

Glide grabs Pavilion project, offers seats on board

The Lower Eddy/Leavenworth Task Force meeting of Oct. 11 started without a hint of the angst to come.

Chair Kelly Cullen, e.d. of TNDC, was late, so resident David Baker went to the head of the table and got the program reports rolling.

Ana B. Arguello reported on Adopt-A-Block's accomplishments, which include: organizing the now-annual Safety Fair, helping with the recent tree plantings, and mounting several successful lawsuits against property owners suspected of encouraging blatant drug dealing. Adopt-A-Block also has organized Neighborhood Watch groups to reduce street crime as well as Nuisance Abatement Teams to do just that.

Then, _____ described how the Facade Improvement Program had helped merchants and hotel owners fix up the fronts of their buildings, painting and adding neon signs and otherwise making them more attractive.

Original Joe's was the pilot project, completed in May 1999. Youth With a Mission is getting a new front door and a paint job, while 509 Cultural Center is getting a new storefront. Most of the 14 other facade improvement projects are residential hotels.

"Look at the Page [Hotel]

and see the change," said Baker, "also the Riviera. It has been, well, miraculous."

Reports complete, like an errant messenger the moment of truth finally arrived: Had Rev. Cecil Williams of Glide really stepped in and snatched away the Pavilion Project?

Yes. At the previous LE/LTF meeting, there had been inconclusive reports that Williams and the Hilton Hotel had teamed up on a project.

So a Task Force contingent had scheduled a meeting with Williams at Mayor Willie Brown's office. The day before, Williams sent a representative to meet with the Task Force committee, composed of TL resident Gayle Wood, Task Force staff Brad Paul, Adopt-A-Block's Nicholas Rosenberg, and Craig Adelman and Cullen of TNDC.

Williams sent Mel Carriere, who last March resigned as chair of the Task Force Pavilion Committee, angry at being "misquoted" in The Extra. Carriere subsequently joined Williams' project team.

Carriere said he was empowered only to make the following points:

• Glide had already formed a nonprofit corporation to develop the Pavilion.

• Glide wanted LE/LTF's support for its venture and offered two seats on the nonprofit board of directors.

• Glide had already identified a developer — noted lawyer Rubin Glickman.

"Mel said they were too far along to join our corporation," reported Adelman. "They already had board members and money."

The money, it turned out, was the \$6.7 million the city had been promising the Task Force for four-plus years.

The Task Force group agreed with Carriere to meet him and Rev. Williams the next day, a half hour before meeting with the mayor.

But when they arrived at Room 200 in City Hall, the Pavilion meeting was well under way and the mayor didn't even have enough chairs set out for the Task Force people.

"The mayor said he had already made his decision," Adelman said. "He had given the project to Glide, and [asked if] would we support it."

"We said we would."

"You could either put

on a gracious front and accept the deal or fight it," said Wood. "We took the lesser of two evils."

Cullen interjected that "they offered us jobs." How many jobs, where, doing what wasn't clear. "That's all they said."

"Sounds like we're fading into the sunset," said Baker.

"The first and only word that comes to mind is 'bushwhacked,'" said Roger Langford. "Glide reminds me of a Protestant Vatican."

Adelman was more conciliatory. "I'm very encouraged about the project," he said. "The Pavilion has more of a chance than ever of becoming reality."

"This group needs to take some responsibility for having the money for 4 1/2 years and not doing anything with it."

"I am glad they decided on housing instead of a hotel," said Kali Grosberg, of _____, referring to the 400 housing units included in Glide's plan.

Brad Paul explained that Glide's organizational structure has a Development Corporation and a Disbursement Committee. LE/LTF had been offered two seats on the corporate board and three seats on the Disbursement Committee.

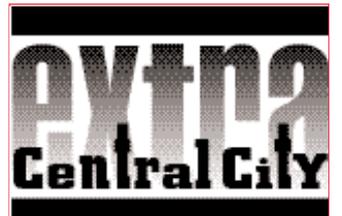
Task Force representatives to these Glide groups were called out from the floor. Rosenberg of Adopt-A-Block

and Cullen and Adelman of TNDC were nominated to the Development Corporation board. Baker, Arguello and Jim Thompson of TCOP were nominated for the Disbursement Committee.

All were elected unanimously, 14-0.

"WE'RE FADING INTO THE SUNSET"

by Geoff Link



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Editor and Publisher: Geoffrey Link
Senior Writer/Editor: Marjorie Beggs
Volunteer Advertising Coordinator: Michael Nulty
Graphic Design: Carl Angel
Artist: Carl Angel
Photographers: Carl Angel, Lenny Limjoco
Contributors: Lenny Limjoco, Brad Paul, Adrian D. Varnedoe, Diamond Dave, William Crain, Mark Hedin, Tom Carter, Stan Hutton, Sherry Barto, Phil Tracy, John Burks, Challa Tabeson
Editorial Advisory Committee: David Baker, Michael Nulty, Debbie Larkin, Chris Mohr, Nicholas Rosenberg, Brad Paul

Hello neighbors:

As residents of the Tenderloin and the surrounding neighborhoods, and as a resident of District 6 myself, I understand the issues you are facing at this crucial juncture in San Francisco history. My opponents will promise you everything; so much so that you would think it was Christmas in November. Doesn't this sound like most politicians? What I will promise you are concrete solutions based on my past actions. I will represent you, who have no voice at City Hall, and who receive few of the services. I will be your advocate.

As your next supervisor from District 6, I am an independent, grassroots candidate who will get things done. I am not in Mayor Brown's court or Tom Ammiano's court; I am in the people's court. Are you tired of special interest groups? Are you tired of the status quo? Together we can make a difference.

My priority when elected will be to represent the forgotten and overlooked citizens of San Francisco, senior citizens and all citizens of District 6 through the widest range of issues in San Francisco. What you will have is an advocate who will work for the issues most concerning your behalf. I can do this because I have no debts to special interest groups or to those who sit either to the left or the right. I will address accountability in housing programs, quality of life issues like homelessness and crime. How? By looking at the root causes which no one has yet solved.

Solutions will be provided through long term health care for senior citizens, mental health care, enhanced crime prevention and community policing. The best way to prevent crime is to put policemen back on the "beat". Those individuals that misuse the help extended to them will no longer have access to those programs. The quality of life issues addresses all citizens and I will not tolerate law breaking under the pretext of being unaccountable for ones actions. The streets will be kept clean under my "watch".

What I will do is restore honesty and integrity in city government programs, which has been sorely lacking. I will bring about accountability in partnership in business both corporate and professional, government, including non-profit, community advocates etc. Lets get back to integrity.

I began my career in Washington D.C. as a Senate Intern. I continued community involvement upon arrival to the Bay Area in the 1980's. After watching the San Francisco Municipal Railway begin to deteriorate in November 1997, I decided to form a grassroots transportation organization of concerned citizens citywide to make Muni accountable to the citizens of San Francisco.

Our most significant accomplishment was to clean up the deteriorating, graffiti and crime ridden Forest Hill Station. This station is utilized by a lot of senior citizens and physically handicapped from Laguna Honda Hospital. Result: Crime down 70% due to more police patrols and security camera installation.

Be sure to vote for the last name on the ballot for District 6 Supervisor

Joseph Blue



Joseph
BLUE

Accountability is Everything