Should EVPA Endorse Measure?

Billboard Ban Likely on March Ballot.
San Francisco Beautiful has asked EVPA to endorse proposed legislation that would ban City-wide all new off-site billboard construction. The endorsement request was raised at the November general meeting, and after intense discussions deferred to the January meeting for a vote. An endorsement would allow SF Beautiful to publicly list EVPA as a backer of the legislation.

Regardless of EVPA action, the measure appears headed for the ballot in the City’s March elections because a number of supervisors have indicated they would sponsor the measure. In the interim, SF Beautiful is urging Supervisors to implement ‘interim control legislation’ to ensure no new off-site advertising permits can be issued pending the March election.

SF Beautiful argues that billboards detract from and diminish the City’s character and architecture and unnecessarily commercialize public views. Opponents argue that such bans produce unintended economic consequences such as raising the cost of advertising making it harder for smaller firms to exist, and reducing employment in the outdoor industry. The issue will be voted upon at the January 17th, 2002 meeting.

Regular or Diesel?
The former Bank of America building at the corner of Castro and Market may become home to clothing retailer Diesel. The prominent location has been the source of speculation since the Gay Men’s Chorus and Noah’s Bagels moved out earlier in the year. The space is now empty as it undergoes seismic renovations. Supervisor Leno’s office contacted EVPA and orchestrated a meeting between EVPA representatives and Lurie Company which owns the building. EVPA President-elect Gustavo Serina asked Lurie and Diesel to work with the Utilities, Transportation & Neighborhood Commerce Committee, and appear at an upcoming membership meeting.

Pink Triangle Park Dedicated.
On December 10, S.F. City Officials honored the 53rd Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights by proclaiming Pink Triangle Park Day at the juncture of Castro, Market, and 17th Streets. The ceremony was the official groundbreaking for the Park and its Memorial of 15 granite pylons commemorating gay and lesbian victims of the Nazi regime.

In attendance were California Assemblywoman Carole Migden, President of the Board of Supervisors, Tom Ammiano, District 8 Supervisor Mark Leno, and Wendy Nelder of the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Beautification. Governor Gray Davis issued a proclamation honoring the day and the work of neighborhood volunteers.

One pylon was temporarily installed for the event, but has been moved into storage until the remaining fourteen pylons are ready. The pylons should be ready by April 2002. Congratulations!
**Make A Wish Come True. NOW!**

It’s time for all faerie godmothers to emerge with new and gently used items for these neighborhood non-profits. Make a wish come true by scanning the list and discovering what you can donate from your home, business or heart. All are EVPA members.

**LYRIC**

Water cooler for drop-in library  
Chairs for reading  
Small refrigerator for TalkLine service  
Drop off at LYRIC at 123 Collingwood.

**ARK HOUSE**

Holiday ornaments  
Books  
Music  
Board Games  
Disposable cameras  
Picture frames  
Movie passes  
Sweaters  
Tshirts  
Socks  
Backpacks  
Underwear  
Christmas stockings with candy  
Gift certificates for haircuts  
Gift certificates for restaurants  
Vouchers from Crossroads Trading Company  
Please drop off at 2500 Market Street.

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**

Warm clothing  
Shoes (good condition)  
Volunteers for Simply Supper  
(Tuesday, Wednesday, or Friday afternoons)  
Call Jeff Morey at 865-2752 for volunteering.  
Donations may be dropped off at 150 Eureka.

**Live Oak School Moving.**

Live Oak School, now located on Diamond Street near 18th, is moving to new facilities in Potrero Hill. Classes begin at the new site January 9, 2002.

Founded in 1971, Live Oak School provides Kindergarten - 8th grade classes. Live Oak has purchased its Potrero Hill building at 1555 Mariposa. The new campus is double the size of the existing buildings, is fully networked and provides more space for studio arts, drama, music, science and physical education.

EVPA wishes Live Oak, its staff and students well. EVPA’s Board asked the Archdiocese of San Francisco which owns the Diamond Street campus to consider an assisted living facility. The archdiocese responded the cost to renovate the facilities for that purpose would be prohibitive but that it is considering assisted living housing elsewhere in the City. The Parish said a likely short-term use is another school.

**Feel More Confident, Be Prepared.**

Register now for Neighborhood Emergency Response Teams’ training that will begin in our area in March. You’ll look fabulous in your new hard hat and vest and will learn critical skills to help yourself and your neighbors in an emergency.

The 6-week NERT training is taught in 2.5 hour sessions by SF Fire Department personnel and covers:

1. Earthquake/Hazard Preparedness;  
2. Basic Disaster Skills – utilities, fires, hazardous materials;  
3. Disaster Medicine – breathing, bleeding, shock, triage, minor injuries/burns;  
4. Light Search and Rescue – building assessment and markings, interior search, lifting, victim carries;  
5. Team Organization and Management – disaster plans, command and psychology; and  
6. Hands-On Training – extinguishing fires; finding, extricating, triaging and treating victims. You will receive the lovely ensemble mentioned above, and will be conferred a handsome certificate for display in your den!

To register: 415-558-3459 or nertsffd@nertnews.com. For general information: 415-558-3456 and www.nertnews.com. Classes are held continuously throughout the city, and you may attend wherever you wish. Whether you attend or not, help yourself to the timely advice on their www.nertnews.com website: anthrax facts, coping tips, terrorism preparation, other preparedness classes, and advice for kids. Discover the many ways to help out in these strange and tense times. Remember, it’s NERDy to panic, but it’s NERTy to be prepared!

**CHA-CHING! EVPA Nets $1,500.**

The hard work of EVPA volunteers netted the organization $1,552.80 from the Castro Street Fair. The annual October street party raises funds for a number of non-profits. EVPA receives a portion based on the number of volunteers and the amount of hours worked. Some of the people who politely shook down fair-goers included:

Lion Barnett  
Mike Babbitt  
Steve Bowling  
Heidi Chipp  
Herb Cohn  
Joe Foster  
Jim Hurley  
Liz Janes  
Diane Oswald  
Linton Stables  
Roger Yates

**How Different Would it Be?**

December 7th was the 60th anniversary of the surprise bombing of Pearl Harbor. WWII had a profound effect on the development of San Francisco. How different would the City be without that tragic milestone event?
Meeting was called to order at 7:30pm and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Glenn Gourtney from Patelco Credit Union made a presentation on their plans for a branch office at 2193 Market Street. They require two conditional use permits: 1) for two ATMs that will not be recessed 3 feet and 2) for the placement of a financial institution at the site.

EVPA members expressed concern about the lack of domestic partner benefits, and Mr. Gortney expressed confidence that the current benefits program, which he described as “generous”, would be extended to domestic partners within a year.

The EVPA membership voted to support the conditional use permits for Patelco Credit Union.

Tamara Cooper from SF Beautiful made a presentation to the membership, asking for support for their planned ballot initiative proposing a ban on all new billboards in SF as well as a moratorium on new billboards through election day in March.

The EVPA membership voted to allow the board to support the ban should the initiative be written as described in the presentation. The EVPA membership further voted to support the interim moratorium on all new billboards through election day in March.

After the presentation was concluded, the EVPA membership voted to direct the EVPA board to table the previous motion to approve the initiative, and EVPA will take up the issue at the next general meeting in January. Therefore, there will be no further action on this issue by the board, and any action will be taken by the membership as a whole at the next general meeting in January.

Alan Martinez, President of The Friends of 1800 gave a short talk regarding a letter that The Friends of 1800 and Castro Area Planning and Action are planning to send the owners of the Castro Theatre, the Nasser family. The EVPA board, in a previous discussion several weeks ago had voted against the recommendation of the Planning Committee to sign this letter, with the consensus that if the EVPA membership felt that a letter was warranted, the membership would vote to write such a letter on EVPA letterhead.

Representatives of the Nasser family (who happen to be new EVPA members!) were on hand to introduce the team behind the planned renovation and restoration of the Theatre.

Mr. Martinez went on to encourage all interested parties to attend the December 5th meeting of the Landmark Commission where this issue will be discussed in more detail.

Bruce Cronanger from the Stanton Street Association made a presentation regarding demolition of a home and construction of a new structure on Grandview Terrace. This is reported to be a 4-storey, approximately 4200sf single family home. Mr. Cronanger relayed the Association’s attempts to compromise on the construction, and asked for EVPA’s support in opposing the project as currently proposed.

The EVPA membership voted to support the Stanton Street Association in this regard.

Elections were held for EVPA officers and board members to take office January 1, 2002. Elected to office were: Gustavo Serina, President; Tom Hanus, Vice President; Joe Foster, Corresponding Secretary; Mike Babbitt, Recording Secretary; Herb Cohn, Treasurer.

At large board members elected to a two-year term were: Drew Bertagnolli, Michael Crawford and Gerald Abbott. At large board members elected to complete a one-year term were Rich McRee and Steve Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 9pm.

2002 Officers & Board Members

President
Gustavo Serina
Vice President
Tom Hanus
Corresponding Secretary
Joe Foster
Recording Secretary
Mike Babbitt
Treasurer
Herb Cohn
At-Large Board Members
Gerald Abbott
Michael Crawford
Judy Hoyem

Lion Barnett (past president)
Handy Resources for Home

Report Litter
Report Graffiti
Police Non-Emergency
Help A Homeless Person
Street Cleaning
Senior Care

EVPA
PO Box 14137
San Francisco, CA 94114-0137
Address Service Requested

Inside This Issue

- Pink Triangle Park Dedicated
- Diesel Clothing Eyes Castro Location
- Neighborhood Non-profits’ “Wish Lists”
- New Board & Officers for 2002 Elected

Membership Application
Or join online at www.EVPA.org

Name: _________________________________
First                   Last

Name: _________________________________
First                   Last

Address: ____________________________ Apt. _______Cross Street: ______________
City:  San Francisco, CA                         Zip Code______________________

Day Phone: (_____)_________ Evening Phone: (_____)___________________

Email Address: ________________________________________________

My concerns/interests for our neighborhood include:_________________________
___________________________________________________________________

I am interested in working with the following EVPA Committees:
__City Planning/Zoning  __Transportation/Utilities/Neighborhood Commerce
__Public Health/Safety   __Education/Recreation   __Membership/Promotion
__Finance     __Internal Affairs

How did you hear about EVPA? _________________________________________

Annual Membership dues are $15 per calendar year for individuals or $24 for
households.  EVPA is a non-profit California corporation.

Please return this form with your check payable to EVPA to:
EVPA, PO Box 14137, San Francisco, CA 94114-0137
Check here if Holiday Gift ________

Questions? Email us at info@evpa.org.

December Special Issue

From the heart
of our City,
Merry Christmas
Happy Chanukah
Blessed Ramadan
Happy Kwanzaa
Season’s Greetings to All!

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Reason #5
To Join or Renew

Because membership is a great way to feel connected to your neighborhood!
(Renters, Homeowners, Workers, Service Providers, Businesses, Property Owners)

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December Special Issue

FIRST CLASS MAIL

No December Meeting.
Next Membership Meeting January 17, 2002. ☺