Eminent domain takeover urged for blighted Sixth St. hotel

SOMPAC MEMBER

“No one can deal with the owners. We’ve tried and tried.”

SOMa’s Defenestration, forever out the window but never off the wall, might now fall to an untimely death.

The kooky vision of furniture and appliances anchored on the walls of the gutted Hugo Apartments at Sixth and Howard streets faces the specter of eminent domain as a blighted property. In December, the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency acquired the power to use eminent domain in the area. But it can only be applied as a last resort when an owner refuses to improve the digs or sell at a fair market price — both have been the Hugo owner’s stance in the past.

Redevelopment has used the power only once in the last 20 years, the agency says, though eminent domain is getting more use nationwide. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June that local governments could seize a private property even for the “purpose of a profit-making private redevelopment.” It didn’t even have to involve blight.

In Hunters Point some fear that Redevelopment will exercise that power and displace people under an ordinance proposed by Supervisor Sophie Maxwell.

Defenestration has excited thousands of tourists and residents since 1997 when sculptor Brian Goggin, his friends and neighborhood helpers lashed together 20 houseful pieces — from couches to grandfather clocks — outside the Hugo’s gaunt windows. Goggin called it Defenestration. It means throwing persons or things out of the window such as rolling pins, TV sets, Catholics (at Prague Castle) and, in “The Exorcist,” Father Merrin, compliments of the devil.

Goggin nailed down the concept so cleverly that it has been SOMa’s famous absurdity for 10 years. Gray Line tours make slow bus sweeps past the Hugo.

“They (the artists) have been praised for the beautiful job they’ve done,” says Henry Karnilowicz, a SOMa business owner who serves on the 21-member South of Market Project Area Committee, an advisory body to Redevelopment. He says he knows people who might be interested in buying the building. They say they’d willingly keep Defenestration, at least some of it, “if tastefully done” in a rehabilitated or new structure. “Can you imagine?” he asks, delighted at the thought.

But, regardless of the legions who have looked up at the four-story monster, the “purpose of a profit-making private redevelopment” will exercise that power. If he can’t sell or improve it, the Hugo will become rubble, the few buildings still standing were hollow shells.

Witness to destruction of entire central city

BY JACK LONDON

San Francisco is gone. Nothing remains of it but memories and a fringe of dwelling-houses on its outskirts. Its industrial section is wiped out. Its social and residential section is wiped out. The factories and ware-houses, the great stores and newspaper buildings, the hotels and the palaces of the nabobs, are all gone.

On Wednesday morning at a quarter past five came the earthquake. A minute later the flames were leaping upward. In a dozen different quarters south of Market Street, in the working-class ghetto, and in the factories, fires started. There was no opposing the flames. There was no organization, no communication. All the cunning adjustments of a twentieth century city had been smashed by the earthquake. The streets were humped into ridges and depressions, and piled with the debris of fallen walls. The steel rails were twisted into perpendicular and horizontal angles. The telephone and telegraph systems were disrupted. And the great water-mains had burst. All the stored conveniences and safety-guards of man had been thrown out of gear by thirty seconds’ twitching of the earth-crust.

By Wednesday afternoon, inside of twelve hours, half the heart of the city was gone. From every side wind was pouring in upon the city. East, west, north, and south, strong winds were blowing upon the doomed city. The heated air rising made an enormous suck. Thus did the fire of itself build its own colossal chimney through the atmosphere. Day and night this deadly calm continued, and yet, near to the flames, the wind was often half a gale, so mighty was the suck.

Wednesday night saw the destruction of the very heart of the city. Dynamite was lavishly used, and many of San Francisco’s proudest structures were crumbled by man himself into ruins, but there was no withstanding the onrush of the flames. Time and
Westside finds another home
3 mental health programs may move to the Warfield Building

BY MARJORIE BEGGS

Westside Community Mental Health Center Director Duane Poe said that Westside and its two affiliates, the S.F. Bay Area law firms with low-income people who can't afford one-on-one legal help. The attraction of this area is the concentration on incorporation, trade-marks, leases, contracts, employment issues and zoning, but not on disputes, claims or lawsuits. The length of the consultation "depends on the situation," says Robert Clarkson, a Hastings Law College who students are helping promote the services in the Tenderloin. Many pro bono lawyers so enjoy the work that it becomes an ongoing relationship, he added. "Doing outreach in the Tenderloin has been quite interesting. While there are language barriers and some suspicions about what's being offered — and about lawyers — once people understand they appreciate the assistance. ESOL, which also runs free legal workshops for groups of entrepreneurs at community organizations and offers services in English, Spanish and Vietnamese, is a project of the Esparto Foundation and Civil Rights of the S.F. Bay Area. Information: 415-3444 and www.lcc.org/boehm.htm.

If you have any good news, send it to marjorie@studycenter.org or tom@studycenter.org.
story building's cartoon-like appendages for a chuckle; the Hugo is no laughing matter to SOMPAC. The committee voted 8-1 at its March meeting to urge Redevelopment to buy the Hugo. The hole-eyed structure sits on an intersection where palm trees now grow on recently widened sidewalks illuminated by bright new streetlights, the latest agency improvements for the Sixth Street Corridor.

Redevelopment has an expanded role for the area, roughly bounded by Harrison, Fifth, Seventh, and at its jagged northern boundary, Stevenson, Mission and Natoma. The agency’s mission since 1990 has been to repair Loma Prieta earthquake damage in the area. It didn’t have all the tools usu-
ally given a Redevelopment area. This changed when the Board of Supervisors passed an amend-
ment on Dec. 6 giving the agency full powers for a redevelopment project, including eminent domain, incure more debt, create housing and use eminent domain.

Since 1996, SOMPAC slaved over the amend-
ment. “We went around and around for years,” says Marcia Ban, SOMPAC director. “There were finan-
cial and blight reports, the EIR, which was a long process, and the many, many documents that were required. And they worked on the language for eminent domain. It took a terribly long time.”

SOMPAC wanted to battle the kind of blight the Hugo represents in the neighborhood. It’s not just that Defenestration is deteriorating – the Department of Building Inspection got a complaint last year that it was gutted years later during the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. Then it was declared vacant for sure when DBI got a restriction is unfair.

The Patels apparently believe their property value. Their 10,000-square-foot corner lot is zoned for a maximum height of 50 feet while the other three corners at Sixth and Howard are zoned for 85 feet, an allowance Redevelopment used to replace a row of cracking sidewalks by building the Plaza. The Patels believe their restriction is unfair.

They say they haven’t been cooperative,” Varsha Patel told the Chronicle. “But I say, give me the height.”

If any Planning's East SoMa Plan would do that. A report in February, the latest from the Eastern Neighborhoods Community Planning Process, would rezone the Patels’ southwest corner for 85 feet and increase its value. Insiders expect the plan to be adopted next February.

For Redevelopment to plow through red tape to claim the Hugo with eminent domain before then seems as unlikely as Redevelopment’s buying it this year, one commit-
tee member said. “If the owner is will-
ing to sell and we’re willing to buy, we can move very fast,” says Grisso. “So far, that’s not been the case.”

The Hugo was closed in 1987 after a fire, according to a Central City SRO Collaborative report. But a SOMPAC member, who says he knows the Patel family, says it was vacant until after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. Then it was gutted years later during seismic work. It was vacant for sure when Grisso launched his wel-
come, surrealistic touch on San Francisco’s scab-
rous soul row.

But in recent years the neighborhood has changed its face, though it still struggles with its tough, crime-pocked complexion. Major change since January 2003 has come through the nonprofit Urban Solutions’ Six on Sixth plan that offers business improvement loans through Redevelopment. Besides physical street changes, some area busi-
esses have lost ugly wrinkles by using the loans for face-lifts.

An example is a half-block north of the Hugo. The Alder Hotel, a dismal SRO dump for years, got loans to upgrade its electrical system and renovat-
ed, painted and opened its boarded-up ground floor for attractive commercial rental space.

Encouraged by the trend, Raman Patel, no rela-
tion to the Hugo owner, spent $1.5 million renovat-
ing the hotel he bought in 1992 next door to the Hugo at 1011 Howard. Patel added a story to make the oddly named Bayman Hotel four stories. It houses 85 formerly homeless seniors in the Mayor’s Housing First program.

If the Hugo’s owner rejects a reasonable offer from Redevelopment, the property becomes a can-
didate for eminent domain because the building is vacant, dilapidated and the owner has failed over many years to correct it. But Grisso cautions that the committee action is advisory, not a directive, which Redevelopment could ignore. If it didn’t, the agency would need Redevelopment Commission approval to use eminent domain.

“The Hugo is also more than a platform for Defenestration. It’s a showcase for dozens of color-
ful and often amusing murals painted on its Howard and Sixth sides at sidewalk level. “It’s an icon in the artist community,” committee member David Wilbur said. “I’d like the PAC, to make sure it stays the center of the artistic legacy of the building.”

This story is part of Central City Extra's expand-
ed regular coverage of South of Market issues, people and concerns. The Extra’s Community Calendar also includes items of interest to SoMa. We have assumed the community news responsibilities of the Southbade Newsletter, a project funded by the Koshland Committee of the San Francisco Foundation.
Eyewitness to the destruction of the central city

again successful stands were made by the fire-fighters, and ever time the flames flanked around on either side, or came up from the rear, and turned to defeat the hard-won victory.

An enumeration of the buildings destroyed would be a directory of San Francisco. An enumeration of the deaths of hundreds would stock a library and bankrupt the Carnegie medal fund. An enumeration of the dead—well never be made. All vestiges of them were destroyed by the flames. South of Market Street, where the loss of life was particularly heavy was the first to catch fire.

Before the flames, throughout the night, fled tens of thousands of homeless ones. Some were wrapped in blankets. Others carried bundles of bedding and deal household treasures. Sometimes a whole family was hurrying with the salvage of delivery wagon that was weighted down with their possessions. Baby buggies, toy wagons, and go-carts were used as trucks, while every other person was dragging a truck. Yet everybody was gracious. The most perfect courtesy obtained. Never, in all San Francisco’s history, were her people so kind and courteous as on this Wednesday night of terror.

At nine o’clock Wednesday evening, I walked down through the very heart of the city, I walked through miles and miles of magnificent buildings and towering skyscrapers. Here was no fire. All was in perfect order. The police patrolled the streets. Every building had its watchman at the door. And yet it was doomed, all of it. There was no water. The dynamite was giving out. And at eight angles two different configurations were swooping down upon a structure. There was no water. The sewers had long since been pumped dry. There was no water. The dynamite was running short. And at eight angles two different configurations were swooping down upon a structure.

Slighter ones or delivery wagons, there was no water. The sewers had long since been pumped dry. There was no water. The dynamite was running short. And at eight angles two different configurations were swooping down upon a structure. There was no water. The sewers had long since been pumped dry. There was no water. The dynamite was running short. And at eight angles two different configurations were swooping down upon a structure. There was no water. The sewers had long since been pumped dry. There was no water. The dynamite was running short. And at eight angles two different configurations were swooping down upon a structure.

The following will illustrate the sweep of the flames and the inability of men to calculate their spread. At eight o’clock Wednesday evening, all of it was turned to rubble. Never, in all San Francisco’s history, was there such a conflagration. And so dawned the second day on stricken San Francisco.

The old Mark Hopkins residence, a palace, was just catching fire. The most perfect courtesy obtained. Never, in all San Francisco’s history, were her people so kind and courteous as on this Wednesday night of terror.

I was at Union Square that I saw a man offering a thousand dollars for a team of horses. He was in charge of a truck piled high with mail from some hotel. It had been hauled here into what was considered safety, and the horses had been taken out. The flames were on three sides of the Square, and there were no horses.

If I was Union Square that I saw a man offering a thousand dollars for a team of horses. He was in charge of a truck piled high with mail from some hotel. It had been hauled here into what was considered safety, and the horses had been taken out. The flames were on three sides of the Square, and there were no horses.

At this time, standing beside the truck, I urged a man to seek safety as Right. He was all but hummed in by several configurations. He was an old man and he was on crutches. Said he: “To-day is my birthday. Last night I was worth thirty thousand dollars. I bought five bottles of wine, some delicate fish, and other things for my birthday dinner. I have had no dinner, and all I own are these crutches.” I convinced him of his danger and started him limping on his way.

I passed out of the house. Day was trying to dawn through the smoke. A sickly light was creeping over the face of things. Once only the sun broke through the smoke pall, blood-red, and showing quarter its usual size. The smoke-pall itself, viewed from beneath, was a rose color that pulsed and fluttered with lavender shades. Then it turned to mauve and yellow and dun. There was no sun. And so dawned the second day on stricken San Francisco.

An hour later I was creeping past the shattered dome of the City Hall. Here there was no better exhibit of the destructive force of the earthquake. Most of the stone had been shaken from the great dome, leaving standing the naked framework of steel. Market Street was piled high with the wrackage, and across the wreckage lay the smoldering ruins of the City Hall shattered into short horizontal sections.

This section of the city, with the exception of the Mint and the Post-Office, was already a waste of smoking ruins. Here and there through the smoke, creeping warily under the shadows of tottering walls, emerged occasional men and women. It was like the meeting of the handful of survivors after the day of the end of the world.

The great stand of the fire-fighters was made Thursday night on Van Ness Avenue. They had failed here, the comparatively few remaining houses of the city would be turned to rubble. There were the magnificent residences of the nabob pioneers of Forty-nine. To the east and south, at right angles, were two mightly walls of flame.

The troops were falling back and driving the refugees before them. From every side came the roaring of the flames, the crashing of the walls, and the detonations of dynamite.

A handcart was deserted. Troops, refugees, and all had retreated. There was no water. The sewers had long since been pumped dry. There was no water. The dynamite was running short. And at eight angles two different configurations were swooping down upon a structure. There was no water. The sewers had long since been pumped dry. There was no water. The dynamite was running short. And at eight angles two different configurations were swooping down upon a structure. There was no water. The sewers had long since been pumped dry. There was no water. The dynamite was running short. And at eight angles two different configurations were swooping down upon a structure. There was no water. The sewers had long since been pumped dry. There was no water. The dynamite was running short. And at eight angles two different configurations were swooping down upon a structure.
OBITUARIES

MELVIN BARNES
Extremely private person

Lyric Hotel clerk Jim Yarborough remembers the last time he saw Melvin Barnes, a resident since 2000.

“It was shortly before he died. He asked me for change for a $50, which by pure luck I had,” Yarborough said. “Joy [Joy Harvey, Lyric case manager] took a few of his dollars and went out to get him some oatmeal. While she was out, he said to me, ‘I’m leaving — I’m going home.’ I think he knew he was going to pass on soon.”

Mr. Barnes died in the hospital Feb. 14. He was 58.

Hotel residents at Mr. Barnes’ Feb. 23 memorial knew little about him except that he was an extremely private person.

“He was a fair person, a good person to talk to, but one who didn’t talk about what he was going through. He held it in,” said Willie, who’s lived at the Lyric for four years.

Anthony, another fellow tenant, agreed: “He kept in a lot of stuff.”

Lyric Program Director Melissa Blizzard said Mr. Barnes had family in Milwaukee, two sisters, a brother and a son.

“He just didn’t say much and he didn’t show how much he was suffering,” Blizzard said. “Still, we enjoyed the little we did get to know him. He was a really good person who cared about others. He must have known the end was near because he called his family.”

— MARJORIE BEGGS

LING KUAN HUANG
Seamstress born in China

For the four children and two cousins of Ling Kuan Huang, grief was fresh at her Feb. 27 memorial. Her family joined 25 other mourners at the Alexander Residence, where Mrs. Huang had died just five days earlier. She was 72.

Born in China, Mrs. Huang came to San Francisco 15 years ago and was a seamstress at a clothing factory on Market Street. Her husband, said one cousin, had died many years ago.

The Rev. Glenda Hope of S.F. Network Ministries conducted the memorial, but seven people who shared memories of Mrs. Huang spoke at length in Cantonese, which was not interpreted.

Resident Jeanette Whitacre, the one person who spoke in English, said, “I didn’t know her personally, but she did have a very warm smile and I hope she rests in peace.”

After the memorial, Teresa Suen, the Alexander’s activities coordinator, told The Extra that Mrs. Huang’s fellow residents had emphasized her kindness.

“They said she helped other people in the building,” Suen said, “and that she was always friendly and always smiling.”

As a token from Mrs. Huang’s family, everyone attending the memorial received a piece of candy and a small red envelope containing a coin or a small bill and another candy, a Chinese tradition, Suen explained.

— MARJORIE BEGGS

TOT PARK REOPENS

Rain drags out repair of dangerous building next door

BY TOM CARTER

The Hyde and Turk Mini Park that children’s advocates created four years ago as a haven for Tenderloin preschoolers reopened in late March after being closed five months because of concrete falling from the adjacent Cosmopolitan Apartments.

A Rec and Park spokesman said parents had complained that deteriorating concrete along a corner of the six-story building at 225 Hyde overlooking the park’s north end might fall on the children.

“It’s a 1920s building and that style of construction with the rebar so close to the concrete would never meet today’s standard,” said Jeff Lance, the Cosmopolitan’s property manager.

The 70-foot-square park, bright with red and yellow playground equipment, features a 4-foot-high stationary wooden locomotive with two cars. Adults aren’t allowed in unless accompanied by children. The park was locked on Oct. 31.

Scaffolding went up Dec. 2 and Lance said then that the $100,000 job by Saarman Construction Inc. would take “several weeks.” Bad weather delayed the work.

Rec and Park created the “tiny tot” park from a parking lot in spring 2001. A committee chaired by Women’s and Children’s Center Executive Director Midge Wilson started lobbying the city for a tots park in 1992. The city purchased the lot and the playground was designed by John Thomas of the Department of Public Works.

SAN FRANCISCO RISING

1906 EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE COMMEMORATION

Join Mayor Gavin Newsom in celebrating the enduring spirit of the City of San Francisco

Traditional Memorial at Lotta’s Fountain on Tuesday, April 18, 2006 at 4:30 am (Market & Kearny Streets)

Other Centennial Event Information: sfrising.org Emergency Preparedness: 72hours.org

100 YEARS LATER

S F INSTITUTE
Laundromat opens in long-vacant laundry

BY MARJORIE BEGGS

or six years, the storefront at 572 Ellis was a hole hole, vacant except for the rats running bricks and electrical wires hanging from the ceiling. Today, it’s Blue Water Wash — a pristine, 30-washer, 30-dryer laundromat.

Why did owner Jeff Cleary take a 10-year lease in the heart of the Tenderloin? “There are a lot of people here but not many clean, nice laundromats,” he says. Cleary previously owned a laundromat in the Sunset District, on Taraval and 32nd Avenue. He sold that business and took on this new venture, sensing an unfilled need, he says.

Blue Water Wash, on the ground floor of a five-story, 32-unit apartment building, formerly was Ellis Street Laundry. Cleary says the space was vacant for so long because the building owner had a tough time finding a tenant. Besides rats and wires, there was a car parked in the middle of the floor.

“When I took over the lease in October 2004, the front of the building basically wasn’t there,” he says. “I think one of the tenants just drove her car in and left it there.”

Blue Water’s a sea change from that. Painted in crisp, nautical white with blue trim inside, the 1,800-square-foot space is well-lit and has gleaming new front-load washers in four sizes, a bank of dryers, big metal tables for folding laundry, colorful pictures above the dryers done by kids from the Tenderloin playground, and a mezzanine around three sides of the room where Cleary plans to add an Internet café. He redid the storefront in classy Deco-style glass brick that lets natural light into the space.

Neighbors seem happy with the new business, which opened March 1, especially for 40% of the building’s tenants. “I think they’re glad to have it,” says an automobile maintenance shop worker on the nearby corner. “I’ve been there a long time and they’ve had to wait so long for it.”

Cleary says he was just about ready to go when a series of plumbing leaks from the floors above damaged much of his work, even causing several sections of his ceiling to collapse.

When Urban Solutions surveyed ground floor uses for its Tenderloin Neighborhood Profile in 2004, it tallied 12 coin-op laundromats between Market, Van Ness, Post and Powell streets. Cleary says only new buildings and some renovated SROs in the TL have their own laundry facilities, leaving tons of people with dirty clothes and few places to get them clean.

“One nearby laundromat has 10 machines, but only five of them work. Some places are really expensive, too,” Cleary says. “I think I’m a little lower-priced than my competitors.”

Blue Water charges $1.75, $3.50, $4.25 and $5.50 a load for washers, depending on their size. The 19 smallest ones hold up to 20 pounds of laundry, the largest one 75 pounds, and its two king-size quills with room to spare,” Cleary says. Dryers cost 25 cents for 10 minutes.

Blue Water Wash opens every day at 7 a.m., closes at 11 p.m. and there’s always an attendant on duty. Of the four attendants, who work in shifts, three live in the Tenderloin, he says.

Cleary likes to think that more and more neighbors will come to share one of his abiding pleasures: “I really like washing clothes. If the machines work well, the store is clean, and people have a nice, hassle-free place to do their wash, hopefully our customers will feel the same way.”

SoMa Health Center plans to move, nearly double in size

The 84-hour parking lot on Seventh Street between Howard and Folsom will make way for a $27 million South of Market Health Center and 49 units of affordable family housing. Groundbreaking begins next February.

The federally funded center for people who can’t afford health care will move 1½ blocks from the converted warehouse that it has occupied for 31 years at 551 Minna. The center and Mercy Housing California are the project sponsors.

The health center treats 5,000 patients a year now, 40% of them dually diagnosed men, many from the Sixth Street corridor. About 15% of all clients come from the Tenderloin, according to Marilyn Griffin who heads the center’s capital campaign.

With the addition of the new center, the number of patients served is expected to jump to 8,000 a year, or 30,000 visits.

The new clinic will occupy the first two levels (20,000 square feet) of the five-story building. It will have 16 exam rooms (up from eight), five dental rooms (now there are two), an X-ray lab and pharmacy.

The three stories above the clinic, plus a separate four-story building that will be built at the back of the lot and face Moss Street, will contain 49 units of affordable housing for families below 60% of area median income.

Mercy Services Corp. will manage the units, 15% of which will be three-bedroom apartments and the rest one- and two-bedrooms.

Mercy Project Manager Rosalba Navarro says the project, called Water Wash — a pristine, 30-washer, 30-dryer laundromat.

Jeff Cleary has a 10-year lease for his Blue Water Wash, just down Ellis Street from Glide.

You must pre-register for volunteer trainings. Stop in/call David (415) 934-1792.

For current groups’ schedule or for more information call: 415.431.7476 or go to www.tarcsf.org

SOUTHSIDE
**COMMUNITY REGULAR SCHEDULE**

**HOUSING**

Supportive Housing Network: 4th Thursday of the month, 3-5 p.m., location TBA. Contact: Alcira Hopper, 421-2926 x302.

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

Boeddeker Park Family Fun Day, Sat., April 2, 1-5 p.m. Barbecue, skids, children’s entertainment and giveaways of Easter baskets, clothing and food. Sponsored by the San Francisco Lighthouse Church. Information: 440-4446.

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**Big candidate turnout for Democratic forum in TL**

DEMOCRATS at a March 15 forum in the Tenderloin described their “party of hope” as adrift but moving closer to a navigable course after beating Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, supporter that a.“The party needs diversity, he said, and “think tanks” to deter- mine people’s needs. “Seventy-five percent of my needs,” Windrem said, “I couldn’t stomach the party. And if we can that to defeat things we can do even better to win things.”

The Tenderloin’s Bruce Windrem got the evening’s biggest applause after suggesting the district should emulate Oregon where “grassroots” pol- icies are closer to the people. “When I came here 16 years ago,” Windrem said, “I couldn’t stomach the (Democratic) platform. People need a say in the platform, like in Oregon. And the party needs to be (Democratic) platform. People need a say in the platform, like in Oregon. And the party needs to be

*by Tom Carter*

1106 Market Street at Jones

Since 1989 in San Francisco

17th Anniversary

Churrasco Thursdays to Sunday
and Lunch Buffet Mondays to Fridays

Special Events

Earthquake and fire centennial event, free walking tours of the Barbary Coast every Saturday in April, 10 a.m.-noon. Guides tell stories of tragedies and triumphs along the route. Meet at the Old Mint, Fifth and Mission. More information at www.sfhistory.org.

Financial literacy workshops, two free sessions plus light refreshments, 11 a.m., police station Community Room, 301 Eddy, sponsored by Northeast Community Federal Credit Union. April 12: How to Do Your Budgeting; April 19: How to Manage Your Credit. Information: 454-8797.

Boeddeker Park Clean-up, 3rd Saturday of the month, 9-noon, organized by the Friends of Boeddeker Park. To RSVP to work or for information, contact Betty Traynor at the Neighborhood Services Committee, 421-3160.

Community Leadership Alliance, a chartered democratic organization. Quarterly informational forums with guest pre- senters and speakers, sharing news of upcoming events, pro- posals, resources. Meetings are first Thursday in Jan, April, July, Oct. Location information: David Villa-Lobos, admin@CommunityLeadershipAlliance.net

Friends of Boeddeker Park, 2nd Thursday of the month, 5- 6:30 p.m., Boeddeker Rec Center, 240 Eddy. Plan park events, plan park facilities and improvements. 421-3160.

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: 554-9532

Mid-Market Project Area Committee, 2nd Wednesday of the month, 5:30 p.m., Renata Hotel, 1311 Market. Contact Carolyn Diamond, 362-2500. Market Street redevelopment on Fifth to Tenth street.

North of Market Planning Committees. 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m., 301 Eddy. Contact: 820-1412, TL 2000, near- hood planning.

North of Market/Tenderloin Community Benefit District, 1st Thursday of the month, 111 Jones conference room. Intern board meeting. Contact Elena Zemora, district manag- er, 494-7570.

SoMa Leadership Council. 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6 p.m., The Arc, 1500 Howard St. at 11th. Emphasizes good planning and good government to maintain a diverse, vibrant, planner-oriented neighborhood. Complete neighborhood. Contact: Jim Melo, 624-4309 or jim.melo@omcast.net.

South of Market Project Area Committee, 3rd Monday of the month, 6 p.m., 1035 Folsom, between 6th & 7th. Contact: SOPMAC office, 487-2166.

Tenderloin Futures Collaborative. 2nd Monday of the month, 10 a.m., Tenderloin Police community room, 301 Eddy. Contact Jerry Jai at 358-3956 for information. Network of resi- dents, nonprofits and businesses sharing information and tak- ing on neighborhood development issues.

SANDS AND DISABLED

Mayor’s Disability Council. 3rd Friday of the month, 1-3 p.m., City Hall, 400. Contact: 564-6789. Open to the public.

Senior Action Network, general meeting, second Thursday, 10 a.m.-noon, St. Mary’s Cathedral. Monthly committee meetings, 975 Mission #700. Fundraising, first Thursday, 2 p.m.; Peacekeeping Safety, second Friday, 10 a.m.; Civic Action, third Wednesday, 1:30; Health, last Thursday, 1:30. Information: 564-1333.

City Hall, Room 200

Budget Committee: Daly, Daly, Peskin, Thursday, 1 p.m.

City Services Committee: McGoldrick, Daly, Ma, first and third Monday, 1 p.m.

Land Use Committee: Maxwell, Sandoval, McGoldrick, Wednesday, 1 p.m.