

Kensington Talmadge Planning Group
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Draft of Regular Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2021

PARLIAMENTARY ITEMS

Via a virtual meeting held via the Zoom software application, the meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m by Chairman David Moty

Board members present: David Moty, Lisa Sinclair, Brian Helmich, Ken Horsley, Ari Isaak, Ralph Teyssier, Daniele Laman, Paul Krueger, Janessa Goldbeck, Melanie Irwin, Fred Lindahl, Carolyn Satter, Joan Fitzsimons, Kelly Waggoner

Board members not present: Deborah Sharpe

Audience members signed in: Brett Weise, Julio Garcia, Jayme Anderson, Don Rosencrantz, Sean Elo-Rivera, Paul Jamison, Kelly Verheyden, Jawad Al Baghdadi, Gustav Swanson, Priscilla Ann Berge

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved without objection.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the April 14, 2021 meeting were approved as modified, without objection.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Sinclair reported that funds are unchanged from what was reported at the April 14, 2021 meeting: Beginning and ending balance in account is \$130.31, plus \$17 cash on hand.

COMMUNITY FORUM AND NON-AGENDA COMMENT

Updates from Congresswoman Sara Jacobs' representative, Jawad Al Baghdadi; County Supervisor District 4 representative Jayme Anderson; and District 9 city council representative Julio Garcia (Talmadge).

Brian Helmich told City Councilmember Elo-Rivera about the importance of neighborhood policing and the Homeless Outreach Team in helping to prevent canyon fires.

Daniele Laman expressed concern about the fire hazard caused by the palm trees in canyons in the Kensington-Talmadge and College areas, and urged their removal.

Fred Lindahl expressed concern about construction of the two-story ADU adjoining 4754 Madison Avenue, with its “wrap around” balcony and zero-setbacks. He urged Councilmember Elo-Rivera to view that project in person. Brian Helmich expressed similar concerns about that ADU.

Ralph Teyssier voiced general concerns about the city’s ADU regulations.

Council member Elo-Rivera acknowledged those complaints and concerns, and said he will continue to listen to residents’ comments on this issue.

Paul Jamison expressed strong support for more ADU construction in Talmadge.

Daniele Laman restated her concerns about the well-documented blockage of the Aldine Drive storm drain. Julio Garcia said he will follow-up on that issue.

NON-SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS

David Moty noted that the planning group could possibly return to in-person meetings in July, possibly at a location on Adams Avenue, or, less likely, at Hoover High School.

David Moty said there was no update on a proposal for a boundary change with the College Area planning committee, but said city planners have registered some opposition to a boundary change. There was discussion about the possible inclusion of three areas: 1) Montezuma Road, West of Collwood Blvd. 2) Monroe Avenue near Collwood Blvd. 3) Collwood Blvd. from Monroe Avenue to Montezuma Road.

Regarding the Potential Action Item on the question of whether the KTPG shall take a position on council redistricting, Brian Helmich said Kensington and Talmadge must be kept together in any redistricting. Caroline Satter, Lisa Sinclair and Fred Lindahl agreed. Joan Fitzsimons also agreed, and said she would want to include the College Area. There was discussion about the relative merits of also advocating for the inclusion of Normal Heights, North Park and University Heights within any newly-drawn district boundaries.

Brian Helmich made a motion that the KTPG take the position that it prefers that Kensington and Talmadge remain combined with areas to the West.

Daniele Laman seconded that motion.

Janessa Goldbeck also agreed that Kensington and Talmadge should remain together.

Brian Helmich amended his motion to state that the KTPG prefers to remain combined with the immediately adjacent areas to the East, West, and South.

Daniele Laman seconded that amended motion.

The vote was 13-1, with Ari Issak voting no.

KTPG LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS

David Moty reported on the Historic Resources Division's 45-year review. He noted there were no comments on 4511 Winona Avenue and 4427 41st Street, and said an historic report on 4609 and 4609 ½ Marlborough Drive would be necessary only if the project would disrupt the historic front facade.

Brian Helmich presented an update on TMAD activities, which include a review of the coating of the rock "blanket" at the traffic circle at 49th Street and Adams Ave. Brian also reported that the city has issued a "notice of intent to award a bid" for the traffic-calming project at 51st St., Contour Blvd., and Madison Avenue. That chosen bidder is Palm Engineering. Work on the project could start in November, with replacement of the water main.

NEXT AGENDA/MEETING: Next KTPG meeting is scheduled for 6/9/2021.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:08 PM