
Sunnyside News

*Voice of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association
33 Years of Neighbors Helping Neighbors, 1975-2008*

Vol.9, No.3



September 2008

SNA Meeting

**November 4
7:00 pm**

**St. Finn Barr
Church Hall,
Edna at Hearst**

**SNA meets the
first Monday of
February, May,
August and
November.**

**Meet your neighbors
and hear what's
going on in our
neighborhood.**



President's Message

by Natalie Nantista

My fiancée and I discovered the Sunnyside when we began looking for a home. We were excited at the prospect of owning a home (in SF!) and living in a neighborhood where you could actually get to know your neighbors. We've enjoyed the new experience of living in and exploring this part of the city, and I am happy that I get to participate in working to improve the present and future of our community.

The timing couldn't be better for my first President's message for the SNA. Great progress has been made on a number of issues of concern to our community, which I mentioned in my recent email to the membership and which are chronicled in this issue.

I'm pleased to announce that we have a new Vice-President of the SNA Board. Neysa Fligor has been a resident of Sunnyside since 2004, and brings with her extensive community service experience and a sincere enthusiasm for Sunnyside. We now have a complete board comprised of a diverse group of motivated people, who all want to ensure an ever-better Sunnyside. Rounding out the Board are our Treasurer, Richard Goldman, our Secretary, Monica Ramirez, and our Member-At-Large, Chris Coghlan.

One of the first new projects the newly formed Board is tackling together, is the new Safeway. We've formed a sub-committee, which will have its first meeting in September to prepare for upcoming discussions with Safeway. I will be reaching out to you all for your collective thoughts on the concerns and topics raised at the August 4 membership meeting. Our goal as a board is to represent the community as broadly and fairly as possible. In order to achieve this goal, we're relying on your collective input to inform Safeway of what the community wants. And, it's not too late to join the committee!

Of course, the transition of Board members could not have gone so smoothly had the prior Board not left things in such great shape. On behalf

President's Message, continued on page 3

SNA Contacts

Please contact any board member when you have neighborhood concerns.

President
Nicole Nantista
natvnykr@m1sf.com

Vice President
Neysa Fligor
nfligor@gmail.com

Treasurer
Richard Goldman
richard2sf@earthlink.net
334-3362

Secretary
Monica Ramirez
maracinom@yahoo.com

Member-at-Large
Chris Coghlan
Chris@CoghlanRealEstate.com
902-7310

You can also reach us at
SNA, PO Box 27615,
San Francisco, CA 94127,
or info@snasf.org.

Visit SNA's website at
www.snasf.org.



SNA Officers in New Board Roles; Nicole Nantista Now President

The SNA Board has seen several changes recently, including a departure and a new face.

After a number of years as president, Chris Coghlan has moved to the Member-at-Large slot. Chris's numerous contacts with City College and city departments and regular meetings with District 7 Supervisor Sean Elsbernd have made him very effective at getting responses to neighbors' concerns.

Vice President Nicole Nantista has stepped up to the President's position. She's looking forward to working on neighborhood issues including the Safeway reconstruction and ongoing City College development. See her President's Message on page one for more information.

Secretary Robin Levine is taking a well-deserved break from board responsibilities, where she also served as Treasurer. She'll continue to be active in issues related to City College where she spearheaded recent efforts to persuade the college to be more neighborhood-friendly guidelines as it constructs a soccer field near Marston.

Member-at-Large Monica Ramirez is the new Secretary. A life-long Sunnyside resident, Monica has served on the board for more than two years and will now be documenting board and membership meetings.

President Nicole Nantista has appointed Neysa Fligor as SNA Vice President. Neysa's profile is below.

Treasurer Richard Goldman continues in his position.

All board changes were made in accordance with SNA by-laws.

Welcome to Vice President Neysa Fligor

The Sunnyside Neighborhood Association welcomes Neysa Fligor as its newest board member.

"I am very excited about the opportunity to serve the Sunnyside community. My husband and I bought our first house together here in Sunnyside in 2004 because we thought it was a great neighborhood for families," said Neysa.

"Since moving to the Bay Area, I have acted as a mentor to high school students, advised and represented indigent clients, done fundraising for different entities and participated in a leadership program that proposed a creative solution to a potential problem facing Santa Clara County.

"I am a 2000 Georgetown Law School graduate and have been practicing law in the Bay Area since 2001; I'm also a licensed real estate broker. "I look forward to using my background, knowledge and energy to tackle issues facing the community as a member of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association Board." ☼

Safeway Renovation Plans Outlined at August SNA Meeting; CCSF Board Candidates Stump

More than 75 people turned out for the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association's August 4 membership meeting.

Safeway Renovation

Natalie Mattei from Safeway announced that the company has purchased the Monterey Blvd. property and they are committed to operating at that location long-term. A major expansion and upgrade will require closing the store for 9-12 months. It will be about two years from a draft design to start of construction. Construction could begin in early 2011.

Natalie said Safeway is very interested in working with its neighbors. At the meeting she heard comments about exterior design, parking capacity and delivery trucks. She invited residents to contact her directly at Natalie.Mattei@safeway.com or 925-467-3063.

SNA is forming a committee to work with Safeway. Contact SNA President Nicole Nantista, natvnykr@m1sf.com, if you're interested.

City College Board of Trustees Candidate Forum

Candidates for the City College Board spoke about the issues facing the college and their qualifications for the board. Natalie Berg, Karl Koehler, Mary Hernandez, Chris Jackson, Steven Ngo, Milton Marks and Bruce Wolfe appeared at the forum.

Other News

Captain Denis O'Leary of Ingleside Police Station introduced himself and distributed his contact information.

Pipeline excavation near Havelock and Circular will require two-way traffic on Edna from Havelock to Marston for 6-8 weeks. ☼

Sunnyside News

Sunnyside News is published four times per year. SNA encourages members to submit news, features or letters to the editor to *Sunnyside News*. All letters must be signed. All items are subject to editing.

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions expressed in Sunnyside News. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of SNA. ☼

President's Message, from page 1

of the new board, I'd like to thank our predecessors for their hard work, dedication and successes.

As a new board, there are many of you whom we have yet to meet. Please don't let this stop you from reaching out to us regarding any topics you are concerned with. I received a great email from one member that inspired a fun new fundraising idea, announced in this issue. We look forward to continuing and expanding our exchange of ideas with you, ensuring that Sunnyside continues to thrive.

Go Sunnyside! ☼



Supervisor Sean Elsbernd

You can reach District 7 Supervisor Sean Elsbernd at 415-554-6516 or email sean.elsbernd@sfgov.org.

Captain Denis O'Leary

You can reach SFPD Captain Denis F. O'Leary at Ingleside Station at 415-404-4030 or email Denis.O'Leary@sfgov.org.

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance:

11/17/2007 \$3243.27*

Income:

Dues \$2065.00
Donations 230.00
Bank Interest 1.12

Total Money in: \$2296.12

Expenses:

Newsltr v7, n4 450.79
Mailing v7, n4 74.74
St Finn Barr Feb 50.00
PO box rental 84.00
Newsltr v8, n1 476.11
Newsltr v8, n2 443.48
Rent St. Finn Barr 150.00
Aug mtg mailing 77.13
CA NP filing 20.00

Total Expenses: \$1776.25

Closing Balance:

7/1/2008 \$3983.41

* Includes \$85 earmarked for the Sunnyside Playground.

Richard Goldman
SNA Treasurer

Prospects Good for MOU with CCSF on Soccer Field

by Robin Levine

City College's plans to replace its soccer field drew the SNA City College Committee to the August 14 meeting of the college's Board of Trustees. Committee members conveyed how important it was for neighbors to have some respite on the weekends from the hoards of car parking, loud stereo playing, fast-food-wrapper littering students we are inundated with every weekday.

SNA's representatives asked City College to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the SNA that would limit the use of the new field to City College's teams and classes, with no use by outside youth soccer leagues on weekends.

While the new field will be smaller than the old one, it will still be a regulation-size field which is why the MOU is so important—a regulation-size field is desirable to youth leagues around the City. Board members appeared very sympathetic to our position.

At a meeting on August 22 with CCSF Interim Chancellor Don Griffin and other college officials at the office of Supervisor Sean Elsbernd, we learned that the new field will be six feet lower than its neighboring football field. CCSF will discuss possible safety implications of plans to close part of Marston Road with SFFD.

CCSF officials were confident that the Board of Trustees and faculty would agree with the MOU terms we are requesting. Provisions include no bleachers, no lights, no loudspeaker system, and use by CCSF athletic teams and classes that do not use amplified sound or musical instruments. Lick Wilmerding will use the field weekdays from 4:00-6:00. Saturday classes will be scheduled at specified hours such as 9:00 to 1:00. The field will be closed on Sundays. It will be fenced, gated and locked.

Interim Chancellor Griffin suggested that the "700 bungalows," the temporary classrooms erected on Havelock, be included in the MOU in terms of restricting their use so as not to create noise problems for the surrounding community. We hope the "interim period" in which Don Griffin remains Chancellor lasts a long time!

We hope to have the MOU in place by the time you receive your next SNA newsletter.

Thanks to all of you, including City College Committee members Chris Coghlan, Xavier Guerrero, Jane Hopkins, Mikhail Koutouzov and Azian Nurudin; SNA members David Tejeda and Bill Makarewicz who attended the CCSF Board meeting; and Clarence Weems, Jane Hopkins, and Marilyn and Frank Koehler, who wrote City College about the soccer field after the last SNA membership meeting.

You are the reason we will succeed in getting this MOU! ☼

Neighbors Encouraged to Get Informed about SF School Board Race

by Daphne Powell

If you are a public school parent, you know that school board members make vital decisions about your child's education. But if you don't have children in public school, you might not feel that the school board affects you. I believe, however, that all of us can recognize that the quality of our schools affects our city's civic life and economic health, now and in years to come. It's in all of our interest to evaluate the current candidates for the Board of Education, for they will oversee the education of San Francisco's future citizens.

Above all, school board candidates should be very familiar with the San Francisco Unified School District. Unfortunately, in the past, the school board has been used as a stepping-stone to higher office by candidates with more ambition than commitment to our schools. How engaged has the candidate been with our schools in the recent past? How knowledgeable is the candidate about the policies and procedures of our school district?

Here are two current issues facing the school board that candidates should be able to address:

School Closure: School closures and mergers will be up for discussion in the coming year because of the continuing need for the district to save money. This could have an immediate impact on our neighborhood. What will be the criteria used to select closure candidates? How will board members make the process more transparent and incorporate community input?

Achievement Gap: A troubling gap persists between the academic achievements of different ethnic and socioeconomic groups. How will board members work with parents, teachers, and administrators to ensure that all students reach a proficient level of achievement?

Two school board candidate forums will be held. The first will be on September 25 at Lincoln High School, 24th and Quintara, from 7:00-9:00 p.m., hosted by our District 7 Supervisor Sean Elsbernd and District 4 Supervisor Carmen Chu. The second is on October 7 at Everett Middle School from 6:00-8:00 p.m. and is sponsored by Chinese for Affirmative Action, SF School Volunteers, Support for Families and other community groups. Check out the school board candidates' websites for more detailed statements of their positions on these issues.

Make sure that your choices for the Board of Education on November 4 are educated choices. Our city depends upon it. ⚙

Daphne Powell is a public school parent and Sunnyside resident.

WANTED

Editor for *Sunnyside News*

We need a volunteer who will help carry on the work of Rita Evans.

Rita will gladly show you the ropes and then the role is yours to work with the Board to produce our neighborhood news.

Web Guru for SNA Website

Help us modernize our communication by taking our website to the next level.

We need a guru to program a site that's user-friendly and low maintenance but allows us to update the community and share information. Creativity a plus.

Interested?

Please contact SNA President Nicole Nantista, natvnykr@m1sf.com.

Sunnyside T-shirt Design Contest!

This is your chance to design the Official T-shirt for our neighborhood! The winning T-shirt will be available for purchase online starting in December with proceeds going towards efforts to improve meetings with new a/v equipment, as well as fun neighborhood events.

Sunnyside members will be able to vote for their favorite design(s) at our next membership meeting on November 3. The top contender will receive a small prize, including a free T-shirt!

Contest Guidelines:

- Deadline for submission is 11:59 p.m. on November 1, 2008 by way of email attachment to SNA Treasurer Richard Goldman, richard2sf@earthlink.net
- Submit images as PNG files in RGB color (no CMYK). JPEG files will also be accepted, but are discouraged. No other graphic file format will be accepted.
- You may submit more than one design. All designs must be your own original work. Copyrighted images cannot be used, unless properly licensed.
- By submitting your design, you are allowing the SNA to use it to generate revenue for the SNA only. The winner will not receive financial compensation in any form, but will receive a prize.
- You may draw your design by hand or create it on a computer. In either case, your submission must be made electronically via email as specified above.
- The maximum printable area on the shirt is 10"x10". Images submitted should have a minimum resolution of 300dpi at their intended size
- The SNA Board has discretion to reject designs upon submission. Submissions containing profanity, obscenity, political slogans/affiliations, or inappropriate imagery will be automatically rejected.
- All ages are eligible to enter. Minors must have permission from a parent/guardian.

Reservoir Access Assured after CCSF Negotiations

by Chris Coghlan

Since the SNA first heard about the land swap and the development of the reservoir property on the west side of Phelan Avenue, maintaining access to the west side of the reservoir has been a chief concern. The site, owned by City College and the San Francisco PUC, was split North and South for years. The land swap allows for the development of a new performing arts center and a classroom building along Phelan Avenue. We have alerted CCSF about our concern for access to the west side of the reservoir and the berm that surrounds it and the need for it to be a protected right of way for community access.

I was extremely disappointed when I saw that our walkway was taken away during recent road-work. Thankfully, after a flurry of emails and meetings, City College has agreed to place a 12' lighted path along the northern fence to allow for safe access to the western side of the reservoir. The projected date of completion is mid-January. In the meantime, please be careful while accessing this area via the new sidewalk along the parking area.

There is still work to be done regarding the issue. The path will eventually continue around the reservoir site and bring pedestrians back to the south end of Phelan. It is my hope that the southern side of the reservoir can be graded so that we can have a gentle slope along that route.

As in most issues facing the neighborhood, community involvement is essential in protecting what is most important to us. Being involved in the SNA is a certain way for your voice to be heard. ☼

Stash Your Garbage Cans

Storing garbage cans – the black, blue and green bins – on sidewalks is unsightly, an obstacle to pedestrians and a violation of the municipal code.

Cans may be placed on the sidewalk after 6:00 p.m. on the day before collection day. They **must** be removed from the sidewalk within 24 hours of collection. Cans **must** be stored out of sight. ☼

Planning Dept. to Hold Last Meeting before Adoption of Balboa Park Station Area Plan

The SF Planning Department will hold a meeting on the Balboa Park Station Area Plan on Monday, September 22, from 6:30-8:00 at Lick-Wilmerding High School Classroom C, 755 Ocean Avenue.

The Planning Dept. will review the updated and amended Plan, Planning and Zoning Map Amendments, and present the Balboa Park Community Improvements Program. In addition, Friends of Geneva Office Building will announce the Task 1 Design Report.

This is the last community meeting the Planning Dept. has scheduled prior to plan adoption – be sure to attend to learn what type of development the city will support in this area adjacent to our Sunnyside neighborhood. ☼

Time to Renew Your SNA Membership?

For many SNA members, it's time to renew your membership. Check the date on your mailing label; if it's *September 2008* or earlier, your dues are due.

We hope that you decide to renew your membership. Your \$15 annual dues support a local organization that works with city departments on your behalf, acts as a liaison to City College, helps improve our local parks, and is part of what makes Sunnyside a great place to live.

There's a membership form below. Please renew your membership, or join SNA today! ☼

☼ SNA Annual Membership Dues ☼

Membership in the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association
is \$15 per year for households and \$25 per year for businesses.

Make checks payable to SNA, and send to:
SNA, PO Box 27615, San Francisco, CA 94127

Name (please **print**) _____

Address _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

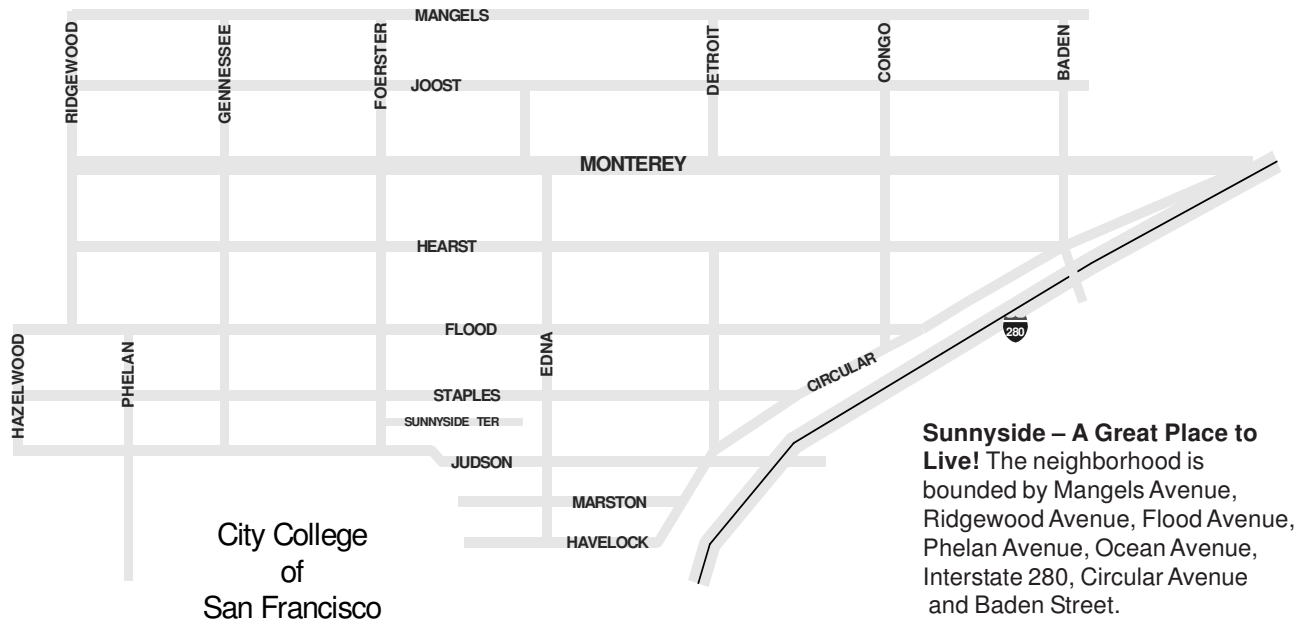
Check one: Household \$15 _____ or Business \$25 _____

Additional donation: \$ _____

Sum08

Donations to Sunnyside Neighborhood Association, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, are tax-deductible.

Sunnyside



Sunnyside Neighborhood Assn.
P.O. Box 27615
San Francisco, CA 94127

Time to renew?
Send your dues today!