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Serving the Community
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the Potrero Community Voice

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November 2001

Meeting Information for November 27

Potrero Hill Library Upper Meeting Room
1616 20th Street at Connecticut Street
6:30 PM Refreshments and Social
7:00 PM Booster Business Meeting
7:45 PM UCSF Proposed Hospital Relocation

President's Message

Season's Greetings to all Booster Members!

I hope you and yours have a Happy Holiday Season and may the New Year bring Peace and Prosperity to the USA.

San Francisco's Department of the Environment and Public Utilities Commission are developing a long-term energy plan for The City, a requirement of Sophie Maxwell's. Public input is critical to shaping this plan, and the departments will host a series of meetings. The District 10 Meeting will be Saturday, December 1, 4 p.m. at the Bayview Opera House, 4705 3rd St. Please attend and make your voice heard.

Knowledge is power!

Are you aware that UCSF is proposing to build a 185-foot high dormitory building near 16th and 3rd St? Please get involved in the UCSF planning process and Mission Bay Planning process. Our November 27 meeting will feature UCSF speakers. Additionally, on November 28 there is a public hearing about UCSF plans at 3333 California Street.

This height proposal by UCSF is only the first of many we keep hearing about in the Mission Bay area. San Francisco is working on turning this Southern Waterfront area into Miami Beach by walling in the waterfront with 100 foot plus buildings. Seems to me that the higher buildings should be away from the Bay with the lower building closer to the Bay. But I'm not a San Francisco City Planner.

Many have asked about the status of the interim controls for Potrero Hill. In a nutshell here is what happened. Director Greene of the Planning Dept. agreed to hire five planners and start a neighborhood planning processes for Potrero, Bayview, Visitation Valley, SOMA and Mission. He committed to kick off neighborhood meeting by February 2002 and to have the work done within about twelve months. In return for that commitment Supervisor Maxwell agreed to postpone consideration of the legislation. Her office is now working with the Planning Department to get a complete project plan and time line on when things will be completed. Stay turned for more in the future.

In January two new private schools that are planning to open in Potrero Hill will come and talk to us. Live Oak School, which will be opening at Mariposa and Arkansas in January, 2002, and the proposed Bay School of San Francisco, which is planning a high school for the Esprit building on Minnesota to open in 2003.

Finally, you may have heard SF General Hospital is trying to get permission to land helicopters there again. What do you think? Should we relax our historical opposition to this proposal? Today medical helicopters now have to land at SFO and then bring the patient to General by ambulance. Maybe we should look at agreements Oakland has for Children's Hospital, which is in a residential area. Anyone want to take this on? Call me.

Happy Holidays to all and we'll see you around the Hill (probably at a meeting!)

This will be our last newsletter for the year. The next one will come out at the end of January.

— John deCastro, President

Boosters Win Outstanding Neighborhood Association Award!

The Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN) honored the Boosters at its Twenty-ninth Annual Dinner on October 24th, at the Fort Mason Officers Club. **The Potrero Boosters were selected to be the recipient of CSFN Neighborhood Achievement Award for the most outstanding Neighborhood Association for 2000-2001.**

The CSFN is composed of 37 neighborhood organizations for all parts of San Francisco. In joining together, under the Coalition, the neighborhoods have a stronger, louder voice in stating their concerns when working to promote the interests of the neighborhoods.

CSFN President Doug Comstock revived the Neighborhood Achievement Award, which has not been awarded in the past few years. Accepting the award for the Boosters from CSFN Vice President Barbara Meskunas was Dick Millet, Potrero Boosters delegate to CSFN and former president of the Boosters.

In accepting the award, Dick said, "The Boosters are strong advocates of planned growth for Potrero Hill, while working to preserve our unique community." He cited recent major activities, including:

- Leading the advocacy for the need for planned growth in the Potrero Hill area. The Boosters worked closely with Supervisor Maxwell's office to get the Planning Department to agree to start the neighborhood planning process.
- The Boosters advocate 'Planning not Banning' for the old industrial areas
- Negotiating and insuring that parking and traffic planning occurs in and around Potrero Hill
- Working with neighbors to evaluate and negotiate with large-scale developments to minimize their impact on the neighborhood while supporting the plans of responsible developers
- Negotiating with MUNI on service improvements as our neighborhood grows
- Representing Potrero Hill concerns to the California Energy Commission, City and State leaders regarding the Potrero power plant expansion
- Monitoring and advocating the need for UCSF Mission Bay to respect its neighbors when considering the height and bulk of buildings
- Monitoring the plans for expansion at SF General Hospital
- Negotiating with Police and Night Club owners to insure only the responsible ones to continue to operate in our area

Potrero Hill is able to do these projects because the residents cooperate and work together for the benefit of the neighborhood. Though we do not always prevail on issues, our voice is heard and noticed throughout the City. Our Booster leaders are known at City Hall and are asked to participate in many decision-making and planning processes.

Congratulations to the Potrero Boosters for being recognized by CSFN as the number one neighborhood group in San Francisco—and only 75 years young!

— Babette Drefke

**Be sure to vote on Election Day,
December 11. The better the turnout from
Potrero Hill, the more we will be listened to!**

City Planning - November 2001

BLDG PERMIT APPLICATION P200109218946S: 1044 MISSISSIPPI/25th Streets. Proposed vertical and horizontal extension to existing single family house. Increase parking and unit count to 3 each. Front setback 6 ft 5 inches rear yard 24 feet, height, 38 feet. Contact: Jon Pervis, Planner, ph: 558-6354.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW EXEMPTION #2001.0268E: A Board of Supervisors resolution, sponsored by Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, that would extend for 6 months the interim zoning controls for INTERNET SERVICE EXCHANGES within the utility installation use category in various zoned districts. Contact: Tim Blomgren, ph:558-5979

Recent Violent Crimes on the Hill

In the early hours of November 17, a homicide occurred on Mariposa Street between Missouri and Texas, reportedly in the course of a robbery.

At 6:30 pm on Monday October 29th, the clerk at DAVE'S MARKET (20th Street at Connecticut) was shot in an attempted robbery. Luckily, the young man is now out of hospital and back in school. Surveillance cameras recorded the ski-masked robber in the act. Police believe they have arrested a convictable suspect. Last November, another clerk in this store was injured in a failed robbery attempt. The Thinker's Cafe has also had a recent armed robbery.

When crimes happen, try not to panic. Do what you are told by the perpetrator. Be observant of time, place and description of perpetrator. Keep alert, watch, and report. If possible, call 911 by regular phone or 533- 8090 by cell phone. (911 on cell phones rings the CHP; they forward it back to S.F. Police, taking longer). Reported by Dick Millet.

Neighborhood Meetings & Events

Meeting on UCSF plans, November 28, UCSF, 3333 California, 476-3206

Muni Route Changes Lines 10, 19 & 53 Maxwell Middle School, 18th & De Haro 7 PM November 29 Muni Service Planning 923-6100

Citywide energy plan District 10 Meeting Saturday, December 1, 4 p.m. at the Bayview Opera House, 4705 3rd St.

Newsletter Editor: Ralph Wilson 824-8749 (ralphawilson@yahoo.com)

The Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association is devoted to issues of particular importance to the Potrero Hill neighborhood. Our goals are to act as a forum for concerned Potrero residents and to participate actively 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 Branch Library upstairs meeting room) and are open to non-members. (We regret that the meeting room is not wheelchair accessible.)

Dues: Individual \$25, Household (couple) \$30, Senior \$20, Business \$30. Mail check to Potrero Boosters, 1459 18th St., #133, San Francisco, CA 94107.

Enclosed is \$ _____ for __ membership(s). Contributions \$ _____ New __ Renewal __

Name(s) _____ (Business) _____

Address _____ e-mail _____

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Interests/Concerns/Comments _____

The Potrero Community Voice
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Community Resources

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* Supervisor for District 10 which includes Potrero Hill.

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http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/police

POTHoles ph: 695-2100 FAX 695-2097
PARKING AND TRAFFIC : 553-1200 (General); 553-1200 (Blocked Driveways); 553-9817 (Abandoned Cars)

GRAFFITTI OR DAMAGED BUS SHELTER: 882-4949

Potrero Boosters Executive Board

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Web Site: potreroboosters.org
Cort Dugan, Webmaster (webmaster@potreroboosters.org)

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