

## NOTES FROM CORBETT HEIGHTS MEETING – JANUARY 26, 2012

Thanks to all of you who showed up for last night's meeting. We had almost 30 attendees.

Thanks very much to the following people who helped distribute the meeting notices:

Ted Teipel, Kazumi Matsuyama, Phil Byland, Kathy and Hank Flanders, Janice Low, Monica McCrary, Brad Lyman, Kevin Dunn, Rick Johnson, Pat Hufford, Marianne Mitten and Leslie and John Koelsch. *Greatly appreciated!!*

Our new Captain of Park Station, John Feeney spoke to us at length about crime in our neighborhood. Without downplaying the crimes we've experienced lately, he said that we are actually quite fortunate compared with the rest of the city. We are definitely the portion of Park Station's district with the lowest crime rate. Not that this makes you feel better if your home has been broken into!

He promised to have the occasional patrol car checking out our streets – and, besides the speed radar sign that we've been promised for years – just west of 4353 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Capt. Feeney said he is having their radar trailer charged and will have it placed at 17<sup>th</sup> and Ord “soon”. (Our speed radar sign should be installed by the end of March. If you recall, this is what we were told last January.)

Capt. Feeney was very engaging, and would like us to know that we can always count on his responding to our concerns. He wanted you all to have his contact info. Here's his email address, so I hope he meant it! [john.feeney@sfgov.org](mailto:john.feeney@sfgov.org)

Supervisor Scott Wiener spoke next about his many accomplishments since taking office. Among them – and most notable to Corbett Heights residents – was his sponsoring of the transfer of Corbett Slope from the Dept. of Real Estate to the Dept. of Public Works. This will enable us to establish the site as a Community Garden.

He has also sponsored the legislation that will set basic standards for commercial dogwalkers who use city parks, another that helps tenants displaced by disasters, and most recently crafted behavioral guidelines for Jane Warner and Harvey Milk Plazas; sleeping, smoking and 4-wheeled carts will be prohibited if it is passed by the full Board in February.

In November San Francisco voters passed Proposition B by more than the 2/3 vote that was required. It is a \$248 million bond measure that will provide funding for repairing and upgrading city streets, sidewalks, lighting and traffic signals. Scott feels confident that some of this money can be used to widen the sidewalks along Castro Street from 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> Streets.

Without losing any traffic lanes or parking, this would allow outdoor seating and a generally more pleasant pedestrian experience.

He discussed some of the projects that are or will be taking place along the upper Market Street corridor. I'll discuss those and others later down the page.

Doug Lybeck & Heather Ellison of Friends of the Urban Forest (FUF) spoke about how to sponsor a tree planting in your neighborhood, get a tree planted, pruned, and the many benefits of having street trees. Please check out their website for more information: [www.fuf.net](http://www.fuf.net)

Jason Fried of CleanPowerSF spoke next about the new program that should be in place soon that will allow San Franciscans to use 100% renewable energy. We'll still be able to opt out of

the program and continue with PG&E which only gets a fraction of its energy from renewable sources. There would be a slightly increased cost. Please go to their website for more info: [www.cleanpowersf.org](http://www.cleanpowersf.org)

Corbett Slope Community Garden: As I'm sure you're all now aware, this beautiful piece of land will remain natural open space. This is because of tremendous help from Supervisor Wiener, and from all of you who have supported the preservation of the Slope with hundreds of letters and trips to City Hall over the last several years.

Besides some of the dedicated Corbett Heights regulars who have really helped during the work days we've had so far – Nancy, Marianne, Pat, Maggie, Janet, John E, and many others, I especially want to thank Karla Nagy, George Groh and Chris McGuire from KitchenGardenSF and from the SF Permaculture Guild. They don't even live in the neighborhood, and yet they've devoted months of their time to planning and establishing the Slope now and for the future. We plan on having workdays every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, from 10AM – 2PM, starting February 11<sup>th</sup>. There are currently about 50 people who've expressed interest in being a part of the care, planning and/or development of the Slope. If you'd like to be added to this list, OR if you would like to participate in a fundraising campaign, please let me know. We're in the process of applying for grants.

Castro Village Wine Co. owner Todd McElhatton (he and his partner live in Corbett Heights) will be having a wine-tasting on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, from 6 – 8PM to benefit the Corbett Slope! The charge will be \$5 and they will feature 2 wines. So please support our neighbors!

And now for some Upper Market project updates:

RC Gas Station: The plan is to build a 6-story structure - 65' (the corner of Castro & 17<sup>th</sup> will be 72' tall). The plan is for 19 2-bedroom and 5 1-bedroom units. Several neighborhood organizations are working with the developers to ensure that the final product will be something we can be proud of – or at least, will not elicit cringing. We are all hoping for an “iconic” structure for that important corner.

Church Pit (2299 Market): This is the site of the old Trinity Methodist Church that burned down in November, 1981! The construction is finally underway. There will be 18 market-rate units (all of the required BMRs (below market rate) will be offsite. There will be 24 units – 8 1-bedroom, 9 2-bedroom and 1 3-bedroom, and 5,000 square feet of ground floor retail. 1 to 1 parking. It will be 50' tall.

Whole Foods: After dealing with numerous issues with Planning, funding and neighborhood requests, the project will probably break ground this summer or fall. There will be 85 units, and the building will be 85' tall at it's highest point. In case you're not aware, this is the site of the old S&C Ford Showroom on the corner of Market and Dolores. Check out their website at: [www.2001marketsf.com](http://www.2001marketsf.com) for more specific info and drawings.

76 Station: This is the station at 2175 Market – next to Walgreen's and 24-hour Fitness. It will be 85 – 90 units – all rental, with onsite affordable housing. 18,500 square feet at ground level. 1/2 parking space per unit. It will be 65' high on Market, and 70' high on 15<sup>th</sup> Street. They've

begun meeting with neighborhood organizations to discuss design and other concerns.

Tower Records has finally been leased by CVS Pharmacy. It will take over the entire ground floor minus the Radio Shack space. Not terribly exciting, but at this point everyone just wants to see it in use. There are several issues yet to be overcome by CVS: they are hoping to be able to sell alcohol, but we are concerned of this precedent (imagine Walgreen's with a full alcohol section). Also, they intend to be open 24 hours which can pose problems with the parking garage on the roof. And also, there could be loading issues during deliveries – one of the many issues that sunk Trader Joe's in that location.

Starbuck's would like to open in the old Glidden Paint/SF Stereo/Industrialists location at Market and Sanchez. This is not favored by the Planning Dept – partly due to its size, and the fact that there are 3 others within 2 blocks of the site. They've also received considerable opposition from most if not all of the Upper Market neighborhood organizations.

Letitia's Mexican “Restaurant” has closed again. Her project to build 22 units on the site which would include the parking area alongside, has been entitled (in 2008), which means it's been approved to move forward. She would just need funding and a desire to move forward.

Sullivan's Funeral Home is on the market. Jake's of Market has replaced 2223 Restaurant. SF Grill has replaced Beautiful next to Gold's Gym. And Trigger Bar continues to annoy just about everyone – even after receiving a \$50,000 fine.

And last – just a few plugs for some dependable service providers (Adrian and Joe did not pay for their names to be listed):

- Adrian Turnbull of Turnbull Contracting. \$45/hour.  
Carpentry, remodeling, decks, plumbing electrical, windows.  
Highly recommended for small to medium projects.  
License # 960485.  
[adrian@turnbull-contracting.com](mailto:adrian@turnbull-contracting.com)  
206-854-7597
  
- Joe Kukulka – Computer Help: Works on Macs and PCs. Does DSL installation, virus removal, printer installation, etc.  
[joe@computerhelpsf.com](mailto:joe@computerhelpsf.com)  
415-431-6766

That's all for now.

- Gary