



**PACIFIC BEACH TOWN COUNCIL**  
**VIRTUAL GENERAL MEETING via ZOOM**  
**JULY 15, 2020**

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**3:30 Zoom Meeting - Present:** Brian White, Greg Daunoras, Susan Crowers, Brian Curry, Denise Friedman, Ron Walker

**Absent:** Marcella Bothwell, Brianna Jackson, Jane Nobbs, Karl Rand, Tony Schlegel

**CALL TO ORDER: 3:32**

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Brian White welcomed viewers to the PBTC General Meeting being streamed live via Zoom on Facebook. Brian introduced Capt. Scott Wahl from Neighborhood Policing Division and Sgt. Bryan Brecht SDPD Northern Division Day Beach Team to address “Quality of Life” issues. There have been many recent aggressive 5150 assault cases.

**FEATURED GUEST SPEAKER**

Capt. Scott Wahl acknowledged the concerns of the community about the uptick in crimes perpetrated by people suffering with mental illness. SDPD receives over 18,000 calls per year. It takes about 19 police officers out of service each day to respond to these emergency mental health calls. During Covid they’ve had limited ability to respond effectively, and in June the demonstrations further impacted ability to respond. There is a strong push now for non-law enforcement related help for these people in order to intervene before they reach crisis mode. Capt. Wahl is proud of what the City of San Diego and the Police Department have accomplished since starting this special division dedicated to resolving the homeless/mental illness cycle. They have partnered with dozens of service providers balancing compassion with accountability. The outreach team consists of a PERT (mental health) clinician, a county social worker, and a public health nurse responding 365 days a year. This team gets 1 out of 10 people to agree to a shelter bed in a non-enforcement contact (a person not committing a crime).

The Neighborhood Policing Teams are responsive to the thousands of community complaints regarding encampments, mental health issues, drug and alcohol use. This year there have been over 700 encampment complaints in Pacific Beach. SDPD partners with Environmental Services Department who remove the trash and debris associated with encampments. They have a Progressive Enforcement Model followed when encountering people in encampments or in violation of quality of life offense:

1<sup>st</sup> time – offered a shelter bed and given a warning

2<sup>nd</sup> time – offered a shelter bed, if declined they receive an infraction citation

3<sup>rd</sup> time – offered a shelter bed, if declined they receive a misdemeanor citation

4<sup>th</sup> time – a shelter bed is offered, if declined it will result in custodial arrest.

A diversion program was also implemented; if the person agrees to stay in the shelter for 30 days, their case is not issued, and the social workers, case managers and rehabilitative services have a chance of getting them into a better more sustainable living environment. Approximately 25% complete the diversion program.

Every Thursday in Pacific Beach there are coordinated outreach events with (non-law enforcements) professional service providers, canvassing the area to try to help people. On July 9<sup>th</sup> they made contact with 77 people, of those, 3 people accepted shelter, and 16 people accepted additional services.

Sargent Brecht reported that he has a seasonal team of 10 officers for the beaches and Mission Bay Park, patrolling from La Jolla Shores down to the jetty (March through August). Eight officers patrol on ATVs and two officers are on boat patrol.

**Question** about encampments: The Get It Done app is the best way to have the police respond, NOT non-emergency police dispatch.

**Question** about thefts and bike chop shops: Your best defense is a strong lock and having a serial number on your bike. Report the crime. Due to Covid, bike thieves would only be ticketed.

**Question** about Letter of Agency: These letters are very helpful for all businesses and residential properties because they allow the police to be on the owner's property in their absence. The LOAs are only good for one year, so they must be renewed.

**Question** about Vehicle Habitation ordinance: There is still city involved litigation that Capt. Wahl cannot comment on. The police are still enforcing, and there are safe parking lots available with support services. If you suspect vehicle habitation within 500 feet of a residence or school, any time of day, report it on the Get It Done app. (Select -New Report, -Other, -Other)

**Question** about open use of drugs/alcohol: These issues are addressed by taking people to a detox center providing intense outreach efforts to accept rehabilitative services. Getting the message out that public intoxication will not be tolerated.

## **General Meeting continued at 6:30**

**Present:** Brian White, Susan Crowers, Denise Friedman, Karl Rand, Ron Walker, Brianna Jackson, Brian Curry, Jane Nobbs, Marcella Bothwell, (Charlie Nieto)

**Absent:** Greg Daunoras, Tony Schlegel

### **COMMUNITY UPDATES**

**Discover PB** – Sara Berns, Executive Director

Sara thanks the Pacific Beach Town Council for their donation of \$3000 for an additional trash collection on Sundays, bringing trash collection days to five per week. This generous donation will fund collection through Labor Day Weekend.

**Special Guest Speaker** – Caryn Blanton, Shoreline Community Services

Caryn spoke about the current realities in our neighborhood, which has two pieces:

Homelessness- the most consistent cause of homelessness is a loss of relationships with family, friends, churches and the community as a whole. There is a lack of service providers here at the beach due to short staffing and budget constraints.

Crime- it is not a crime to be homeless. Often unhoused people are put into the same category as criminals, but Ms. Blanton believes the percentage of those living on the streets committing these crimes is low.

Shoreline Community Services is working to address both of the above issues through Relief Services and Development Work.

Relief Services are like triage. They provide for people's basic needs – food, clothing, basic medical care and temporary shelter that enables them to work on those root issues which resulted in homelessness.

Development Work is geared toward long term solutions – job training, addiction programs, life skills training, mental health services, etc. Relief services and development work must go hand in hand for success. SCS serves as a connection in the community to make sure the most vulnerable are cared for with compassion and equity. They are currently using the six meal services each week to connect with the guests in order to build a relationship and help people get the resources they need. Because of their success fostering relationships they have housed 10 people (either matched to permanent housing or reunited with family) since March.

One of SCS priorities is to keep our neighborhood cleaner. They are working on a program where abandoned items are tagged and then taken to storage. When people come to collect their belongings, they will be met by Caryn and a social worker to help them find the resources and help they need. SCS is also working to increase bike registration in order to curtail bike theft. They are looking for volunteers to help in a variety of ways. This issue can be resolved if we come together as a community.

Connect with Shoreline Community Services through Facebook, [www.shorelinecs.org](http://www.shorelinecs.org), or call Caryn directly at 858-900-7024.

## **GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES**

**Councilmember Dr. Jennifer Campbell** (District 2) -- Jordan Beane (telephone# 619-890-1902)

Jordan reported that the Environment Committee is moving forward tomorrow with a meeting at 1:00 on a decision about the franchise fee with a power provider.

Jordan spoke about the recent Short Term Vacation Rental (STVR) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) released by Jen Campbell's office. There is no date set for when the MOU will go before the City Council. The MOU was signed 6/24 and no mention was made of this agreement when some members of the PBTC board had a meeting with Jennifer Campbell the next day 6/25.

\*Complete video coverage of this discussion and the questions asked are available on the Pacific Beach Town Council Facebook page. Advance to 40:00 minute mark.

**Supervisor Nathan Fletcher** (District 4) – Emily Wier

Emily addressed the uptick in the number of Covid-19 cases, the county is now on the state monitoring list which has required some new closures. Following public health guidelines is of upmost importance. There is some stimulus funding available, however there is far more need for relief than is available. Check the supervisor's website for more information: [www.supervisornathanfletcher.com](http://www.supervisornathanfletcher.com)

**Assemblymember Todd Gloria** (District 78) – Michaela Valk

Michaela reported the state assembly is in recess and will be resuming sessions on 7/28. They have until 8/31/20 to pass all legislations, and the governor will have until 9/30/20 to sign all legislation passed into law or to veto.

More updates available at: [www.a78.asmdc.org](http://www.a78.asmdc.org)

**Representative Scott Peters** (52<sup>nd</sup> District) – Cesar Solis

Cesar reported that the last action the House had on Covid was in March for a 3 trillion dollar relief package that is still awaiting action from the Senate. Earlier this month the "Build More Housing Near Transit" Act sponsored by Rep. Peters was passed by the House of Representatives.

More updates available at: [www.scottpeters.house.gov](http://www.scottpeters.house.gov)

**PB Planning Group – Karl Rand, Chair**

Karl reported that Chase Bank has applied for a permit to demolish their building on Mission Bay Drive. The exterior of the building showcases 8 mosaic works of art by Millard Sheets, a mid-century artist who created a legacy of elaborate artwork reflecting California history. The mosaics on the Chase branch here in Pacific Beach feature San Diego history. Karl has spoken a number of people (including the architect for Chase Bank, a professor who wrote a book about Sheets, and an art preservationist) about the possibility of moving the mosaics to the new Trolley Station. There is also a group working to preserve the entire building, and Karl is in communication with them as well.

The project that straddles Promontory St and Ingraham St was presented to the Planning Group once again. Despite revisions, the project was still disapproved by the Planning Group, however, Karl thinks the city will give final approval. Future comments should be directed to the formal hearing with the city.

The “Complete Communities” proposal is being rushed through by the city, and will only take input from the CPC, collective of all 50 planning groups from around the city. A subcommittee has been formed within PBPG to work on this proposal and will meet tomorrow at 4:00pm.

**Meeting Adjourned: 8:04 pm**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Susan Crowers, Secretary