

Gallery owner new head of NOMPC

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neighborhood. Phillips said that a NOMPC survey in the early 1990s at such hotels as the Arlington and Antonia had unsettling results.

"Everybody in those hotels had been 'redeveloped' out of their old neighborhoods and into the Tenderloin and they didn't want to be 'redeveloped' out again," Phillips said. "Redevelopment does things to people's lives. We'd lose people's homes."

NOMPC'S RICH HISTORY

Formed in 1976 as a coalition of agencies, NOMPC early on established itself as an activist watchdog for TL residents. It wrote the neighborhood's first improvement plan, Tenderloin Tomorrow, and played a role in reviving the St. Boniface School, creating the Northeast Federal Credit Union and establishing the neighborhood's eight-story height limit. But its legendary role has been in standing up to developments that would rob the TL of low-income housing.

"NOMPC preserved the Tenderloin as a residential neighborhood," said former neighborhood organizer Brad Paul, who was then part of a driven squad of activists who raised enough money to have a four-member staff. Their protests in the 1980s stopped 2,300 Hilton, Holiday Inn and Ramada hotel rooms from being built and displacing low-income residents.

Moreover, it got \$50,000 in annual contributions from the hotels for four years. With allies, it convinced the Planning Commission to create a new North of Market Special Use Residential District and it stopped the proposed Union Square West expansion.

In 1994, NOMPC looked robust with \$1 million in the bank and a paid staff.

But two years later, the money was gone and the staff laid off.

"How the board could get bank statements and not know the account was going down, and not do anything, is beyond me," Phillips says. "And we had no program to offer to get funding."

"(North of Market Development Corp.) says we owe them \$40,000," Phillips says. "We made a payment a long time ago - I can't remember how much - and we haven't heard from them since."

Paying the lawsuit off is perhaps a moot point because NOMPC is broke. It has no staff or office. Phillips keeps records in his Eddy Street room; he declines to state how much is in the treasury.

Vice President Dennis Isner estimates membership is "between 50 and 65," down from 200. Resident dues are \$5 a year. Nonprofits pay \$25 and small businesses pay \$50. There are "10-to-15" active members, says Isner, who has been a NOMPC member about four years.

The Extra asked him about NOMPC's focus.

"For the last 18 months it has been trying to restructure, survive, regroup and build up membership," Isner said. "We're concerned. We do protest a lot of liquor licenses."

Gordon sees Urban Solutions as able to step in and unshackle NOMPC from its debt and restore its stature as neighborhood activist.

"I don't have any other agenda," Gordon said in an interview. "The (court) judgment has gotten in the way of the organization and its efforts to get back into the neighborhood."

"Everyone who has been working on Tenderloin improvement is aware of the lack of vitality at NOMPC. It has a really rich history and the people involved have a lot of knowledge. But active planning is beyond their means. They should be empowered. No one envisions NOMPC going away."

The Tenderloin 2000 Survey and Plan, drawn up in 1992 as an extensive blueprint for wide-ranging improvement, is what Urban Solutions would pursue with NOMPC and other TL organizations as well, Gordon said. That plan has not been halfway implemented, he pointed out.

GORDON TELLS HIS SIDE

"They (NOMPC) were upfront about us not being community organizers and we aren't," Gordon said. "But there are various groups and organizations going for their special projects in the Tenderloin, rather than for the good of the neighborhood. Folks shouldn't be doing an end run around good community planning. We can work with those organizations not organized by third parties. And it's vitally important that NOMPC maintains its independence. They need relief from the judgment."

As for the charge he wanted to reduce NOMPC's role to an Urban Solutions "advisory committee," Gordon

said that was just one idea in the brainstorming session he had with NOMPC leaders, and one he didn't particularly like.

The resident activist team, Michael and John Nulty, were invited to attend the meeting with Gordon. Phillips appointed the Nultys to the NOMPC board then and asked them to use their considerable expertise and contact list to prepare a nomination list that would nearly triple the size of the board. Michael Nulty came up with 16 poten-

tial nominees.

At the annual meeting, Phillips said the nominees would join four others who were in on staggered terms. Eleven resident reps were to be elected, two each from nonprofits and businesses and one from the public sector. Write-ins were acceptable.

THE BOARD SHAKEUP

Phillips announced that a special matter would be taken up in closed session afterward.

The candidates introduced themselves. For wide-ranging commitment, John Nulty's presentation was most impressive. He read aloud all 26 of his community affiliations. Then brother Michael, who heads Alliance for a Better District 6, said he had those, plus four others.

In the Civic rep category, Terrance Alan, TL club owner and chair of the city's Entertainment Committee, immediately qualified his availability.

"I need to first examine the financial status of NOMPC," he said. "And I'll proceed on advice of my lawyer. I can't afford to be held liable as a board member for a judgment I had nothing to do with."

The prospect of the board being liable for NOMPC's indebtedness sent confusion and fear through the room. Some nominees new to NOMPC, like Bernstein, had not heard of the predicament until that evening. Phillips said later in an interview that NOMPC has no board insurance, though at one time it had "all kinds of it." He said he once checked on the cost to cover a 21-member board and it was \$2,400 a year.

Twenty-seven people cast votes. The election of former NOMPC President Garrett Jenkins, who was present but not included on the short Residents' nomination list, was a sur-

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The 2004 NOMPC Board of Directors

Terrance Alan

Tariq Alazraie

Monika Bernstein, *president*

Delphine Brody

Susan Bryan

James Leo Dunn

Ed Evans

Art Holcomb

Dennis Isner, *vice president*

Garrett Jenkins

Sarosh Kumana

Clint Ladine, *recording secretary/treasurer*

Robin Moede

John Nulty

Michael Nulty

Marvis Phillips, *correspondence secretary*

Diego Sanchez

Bruce Windrem

(Three vacancies are to be filled by board appointments)

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Kragen: 3855 Geary, 668-5241
T&R76-1: 3501 Geary, 752-3968

Pacific Heights & Western Addition

Chevron: 2500 California, 567-1136

South of Market

Firestone: 1501 Mission St., 621-4650
Jiffy Lube: 300 7th St., 255-0900
Kragen: 2300 16th St., 431-3386
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SF Honda: 10 S. Van Ness, 441-2000

Potrero Hill & Mission Bay

R + W 76: 800 Folsom, 982-2836
S&C Ford: 211 Industrial, 553-4400

Marina & Cow Hollow

Kragen: 2246 Lombard, 563-4200

Portola & Visitacion Valley

Kragen: 2500 San Bruno, 656-0696
Portola Auto: 2780 San Bruno, 468-5175
Sanitary Fill Company: 501 Tunnel, 330-1400

Sunset & Parkside

Kragen: 2150 Taraval, 682-9177
Chevron: 1890 19th Ave., 731-2733
Mark's Unocal 76: 1700 Noriega, 566-0440

North Beach & Telegraph Hill

Port of SF: China Basin @ Pier 52/54, 274-0565
Port of SF: Hyde St. Harbor @ Jefferson, 274-0565

Russian Hill, Nob Hill & Tenderloin

Chevron: 2465 Van Ness, 441-2240
Jiffy Lube: 2030 Van Ness, 922-7258
Mark Morris Tires: 1200 Larkin, 673-3441

Civic Center

Quality Tune-Up: 1175 Fell, 626-6446

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