

Join the Presidio Greenbelt Neighborhood Cleanup, which meets on the first Saturday of each month at the southwest corner of 14th Avenue and Geary Boulevard. Our next cleanup is Saturday, January 5, and we'll be working on planting, pruning, grounds maintenance and trash cleanup from 9 to 11 a.m.

Meet your neighbors for the second Dare to D.R.E.A.M. Festival on Martin Luther King Jr. Day to Discuss, Rise Up, Empower, Advocate, Engage and Mobilize. Held at the Richmond District Neighborhood Center (741 30th Avenue), this free event seeks to bring neighbors together for change by building community through education and advocacy. Enjoy guest speakers, opportunities for service, access to resources, art, music and a workshop series. Create a mosaic, screen print shirts, make a dream wall, plant in an edible garden, and talk about community needs. Contact Naomi at naomi@richmondsf.org with questions or to participate.

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority, in partnership with District 1 Supervisor Sandra Fewer, is hosting a town hall for the Central Richmond Neighborhood Traffic Safety Project, at the Richmond Recreation Center, January 14, at 6 p.m. The town hall provides a chance for community members to comment on designs proposed by the SFMTA to improve safety for people walking, biking or being dropped off at schools in the Central Richmond neighborhood. Proposed traffic safety improvements include speed humps, high-visibility crosswalks and pedestrian refuge islands. For more information, contact Jeffrey.Banks@sfmta.com.



Invasive water-plants beware

Aquamog saving GG Park lakes

An unusual visitor has descended upon Golden Gate Park's Chain of Lakes, chomping its way through the marshy waters and spitting out any invasive weed that dare stand in its path.

The Aquamog, an aquatic vehicle, which looks like the unlikely offspring of a small paddleboat and a backhoe, will dine on submerged and floating invasive plants for approximately one month at North Lake, the largest of the three natural waterways that make up the Chain of Lakes. North Lake is known for its birdwatching, and its paved path is popular with joggers, dog walkers, and parents pushing strollers. It has long attracted water birds, including egrets, great blue herons, belted kingfishers, and many types of ducks, that take shelter on its small islands, .

Invasive plants, mainly water primrose and parrot feather, have grown across nearly 80 percent of North Lake's open water. When these aquatic invaders take over a lake, they can destroy native plant populations, choke waterways and eliminate major food sources and habitats of native animals. Removing the invasive vegetation will improve the health of the lake and its shoreline and enhance viewpoints from the pathway.

The San Francisco Recreation and Park Department uses vegetation management methods that cause the least possible hazard to people, property and the environment. Using the Aquamog to harvest the bulk of aquatic weeds is more environmentally friendly than applying herbicides and more efficient than

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Bylaw revisions approved by PAR board at October meeting

At its October 1, 2018, meeting, the PAR Board of Directors approved several revisions to the PAR bylaws. These changes were approved to improve board governance and to clarify certain bylaws.

We have been a neighborhood group for more than 45 years, and some bylaws needed revising to be more current. The board agreed that the bylaws could be tightened up a little, and these changes are a result of that effort.

These revisions will be presented to the general membership for their approval at the April 2019 general membership meeting.

Following were the significant

changes the board approved:

The process for selecting new board members and filling board vacancies was clarified.

A new bylaw regarding attendance at board meetings was approved.

The process for selecting board officers was clarified.

A term limit for the board president was approved.

The composition of board committees was clarified.

The revisions approved by the board are on page two of this newsletter. A complete copy of the current bylaws is available on the PAR website, www.sfpar.org/site/board-of-directors.html.

Winter 2018 PAR Meeting

Member Appreciation with Supervisors Sandra Fewer and Catherine Stefani and representatives from the Mayor's Office

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Wednesday, January 16

7 to 9 p.m.

Richmond Recreation Center
251 18th Avenue
(between Clement & California Streets)
Limited street parking is available.
Muni: 1 California and 38 Geary

REVISED PAR BYLAWS

APPROVED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS – OCT. 1, 2018

IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Revised C. Election:

The Board shall present a slate of prospective Board Members for election by the Members at the annual General Membership meeting. The Board shall be elected by a majority vote of the Members at this General Membership meeting. Election of Board Members shall precede election of Officers. Nominations from the floor may also be accepted.

New F. Vacancies:

- (1) A Board vacancy occurs when the Board has fewer than its full complement of 23 members.
- (2) Prospective Board members may be considered throughout the year as vacancies occur. Prospective Board members shall be interviewed by at least two members of the Nominating Committee and one member of the Executive Committee.
- (3) Upon recommendation of a Board member by the Nominating Committee, the entire Board will then consider the Nominee at a Board Meeting. Approval of the Nominee requires a simple majority.

New G. Attendance:

Board members are expected to attend all monthly Board meetings and quarterly General Membership Meetings, and not less than six Board meetings in a calendar year.

V. OFFICERS

Revised A. Positions:

All Officers must be members of the Board of Directors. There shall be a President, one or two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Revised B. Election:

- (1) The Board shall present a slate of prospective Officers for election by the Members at the annual General Membership meeting. The Officers shall be elected by a majority vote of Members at this annual General Membership meeting. Election of Officers shall follow election of Board Members. Nominations from the floor may also be accepted.
- (2) The Board shall nominate officers before the annual General Membership meeting, according to the following procedure:
 - (a) The Nominating Committee shall recommend slate of Officers to the entire Board no later than seven days before the meeting at which the Board nominates Officers.
 - (b) Additional nominations for Officers may be also made by any Board Member at this meeting.
 - (c) The Board shall nominate a slate of Officers by a simple majority of the Board.

Revised C. Officer Vacancies:

In the event a vacancy occurs in any of the Board Offices for any reason other than the expiration of a regular term, such vacancy or vacancies shall be filled by the Board of Directors and the person or persons appointed shall hold office until the expiration of the term they are elected to fill.

New G. Term Limits of Officers:

- (1) Officers shall be elected for a term of one year.
- (2) The term of Board President shall be limited to five (5) consecutive terms.
- (3) There shall be no term limits for other officers.

VI. COMMITTEES

Revised A. Designation:

The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall determine such committees, and their chairs, as s/he finds useful. The chair of each committee shall be designated by the President. Committee chairs may create and appoint subcommittees and subcommittee chairs. All committees and subcommittees, and their chairs, shall serve at the pleasure of the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors.

New B: Board members are expected to serve on at least one committee.

New C: PAR general members may serve on committees.

Biennial Graffiti Huddle seeks solutions for vandalism

PAR was recently a proud sponsor of the citywide 2018 Graffiti Huddle, called 2018 Zero Graffiti – Smart Solutions.

The Graffiti Huddle was hosted by the San Francisco Graffiti Advisory Board and drew almost 100 people who came together to discuss ways to combat graffiti throughout the city.

PAR Board member Jean Barish represents the Richmond District on the graffiti advisory board.

Presentations highlighted the many issues graffiti vandalism victims across the city face and ways to address the problem and implement effective solutions.

The keynote address was delivered by District 11 Supervisor Ahsha Safai. Speakers included representatives from San Francisco Public Works, the San Francisco Police Department and San Francisco District Attorney's Office, community orga-

nizers and business leaders. Vendors also showcased products that deter and remove graffiti.

Graffiti is a serious problem in San Francisco. It costs taxpayers, business owners, and homeowners an estimated \$20 million or more a year to remove graffiti from public and private property – buildings, buses, playgrounds, mailboxes, fire hydrants, sidewalks and even trees!

The Huddle, held every two years, provides community members with helpful resources and information that aid in the response to graffiti vandalism. As a team, we can develop solutions that help in the reduction of graffiti.

If you see graffiti, please report it immediately by calling 311 or by going online to sfpublicworks.org/graffiti. The mobile

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Letter from the President

Dear PAR Members,
Happy New Year from PAR, and we hope you had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday season.

PAR had a successful and busy 2018, and we're looking forward to continuing our work in 2019.

Some of our highlights from last year include:

- Meeting our neighbors and signing up new members at Richmond events such as the Clement St. Farmers Market, National Night Out, the Autumn Moon Festival and Balboa Fright Fest.
- Hosting forums on local and state ballot initiatives for both the June and November elections;
- Hosting a forum on crime, emergency preparedness and public safety steps our members can take;
- Hosting MTA Director Ed Reiskin to discuss MUNI service in the Richmond;
- Cosponsoring the West Side Mayoral Forum;
- Cosponsoring the Graffiti Advisory Board Huddle;
- Updating our bylaws to facilitate PAR's thoughtful and efficient administration; and
- Connecting with other community groups such as San Franciscans for Sensible Transit, Save Muni and San Francisco Land Use Coalition.

Of course, we cannot turn the page on 2018 without thinking of the Camp Fire tragedy that struck Paradise. As with everyone in California, our hearts go out to everyone who was affected by this terrible fire. Although the air quality

impact in San Francisco barely registers as an inconvenience in comparison with the devastation wrought up north, I found those smokey days to be a reminder to value the great outdoor opportunities we have in the Richmond. Our dog's need to get some exercise prompted me to occasionally brave the hazy air. The empty paths of the Presidio were devoid of the usual company of friendly dogs, children, runners, and bikers. When the rain brought relief, I was especially grateful to again enjoy our beautiful neighborhood spaces. I hope you all have also been able to take advantage of your favorite parts of the Richmond.

Here are a few of the topics on our radar for 2019:

- As always, we are a voice for Richmond residents in connection with big events held in Golden Gate Park every year. We understand that the Rec and Park Commission will consider a 10-year extension of the Outsideland's permit at its January 2019 meeting.
- We have been closely following and will continue to follow the proposed housing development at 3333 California Street.
- We hear a lot about empty storefronts in the Richmond. Supervisor Sandra Fewer has proposed legislation to expand registration of these sites.
- California Senator Scott Wiener may introduce legislation to permit increased housing density near public transit.
- Last year Supervisor Fewer began a process to discuss Improvements to the Park Presidio Greenbelt. We look forward

to continuing to participate in these efforts.

- We have been tracking the proposed developments for Fort Scott in the Presidio and expect a selection to be made next year.

If you have thoughts to share on these topics or any other issues that affect the Richmond, please reach out.

We're looking forward to seeing you in the neighborhood in 2019.

Kate Lazarus
sfparpresident@gmail.com

Officers & Directors

Officers

Kate Lazarus, President
Nicholas Belloni, Vice President
Mary Dee Beall, Secretary
Christopher Wright, Treasurer

Directors

Jean Barish	Margie Hom-Brown
Dan Baroni	Jason Jungreis
Richard Correia	Natalia Kresich
Herb Elliott	Brian Larkin
Paul Epstein	Michael Murphy
Robert Fries	Zachary Nathan
Sharon Gadberry	Marjan Philhour
Peter Winkelstein	

Emeritus Directors

Fred Altschuler • Lynn Altschuler
Ray Holland • Jim Lazarus • Ron Miguel
Michele Stratton

PAR Representatives in Other Organizations

Housing Action Coalition: Dan Baroni
Kaiser Permanente Citizens Task Force:
Peter Winkelstein
Neighborhood Associations for Presidio
Planning: Paul Epstein, Sharon Gadberry,
Richmond Community Coalition: Nick Belloni,
Jean Barish

Join PAR now and make your voice heard.

Membership is open to all persons living, working, or owning property in the Richmond District of San Francisco. PAR is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Your contribution is tax-deductible as provided by law.

Yes! I/we want to support the Richmond District.

First name(s)		Last name	
Name of business (for business members)			
Address			
City		State	Zip
Primary phone		Cell/other phone	
E-Mail <i>PAR respects your privacy and will not share your email.</i>			
Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Business			
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting membership, \$20.00/year and above			
<input type="checkbox"/> Subscribing membership, \$25.00/year and above			
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor membership, \$50.00/year and above			
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron membership, \$100.00/year and above			

Please complete and cut out this form and mail it together with your check (payable to the *Planning Association of the Richmond*) to

PAR
5758 Geary Boulevard, Box 356
San Francisco, CA 94121-2112

THANKS for helping to support the quality of life in San Francisco's Richmond District.

<p><i>Pay Your PAR dues online!</i></p> <p>sfpar.org/site/join-par-via-paypal.html</p> <p><i>to join, contribute or pay your dues the easy, electronic way!</i></p>

Graffiti Huddle

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SF311 app can be downloaded onto smart phones at sf311.org/mobile.

If you're interested in becoming a graffiti buster, join the Graffiti Watch program at sfpublicworks.org/get_involved/graffiti-watch.

You will receive paint to match the public property in your adopted area, graffiti remover for signs, paint brushes and buckets, paint scrapers, wet paint signs, dust masks, safety glasses and other items. You will also receive a Graffiti Watch safety to identify you as a volunteer.

Aquamog to the rescue

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removing them through manual labor. The project's goal is eradication of 100 percent of invasive weeds. SF Rec and Parks has previously used an Aquamog in Pine Lake and Metson Lake.

The Aquamog is owned by DK Environmental, a Bay Area company that contracts with the City to restore native plant populations and healthy ecosystems.

Once nestled in the sand dunes that covered western San Francisco, the three waterways that make up the Chain of Lakes are among Golden Gate Park's five natural lakes. The rest of the park's lakes are artificial.

WWW.SFPAR.ORG

