



# Eureka Valley Promotion Association

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August 21, 2003

## General Membership Meeting Minutes

7:35pm: Call to order.

Special guest, Supervisor and Mayoral Candidate Tom Ammiano

8:05pm: Introductions and approval of July Minutes

8:10pm: New Business

Presentation from Sgt. Chuck Limbert, SFPD Mission Station

Sgt. Limbert reported of increasingly confrontational and destructive behavior from youths who congregate around the EVRC and the LYRIC building after 8pm. Police have been called in many times to attempt to quell disturbances, fights and vandalism largely the result of mentally ill or intoxicated youths. LYRIC appears to be a magnet for youth, often not from the neighborhood but rather from Oakland. Police have found and confiscated drug paraphernalia from crystal meth to heroin in and around LYRIC. EVPA member Drew Bertagnolli, who has more than 10 years experience living next door to LYRIC, pointed out that the "peer-mentor" model that LYRIC uses to counsel youth does not work and in fact encourages disrespect for authority, irresponsibility and confrontational behavior. Sgt. Limbert reported numerous examples of youth verbally attacking and confronting SFPD officers, who had responded to neighborhood complaints about vandalism, drug use and fights.

The EVPA Safety Committee will attempt to begin a dialog between neighbors, SFPD and the LYRIC Board of Directors to find a solution to this problem.

Proposed Freeway On-ramp at Market and Octavia Streets

EVPA member Lion Barnett alerted EVPA to proposed traffic patterns with respect to a possible freeway onramp at Market and Octavia Streets. Initial proposals appear to favor a "no right turn" onto the onramp from eastbound Market Street. This idea appears to be misguided as the natural flow of traffic would take eastbound cars onto the freeway at that point. Additionally, allowing right turns onto the onramp would lighten traffic flow down Dubose street to the existing South Van Ness onramp, helping with pedestrian safety at the intersection of Dubose and Market. EVPA members interested in this issue can call Lion Barnett.

A motion was made to write a letter addressed to various agencies and parties involved in this issue opposing the prohibition of right turns onto the proposed onramp from eastbound Market Street traffic, given that appropriate and obvious signage, possibly including cameras, would be put in place to help ensure pedestrian and bicyclists' safety. The motion passed.

Friends of the Urban Forest: Castro Street Tree Planting Project

Maria Dagostino from FUF gave a short presentation on the tree planting project on Castro Street between Market and 19<sup>th</sup> Streets. Normally, FUF will plant a single tree for an interested homeowner for \$150, which includes cutting the sidewalk for the tree-box, digging the hole and auguring if necessary, planting the tree and an 18-month follow-up by an arborist. Because of help from Supervisor Bevan Dufty on his continuing "Castro Renaissance Project," the price for each tree will be exactly \$0 (i.e. free!). The choice for the Castro trees is currently non-fruit producing, flowering cherry trees, but that may change.

October 9<sup>th</sup> is set for a planning meeting, the meeting location TBD. The actual planting date is November 15<sup>th</sup>, and all EVPA members are encouraged to take part in this worthwhile and fun project to make our neighborhood a better place.

#### Andrew Williams, DPH and Lewis Knox, Ark of Refuge: 2500 Market "Ark House" update

Mr. Williams thanked EVPA on behalf of DPH and the Ark House for our past support and help with the project. The facility has been given an extension to stay at 2500 Market through the end of September, but Mr. Knox assured EVPA membership that the residents will be moved out and into their new facility at 1038 Howard Street on September 9<sup>th</sup>. EVPA President Gustavo Serina reminded Mr. Knox that Ark had clearly committed to moving out of the facility by the end of June, but was unsuccessful, and pointed out that should the facility need to stay past September 9<sup>th</sup>, they should update the neighborhood through EVPA. Mr. Knox once again assured EVPA that Ark had given the landlord notice that they would be out of the building by September 9<sup>th</sup>.

On other issued regarding 2500 Market, it was pointed out that Ark had announced to EVPA at the General Membership Meeting on February 20<sup>th</sup> (see minutes from the meeting) that Ark was intentionally limiting the intake of new residents to prepare them for the move to the new facility. Despite this announcement, it was noted that many new faces have been seen around the facility, and it appears that the program is continuing to accept new residents. Mr. Knox was unfamiliar with the day-to-day operations of the facility, but was certain that the facility had no more than 16 residents. Mr. Knox was also unfamiliar with the staffing schedules, but was sure that there had not been any staff reductions at 2500 Market.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Safety**

Written report on file.

##### **Ed/Rec**

Thanks again to EVPA board member Rich McCree for a successful 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party for the Seward Street Mini Park.

The next big project will be the Castro Tree Planting.

##### **Planning**

The committee reports the following action:

1. Continuing to review the proposed unlawful demolition amendment to the building code.
2. 4320-22 18<sup>th</sup> Street and 4078 17<sup>th</sup> Street: Reviewing issues surrounding these deteriorated buildings. The SF Department of Building Inspection is aware of these properties and will investigate.
3. 39 Diamond: demolition request. The request is not being opposed, but the proposed replacement building does pose some concerns. Interested EVPA members are encouraged to contact the planner, Elaine Tope at 558-6316 for more information.
4. 4136 17<sup>th</sup> Street: variance request. EVPA has voted not to oppose this request to replace a pre-existing storage shed in a backyard. Anyone who wishes to speak in favor or against the project can call the planner Tina Tam at 558-6325.

##### **Finance**

Treasurer Joe Foster submitted a seven-month budget projection. The Treasurer's report is on file.

##### **UTNC**

No report submitted.

##### **Internal Affairs and Membership**

No report submitted.

**Old Business**

EVPA member Effie Kurloff spoke about the impending EVRC remodel, scheduled to begin in early October. She and EVPA board member Rich McCree met with the project managers to discuss possible alternatives to the accepted exterior architecture. Effie reports that she and Rich submitted some drawings, which were accepted by the project managers for review. All interested EVPA members who would like to support an architectural redesign of the front entryway of the new EVRC proposal are encouraged to contact Effie Kurloff.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.