

# Ocean Beach Planning Board

## General Meeting Minutes

Date: January 2, 2019

Location: OB Recreation Center

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b> (Checked if in attendance / # represents district / Note of arrival time in box if late)			
x 1 Tracy Dezenzo	x 3 Virginia Wilson	__ 5 Numan Stotz	x 7 Andrea Schlageter
x 1 Anthony Ciulla	x 3 Andrew Waltz	__ 5 Vacant	__ 7 Richard Aguirre
x 2 Elizabeth Felando	x 4 Craig Klein 6:06 pm	x 6 Jane Gawronski	x AL Kevin Hastings
x 2 Tom Gawronski	__ 4 Vacant	x 6 Dan Dennison	x AL Richard Merriman

## FINAL

**CALLED TO ORDER**

**6:00 pm**

**ADJOURNED**

**7:32 pm**

### AGENDA MODIFICATIONS & APPROVAL

No modifications

1<sup>st</sup> JG 2<sup>nd</sup> KH Yea 11 Nay 0 Abstain 0 Absent 3

### MINUTES MODIFICATIONS & APPROVAL

Modification to add Dan Dennison on PRC committee

1<sup>st</sup> KH 2<sup>nd</sup> TD Yea 11 Nay 0 Abstain 0 Absent 3

### REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

#### **Chevell Newell-Tate for Senator Toni Atkins**

- Handed out the Toni Times flyer
- Monday, Newsome sworn in. 3 days after Budget proposal and Atkins will be looking at it closely.
- Starting in the new year, bunch of bills went into effect. Many are little tweaks to existing. Highlights are: Min Wage increase, protections against lawsuits, straws, sale of breeding pets-animal shelter supplied only, gender identity (select MFX), breathalyzer for engine start for repeat DUIs, motorized scooters
- Public Comment: Asked about gender identity clarification, asked about recycling centers in OB, state law requires buy back center or supermarket, OB is not in compliance, supermarkets need to implement a buy back machine or a fine. Fine is per day, fine amount is unclear. Many people in the audience felt the stores would rather to pay the fine than have a buy back center.

#### **Seamus Kennedy for City Council District 2 Jennifer Campbell**

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- Nothing to report yet since they just got started.
- Had a meeting with AS regarding OB needs
- Going to be looking over the budget soon and seeing what they can fight for
- KH: brought up cliff access and how the city has been deficient in repairs. SK: looked into it and said the planning was slated to be complete in Jan. 2020, hoping to get it done faster and has 5 million in funding 3 has been used. Going to look into it.
- DD: STVR's? SK: They are looking at the same proposal from the previous administration or if they need to tweak it. They are still looking into it. SK: CW Campbell supported the original proposal as a candidate and will support it again as the councilperson.

### NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

John, who lives on Brighton and Ebers is in favor of traffic calming and not necessarily stop signs. Need to look at larger picture traffic calming.

### ACTION ITEM #1: 4870 Voltaire St CDP/NDP

**PRC report: 6/0 recommend approval.**

- Does not include Jim Bell lot
- Concern about bulkiness and flatness of façade
- Variance requested for turnaround for parking garage. Using the handicap spot for turnaround
- Lifts: install, used to potential, etc
- Den was counted toward parking calculation
- All cycle review comments have been addressed

### **Public Comment:**

- How many bedrooms? 2-bedroom plus a den (bedroom) and 2-bedroom unit. Den has been counted in parking equation.
- Space between properties? 30" setback between properties.
- More questions and concerns about lifts
- High? Just under 30 feet
- No deviations? No.
- Solar? Not required by city yet but they plan on doing it.

### **Board Comments:**

**VW:** power outages effecting lifts? Lifts won't work. **JG:** likes articulation of building. Discussion of offsetting plain requirements. **AW:** asked about intended use of lifts, no big equipment only used for

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typical vehicles. Further discussion of lifts and why they will be necessary in the future. **KH:** Discussion of how the 3 units on Abbott were going to add lifts and never did. Maybe got a waiver? We don't know why they didn't use them. More questions about lifts operate and user operation. Seems to be a way to "dodge parking requirements". Applicant responded that many units elsewhere in San Diego are using them and they are working well. **KH:** eager to see how they work. Applicant responded that 2 SUVs could fit. **TD:** reiterated that applicant is a resident of OB and understands the importance of parking. **DD:** lifts work fine. **CK:** recommends approval. **TG:** n/a. **JG:** each rental unit has dedicated parking.

### **KH: Motion to recommend approval of project**

1<sup>st</sup> KH 2<sup>nd</sup> CK Yea 11 Nay 1 Abstain 0 Absent 2

Reasons for abstentions: Apprehension about lifts being installed to accommodate parking needs.

### **ACTION ITEM #2: 4 Way Stop Sign at Saratoga Ave and Ebers St**

**Isaac Darby:** gave a brief report on the need.

**KH:** gave report of traffic studies, accidents, no traffic counts and standards for when stop signs will be installed (point values and additional processes beyond the point system). Neighborhood watch has also met with Campbell and expressed concern.

### **Transportation Committee:**

The committee felt that the board should recommend a 4-way stop and follows with the Safe Routes to School initiative. Can request more studies but felt that we could get ahead of the situation and make intersections near schools safer. Request the Jen Campbell submit a request to the Mayor. A discussion was also had to request red paint on corners for greater pedestrian visibility.

### **Seamus Kennedy:**

Will be meeting with Conrad Wear to discuss items that was in progress before the change over. He feels that Campbell is amiable to items at the community level

### **Public Comment:**

Precarious corner. GPS is suggesting Ebers instead of Sunset Cliffs for quicker thoroughfare. Important to be proactive. Worried more about non-residents who are unfamiliar with the area and won't stop for pedestrians. Hard to see around the parked cars. The needs of the community school, park, special needs school, rec center. *Opposed viewpoints:* blind corners are everywhere. Already a 4-way stop and crosswalk. 3 stops in row excessive. Nick: Maybe yield signs instead of stops.

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### Board Comments:

**TG:** it's a main route. Stopping up traffic is not a solution to aiding in leaving OB. Drives the area a lot and doesn't see the need for a 4-way stop. **AS:** would you be interested in seeing something different? **TG:** traffic calming is good but doesn't see the need for a full 4-way. **CG:** There are many places that have multiple stops in a row. Ebers is the only one that doesn't have a stop at Saratoga. Streets that don't have stop signs every two or three streets turn into race tracks. 100% in favor. **LF:** Pro. Sunset Cliffs is going to get worse more people going down Ebers. **DD:** reiterated the community concerns. Traffic study was inadequate. May be a better way to do this but something needs to be done now but maybe later add onto the intersection. It's a unique corner that generates a lot of walking traffic. **TD:** reiterated community concern about 3 stops in a row and there is already some barriers to speeding. But not convinced that a stop is needed and there may be other alternatives for safety. Could be a slippery slope of crosswalks everywhere. Would like to look at alternatives to traffic calming. **KH:** on the fence. Referenced some other items that are not working very well. He is wary of asking the city for too many stops. Did the Transpo committee discuss other options? Bump outs considered for greater visibility. Extend the red curbs. But the expense is greater. Crosswalks are more dangerous because they give pedestrians a false sense of safety. Enforce the speed limit: flashing signs, more patrols. Concerned about unmanned crossing guard protected crosswalk and not enough crossing guards. Biggest danger is cars pulling out and not seeing the pedestrians. **RM:** was leaning for approval of stop signs but Kevin had some good points and felt that further studies could be done. **AC:** witness to potential collisions on the corner. Pedestrian heavy intersection. Makes common sense to stop cars there. The seconds it takes to stop is not going to ruin their day as much as hitting a kid would. **AW:** in favor. Stop is lowest common denominator that the city would be willing to do but thinks there are other measures that could be looked at in the future. Better to do something now than nothing and waiting. **JG:** Doesn't think we have the solution yet. Kevin identified some additional solutions and we should be looking at those. **VW:** would like to know how long it takes to get a new study and how long it takes to get something installed. **AS:** can submit a letter right away. Other calming measure can be implemented and remain in place during the installation of stops. Visibility of pedestrians is important. Should also consider adding a fence of some kind in the park to keep the children from running out into the street. Would like to see the stop sign and not an inconvenience if it saves even one life.

**CK: Motion to authorize the board to send a letter to councilperson Campbell requesting the installation of the 4-way stop sign(s) at the intersection of Ebers & Saratoga, to be installed as soon as possible due to the location near to a park, the OB recreation center and OB Elementary school.**

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**Modification to motion request by KH: offer an amendment to add additional options to the request other than simply a stop.**

**Opposed to modification by CK and DD: there is a serious risk of someone getting hurt and more options may stall the installation of something being done asap. DD: don't give the city an excuse to drag it out.**

1<sup>st</sup> CK 2<sup>nd</sup> DN Yea 10 Nay 2 Abstain 0 Absent 2

Reasons for abstentions:

### **OFFICER / SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **Chair Announcements & Correspondence:**

- Election committee will be needed.
- Up for reelection is: Anthony, Tom, Richard A, Andrew, Dan, Richard M
- Also we need to consider whether we allow those who were appointed in the last year to keep their signatures valid.
- TG: noted that he was termed out. 8 years. Will not be running. District 2 seat will be open.

**Treasure Report:** \$895.77

#### **Secretary Report:**

- Reminder for bios and photos

### **LIAISON REPORTS:**

**OB PB Transportation Subcommittee** (see above Action Item #1)

**OB Town Council:** TC has been dark. Elections are coming up. Need to be an active member to vote/run

**Mission Bay Park Committee:** Budget for CIP passed. Going to engage a consultant to consider lights for parks (Dusty Rhoads)

**Community Forestry Advisory Board:** Ocean Beach Elementary now has their trees