.
- Also in Feb: continued discussion on Budget & Caucus process

## **Adjourn**

after 3+ hrs of meeting, motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

~Larry Ames (LLA), Jan 14, 2016