

# the Potrero Community Voice

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August 2005

## Next Meeting – August 30 Potrero Hill Neighborhood House 953 DeHaro Street (at Southern Heights)

- 6:45 pm Social
- 7:00 pm Business Meeting  
Introductions / Welcome to New Members  
Police Report
- 7:20 pm Neighborhood Issues  
Angela Louie, SF District Attorney's Office
- 7:40 pm Break
- 7:50 pm Showplace Square/Central Waterfront  
with David Alumbaugh, Jasper Rubin, and  
Johnny Jaramillo, SF Planning Dept.

## Other Important Meetings Coming Up

**Monday, August 29, 6 pm, Potrero Hill Neighborhood House**  
PG & E / CA ISO meeting re: requirements for closing  
the Hunters Point Power Plant

**Tuesday, August 30, 5.30 pm, SF Main Library**  
Better Neighborhoods Plus community workshop

**Monday, September 12, 7 pm, Genentech Hall, UCSF, 600 16th St.**  
Community update and planning for UCSF's proposed  
Mission Bay hospital

**Saturday, September 17, 11 am, the Thick House**  
District 10 town hall for the City's Arts Task Force

## President's Message

### Thanks and Congratulations to Capt. Rick Bruce, SFPD

On Friday, August 20, SFPD Bayview Station Captain Rick Bruce retired from the force after 30 years of service. While there were rumors of Capt. Bruce retiring at the end of the year, and the SFPD policy of rotating captains throughout the City guaranteed that we would eventually have a change of captains in any case, the announcement did catch many of us by surprise.

Captain Bruce clearly raised the bar on what we in the Bayview police district have grown to expect in a district police captain. He was a pioneer in the use of email and cell phones for better community relations, and he brought a true understanding of the value of community policing to a city that badly needs it. He will be missed. At this time we have no information as to who will be replacing him, but it's already certain that the email police reports will continue as usual.

The Potrero Boosters, along with other communities in the district, made a \$50 contribution toward a group gift honoring the captain: a complete fishing package (rod, hat, assorted flies, etc.). Happy fishing, Rick.

At the end of his tenure, Capt. Bruce researched a number of Bayview Station gun arrest cases to, in his words, "find out why so many armed gang members seem to be on the streets of the Bayview, even though our officers are arresting them on a constant basis. We have almost six month's worth of data, and it was a bit shocking when we first started to take a look at it." He sent the

results out via email, and to her credit, DA Kamala Harris responded quickly. We'll have Angela Louie from the DA's office at the next Boosters meeting.

### From the District Attorney's response to Capt. Bruce:

"The positive thing about Capt. Bruce's list is that the cases highlighted show that we are getting more convictions that have resulted in longer sentences with more stringent conditions of probation upon release. The list also shows there is still, obviously, room for improvement.

"One year ago we instituted tough new charging standards for all Assistant District Attorneys and created a gun specialist team to ensure focused gun crime prosecution. I make no excuses for the cases where my office should have performed better, and rest assured, we will continue our work with victims, officers and the courts to ensure that those arrested carrying guns in San Francisco face tough consequences.

"There have been positive changes since our gun policy has been instituted. Before the policy, on average, offenders were spending 10 days or less in custody for illegal firearm possession. I think anyone would agree that is far too little time. A look at Captain Bruce's list shows the average length of sentences is growing. The improvement is encouraging but it is not enough. We will continue our work and efforts with the courts to secure longer minimum sentences for illegal possession of handguns. Our successful work to increase the bail amounts for possession of guns and assault weapons is also sending a message that guns will not be tolerated. Having said that, citizens may see individuals arrested for serious crimes back out on the street. There are a number of reasons for this – some of them have posted bail and await trial. In other cases, the courts may have dismissed or reduced the charges or accepted a plea despite our objection.

"Sometimes we are forced to dismiss cases because witnesses are afraid to come forward or because the circumstances surrounding the arrest require further investigation. Nonetheless, in cooperation with SFPD, we will continue our efforts to build trust and ensure witnesses know that if they come forward with information, they will be protected. My sincere hope is that as we continue strengthening the ties of trust with the community the number of cases where people have to worry about their safety will diminish.

"I would also like to take this opportunity to commend Captain Rick Bruce on his service to the people of this City. He has been a dedicated public servant and served the people of the Bayview well. I wish he, and his family, all the best in the future."

### Neighbors for the Nabe

The Potrero Hill Neighborhood House is a multi-generational community center in continuous operation for nearly a century. It serves those in need from the cradle to the grave, with an emphasis on youth and education.

The Neighbors for the NABE campaign is a grassroots community fundraising initiative to help close a funding gap caused by 2005 city budget cuts. For more information, visit <http://nabe.potrerohillsf.com>.

## CITY PLANNING

BLDG PERMIT APPLICATION #2004.10217426: **610-612 WISCONSIN/ 20th Sts.** Propose to legalize the demolition and reconstruction of a rear deck and stair that extends into the required rear yard, therefore, requiring a variance. Contact: Mat Snyder, Planner, ph: 575-6891.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW DOCUMENT "Prelim. NEG DEC" available for Case #2004. 0546E: **680 Illinois/2075 Third/18th Sts.** The proposed project would include the demolition of 2-20ft high warehoused and construction of a 5-story (50 ft) high mixed-use bldg with 9,128 sq ft of ground floor commercial use, 35 two bedroom residential units, 35 parking spaces. Project requires a Variance for lack of commercial parking and a Conditional Use for a PUD. Contact: Joy Navarette, Planner, ph: 558-5975.

### CASE #2002.1302ET: **2235-2255 THIRD/19th Sts.**

Letter, 4 Aug 05, by Planning Department to Martin Bldg Co. Based on latest plans and studies submitted to Planning (Winslow Hastie) "we are close to achieving a project that representative of the goals set forth in the draft Central Waterfront Plan" and that the Dept would endorse. Martin Co. must file PUD application and submit detailed schematic plans for review.

Some of the conclusions:

- The Dept. will support the "Central Waterfront Plan's Demonstration District", if it incorporates the proposed 65 ft height limit and eliminates dwelling unity density restrictions as currently proposed.
- The Dept's Preservation Unit has determined that the proposed 20 ft setback for the 3-story vertical addition to the single story historic warehouse at 2255-3rd St is compatible, will not have a detrimental impact on this historic resource.

## MEMBERSHIP

**Renew Your Boosters Membership!** The Potrero Boosters now have annual membership, meaning that now is the time to pay your dues and renew your membership through 2006, if you haven't done so already! Just fill out the form below and send it in . . .

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

**City Hall** 1 Goodlett Place Rm 200 SF Ca 94102  
Web site: [www.sfgov.org](http://www.sfgov.org)

**Mayor Gavin Newsom** ph: 554-6141 fax 554-6160  
[gavin.newsom@sfgov.org](mailto:gavin.newsom@sfgov.org)

**Supervisor Sophie Maxwell** / District 10 (which includes Potrero Hill):  
ph: 554-7670 fax 554-7674  
[Sophie.Maxwell@sfgov.org](mailto:Sophie.Maxwell@sfgov.org)

**Bayview Police Station** 201 Williams St, SF 94124  
SFPD Web site: [www.sfgov.org/police/](http://www.sfgov.org/police/)  
Capt. Rick Bruce ph: 671-2300 fax 671-2345  
[Rick\\_Bruce@ci.sf.ca.us](mailto:Rick_Bruce@ci.sf.ca.us)  
Abandoned autos 254-7185 (Officer Maurice Edwards)  
Encampments, trash 254-7120 (Office Tim Buelow)  
Drug dealing, etc. 254-7107 (Sgt. Carl Fabbri, Lt. Charlie Orkes)

### Potrero Boosters Executive Committee

President	Tony Kelly	341-8040
	<a href="mailto:president@potreroboosters.org">president@potreroboosters.org</a>	
First Vice President	Dick Millet	861-0345
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Auditors	Jean Neblett	550-2613
	Susan Eslick	822-2301

Webmaster: Joseph Schaller 648-4267  
[webmaster@potreroboosters.org](mailto:webmaster@potreroboosters.org)

**Please visit our Web Site at POTREROBOOSTERS.ORG**

**The Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association** is devoted to issues of importance to the communities of Potrero Hill. Our goals are to act as a forum for concerned Potrero residents and to participate in policy and development decisions that affect the quality of life here on the Hill.

Meetings are the last Tuesday of the month (7:00 p.m. at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House) and are open to everyone, members and non-members.

**Dues:** Individual \$25, Household (couple) \$30, Senior \$20. (Make checks out to: "Potrero Boosters.")

Mail check to Potrero Boosters, 1459 18th St., #133, San Francisco, CA 94107, or sign up online (coming soon).

Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_ membership(s).      New \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_      Prefer e-mail newsltr (Y/N)? \_\_\_

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone, Daytime Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**Interests/Concerns** \_\_\_\_\_

The Potrero Community Voice  
Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association  
1459 18th St. PMB 133  
San Francisco, CA 94107

**Does your mailing label say 'DEC 04'?**  
**Renew your membership now!!**  
**Fill out the form above and send it in!**

**First Class**