



PACIFIC BEACH TOWN COUNCIL
VIRTUAL GENERAL MEETING via ZOOM
JUNE 17, 2020

Present: Brian White, Greg Daunoras, Marcella Bothwell, Brian Curry, Denise Friedman, Brianna Jackson, Dominic Moscatello, Jane Nobbs, Karl Rand, Tony Schlegel, Ron Walker

Absent: Susan Crowers

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 PM

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Brian White welcomed viewers to the PBTC General Meeting being streamed live via Zoom on Facebook. The PBTC is neighborhood 501 c3 non-profit with an all-volunteer board of directors and office staff focused on anything we can do to improve Pacific Beach.

EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORTS

San Diego Fire-Rescue – Captain Richard Marcello:

Captain Marcello updated us on Fire Station 21 recent surge in call volume with Covid-related issues, demonstrators, and fires. They have responded to a limited number of Covid-related calls, but they use full PPE when there is a possibility of Covid symptoms. Marcello reported that when responding to a call about dumpster fires, they caught the arsonist in the act, and he was arrested. Captain Marcello reported on the fire at the Capri by the Sea. The call escalated from a one alarm to a three alarm response with close to 20 fire engines, and they were able to keep the fire contained to just one unit. Cause of the fire is still under investigation.

SPECIAL GUEST: Risa, organizer of “Paddle for Peace”

Risa regularly surfs Tourmaline and she felt that doing a Paddle Out would be a good way for her and the community to heal. She didn’t have any expectations, but her idea gained momentum and support from the surf community and Pacific Beach residents. Risa spoke to the hundreds gathered on the beach prior to the Paddle Out for Peace on June 6th, and requested an 8 minute 46 seconds time of silence with arms raised in honor of George Floyd, asking people to hold through the pain and to

think about what we as individuals would do to make a change. Risa is planning another event around election time to educate and encourage people to register and vote. Details to come!

SPECIAL GUEST: Paige Hernandez, administrator of the Instagram page “Black Brown PB.”

Paige started BBPB after having a negative interaction with the administrator of the original @pacific.beach Instagram page. That experience fueled her to create something different, a page where she can amplify the experience and perspectives that are not represented on other local Instagram accounts. Her original goal was to build an inclusive community, and specifically support and humanize the black/brown businesses and residents in PB. But with the increasing awareness and interest in the Black Lives Matter movement, she plans to use the platform to highlight local action and protests. She’s looking to get involved and give back to a community she loves. Paige is an Assistant Director in the Department of Diversity and Innovation at SDSU.

Upcoming Actions:

- Friday, June 18th, Miss B’s Coconut Club is donating 25% of diners’ total bill to the NAACP and the San Diego Urban League.
- All Black Lives Matter protest Saturday, June 20th 9:00am in response to the Donny Hollis @pacific.beach Instagram account page.
- Juneteenth Celebrations (Black Independence Day) are planned at Mission Bay park through various organizations in San Diego.

President White added that Paige will be featured in the “People in Your Neighborhood” section of the next issue of PB Monthly, and we look forward to collaborating with her.

SPECIAL GUESTS: Erick Girouard and Gracie Semmens

Erick and Gracie are students at MBHS working to publish a magazine featuring the art, poetry and short stories of local PB students from preschool through high school. The magazine will be called “Light More Light” and will be a way to spread more light and love throughout the community, especially now during these difficult times. The profits from sales of the magazine and advertising will go directly back to the community. They will have online sales and also will sell outside of businesses on Garnet and hopefully at the Farmers’ Market. The submission window is open until July 17th. Their website is: www.lightmorelightpb.com, Instagram: @morelightpb, Facebook: Light More Light – Pacific Beach. For inquiries or to make a donation, email: morelightpb@gmail.com

Special Guest: Jane Nobbs, winner of PB Portrait Contest.

In thinking about quarantine experiences, she decided to share how deliveries have impacted lives. Her son recently had a “Covid wedding”, and so she had a number of boxes from wedding deliveries, and also saved up some of her own deliveries. Jane is a photographer with a great sense for composition and clearly a great sense of humor! Jane won a gift card to a local restaurant, and chose Fig Tree Café, one of her favorites. Congratulations Jane!

INFORMATIONAL: President White shared that PB resident Adam Huntington has been at the library this week from 7-8pm videotaping residents talking about experiences with crime in Pacific Beach. Adam plans to present this compilation video to city leaders as a call to action in dealing with the criminal homeless population. Additionally, PBTC will get a townhall discussion scheduled soon to include Neighborhood Policing Division, the Homeless Outreach team, and the upper brass at Northern Division to address these issues and concerns in Pacific Beach. Since the Covid-19 quarantine, many encampments have popped up in the business district and there has been an increase in assaults.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Discover PB – Sara Berns, Executive Director

Sara reported that an email was sent updating information on the last phase of re-opening this Friday; that covers all businesses to varying capacity. Festivals, concerts and large venues remain closed. A decision about Pacific Beachfest (in October) is still up in the air. They’ve put out applications for artists and vendors, but will not ask for any deposits or make a final decision until sometime during July.

Addressing the @pacific.beach Instagram issue, Sara wants to clarify that it was an unofficial page created by one individual, so it’s been unfortunate to see some businesses targeted for following the page. Some people and businesses followed the page originally to monitor what was being said, not because they supported it.

Trash pickup: still doing maintenance 4 days a week (Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat). Due to the uptick in takeaway dining, there has been a problem with overflow. At this time due to a lack of funds, they are unable to increase the number of collection days. Residents can help by taking trash home to dispose of. Despite loss of revenue due to the Covid-related cancelation of the Farmer’s Market & other fundraisers, Discover PB has enough savings to cover operating costs through the end of the year.

The city is working with businesses to make outdoor spaces called pedestrian plazas or parklets (space for dining or shopping in open air) for both restaurants and retail establishments. Discover PB has been coordinating efforts to make it easier for businesses to get permits or help with equipment rental.

Parking enforcement will also begin July 1 through the 15th with written warnings for violations, and after that citations will be issued. Farmers Market is back on Tuesdays – so mind the parking restrictions after 12:30 to avoid towing or getting stuck there.

PB Planning Group – Karl Rand, Chair

Karl reported at their last June 10th meeting they had a review of the five controversial bills from Senator Atkins' office. They had a quarterly Mid-Coast Trolley update, and Karl will have soon have a special announcement relating to the Trolley Station. Six designated parking spaces for the lifeguards right in front of the tower have been approved. Officer elections took place and they have a 17 member board: Karl was re-elected as Chair, Jason Legros was re-elected as Vice Chair, Carolyn Chase was re-elected as secretary, Grant LeBeau was elected Treasurer. Marcella Bothwell has agreed to continue for another year doing the Development Subcommittee. Eve Anderson was termed-out of Streets and Sidewalks, so now Jessie Beckman will take over that committee.

Marcella reported the Promontory/Ingraham Street ADU project will be submitting a new plan to the Planning Group next month following vocal protests by neighbors and unanimous vote against the project by the Planning Group in January.

Park Curfew initiative

President White gave a status update:

Fanuel Park 10pm to 5am curfew: approval from the Mission Bay Parks Committee, approval from the city-wide Parks and Recreation Board

PB Library 10pm to 5am Curfew: initial approval from the Board of Library Commissioners

Mission Bay Youth Fields 11pm-6am curfew received initial approval from the PB Rec Advisory Group, the Mission Bay Park Committee, and the city-wide Parks and Recreation Board.

PB Recreation has received initial approval from PB Rec Advisory Group, and now awaiting advisement from the City Attorney's office to determine who has jurisdiction because of the joint-use field shared with the school district.

Quarantine T-Shirt Fundraiser Update

The "Quarantimes" T-shirts have been delivered, but there was an issue with colors on the Hazmat Surfer T-shirt, so those have been delayed by a few days.

GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

Councilmember Dr. Jennifer Campbell (District 2) - Jordan Beane

Yesterday the San Diego City Council approved monies acting as the Housing Authority aiming at combating homelessness. A big focus of conversation is police funding allocation and bringing in professionals who have outreach backgrounds in working with the homeless, something that has

previously fallen to SDPD officers who are not specifically trained for that. There have been two big outreach events in the last couple of months resulting in approximately 40 individuals moved off the streets of Pacific Beach to the Convention Center. Business and property owners should consider filing an LOA (letter of agency) with SDPD which allows police to access to your property without permission each time. Link: www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/police/pdf/letterofagency.pdf

Question: We have a PERT team (Psychiatric Emergency Response Team) that is supposed to go out with the police when they're dealing with individuals with mental health issues – is that program still being funded? Jordan: The budget that was just passed included 1.5 million dollars for city-wide outreach workers which will help SDPD return to their primary job of policing as peace officers.

Senator Toni Atkins – Miller Saltzman, District Representative

Miller reported that several senators, led by Senator Atkins, have released a Housing Package offering solutions to our housing shortage across the state, focusing on solutions to spur development by expediting unused land areas and advancing small scale infill development. The legislature passed the budget June 15th, but they are still in negotiations with the governor. The overall goal is to avoid major ongoing program cuts and tax increases to the middle class. Due to Covid, the state now has a 54 billion dollar deficit. Included in the budget is a renter/landlord stabilization agreement to resolve unpaid rents and avoid foreclosure, and a 25 billion dollar economic recovery fund.

Drivers licenses set to expire have been given an extension until July 28th and you can renew online. Covid-19 resources are available on the senator's website. When Covid became an issue in March, the legislature passed a billion dollars in emergency funding and 7 million of that went to San Diego to protect the homeless and open the Convention Center for shelter.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:38 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Susan Crowers, Secretary

