



Newport Beach Women's Democratic Club

Advocating for Democratic Values

in Newport Beach and neighboring communities

PO Box 11761 | Newport Beach, CA 92658

NBWDC.org | Info@NBWDC.org | 949.423.6468

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram @NBWDC

NBWDC Governmental Activism Committee Report

By Kathleen Andrews, Committee Chair

Newport Beach City Council Recap - November 5, 2019



[City Council meeting agendas and videos are located here.](#)

Kathy's Commentary

The biggest outcome of today's meeting is that it looks like the city is going to build a Community Pool. Going into the meeting, it looked like a sure bet that the location would be at Lower Castaways Park, but the zoning for the beach is for marine use only, so Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission will join with the Harbor Commission to look at other locations as well.

Note also the attachment to this email, which is a flier showing the locations and dates of General Plan Update Workshops. These workshops are gear toward resident participation to discuss the issues that have hindered Newport Beach quality of life (traffic, development choices and more). Please plan to participate and have a say in how our city of the future will take shape for the enjoyment of all who call it our home.

Oral Reports from City Council on Committee Activities

Joy Brenner announced the dates of two meetings at OASIS Senior Center on the topic of wildland fires: Tuesday, November 12 @ 6:30 p.m. and Thursday, December 12 @ 6:00 p.m. Check out the city's website for more details on this important topic: NewportBeachCA.gov.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."
Margaret Mead



Newport Beach Women's Democratic Club
Advocating for Democratic Values
in Newport Beach and neighboring communities
PO Box 11761 | Newport Beach, CA 92658
NBWDC.org | Info@NBWDC.org | 949.423.6468
Facebook, Twitter, Instagram @NBWDC

Jeff Herdman went with other council members on advocacy trip to Washington DC. Wants to be one of the six cities across the country to get funding from the FAA for technology to get quieter airport with less air pollution, grants for pilot testing, and community engagement officers.

Will O'Neill read the Newport Beach surf report on a recent morning at 7 am.

Diane Dixon reports that 400 people showed up for the launch of the General Plan Update. There will be workshops in each of the council districts. For instance, Back Bay Science Center on November 14th from 6 to 8 pm. Shout out to the fire department, which sent two engines and ten firemen to the Tick Fire for 8 days. A crew was also sent to the Kincaid Fire, and we still have one fire captain working there. Monday (November 11) will be a holiday, will be her birthday, and reminding people that the city offices will be closed. Reported that in Washington DC, she met with Quiet Skies caucus of 47 Congressmen to hold the FAA accountable. 2018 FAA re-authorization. FAA Western Regional head explained that the community engagement officer **won't engage with the public, only with city managers. Flight path dispersal: many cities looking for an alternative to that.**

Consent Calendar

No items held back from consent calendar. Several council members recused themselves from items on consent calendar due to real property interest.

Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items:

Nancy Gardner spoke on behalf of the Friends of Newport Beach Animal Shelter. Introduced a volunteer who thanked the City Council for their past and continuing support.

Drew Lawler **on behalf of Beacon Bay Homeowners Group to refute Irvine Company's rental rates for the area.** Irvine Company have 105 ground leases, and city is are increasing lease rentals about \$3500 higher per year as much for leases. 2 1/2 percent of the purchase price. City must charge fair market rates. Recommends forming a working group between residents and city council. Otherwise will go to mediation or a lawsuit. Dixon says that city council will get back to Mr. Lawler after conferring within city personnel.



Newport Beach Women's Democratic Club

Advocating for Democratic Values

in Newport Beach and neighboring communities

PO Box 11761 | Newport Beach, CA 92658

NBWDC.org | Info@NBWDC.org | 949.423.6468

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram @NBWDC

Jack, a resident living near Hoag Hospital, brought up the topic of at-large election systems which are challenged to get racial equality on councils, and noting that the proposed homeless shelter is being placed in the most Hispanic populated census tract in the city. Recommends getting ahead of lawsuits that could come as a result of these facts.

Public Hearing

Adoption of the 2019 California Standards Codes and California Fire Code with Local Amendments, effective January 1, 2020. The Building Codes are updated every three years. 13-slide PowerPoint presentation. Require 30-day notification for demolishing a structure. Emergency egress is required from bedrooms located in basements — no exceptions.

California is adopting the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code. City is proposing no city-specific amendments to most of the sections of the California Building Code, and where the city-specific amendments are proposed, they are similar to those made every three years. (Note that private pools can serve up to 3 families.) Jim Mosher, a frequent commenter, noted that in public meetings, only the areas of city-specific amendments are sketched out, and the city council members are the only ones receiving the 160-page details. Motion passes 6 to 0.

Considering Feasibility of a Community Pool at Lower Castaways Park. Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission would hire an architect to look at the site. Brad Avery asks Laura Detweiler, Director of Recreation & Senior Services, if she thinks a city pool would be beneficial, and she says yes, community groups have struggled with getting time at the pool. Sees therapeutic needs, water aerobics, learn to swim programs, lap swims, high school teams heavily using the pool seven days a week. 25 yard pool, rather than a competitive pool, to meet the **recreational needs of the community. Newport Outriggers currently operate on the space. It's a large lot, may also accommodate a bike node. Will O'Neill points out the need would be \$700,000 upkeep per year, and already sees a lot of costly items on the budget, and expresses concern.**

Public comment on the pool: Evelyn Hart, on Board of OASIS Senior Center, says has been waiting **ten years for this feasibility study, since the senior center doesn't have a pool. Senior Center says that it's important enough to that they'll come up with half of the funding, and mentioned the names of the people on the Senior Center board, and expressed the credibility and success these people have in fundraising.** Another senior center representative expressed that the location is great for the area, and would upgrade and mesh with other nearby parks and amenities such as the Environmental Nature Center. Says the pool will cost 1/3 less money than the senior center. Hoag Hospital is on board to make it happen, too.



Newport Beach Women's Democratic Club

Advocating for Democratic Values

in Newport Beach and neighboring communities

PO Box 11761 | Newport Beach, CA 92658

NBWDC.org | Info@NBWDC.org | 949.423.6468

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram @NBWDC

Jim Mosher brought up the zoning for the Lower Castaways is for marine-direct use, and a pool does not meet that: he would like to see if there are other places in parks that are inland for a pool — maybe in the utility yard, or Upper Castaways, or Bonita Canyon Sports Park, to retain Lower Castaways for marine-oriented use. Duffield says he swims laps regularly and it feels good **when he's done**. Suggests the greenery area of Marina Park as a location for a community pool for **the peninsula residents. Wants a pool but not sure of the location for a community pool.** O'Neill suggests sending the proposal to PB&R and the Harbor Commission. Herdman says Lower Castaways also should be vetted by the Harbor Commission. Brenner suggests that city pool should be centrally located. Dixon then proposed that both Parks Beaches and Rec and the Harbor Commission jointly evaluate feasibility. Voting: 6 yes, 0 no.

I left the meeting at 8:30... additional information is available at the link below.

[City Council meeting agendas, minutes and videos are located here.](#)

General Plan Listen & Learn Neighborhood Meeting Schedule on the next page, or visit NewportTogether.com.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Margaret Mead



COME JOIN US FOR A WORKSHOP IN YOUR COUNCIL DISTRICT!

- CONNECT WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS
- SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE NEWPORT BEACH COMMUNITY'S VISION AND FUTURE
- REVIEW COMMUNITY VALUES AND THE GENERAL PLAN, THE COMMUNITY'S GUIDING DOCUMENT

District 2 November 12 6-8 p.m. Location: 16th Street Recreation Center	District 3 November 14 6-8 p.m. Location: Back Bay Science Center	District 7 November 20 6-8 p.m. Location: Newport Coast Community Center	District 6 November 21 6-8 p.m. Location: OASIS Senior Center
District 5 December 3 6-8 p.m. Location: Friends Room at the Central Library	District 4 December 11 6-8 p.m. Location: Bonita Creek Community	District 1 December 12 6-8 p.m. Location: Marina Park	*Dates, times and locations are all subject to change.

The City of Newport Beach is launching a workshop series in neighborhoods across the City to engage in conversations about a vision for the City, community values, and the General Plan. We invite you to join us at a workshop in your neighborhood and help shape the future, together. Light refreshments and kid's activities will be provided.

Newport, Together is an opportunity for the City of Newport Beach to listen and learn from the Newport Beach community in preparation for a future General Plan Update.

Can't make the workshop? Head to www.NewportTogether.com to stay engaged!

