

**Corbett Heights Neighbors
Quarterly General Membership Meeting
July 25, 2019**

Prior to the meeting, attendees were asked to sign in by Treasurer Leslie Koelsch (LK).

The following items were distributed to all attendees and are hereby incorporated by reference into the Minutes: Agenda with Q & A format on reverse addressing the existence of a newly created neighborhood organization; an info sheet opposing SB 330 and SB 592 and an illustrated card opposing SB 50.

Vice President Maryann Dresner (MD) called the meeting to order at approximately 7:10 PM.

In attendance were Board members Brad Lyman (BL) and Mark Ryser (MR) in addition to LK.

The complete list of attendees can be found on the sign-in sheet.

Annual Election of Board Members

Mark Ryser (MR) briefly recapped the bylaw provisions governing the qualifications for Board candidates and the voting process. He referred to the voting software used by CHN for the first time this year. He reported that nine persons indicated their desire to stand for election for a Board seat. All nine met the geographic and minimum-length-of-membership criteria and thus appeared on the ballot. An electronic ballot, including brief written statements by each candidate, was mailed on July 2, to all members qualified to vote. Electronic balloting closed July 23. MR explained that any qualified members present who had not voted could request a ballot and vote now.

Pending casting of votes at the member meeting, no electronic balloting results had been announced or were known to any person except the Board Secretary who has administered the election. He noted that following receipt and tally of any in-person votes that evening, the votes would be added to the electronic votes and the complete election result announced at the end of the meeting.

Two members present had not voted electronically and requested ballots. They returned their completed ballots to MR.

Introductions

MD asked that all present introduce themselves.

MD noted concern over the provisions of State Senator Wiener's SB 50 and other legislation.

Announce of Election Results

MD asked MR to report on the Election results.

MR announced the election of all candidates: Paul Allen, John Baskin, Susan Detwiler, Maryann Dresner, William Holtzman, Leslie Koelsch, James Packer, Mark Ryser and James Shay

Treasurer's Report

LK gave a summary of the funds in each of the several CHN accounts. She again briefly explained the decision by a majority vote of the Board in February to use the SF Parks Alliance as CHN's fiscal agent. She noted that former Board President Weiss had taken personal control of residual CHN funds in the general account, preventing them from being transferred to SFPA. She also noted that he had taken control of the CHN PayPal account through which most members have traditionally paid their annual dues, blocking CHN from receiving those dues. He has declined to forward the CHN renewal dues he has received to CHN.

LK explained that CHN has no way of knowing how many renewing members have had their dues redirected by Mr. Weiss. She has sent notices to all members in advance of their renewal dates explaining that dues paid via the former PayPal account do not reach CHN. Members desiring to renew their CHN dues should do so c/o the SFPA as explained on the website.

Questions from members and discussion followed. LK and other Board members stated that it would be up to the newly elected CHN Board to consider options for addressing and correcting the situation.

Homeless Encampment, Debris, and Corbett Slope

Explanation of the "Slope Account," a fund of monies contributed by a project sponsor in the early 2000s for the benefit of the area near Corbett and Mars Streets, led to questions and an extended discussion of concerns and frustrations of neighbors with debris, long abandoned by illegal campers, on the "Slope." Member's questions and concerns over the status of a rumored stairway through the "Slope" between Market and Mars Streets arose. After substantial discussion MD asked for an informal "sense of the group" regarding the stairway. Those present, by a show of hands, overwhelmingly expressed their opposition to the construction of a stairway. It was agreed that a discussion and verification of status of plans would be undertaken by the new Board.

Planning Commission Dennis Richards

It was announced that Commissioner Richards had texted to say he was still in the Commission meeting and apologized that it would be impossible for him to participate in tonight's CHN meeting.

42 Ord Court

MD and Barbara Taylor (BT) introduced a project proposed for 42 Ord Court which they individually, and CHN formally, are opposing. The presentation by BT was interrupted by the arrival of Supervisor Mandelman.

Supervisor Mandelman

The Supervisor (RM) introduced his aide Kyle Smeallie (Kyle.Smeallie@sfgov.org) and the liaison from the Police Department with District 8, Jessica Closson (Jessica.Closson@sfgov.org)

A lengthy, free-form discussion followed between the Supervisor and attendees over many topics, including the “Corbett Slope,” Ord Court developments, thru lot development, the Corbett Heights Special Use District enacted by then-Supervisor Wiener, homeless mental health issues, unresponsive city agencies, MUNI, Castro commercial district street conditions and empty storefronts, and SF’s housing prices.

MD asked the Supervisor to discuss the Wiener State legislation (SB 50) and its new permutations.

A CHN member and former Board Member asked RM whether he would introduce legislation to strengthen the existing Corbett Heights Special Use District provisions. RM gave a qualified answer.

The new owner of property at NW corner of 17th and Ord identified himself and mentioned his intention intensify development of the property.

Further free-form discussion continued. Topics related to concerns, complaints and objections about unsafe, unhealthy, and undesirable activities taking place in streets and public spaces again predominated.

Supervisor RM departed the meeting.

42 Ord Court

BT continued her presentation, urged signing of a petition against the project.

Adjournment

MD adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:15.

Minutes Prepared by Mark Ryser, Secretary
Approved by CHN Board August 29, 2019