



BALBOA PENINSULA POINT POINTER

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February 2006

A Message From The President

We had a couple of very concerned members and fellow residents visit our last Board meeting. They spoke on their concerns of safety and traffic on the Peninsula Point and how both have worsened. Though not limited to the speed of vehicles on Point streets and the resulting risks to us all, that was and is certainly a big issue. We need your cooperation in not being among the violators. We also need more signage, highlighting this as a neighborhood of homes and children at play and posting the speed limit. If you don't know what that limit is, you're probably not alone. As you drive onto the Point, there is not one speed limit sign on either Balboa Blvd. or Ocean Blvd., arguably our two highest traffic streets. The limit is, in fact, 25 MPH. See an article in this issue, written by two of our members asking for your active participation. I personally hope you'll be on the side of a solution to this high risk situation. It is, after all, our neighborhood.



Bruce Asper

The current Board enters its last two months of service with this issue. The annual meeting, held the second Thursday in April, is when the new Board takes over. Dick Barker, Vice President and President elect, has been chairing the nominating committee meetings since early January. He discusses their progress in an article within this issue. Please feel free to call either Dick or myself with any questions on the process.

The next big BPPA social event, the Easter Egg Hunt in the Park, is coming on the Saturday before Easter. One of your Hospitality Chairs has written an article so you'll be sure to save the date. Help is also requested. Give Julee and Lisa a call and help out.

At the next Board meeting, March 9, we will have a PowerPoint presentation on the Newport Beach Planning Commission's general plan for the next 25 years. Gus Chabre will present it, as one of a number of Newport residents who is a representative for the public to the Planning Commission. Gus served several years ago as your BPPA President. You are invited to join the meeting to learn of what is planned for Newport Beach by the year 2031.

The next BPPA meeting is March 9, send any items for the agenda to balboabruce@aol.com

-Bruce Asper
President

A Message from the Vice President

NOMINATING COMMITTEE - This Committee has met three times regarding filling openings on the 2006-2007 Board. At this time we have only ONE position open, the Chairperson for Hospitality and Events. If you would like to serve please call Bruce Asper, Ken Drellishak or me. Just a brief remark on this position - this Committee plans and carries out two events, the 4th of July festivities (working closely with the parade chairman Ken Drellishak) and the 2007 Easter Egg Hunt. Please give this your thoughtful consideration. We need your assistance.

Thirty days before the election the new slate of Officers and Directors will be posted at the Peninsula Racket Club. The election will take place during the regular Board Meeting on April 13, 2006. If you will not be able to attend the April meeting, please request a proxy so that you can vote.

-Richard Barker
Vice President

City Council Activities

The City Council conducted a process for selection of a replacement for John Heffernan (District 7) who retired recently. Five candidates submitted applications for the position and each was interviewed publicly at the City Council meeting on February 7. Keith D. Curry was selected by the council and was sworn in at the meeting. He will occupy the Council Seat until the November elections and has committed to run for election at that time.

The OC REGISTER reported (February 10 edition) that eight proposals have been received for development of the Marinapark site. Proposals cover a range of potential configurations from a mainly passive park to a commercial marina and various other mixed-use ideas. City Council will reportedly hear the proposals at a study session next month and will make a decision on the final configuration later this year. If you have interests in the area, keep abreast of the status on the city web site and be sure to make your position known by testifying at the forthcoming study session.

-Ken Drellishak
City Council Liaison

Easter Egg Hunt

The annual Balboa Peninsula Point Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 15th at 10:00 a.m. at L Street park. Easter Sunday is April 16th. If you are interested in filling Easter eggs or providing refreshments, please contact Julee Johnson or Lisa Jabara. We will have more information in the March and April Pointer.

-Julee Johnson
Hospitality & Events Co-chair

REMEDY FOR LIFE IN THE FAST LANE..... RELAX AND SLOW DOWN

In response to widespread concern by residents, we are initiating a discussion about a number of problems negatively affecting the quality of life on the Peninsula Point. What we wish to accomplish in the next few months is to create an ad hoc committee of residents to assess and lead in an effort to solve these problems.

The Board has continually asked the city and the police department to address these issues but has been unable to elicit any interest or cooperation. It's the old, "Don't explore, ignore, and maybe it will go away." ploy. Ultimately, we will want to circulate a petition to the residents for their input. This information will give muscle to the Board in its effort to gain the cooperation and assistance from the city.

We all know that for the past five plus years our community has been undergoing intense development. New homes are larger; ergo larger families, more children, and above all, more and larger cars (SUVs, vans, and trucks). Added to resident vehicles are the trucks and heavy equipment carriers operated by construction contractors, city and other service workers, and visitor traffic coming to the beaches. We are literally under water in vehicles, and there seems to be no limit to weight, size or number.

As a result of these conditions, we have been negatively impacted by difficult parking, traffic jams, etc. More recently, however, all these have combined to create not only inconveniences, but literally, dangerous situations that place in jeopardy the quality of life in our unique and beautiful point community.

The following are serious problems that need to be addressed:

1. Speeding - 25 miles per hour is the legal norm for residential areas. The Point has NO speed limit signs. Residents, visitors, and construction and service workers do not always adhere to the above speed limits. Speeds of 35-40 miles per hour seem to be the norm, and 45-50 miles per hour is not infrequent.
2. Observing crosswalks - Every street corner to street corner is a legal pedestrian crossing; yet because of speeding and cell phones, many drivers barrel right through designated crosswalks. Maybe we need to rename crosswalks "crossruns".
3. Crosswalks - There are not enough designated marked crosswalks.
4. Blind corners - Large trucks and SUVs parked at corners obstruct the vision of drivers entering the main streets from cross streets. Speeding cars compound the difficulty of entering the main arteries of the Point; i.e. Balboa Boulevard, Channel Road, and Ocean Boulevard. (A number of residents refer to these streets collectively as the Horseshoe Freeway).
5. Arterial Stops There are no arterial stops on the Horseshoe.

We urge you to engage in the discussion and become pro-active by submitting your comments and any other input you might have regarding the promotion of safety in our Peninsula Point community. Please submit your comments and interest in the ad hoc committee to Roberta Schmidt at 1805 East Balboa Blvd., Balboa, 92661 (you can drop a note in the mail slot if you wish); email is bertams@msn.com, or phone (949) 675-7685. Thanks for your help. Mary Ann Javelera and Roberta Schmidt

BPPA 2005-2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice President/Pres. Elect	Richard Barker	673-7877
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	Julee Johnson	673-4472
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City Council	Ken Drellishak	723-9095
Parks & Recreation	Bob Yant	673-8474
Planning	Jeannette Thomas	673-4871
Police & Traffic	Larry Lerner	675-1389

Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Peninsula Point Racquet Club and are open to all BPPA members.

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
MARCH 9, 2006**



BPPA
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