$6 million Boeddeker redesign finally set

Now it’s about waiting for makeover grants

BY TOM CARTER

Six-foot-high metal blades of green grass that chime. Big rocks on poles that you can spin. Shiny metal eggs 3 feet around that you can see your reflection in and hug — if you’re a kid, hop on or hide behind.

These are three of the “dream” features in the complete makeover of Boeddeker Park that the Trust for Public Land is proposing. If dreams come true, it will be a vast change that park advocates have longed for, but never thought could happen.

The trust embarked on the project three years ago, after seven architects from various firms volunteered to sketch a park redesign proposal. The community reacted favorably and the land trust proceeded with Rec and Park collaboration. At public meetings, residents voiced their ideas and new plans were refined; they determined the locations of the park’s major features.

“The trust expects to hear this month about the $4 million state grant it requested, which would launch construction in the spring. This is the park residents said they wanted, according to the trust.

Those grass chimes could be charming in the summer of 2012, the transformation’s estimated completion date. “The grass blades and spinning rocks are ideas of ours and would only be in the park if we get the full amount we applied for,” said the trust’s Mary Muszinski in an interview. “The state people came to the trust’s Mary Muszinski in an interview. ‘The state people came to the trust’s Mary Muszinski in an interview. ‘The state people came to the trust’s Mary Muszinski in an interview.

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“IT WILL TRANSFORM THE PARK INTO A TRULY OPEN SPACE.”

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Street Science

It's time to flat-out put the lie to sit/lie. This ordinance is on the ballot because the city has not done its job, from the police to the mayor and all involved in keeping the peace. It starts with Park Station police not understanding a basic law of the streets, an axiom as exact as if it were physics. Apply heat, create movement.

Say clusters of toughs and pit bulls occupy portions of Haight Street from Masonic to Stanyan. Say you don't want those punks to be there harassing folks. Why not assign some police officers to patrol Haight Street on foot? Put as many two-cop teams on the street as you need. This is a big deal. Control your turf. So deploy your troops wisely.

Hang around the mokey crews' sidewalk encampments. Don't harass them. Just be there. Are the thugs going to fire up a doob with the man in their face? Will they hassle some shopper with a couple cops standing right there? You get only one guess. It works in the Tenderloin. It will work on Haight Street.

The Extra blames this whole mess on Park Station for not being able to solve its police problem. Because the Park Station captain couldn't handle his business, we have a haze and cry and citywide legislation on the ballot.

Well, maybe the blame falls more properly on Police Chief George Gascon, who apparently didn't huddle with his Park Station staff and remind them that good old-fashioned crime-fighting will enable them to take control of their own neighborhood.

But wait, the police chief answers to the mayor, so maybe that's where the buck stops: City Hall Room 200.

Mayor Newsom isn't a cop, and he didn't come up on San Francisco's mean streets. So he probably doesn't know that if you apply enough heat you can cause movement. But he should know that adding redundant sections to the Police Code is no way to keep the streets safe.

And then you have the Board of Supervisors, a heard of ‘progressives,’ but they couldn't keep the mayor's copout sit/lie ordinance off the ballot.

Only Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi, whose District 5 includes Haight Ashbury, and his fellow supervisors are pushing for foot patrols to best his officers. No way. Bet on it. And neither would his successor, Capt. John Garrity.

We wonder whether former Tenderloin Capt. Gary Jimenez, who came here from Park Station and now has moved on, would have allowed punks to best his officers. No way. Bet on it. And neither would his successor, Capt. John Garrity. So, because the Park Station police didn't do their job, and no one ordered them to do it, it's not the mayor's ordinance to vote on. When the cops can't handle a problem, most people get scared, which means they'll probably vote for sit/lie.

There's a lot of crime in the Tenderloin, more per block than any other hood in the city. It's not the Tenderloin that has forced onto the ballot a measure that attests to the failure of SFPD to bring order to a neighborhood under its jurisdiction.

No matter how sit/lie plays out, it's a testament to the inability of one of the highest-paid police departments in the nation to control its own neighborhood.

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No matter how sit/lie plays out, it's a testament to the inability of one of the highest-paid police departments in the nation to control its own neighborhood. Pathetic.
Iron picket fence to replace park’s fortress feel

Boeddeker is one of 475 parks statewide that have applied for money from Proposition 84, the $5.4 billion water, natural resource and park bond measure voters passed in 2006.

Boeddeker Park

Boeddeker is part of the public land trust’s $8 million improvement project for three San Francisco parks. Hayes Valley at Hayes and Buchanan streets and Balboa Park out on San Jose Avenue are the others.

The preliminary plan presented in public meetings last year has undergone changes. But the aim to have a more open, greener and inviting park is still evident in the latest drawing.

The main gate will no longer be at the Jones and Eddy corner but pushed farther east on Eddy, where an 18-foot gate will roll open for ramp access. Walking up the ramp to the park level (from Eddy to Ellis the park slopes 16 feet) a visitor passes the glassed recreation room on the right, which also looks out on to Eddy. The rest of the clubhouse extends north and has activities and meeting rooms. Most of its west wall will be floor-to-ceiling glass for staff to keep an eye on the park. The floor will be warm from the radiant, geothermal heating system underneath. From the roof, drain pipes will send rainwater into three large planters.

BUILDING TO GO SOLAR

Supplying all of the one-story building’s energy needs will be solar panels on the roof. A ‘living roof’ of plants and grasses proved impractical. At the top of the ramp is a patio. Looking west is the airy, open park that the critics of fortress Boeddeker wanted. Gone is the park split by a wide block walk from the Eddy and Jones gate and sectioned by low brick ledges. Instead, there’s an 80-by 45-foot lawn suitable for soccer, tai chi and group yoga. Adjacent, to the north, is a multi-purpose court. Next to it, surrounded by trees, is a kids’ play area with a stage, but without a sunken amphitheater-like plaza that once was considered. Nearby, centrally located, is the outdoor bathroom.

Protecting the lawn and court on the south and west sides will be a light-colored, 6-foot-9-inch-high perimeter fence to supplant the heavy, dark metal one that contributed to Boeddeker’s reputation. The new fence’s wrought iron pickets are less than half the thickness of the others. And park trees, mostly poplars, will border the main park’s south and west sides and turn along the north side and go past the children’s area.

Because of the sloping land, the park will be terrace-raced and ramped in four places. One ramp leads up to the northernmost section that borders Ellis Street, where there will be a maintenance gate and doorway. That section, with several small garden areas, tables and benches, was once the haunt of raucous domino players and dope dealers who were chased away in recent years, oldtimers from Presentation Senior Community next door have volunteered on Saturdays to weed and hoed the flower beds and clean up trash. That section will have two patios, planter beds, tables and benches under two bordering rows of trees.

Trust representatives brought a small sample of the lighter fencing that will surround the park to the Friends of Boeddeker Park meeting Aug. 12. It will create better visibility into and out of the park.

BULLETIN BOARD STAYS

Residents said they were eager to save the park’s arty grant-funded bulletin board created two years ago. It’s on the outside of the fence to the left of the gate and posts information on neighborhood special events, concerts and exercise classes. It’s colorfully encircled by a wrought-iron garland of vines and flowers painted green, yellow and red. Rec and Park’s Steve Gismowski said the bulletin board was popular and has remained undamaged since it was put up.

The historic clock at the park’s Eddy and Jones corner was another consideration. It will be removed during construction, Musziniski said, but the city will decide if the JCDecaux privy will stay. Friends Chair Betty Traynor said she hoped the clock could be returned to the corner.

“While I was putting up some flyers for the concert, someone came up and asked why does this park have to look like a prison?’’ Traynor said later. “And why are there so many fences inside? Well, this is what the new design will change — it will transform the park into a truly open space. I really like the new design.’’

Housing Leaders

James Keys, receives top endorsements in his campaign for becoming the next District 6 supervisor. James has shown his leadership and strength by creating a true diverse grassroots campaign. With District 6 having a supermajority of renters, it is important to select champions and proven defenders of tenant rights.

Jane Kim, gets 2nd place endorsement in ranked-choice voting for the November 2, 2010 election for District 6 supervisor race. Kim is an experienced community organizer. Our 3rd selection candidate, Glendon Hyde, candidates for safety, supporting tenants, including citywide rent control. Support these three renters, who are also candidates.

District 6 boundaries include: North of Market, South of Market, Union Square, Lower Polk, Lower Nob Hill, Civic Center, Financial District, Inner Mission, South Beach, Mission Bay, Yerba Buena Island, Treasure Island and Western Addition.

This endorsement statement is by Tenants Leaders who have resided in District 6 for more than a year and care about preserving affordable housing. Each of us have won many victories on behalf of our community. When housing is at risk, we organize, we demand our government support the most basic need we all share, a decent home, which is decent housing.

This is a paid advertisement not affiliated with any candidate campaign. Paid for by Mentor Advocates (advocating since 1987).
Lee is still No. 1. The toothless man is No. 4. The milling crowd of maybe 25 is volatile, the scene, at times, chaotic with yelling and cursing. One man bursts into ragged song at the top of his lungs, then stops a sharply young volunteer headed inside and starts dancing with her. She smiles, wiggles her hips and plays along. More than a score of young volunteers go through the door between 9 a.m. and 9:30 a.m., often using their own keys. An angry woman in the crowd screams obscenities for a full minute, then walks off in a huff. Nobody pays her any attention.

Away from the group, alone at the curb, is Molly Trejo. She’s leaning on a parking meter, a large black travel bag slung over her shoulder. Feet tall with white hair that once was auburn, she has beautiful blue eyes and a Milky way face like a pretty farm girl. Her smile is radiant. But usually she’s expressionless. She’s 50, and a two-year shower regular. Typically, she’s the only woman in the shower line.

“It’s nice to have this hygiene," she says. "Helps the confidence. It really does.”

Confidence?

“Confidence to be positive, and in a nice way." Trejo lived 34 years in Seattle, 12 in Hawaii and the last four in San Francisco. She says she lives in Hayes Valley, eats at Glide or St. Anthony’s, walks several miles a day and often spends weekends strolling along the Embarcadero. She loves listening to conversations, longs to be included, but is too shy to break in, she says.

Free showers are scarce for the 2,700 homeless whom the Human Services Agency estimates sleep on the streets. Trejo’s nearest other choice would be A Woman’s Place, open daily at 1049 Howard between Sixth and Seventh streets. For Lee, it would be the Ozanam Center for men, 1175 Howard, weekdays only.

Jennifer Freidenbach, executive director of the Coalition on Homelessness, believes showers are “basic for hygiene.” Without them there are health risks, especially foot problems and infections, to say nothing of a deterrent to employment.

“It’s a human necessity,” she says.

Today, Lee comes in first and Trejo follows at No. 5. She sets her bag down and begins circling the room, waiting for her name to be announced. If there’s no-show she could move up before any of the wait list’s three or four names are called. But there aren’t many no-shows.

When called, the person is given soap, shampoo, a towel and the bathroom key to lock the door. Bathers get a five-minute warning door knock, then a final knock.

For privacy, the drop-in center bathroom is closed and only one of the three showers is used. Otherwise, the showers are never used.

“You can’t use the bathroom now when a shower is being used and we want to change that,” Tim Svoboda, the center’s director, told The Extra. He’d like to reconfigure and give the bathroom a separate door so there’s access when a shower’s in use.

“There’s a shortage of bathrooms and showers in the neighborhood and we’d like to expand these,” he said. “I think add another door. I’d guess it would cost $30,000 to $40,000, and we don’t have it.

The Tenderloin Community Benefit District may help with funding. Director Elaine Zamora toured the center after hearing about Youth With A Mission’s showers at a Friends of Boeddeker Park meeting.

“We’re waiting on a proposal from them for a bathroom-shower project that would allow for more staffing of their restrooms and showers, for more accessibility for people who need to use them,” Zamora said in an email. “Accessibility to restrooms will help address the public urination and defecation issues in the neighborhood. That, along with the showers, brings dignity to folks, as well.”

The CBD contributed $25,500 last year to the Tenderloin’s Wonderland art project and gives $7,500 annually toward the neighborhood’s Safe Haven campaign.

A new guy, a tall, friendly man with a lengthening 5 o’clock shadow, was in line among the regulars on July 23. Ed, 51, who didn’t want his full name used, lived in Florida 12 years and a year in Colorado before coming to San Francisco three weeks ago. He lives in his car and heard about the YWMI showers from other car-bunkers.

“This is nicer than most,” Ed said. “You get 20 minutes. It’s wonderful, even better than one in a gym. It’s private and you don’t have to worry about people stealing your stuff. San Francisco has good services, a lot better than Florida.

The only other shower Ed had was at the Fifth Street Shelter. It wasn’t as clean, he said.

At 9:30 a.m. everyone scurried through the door toward the things that would brighten their day. In four minutes the shower lot was full. Ed was No. 2 behind Lee and when Ed was at the table he blurted, “You’ve got the best showers in town!”

Trejo was No. 5.

How much is a shower worth?

Richard May, 52, previously took showers for granted. Then he became homeless Feb. 3 and was suddenly without one. He went 10 days before going in desperation to the Mission Resource Center on Capp Street. He didn’t know he had to make an advance reservation. But staff made him an appointment.

When TNDC’s renovated, eight-story Civic Center Residence at 44 McAllister St. advertised its rooms — $435 no-shower to $675 with — Michael Wise was Elated, “You’ve got the best showers in town!”

Wise, 61, went for the shower.

“Very consistent hot water, too,” said Wise, standing next to his shower in his SRO “sanctuary.” “It’s the first time in 26 years Wise has been on his own. In residential care, he always had roommates.

Heavily tattooed, Wise has a larger, nicely located room, and the $240 he’s willing to pay $240 a month.
District of extremes is driving the city

BY JONATHAN NEWMAN

STEP up, ladies and gentlemen. Today’s tour of the dynamic, the diverse and the problem-filled — District 6 in the heart of San Francisco — is about to begin.

District 6 is not the biggest election enclave in the city, but District 6 holds that distinction of — but of the 11 city supervisorial boundaries, District 6 is home to a populace with the very poor and very rich citizens at its edges — all trying to balance the contrasts between long unsolved social ills and promises of sky-high growth and unending technological advancement.

On Nov. 2 some portion of the district’s 43,000 registered voters will select a successor to term-limited Supervisor Chris Daly. You think you’ve got it tough? That successor must respond to resident concerns ranging from crime, homelessness, affordable housing, public transportation and land development to day care, public parks and street beautification — the gamut of wants and dreams as old as government itself.

Right now in District 6 you can rent a single room (bath not included) at the newly renovated Civic Center Hotel for $435 a month, or bid to buy the penthouse at The Millennium Tower 60 stories above the corner of Fremont and Market for $435 a month, or (bath not included) at the newly renovated Civic Center Hotel for $435 a month.

Supervisor Chris Daly. You think you’ve got it tough? That successor must respond to resident concerns ranging from crime, homelessness, affordable housing, public transportation and land development to day care, public parks and street beautification — the gamut of wants and dreams as old as government itself.

In the past 10 years nearly 9,500 new housing units have come up in District 6. The Planning Department projects nearly 20,000 more housing units coming online in the district, including 8,000 on Treasure Island alone. Look closely, ladies and gentlemen, city within the city is rising before your eyes.

Now, as we approach central Market Street, you might want to take a break. Not much to observe unless you’re enthralled by vacant buildings, empty storefronts and public misbehavior in the middle of stalled renovation projects. There’s life here, though, and beneath that temporary eyesore a glimpse of a revived arts and theater district might be had.

At Civic Center, watch out for bureaucrats. This part of the district is home to three federal office buildings, two state buildings, a county courthouse and the dome of City Hall, not to mention the Main Library, the Asian Art Museum and dozens of lesser Civic Center offices. No wonder Seventh and Market is the city’s transportation hub, shuttling commuters and government workers in the tens of thousands each weekday.

Hayes Valley — you cutlery remember it as a dead zone under the freeway — is alive again. If you’re not yet a crime to be poor skidrow’s past masks hidden paths to time’s door now everyone who’s anyone knows that the T-Los got ‘it’ but they know that they can’t buy ‘it’ (not even at the farmer’s market) that no one can tell that they’re so fakin’ it. Guess I’d better strike it right before I become too poor to afford to live in the Tenderloin anymore.

Purloining her Tenderloins

Everyone knew that the T-Llo had something unique vibrant bleak a shabby chic where the flag of the freak flies high and proud where vindication of the meek electrifies fiery loud the last frontier of where it’s not yet a crime to be poor skidrow’s past masks hidden paths to time’s door everyone who’s anyone knows that the T-Los got ‘it’ but they know that they can’t buy ‘it’ (not even at the farmer’s market) that no one can tell that they’re so fakin’ it.

That November election? Fourteen politicos are running for one spot. Like the district, the candidate roster has something for everyone. You can vote for champions of more affordable housing and more public nudity, zealots for less crime and more jobs, advocates of community development, less parking spaces and better public transportation. All that’s sure is that someone will win and we’ll do it all again in four years. See you later.

— MARYRHEE BEGGS CONTRIBUTED TO THIS REPORT

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE, COORDINATION AND PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICES FOR THE MID-MARKET PROJECT AREA COMMITTEE MID-MARKET REDEVELOPMENT SURVEY AREA

The Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco is seeking Statements of Qualifications from qualified individuals or entities to provide administrative, coordination and outreach services to support the Mid-Market Project Area Committee (“PAC”) through a Personal Services Contract. Services will generally include coordination of all PAC meetings; serving as a point of contact for information requests; implementing discrete PAC projects; maintaining, developing and implementing a public information program; and drafting reports, letters, memoranda, etc. This opportunity is open to all businesses, both for-profit and non-profit. Responses to the Request for Qualifications will be accepted until Monday, September 20, 2010, 4:00 p.m. To obtain a copy of the Request for Qualifications packet go to www.sfgov.org/sfra or if you have questions, please contact Lisa Zayas-Chien, Project Manager, Telephone: (415) 749-2504 or Lisa.Zayas-Chien@sfgov.org.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR MID-MARKET PLAN ADOPTION CONSULTING SERVICES MID-MARKET REDEVELOPMENT SURVEY AREA

The Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco seeks a consultant to assist and consult in preparing redevelopment plan adoption documents for the proposed Mid-Market Redevelopment Project Area as required and detailed by California Redevelopment Law. This generally includes, but is not limited to, the preparation of blight findings, boundary analyses, fiscal feasibility analyses, and other analyses in support of the creation of required Redevelopment documents.

This opportunity is open to all businesses, both for-profit and non-profit. Responses to the Request for Qualifications will be accepted until Monday, September 20, 2010, 4:00 p.m. To obtain a copy of the Request for Qualifications packet go to www.sfgov.org/sfra or if you have questions, please contact Lisa Zayas-Chien, Project Manager, Telephone: (415) 749-2504 or Lisa.Zayas-Chien@sfgov.org.

CENSUS TRACT FIGURES FOR 2000 SHOW A POPULATION OF ABOUT 93,000, MAKING DISTRICT 6 ONE OF IF NOT THE BIGGEST ELECTION ENCLAVE IN THE CITY. THE 11 CITY SUPERVISORIAL BOUNDARIES, DISTRICT 6 IS HOME TO A POPULACE WITH THE VERY POOR AND VERY RICH CITIZENS AT ITS EDGES — ALL TRYING TO BALANCE THE CONTRASTS BETWEEN LONG UNSOLVED SOCIAL ILLS AND PROMISES OF SKY-HIGH GROWTH AND UNENDING TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCE.
Candidates for supervisor of District 6

Elaine Zumora
Date of birth: Dec. 12, 1951
Date of District 6 residency: November 2007
Occuption: Attorney (semiretired) and dis- trict manager of the North of Market/Tender- loin Community Benefit District
What I do best: Work very hard and smart and able to facilitate collaboration of very diverse people. Experience most relevant to my candidacy: My legal experience and law practice busi- ness ownership. Also, the many accomplish- ments achieved for the Tenderloin during running my law office and while running the North of Market/TLCBD.

What is the most pressing problem in District 6, and what can you as supervisor do about it? I believe it is land use issues. I will engage residents, businesses, property owners, city departments/agencies, develop- ers and any other stakeholders in developing common sense, fair and reasonable land use decisions and solutions for balanced, safe and healthy District 6 neighborhoods.

Jim Meko
Date of birth: Feb. 13, 1949
Date of District 6 residency: March 1977
Occupation: Printer. I own the Best Impression, a print shop at 366 10th St., with my partner, Roy.
What I do best: 33 years living and working in District 6 has given me wonderful work of community contacts to help work out community-based solutions that everyone agrees on.

Experience most relevant to my candidacy: My 10 years as chair of the SoMa Leadership Council and my service as an Entertainment Commissioner since 2003 are very valuable, but the experience most relevant to my candi- dacy comes from the hundreds of hours of community meetings that I’ve organized as chair of the Western SoMa Citizen Planning Task Force. I have learned that what matters the most is our shared vision of creating complete neighborhoods for everyone.

What is the most pressing problem in District 6, and what can you as supervisor do about it? The Board of Supervisors has got to stop talking about pension reform and must act now. This unsustainable cost is resulting in more and more cuts to city serv- ices every year. Releasing the set aside that now lock up 85% of the budget is another priority so that available funds are distributed more fairly and justly among all departments.

The budget deficit is our most pressing prob- lem. It has priced families out of the Gene Friend Rec Center and forced United Playaz to find a storefront for their safe communities program. … We can’t keep spending money that we don’t have. What we do spend must serve the greatest good.

George Davis
Date of birth: Sept. 17, 1946
Date of District 6 residency: August 1968
Occupation: Writer
Experience most relevant to my candidacy: I have written about and am familiar with San Francisco’s political, economic and cultural history. I have owned several real estate agencies and small businesses. … have demonstrated for a U.N. Declaration of Human Rights, the Free Body Cultural Movement and against the death penalty.

What is the most pressing problem in District 6, and what can you as supervisor do about it? The bullet points of my campaign are:

• Freedom of expression
• Freedom from censorship
• Free dental, vision and hearing care for seniors.

My target electoral demographics are “free thinkers” and seniors. Freedom of expression and freedom from censorship are greatly expanded, whether or not I am elected, by the nude walks throughout the city. … If elected supervisor, my only legislative priority is free dental, vision and hearing care for seniors.

Nate Payne
Date of birth: Jan. 24, 1979
Date of District 6 residency: 2002
Occupation: Small business owner
What I do best: I listen and act on facts not fiction. This allows me to bring people together.

Experience most relevant to my candidacy: Growing up in District 6 from a child to an adult and then father, I have seen the good and the bad in District 6 as well as the whole city. … My experience working and talking with youth and our senior citizens has given me a great amount of wisdom and respect. … I can and will always remember who I repre- sent, that is the people and businesses of District 6.

What is the most pressing problem in District 6, and what can you as supervisor do about it? The safety of residents and busi- nesses is one of the most important resources needed in District 6. We rely as well as those who visit on being able to walk freely and safely at all hours of the day. … I will work with my colleagues on the Board of Supervisors, the Mayor’s Office and with the police to maintain the levels of safety required by our citizens. There is not an option to reduce the safety resources that protect the quality of life we all work so hard for. … I will also make sure that the resources allocated for safety and security are efficient and not wasteful.

Theresa Sparks
Date of birth: Declined to state
Date of District 6 residency: August 2009
Occupation: Executive director, San Francisco Human Rights Commission
What I do best: Job creation and human rights advocacy

Experience most relevant to my candidacy: I started up, built and managed new busi- nesses for 25 years, primarily in the clean- tech industry, have been president of the Police Commission and executive director of the Human Rights Commission.

What is the most pressing problem in District 6, and what can you as supervisor do about it? The most pressing problems facing District 6 are unemployment, the absence of good jobs, affordable housing and public safety.

As supervisor, I intend to immediately intro- duce legislation to stimulate growth in our local economy by creating economic zones of innovation for clean tech, high tech and biotech startups, encourage devel- opers to create more housing opportunities for low-middle-and working-class residents by offering incentives, and work with the SFPD to not only increase funding for more beat cops on the street but adopt a restora- tive justice model to first-time offenders instead of immediate incarceration.

James Keys
Date of birth: Nov. 6, 1961
Date of District 6 residency: August 1999
Occupation: Unemployed
What I do best: Advocacy

Experience most relevant to my candidacy: My work in the D-6 supervisor’s office as a legislative intern, my work on the S.F. Mental Health Board, my past job at Senior Action Network has had me working on health care, children and education, equal rights, balanced budgets, citizenship, ethical corporate leader- ship, environmental responsibility, secure energy policies and fair trade issues.

What is the most pressing problem in District 6, and what can you as supervisor do about it? Housing — I want to continue the work in this district that has prioritized the construction of affordable housing and the protection of our existing rental housing stock, especially the GRO hotels. As someone who has lived in affordable housing in the Tenderloin, … I will work to provide real opportunities for low-income individuals in hotels to improve their quality of life by mov- ing into better housing. This in turn would open up units, which would allow homeless individuals to obtain housing.

District 6
Where the candidates live

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C E N T R A L C I T Y E X T R A / S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 0

6
Jane Kim
Date of birth: Declined to state
Date of District 6 residency: January 2009
Occupation: Civil rights attorney, Lawyer’s Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area, and Board of Education president
What I do best: Through my work as a community organizer and now as a Board of Education member, I personally understand how effective and smart policy-making, engaging the community, can bring about change that matters in our communities.
Experience most relevant to my candidacy: I am currently the president of the Board of Education and an attorney for the Lawyer’s Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area. Before law school, I was a senior community organizer and Youth Program director at the Chinatown Community Development Center.
What is the most pressing problem in District 6 and what can you as supervisor do about it? The mantra of our campaign has been making neighborhoods more complete and livable. One of the most exciting things about District 6 is that it is in a work in progress. Each of its neighborhoods has its own distinctive needs and assets. Development encompasses everything from job creation and housing to implementing community benefits like transit, schools and innovative use of public space.

Dean Clark
Date of birth: Nov. 10, 1965
Date of District 6 residency: January 2007
Occupation: Special education teacher and business owner
What I do best: Collaboration and communication with others.
Experience most relevant to my candidacy: I have been a teacher and small business owner in San Francisco for years. I have worked in public and private education and I was in the Marine Corps. I attended S.F. State University for a special education credential, City College for early childhood education certificates, and the University of Wisconsin, where I received a bachelor’s in Administration with a minor in Economics.
What is the most pressing problem in District 6, and what can you as supervisor do about it? I plan on working hard to provide affordable housing for all residents. Every citizen deserves a safe and vibrant community. Our police force must focus on violent crimes such as arson, assault, illegal drug trafficking and homicide. Vandalism and graffiti have long been a concern for residents and business owners alike. We need good-paying jobs and to get those who are unemployed back to work. Social programs should be supported. Programs like Healthy San Francisco should not be cut.

Glendon “Anna Conda” Hyde
Date of birth: Sept. 18, 1967
Date of District 6 residency: 1996
Occupation: Community organizer, drag queen fundraiser
What I do best: I am a champion against the war on fun, genitalization, human rights abuses and community inclusiveness.
What is the most pressing problem in District 6, and what can you as supervisor do about it? Housing issues are the greatest problem in District 6 by far. Tenants of many SROs must face bedbugs, limited and filthy toilets and showers, drug use and dealing, as well as lack of common space. To combat these issues we must ensure that all SRO buildings have wraparound services that include front desk attendances, fair visitor policies, the ability to hold landlords accountable for their actions and building issues, and many other needs of the community. Shelters are not the answer for helping those with mental health issues and we need funding to help these individuals to find care instead of leaving them on the streets to injure others.

Debra Walker
Date of birth: April 23, 1953
Date of District 6 residency: 1981
Occupation: Artist/Small businesswoman
What I do best: Working with individuals and communities to create solutions that work for all of us.
Experience most relevant to my candidacy: I have worked and lived in District 6 for over 25 years and during that time I have fought to make our neighborhoods a better, safer place for tenants, families and small business. … I’ve been a land use activist for decades … participating in every planning discussion in this district and I was particularly active in shaping the recent Eastern Neighborhoods regulatory ordinance. … I will use my experience with land use gained as a Building Inspection Commissioner to guarantee we are building adequate affordable housing and complete neighborhoods that serve us all.
What is the most pressing problem in District 6, and what can you as supervisor do about it? It’s difficult to zero in on one, but land use and development. Over the past 10 years, District 6 has seen more development than anywhere else and we anticipate much more to come. As old uses like light industry diminish, we must address current needs, like housing. We must also make sure that we foster our economic engine to produce goods and create jobs and revenue. As supervisor, I will use my vast land use experience to ensure that development brings real community benefits (like open space), provides affordable housing for individuals AND families, protects small business and doesn’t destroy our neighborhoods.

Matt Ashe
Date of birth: Feb. 17, 1965
Date of District 6 residency: 1996
Occupation: Union stagehand and multi-skill technician
What I do best: Contract enforcement and on-site negotiations
Experience most relevant to my candidacy: I have worked as a union member/supervisor at IATSE for the past 18 years. During that time I’ve learned to balance management’s budgetary concerns while simultaneously protecting workers’ rights and wages.
What is the most pressing problem in District 6, and what can you as supervisor do about it? Our most important issue is our quality of life. Our streets should be safe and clean. … Improving the quality of life will be a long-term process. First, we should put the cops on the street where they can do the most good. Once we have cops on the streets we then need to ensure that these crimes are prosecuted by the D.A.

Matt Drake
Date of birth: Dec. 22, 1971
Date of District 6 residency: April 2002
Occupation: Attorney and general counsel
What I do best: Work with very different people to get results
Experience most relevant to my candidacy: I am involved in general neighborhood groups, such as Clementina Cares, the Yerba Buena Community Benefits District and SOMA Forward. Instead of waiting for City Hall, we have been effective in improving the neighborhood on our own.
What is the most pressing problem in District 6, and what can you as supervisor do about it? Our most important issue is our quality of life. Our streets should be safe and clean. … Improving the quality of life will be a long-term process. First, we should put the cops where the criminals are … including moving officers here from other areas of the city. … The police will be able to put officers on the street, where they can do the most good. Once we have cops on the street we then need to ensure that these crimes are prosecuted by the D.A.

Candidates responded to a Central City Extra questionnaire. Candidate h. brown declined to participate, and George Payne’s photo was unretrievable by our computers. Candidates’ order was based on design considerations.
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Voter trends and election insight

BY MARK HEDIN

The battle lines are becoming clear in District 6, where the haves and have-nots are circling the ring to fight for a voice on the Board of Supervisors.

The numbers could grow by election day, but as of mid-July, District 6 had 45,256 registered voters, almost 56% registered Democrats, within less than a percentage point of the citywide registration.

The next biggest group is that which declines to state a party — 13,392, followed by Republicans (3,303), Greens (975), American Independents (875), Libertarians (303), Peace and Freedoms (260) and 74 the Department of Elections calls “miscellaneous.”

The district traditionally is among the liberal voting blocs in San Francisco. Turnout, however, has consistently scraped bottom.

Jim Stearns, whose Stearns Consulting Inc. is working for candidate Debra Walker, expects about 22,000 votes to be cast in District 6. But only about 85% of those voting will bother to state a preference in the supervisorial race, he says. Under the ranked-voting system that applies here, if no one gets a majority, the top three vote-getters will be considered. “At the end of the day,” he said, it’ll take “maybe only 7,500 votes” to win.

Term-end supervisor Chris Daly won re-election in 2006 with 8,661 votes, 48% of the 20,294 cast in the district’s 52 precincts. In 2002, he was elected to his first full term with 6,045 votes, 51% of the vote. In 2000, in the city’s first district elections in 20 years, he won an initial two-year term with 6,645 votes, 51% of the district’s 52 precincts. In 2002, he was elected to his first full term with 6,045 votes, 51% of the vote. In 2000, in the city’s first district elections in 20 years, he won an initial two-year term with 6,045 votes, 51% of the vote. In 2006, Daly’s top three precincts were all from the north Mission. In 2000, Precinct 3706, the south-western-most in District 6, produced 262 votes.

The concept of district elections has been a recurring issue in San Francisco politics since the ’70s and, as a one-election wonder, brought in Harvey Milk, elected in 1977, who served less than a year before Dan White, also elected in ’77, killed Milk and Mayor George Moscone at City Hall in November 1978.

Less than two years later, in the lowest-turnout election to date, voters decided to return to electing supervisors on an at-large, citywide basis. And so it was until 1996, when voters flip-flopped again, with the first district elections set for 2000. Enter Daly.

As part of a survey conducted in the course of adjusting district boundaries in 2002 — each of the 11 districts is supposed to be equal in total population — the city’s Elections Task Force on Redistricting asked a sample of 1,100 voters in Districts 3, 6, 8, 9 and 11 about their priorities for making such changes.

They were asked, for instance, if it was more important to keep a neighborhood within a single district or to focus on other commonalities, such as ethnicity or socioeconomic status. Across the board, respondents preferred keeping neighborhoods within a single district. When the new boundaries were drawn, District 6, which needed to shrink by about 4,500 people, on the north lost to District 3 about 18 city blocks along Sutter Street, and to the south a couple of dozen more blocks in the warehouse district along Seventh Street went to District 11, but gained about 20 blocks in a sawtooth pattern across the Mission below 17th Street between Valencia Street and Potrero Avenue.

Quintin Mecke, now an aide to Assemblyman Tom Ammiano, was on that task force and recalls the recurring issue in San Francisco politics since the ’70s as “a grueling process,” and that, based on the unanimity of displeasure it engendered, he felt it must have been even-handed. “Everyone and their mother had some sort of complaint,” he recalled. Once the results of the 2010 Census are in, the city will have to look into redrawing District 6 yet again.

Survey respondents also were asked what neighbor-hood they would prefer to either keep or drop from their district, should the need arise. In District 6, most respondents suggested voting out Treasure Island. Except South Beach, where respondents preferred to lose the “Loin.”

And, tellingly, it’s in that gentrified South Beach neighborhood and its surroundings where voters have veered furthest from the rest of the district. In 2006, Daly’s only significant challenge came from Rob Black, who won almost 40% of the vote (Daly had 48.84%). Black beat Daly in nine precincts covering the district’s entire waterfront territory, from the Ferry Building to Mission Bay, everything east of Third Street, which now includes the new Rincon Towers and other high-end development, and throughout the SoMa area below Harrison all the way to Division Street — also home to pricier lofts and condos. Black also beat Daly in Hayes Valley.

On both sides of Sixth Street north of Harrison, though, and all through the depths of the Tenderloin, Daly swung a big time. Stearns, who worked for Daly in that campaign, noted that though Black had “limited success” in mobilizing upscale voters in those new apartments and condos, he was able to generate from the SROs. “It’s a changing district,” Stearns said. “But translating that into the voting booth is up to the candidates.”

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District 6 Charter Democratic Club

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Governor: Jerry Brown
Lt. Governor: Gavin Newsom

Attorney General: Kamala Harris
Board of Equalization District 1: Betty Yee
State Assembly District 13: Tom Ammiano
Judicial Seat 15: Michael Nava
Secretary of State: Debra Bowen
Controller: John Chiang
Treasurer: Bill Lockyer
Insurance Commissioner: Dave Jones
Superintendent of Public Instruction: Tom Torlakson
Congress District 9: Nancy Pelosi

City Election
Board of Supervisors
District 6 (Ranked choice recommendations)
1. James Keys
2. Glendon Hyde “Arona Conda”
Debra Walker
Board of Education
Kim-Shree Maizis
Hydra Mendoza
Emily Marcus
Community College Board
Amira Grier
John Rizzo
Lawrence Wong

Assessor Recorder: Phil Ting
Public Defender: Jeff Adachi

San Francisco Ballot Initiatives:
Proposition AA – Yes
Proposition A – Yes
Proposition B – Yes
Proposition C – Yes
Proposition D – Yes
Proposition E – Yes
Proposition F – No
Proposition G – Yes
Proposition H – No
Proposition I – Yes
Proposition J – Yes
Proposition K – No
Proposition L – No
Proposition M – Yes
Proposition N – Yes

State Ballot Initiatives:
Proposition 19 – Yes
Proposition 20 – No
Proposition 21 – Yes
Proposition 22 – Yes
Proposition 23 – No
Proposition 24 – Yes
Proposition 25 – Yes
Proposition 26 – No
Proposition 27 – Yes

Paid for by Central City Democrats
Post Office Box 420846, San Francisco, CA 94142-0846
Telephone & Fax (415) 339-VOTE (9685)
CentralCityDemocrats@yahoo.com
http://centralcitydemocrats.blogspot.com/

Central City Democrats is a chartered Democratic club affiliated with the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee serving those who live and vote in District 6.

Seeking new members for strength and empowerment. Join us today.

City College Update
By Dr. Anita Grier

Wherever I speak about City College, the well-publicized misuse of public funds in 2005-6 dominates the conversation; people want to know what went on behind the scenes and how such abuses escaped notice of the Board of Trustees.

• How could $10,000 for rent on a college parking lot be diverted to a political campaign—even a campaign for City College improvements?
• How could $28,670 raised by PepsiCo for beverage sales on campus be diverted to the Foundation of City College, a politically active organization?
• How could public funds, $7,000 from the non-profit College Bookstore Auxiliary and $3,000 from a campus coffee shop, end up as political donations?
• Are there other misuses that have yet to be discovered?

I can’t comment on specific charges until the case is settled, but I believe the oversight role of the Board of Trustees needs to be enhanced in order to prevent future questionable expenditures. I don’t believe that any of the current members of the Board had any knowledge of the funds in question, but we are obliged to ask why we were left in the dark about these transactions.

We believe we need to adopt San Francisco’s Sunshine laws to make our records more easily available to the public, the press, and the Trustees. Four years ago I drafted and proposed that similar laws be adopted by the Trustees that would mirror San Francisco’s improved access to records but the administration at City College has been dragging its feet on implementation, presumably to keep its records out of the public eye.

The current standard for open records at City College is the California Public Records Act, which provides minimal access. It is used statewide. It has gaping holes so large that bureaucrats can simply ignore requests, refusing to release documents just because they allege it is not “in the public interest” to release them. In effect, this gives every employee veto power over disclosure of records and has been one of the most misused sections of the CPRA.

San Francisco voters approved Sunshine (Prop G) in 1999, allowing much stronger public access to records. The Board of Trustees approved similar changes four years ago, and recommended that the various departments and organizations within the institution review their procedures and evaluate the specific changes set forth by the Trustees.

What happened since? We know very little. We do know that at one point the Board of Trustees. What’s happened since? We know very little. We do know that at one point the Board of Trustees.

Last month I reintroduced the Sunshine measure and at the next meeting of the Board of Trustees.

• We still need to be vigilant, of presenting comments from my colleagues, i.e., we appear close to agreement.

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Thursday Sept 9, 5:30pm - 9:00pm

For more information: 1.877.459.9CAA ceramicsannual@gmail.com

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Kids’ N Clay childcare at event.

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Deaths shock residents

Nine residents and a staff member met in William Penn Hotel community room July 15 to remember two of their own who died recently. Derek Decoite and Noble Cunningham weren’t well known by any of the mourners, but several said they were surprised by their deaths.

Mr. Decoite was found in his room by his social worker a week after he died alone at age 40. He used to listen to bands like the Misfits and the Dead Kennedys, said a resident named Jesse — “the same ones I listened to when I was young. I didn’t know he had died. I was shocked, just so shocked.”

Another said Mr. Decoite “was open to sharing information about services in the neighborhood, a good spirit who cared about people.”

Mr. Decoite was “a very nice person,” said Lavonne Adams, who has lived at the William Penn for three years, adding that she hadn’t known anything was wrong with him.

After the memorial, The Extra talked with Veronica Gutierrez, Mr. Decoite’s social worker for the year he lived at the William Penn and the two years before that, when he was homeless. She knew that he was born in Pleasanton and had parents who still live in Oakley, in Contra Costa County.

“He was kind and sweet and he loved video games and punk rock music,” Gutierrez said, naming Green Day and Social Distortion as two of his music. “He also loved to go to the movies and the theater,” Gutierrez said, naming Green Day and Social Distortion as two of his music. “He also loved to go to the movies and the theater,” Gutierrez said, naming Green Day and Social Distortion as two of his music.

“He had no obvious illnesses and there’s been no confirmed cause of death from the medical examiner,” she said.

Information about Noble Cunning- ham was sparse. A resident recalled seeing him going his bicycle. He had lived at the William Penn for six years, according to Fawzia Amar, property manager. And he was, she said, “a quiet, confidential man, who just went in and out of the hotel.” He was 55 when he died May 20.

— MARJORIE BEGGS

CURTIS MARTIN

“A cool guy”

The seven years that Curtis Martin lived at the Senator Hotel weren’t the easiest for him. They followed a stretch of homelessness and illnesses that, soon after he moved in, left him first on crutches, then in a wheelchair with an amputated leg and, finally, bedridden. Still, he managed to stay upbeat, said the SRO staff and a fellow resident who attended his Aug. 4 memorial.

The memorial began a quarter of an hour late, held up for his aunt and niece from the East Bay who were expected to attend. When staff received the call saying they couldn’t make it, Rev. Eldera Hope began, “We’re joined here once more, friends, to mourn the loss of one who was among us . . .”

“He moved into the Senator with a lot of difficulties,” recalled Isabella Marshall, hotel manager, “but he struggled through it trying to live a productive life.” He had many friends in the neighborhood and often visited his mother, who lives in Oakland. She has Alzheimer’s, Marshall said, and Mr. Martin worried about her.

Case manager Margaret Dagovich took a long, emotional half-minute to compose herself before she could speak. “This is the part I hate,” she said. “Where to start with Curtis? We’ll miss his humor. His sarcasm, the witty comments he’d make whenever he’d see us.” His decline was hard to watch; she added, “but I do know he was ready to go — he was comfortable and resting.”

Anne Dudley, also a case manag- er, commented on how Mr. Martin “passed with dignity. He was a funny, generous person we all cared for a lot — if I did something boneheaded, he’d reach over and knock on my head.”

After the memorial, The Extra talked with Bill Malcolm, a Senator resident for 17 years and himself in a wheelchair. He didn’t know anything about Mr. Martin’s early life and, while not close friends, they’d meet up in the hotel lobby every so often. “We’d talk about how the day was going and things like that,” Malcolm said. “I know he had friends in the neighborhood and I could see that he didn’t want to give up.”

They met one last time, just before Mr. Martin went into the hospital. “I could see he was in pain, but he never, ever talked about that. Was he a happy person? There was more to it than that — he had a real sense of humor. He stayed on the bright side of things. He was a cool guy.”

— MARJORIE BEGGS

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OBITUARIES

CURTIS MARTIN

“A cool guy”

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— MARJORIE BEGGS

We know Jim ...

We know Jim Meko. “Jim has been the guardian of our neighborhood,” says Gayle Rubin. “He knows more about planning and zoning and land use than just about anyone I know. He will bring the same care, dedication and passion he has shown for South of Market to the entire District.”

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Jim Meko is not beholden to special interest groups, political machines, or powerful benefactors. He fully supports the need to reform our unsustainable public employee pension system in order to save our City’s vital services.

On November 2, elect Jim Meko District 6 Supervisor.
SPECIAL EVENTS
International Walk to School Day in the Tenderloin, Oct. 6. Tenderloin Neighborhood Association-organized event to highlight the benefits of walking for the entire community. Wellness stations include healthy foods, info on pedestrian safety and disposable cameras people can use to document what makes them feel safe or unsafe in the neighborhood. Info: tenderloinneigh-
bors.citiesites.org.

ARTS EVENTS

COMMUNITY: REGULAR SCHEDULE HOUSING
Supportive Housing Network. 3rd Thursday of the month, 3-5 p.m., Dorothy Day Community, 54 McAulster. Call: 421-2926 x304.
Tenant Associations Coalition of San Francisco. 1st Wednesday of the month, noon, 201 Turk St., Community Room. Contact Michael Nulty, 339-8327. Resident unity, leadership training.

HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH
CBHS Consumer Council. 3rd Monday of the month, 5-7 p.m., CBHS, 1380 Howard St., room 537. Call: 255-3695. Advisory Tenant Associations Coalition of San Francisco, 1st Wednesday of the month, noon, 201 Turk St., Community Room. Contact Michael Nulty, 339-8327. Resident unity, leadership training.
Tenderloin Futures Collaborative. 3rd Wednesday of the month, 11 a.m.-noon, Tenderloin Police community room, 301 Eddy. Presentations on issues of interest to neighborhood residents, nonprofits and businesses. Information: tfutures.org, 820-2989.
Tenderloin Neighborhood Association. 2nd Friday of the month, 842 Geary St., 6 p.m. Nonprofit focuses on health and wellness activities to promote neighborly interactions. Info: tenderloin-
nighborhood@yahoo.com.
Tenderloin Police Station Community Meeting. Last Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., police station Community Room, 301 Eddy. Call Susa Black, 345-7300. Neighborhood safety.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT
Alliance for a Better District. 2nd Tuesday of the month, 5 p.m., 220 Eddy St. Contact Michael Nulty, 820-1560 or sf_district6@yahoo.com, a districtwide improvement association.
Friends of Bodecker Park. 2nd Thursday of the month, 3:30 p.m., Bodecker Rec Center, 240 Eddy St. Plan park events, activities and improvements. Contact Betty Traynor, 931-1126.
Gene Friend Recreation Center Advisory Board, 3rd Thursday of the month. 5 p.m. Board works to protect SoMa resources for children, youth, families and adults. Gene Friend Recreation Center, 270 Sixth St. Information: 538-8100 x202.
North of Market/Tenderloin Community Benefit District. Full board meets 3rd Monday of every other month, 5:30 p.m., 134 Golden Gate Ave., 392-4812.

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SOMA Community Stabilization Fund Community Advisory Committee meets 3rd Thursday of the month, 5:30 p.m., 1 South Van Ness, 2nd floor atrium. Info: Claudette del Rosario 749-2519.
South of Market Project Area Committee, 3rd Monday of the month, 6 p.m., 1035 Folsom St. Health, Safety and Human Services Committee meets monthly on the 1st Tuesday after the 1st Monday, 1035 Folsom St., room. Information: 487-2166 or www.sompac.org.
Tenant Associations Coalition of San Francisco. 1st Wednesday of the month, noon, 201 Turk St., Community Room. Contact Michael Nulty, 339-8327. Resident unity, leadership training.

SENIORS AND DISABLED
Mayor’s Disability Council. 3rd Friday of the month, 1-3 p.m., City Hall, room 400. Call: 504-6789. Open to the public.
Senior Action Network, general meeting, 2nd Thursday of the month, 9 a.m.-noon. Universal Unitarian Church, 1147 Franklin St. Nonprofit focuses on health and wellness. Information: sanfranciscoseniors.org, 820-2989.
Tenderloin Neighborhood Association. 2nd Friday of the month, 842 Geary St., 6 p.m. Nonprofit focuses on health and wellness activities to promote neighborly interactions. Info: tenderloin-
nighborhood@yahoo.com.
Tenderloin Police Station Community Meeting. Last Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m., police station Community Room, 301 Eddy St. Call Susa Black, 345-7300. Neighborhood safety.

GROUND ZERO POETRY READING WITH ED Bowers
at 21 Club, Sept. 8, 8 p.m.