

Glen Park Association

Fall Quarterly Meeting

October 13, 2011

7 p.m.

President Michael Rice opens. Treasurer not here, but finances are good. GPA is looking for neighborhood grant proposals to fund.

VP Carolyn Deacy says there are flyers about next park planning meetings/project process.

SF Safe is having a run on October 30.

Membership's Sally Ross says there's a greening group that will be planting on Monterey medians from the freeway through the Sunnyside village. They don't want weed cloth. It's been shoveled up, in the medians, waiting to be pulled up if you want it.

Planning Update, John Swae

Q: What about the BART lot? BART hasn't determined any plans, so the GP Community Plan leaves that lot as it is. If BART wants to change it, they will have to come forward and do their own community process.

Q: Any change in this plan since July? Height restrictions changed. They went from 40 feet down to 30 feet in the core downtown area of Glen Park.

Q: What about the garages by Osha Thai? OT will be re-zoned for commercial.

Q: After plan is approved, what are the next steps? At the back of the document is a list of the projects the city would start on once the plan is adopted: pedestrian improvements at Diamond and Bosworth, Arlington and Bosworth a priority.

Q: Daylighting Islais? We've heard a lot of concerns about daylighting the creek: flooding, erosion, pest control and maintenance. But there's very little what we know about what that would look like, so plan calls for further study. That would then be debated after study.

There was a suggestion to reduce Bosworth to one lane heading toward Elk. We asked MTA to address that. They would have to look into that further. Can be looked at once the plan is adopted.

Merchants

Ric Lopez announces we have one more month left for Farmer's Market. Then we'll re-assess its feasibility for the spring. Join the market on Facebook to hear about events.

New sushi restaurant coming in to where the Oyster bar was.

Merchants Association will probably have some holiday events, and we'll post them on a bulletin board.

The Cheese Boutique building is for sale, but there is a possibility that Rick will move out. Two units, Rick is on the bottom.

No on both C and D, Gerri Meister

(GPA has no formal position on these election matters.)

Geri Meister, representing a group called Protect our Benefits, a group of retirees from the city, the school district, community college district and courts system. We're part of the Health Service System (107,000 members, retired and working employees and their families).

We are opposed to C not b/c of pension but the health services. Why? The change sounds small: all they are doing is changing who elects the board. Board makes recommendations on benefits plans, board makes final approval.

For many years HSS was a pot of gold for some in the city. There was a lot of political interference with the money situation during the Brown administration. She thinks there was political influence on that decision making process.

Before it was very badly managed, there was a lot of political influence prior to 2004. The prop then changed composition of the board. The BOS was able to choose the director (previously appointed by mayor) "It became much more autonomous and pretty nearly immune from political influence, and I would like to see it stay that way."

C calls to return the make-up of the board from four elected by HSS and three appointed by mayor, BOS and controller to four appointed and three elected.

We like the way the governance system is set up, and we're very sorry that the C group that has billed itself as the consensus group. They didn't bring in the retirees.

SF GoSolar reimbursement program

Jed Andrews, solar engineer in charge of SF's city solar installations.

Angela ??

There are different types of solar deals: solar leases, power purchase agreements. One Block off the Grid: pooling the resources of a neighborhood. There is also this city rebate program for your own solar installation:

We manage the GoSolar SF program, an incentive program, started our fourth year of this program in July. Since 2004, this program has made 1,500 installations, spent \$12.5 million.

The city wants to encourage the installation of solar power systems. When considering solar, reduce your energy load as much as possible first. (Also check the shade situation, zoning situation to learn if a huge building could go up to your south.)

City offers money toward your installation: \$2k to \$3750, another \$7k for low income (below median income). \$2k is base incentive. Add on \$750 if your installer is headquartered in SF. \$3k base incentive (rather than \$2k) if you live in Energy Justice District: 94107, 94124.

This is a two-step process. Choose an installer, get a few bids. We have about seven participating installers vetted by city and required to hire two disadvantaged SFans. Installer helps you apply for rebate. We review and approve application. Funding is reserved for you for nine months. When project is completed. Installer helps you submit more paperwork. Check then comes within 30 days.

Also a state program, installer can help you apply for: California Solar Initiative. (\$350 per kilowatt rebate)

There's also a federal tax credit the year following your installation. Right now it's 30 percent of project cost minus state incentive. (SF rebate is taxable.)

Q: Income cap on federal rebate? No.

Q: If you produce extra energy do you get credit? No, not at this time. PGE says it's difficult for them to accommodate the flow of power back in their system b/c of protection systems. Would cost a ton of money. (Odd, though, b/c they already take energy back into their system.)

Q: What happens when you have to have your roof redone?

The idea is that you would put an installation on a fairly new roof. Installer will help you analyze that. B/c you do have to take the panels down and reinstall them if your roof is re-done.

Q: What is range of installation cost in SF? Average in SF going through our program has been 2.2 Kilowatts. Average size. \$8k a kilowatt. 2.2 K should operate an average single family home.

Q: What is a break-even period of time? Don't know. Maybe 10 to 12 years, depending on factors that could easily change. Life of system is 20 or 25 years. Engineer does think they'll last longer than that.

Prop C and D, competing pension reform measures

C person is not here. So here's what SPUR says:

Prop C addresses many of the unfunded public pension benefits and costs. \$1.29 billion savings over 2 years. Created by consensus-based process, which is best to avoid future litigation. (City staff, business, labor and nonprofit communities took part.) Reconfiguration of HSS board could yield long-term structural savings. "Although C does not save as much as D, we believe this proposal is more comprehensive b/c it addresses more aspects of the problem including retiree health care."

Craig Weber

Chairperson for civil grand jury that was responsible for issuing first pension report in July 2009. July 2010 report "Pension Tsunami: Billion Dollar Bubble" Was used to craft Prop B (unsuccessful) and D (coming up).

There's very little transparency and accountability in system.

D was crafted with 2010's B in mind: B's failure showed that SF voters don't approve of changes in health benefits for city workers, so D focuses on pension.

(HSS committee: Retired city workers had control over that committee for many years. Elsbernd wanted to shift swing vote to controller. When you put a finance guy in that role, you can expect that health premiums will increase for retired city workers and services will be reduced.)

Pension fund declined about 30 percent by recession of 2008.

City workers fall into two categories: SEIU and safety. Latter are more costly (higher salaries). They will pay a higher rate for their pensions.

Prop D will increase city worker contributions rate. There are tables and rates. Prop D provides graduated progressive increase in city workers contribution rates based on salary. Exempts anyone earning less than \$50k. Each \$10k over that, there's a percentage rate increase in rates.

Prop D has higher rates. 58 percent of SF workers earn 90k or more. Rate under prop D for misc employees, 20 percent city contribution rate, they will pay 12.5 percent. (Under C, same worker pays 10 percent. Right now pay 7.5 percent since July of this year.)

When Prop C folks talk about increasing city workers rate, they table they provide shows a give-back to city workers if city contribution rate falls to 10 percent. Prop D doesn't have that b/c the very viability of retirement system is at stake.

Opposition will say C had consensus and D will not pass legal scrutiny. D was crafted by a former city attorney.

Hellman met with every union in SF to craft C. There were no tax payers or retired employees who participated in those meetings.

Adachi was not invited. 115,000 voted yes on B in 2010. They weren't represented in these meetings.

If you look at C, first three pages are readable, talking about serious problem. But the measure is 265 pages. It's totally incomprehensible. Will be challenged by someone in court, just as D will be challenged. That's the way things work in SF.

Would D affect Board and Mayor? Yes.

Meeting adjourned.