2003 EVPA OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President: Joe Foster
Vice President: Drew Bertagnolli
Corresponding Secretary: Diana Parker, Chief of Staff
Recording Secretary: Hersh Al-Barazi, Deputy Chief
Treasurer: Diana Parker, Chief of Staff
At-Large Board Members: Gerald Abbott, Adrienne Hagan, Judy Hoyt, Richard Abney, Gustavo Serina, Pauline Shaver, and David Weiss

EVPA
P.O. Box 14137
San Francisco, CA 94114-0137
www.EVPA.org

NOTES FROM EVPA PRESIDENT

Let there be light. At our last general membership meeting there was a lot of talk about light. Pretty lights for Dolores Street, dim lights for Pink Triangle Park and bright lights for the rainbow flag at Castro and Market streets. It seems that there is a great deal of interest among our active membership in how things are illuminated.

At our next board and general membership meetings, we will be talking about the budget for 2004. Shedding light on our financial prospects will be the job of our Treasurer, Mike Babitt, and myself. At the present time, EVPA's bank balance is about $3,500. In past years, the general membership has stipulated that our Treasurer maintain a $1,000 “emergency fund” at all times. This leaves about $2,500 to meet our expenses as the year begins.

Every month, EVPA spends money to publish and distribute the Eureka! Newsletter and pay rent on the Castro Meeting Room. We rely on advertising revenues and annual membership dues to meet these expenses. In addition, money is needed to fund special projects such as the Pink Triangle Park and contributions to neighborhood activities such as the Castro Holiday tree. Volunteer efforts, supported by your dues payments, drive the work that EVPA does. Though we have seen these funds increase somewhat since year-end, about 35% of our members have not yet renewed their EVPA memberships. If all past-due renewals were to be collected today, our bank balance would brighten-up by about $1,000. Instead, our $2,500 available bank balance will continue to fade without regular inflow of dues checks.

If you would like to continue to shine a light on the quality of life issues in our neighborhoods, clean and safe streets, the high cost of living, police and fire safety as well as the problems of homelessness and drug use...we will need your help. If you haven’t already done so, please renew your membership today...or bring your check to our next general membership meeting (7:30pm on February 19 at the Castro Meeting Room). I hope to see you there.

Best regards, Joe Foster
General Membership Meeting Minutes: January 15, 2004

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM.

After introductions, November 2003 General Membership Meeting Minutes were approved.

President reminded membership that EVPA meetings use Robert’s Rules of Order. He summarized key points: All decisions are made by General Membership and decisions and motions work in a two motion system, which must be seconded. Decisions are made by majority vote. Motions may be tabled if majority opposes. Everyone can speak regarding an item during debate. Speakers are limited to two minutes. Everyone desiring to speak must have done so before someone may speak a second time. Upon motion made, the President will call the vote. Outcome of votes are recorded in the minutes.

President announced Committee Chairs: Adam Hagen, Planning; David Weiss, Utilities, Transportation, and Neighborhood Com- munities; Pauline Shaver, Education and Recreation. Education and Recreation Chair Mike Babbitt had a fresh supply of MPC 25 forms for use to authorize police to ask vagrants and loiterers on private property to move. One copy goes in the window of the building and one copy remains with the police. Forms cover the period January–June 2004.

Finance Committee Chair Mike Babbitt and former Treasurer Pauline Shaver received a letter from an attorney working with a group opposed to recent proposals for highrise housing on Rincon Hill, suggesting abatement (interior and exterior) and demolition work (interior and exterior). The general contractor performing the key improvements is estimated to arrive on-site mid to late January. Project complications and good weather, the project should be completed by Summer 2005. (The project is estimated to take 18 months.) Cables are allowed to operate Mon through Fri, 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

POSSIBLE LIGHTING AT PTMP: Gustavo Serina met with Jessica Perez of DPW and landscape architect Jason Rowe on Wednesday, January 7, to discuss lighting for the PTMP. Jason had a proposal for a lighting system which includes putting down lights in the nearby areas to focus on the landscape design. They discussed removing existing arc lighting or at least relocating one street lamp to bring it closer to the bus shelter on Market Street. Adding an antique streetlight and removing the poles currently near the utility box was also addressed. Gustavo agreed that there should not be an increase in total lumens (light projected) in the area. Jason said current technology is such that lighting can be used more precisely without becoming intrusive to nearby residents. Jessica made notes, discussed maintenance issues, and said she would get back to us.

It is DPW’s hope that the cost of this project can be funded from funds currently allocated to the beautification of Harvey Milk Plaza, which has been allocated. Those funds would also be used to pay for the Gimko trees along Castro Street. The appropriations language limits use of funds exclusively to HM Plaza, but that interpretation is in error. An argument for the surrounding area can be made. DPW pointed out that new plants for HM Plaza are the same used at PTMP, tying the two street’s landscapes together. New fencing is being built at the site.

Board Member Judy Hoyem was asked to be included in future dis- cussions of lighting at the PTMP, expressing concern about in- creased lighting and its possible impact on her house which faces the park. The project includes an enhanced lighting system; improved site access; an expanded children’s center; new meeting rooms; completely renovated restrooms; new balconies and trees, integration of existing mural into new teen building.

Timeline: The EVRC was closed October 1 to prepare for con- struction, and allow programs and staff to remove or salvage equipment, supplies, and furniture; perform hazardous material abatement (interior and exterior). The general contractor performing the key improvements is estimated to arrive on-site mid to late January. Possible complications and good weather, the project should be completed by Summer 2005. (The project is estimated to take 18 months.) Cables are allowed to operate Mon through Fri, 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

SAFETY COMMITTEE Chair Mike Babbitt attended a meeting in Supervisor Dufty’s office on Friday, January 16, at 3PM to discuss this issue further. Mike Babbitt discussed obtaining a small, unobtrusive receptacle for use by dog owners at the PTMP. Pauline Shaver has seen one at the Presidio and will photograph it to see if it would be suitable.

Eve Foster discussed initial plans by Sutter Health to reconfigure operations at Davies Medical Center after the construction of a new central hospital on Van Ness Avenue, on the site of the Cathedral Hill Hotel. One concern is possible closure of the ex- isting emergency room. This discussion is at a very preliminary stage and no decisions have been made. One option being con- sidered is to reconfigure Davies as a Neurology Center, retaining its emergency room. Supervisor Dufty agreed to take the lead on this issue.

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Additionally, the City has studied four alternatives which provide historically accurate options and avoid the need for tree trimming. Unfortunately the Path of Gold lamps, pictured in the last Eureka and present on Upper Market Street, are not being considered, though a fixture which compliments them at the intersection of Dolores and Market Streets is a high priority.

EVPA’s UTNC Committee has taken this issue under consideration. Other neighborhood groups, including the Dolores Heights Improvement Club, have submitted statements to the PUC. UTNC Committee Chair, David Weiss, will continue to keep the membership updated.

For further information or to state an opinion on this issue, please contact Supervisor Dufty at bevan.dufty@sfgov.org, or EVPA member, Charlie Spiegel at czs@sbcglobal.net, 695-9115.

**ARE YOU . . . ?**
A GOOD LISTENER?  
CARING?  
SUPPORTIVE?  
UNDERSTANDING?  
INTERESTED IN HELPING OTHERS?  
NEEDING SUPERVISION HOURS FOR YOUR GRADUATE PROGRAM?  
WANTING A REAL CHALLENGE?  
WANTING TO CHANGE CAREERS?

If you answered **YES** to any of the above questions, then **San Francisco Suicide Prevention (SFSP)** needs you. SFSP is the nation’s oldest volunteer crisis line. Founded in 1963, services are provided 24 hours a day by over 150 trained volunteers with the supervision of a small multidisciplinary staff.

As a **Crisis Line Volunteer**, you will be providing emotional support in a non-judgmental manner, empowering callers to look at options and make their own decisions, providing crisis management, and providing information and referrals when appropriate. Training includes Active Listening, Crisis Intervention and Suicide Risk Assessment. Classes will include information on AIDS/HIV, drugs and alcohol, youth and elderly perspectives, grief and mental illness. **Training sessions are held throughout the year.**

Call **415-984-1900** or send your name, day and evening phone number to volunteer@sfsuicide.org and you will be contacted regarding the training program.

**GOOD NEIGHBOR Diane Nutting**

For some strange reason, garbage seems to accumulate in certain parts of Eureka Valley. We’ve all noticed it. Maybe some of us have resigned ourselves to accept it. We simply step over it and move on with our busy lives.

Diane Nutting, however, has a different philosophy on the matter. Armed with kitchen tongs and donated bags from the **Nancy Boy** store on Market Street, she can frequently be found picking up garbage at and around the Pink Triangle Park and Memorial at Market, Castro and 17th Streets.

“Nancy Boy was kind enough to give me bags so that as I walk my dog Shiloh I can pick-up cups, candy wrappers and the like . . . . It really is good exercise for some of the older folks in the neighborhood.”

Diane has inspired some of her neighbors to join in the efforts to clean up our sidewalks. Several of them can now be found on their blocks with dustpans and brooms, improving the overall quality of life in Eureka Valley.

**Jack Keating**, another 17th Street resident, commends Diane’s efforts. “Diane is so generous with her time. She inspired me to clean up my block twice a week. It feels good to beautify the street.”

**Thanks Diane!**

**DON'T MISS THE GRAY CABARET!**

The Senior Action Network (SAN)’s variety show, **Gray Cabaret**, will be at the Castro Theatre, March 11 at 1PM.
2362 Market Street