

Old Town San Diego Community Planning Group

Thurston Coe, Chairperson
2836 Juan Street
San Diego, CA 92110

September 9, 2015

MINUTES v.1

Whaley House this meeting to order at 3:30 pm

Members Present: Chuck Ambers; Gloria Andrade; Thurston Coe; Ann Dahlkamp; Vicki Durham; Patricia Fillet; Fred Grand; Geoffrey Mogilner; David Swarens; David Thornton;

Members Absent: Bruce Johnson; Randi Perez; Richard Stegner; Robert Zink

Visitors: Kenneth Kilgas; LuAnn Porter; Vickie White; Amie Hayes; Ernie Perez; Monica Muñoz; Mike Arnold; Jon Kay; Molly Chase; Bruce Coons

1. Non-Agenda Public Comments: None

2. Modifications: None

3. Meeting Minutes:

July Meeting Minutes approved.

Patricia Fillet Motioned and Thurston Seconded. 8 yes votes, 4 absent, 2 abstain

August Meeting Minutes approved.

Ann Dahlkamp Motioned and Chuck Ambers Seconded. 7 yes votes, 4 absent, 3 abstain

4. Treasurer's Report:

Collected \$13.00 during this meeting to bring year total to \$149.00

5. Action Items:

a) Geoffrey Mogilner motioned that this course plan lodge a formal request with counsel person to issue, CEQA required, notification allowing us time to respond to issues. Patricia Fillet seconded. 8 yes votes, 4 absent, 2 left at 5:00 pm

Information items

Discussion from John of DMI was Juan Street Construction update

Phase 1 should be completed end of September beginning of October.

Phase 2 Storm, drain going in, 95% complete, wrapped up by next week. Utility work is going in on west side about 1,000 feet.

Monica is suggesting that retailer delivery take alternate route for deliveries.

Observation of Pepper trees along Juan Street tomorrow 9:00 am. Bruce Coons is team leader. Trees have to be cut on Friday. 12 trees to be evaluated.

John of DMI said survey will take place on Monday for pouring concrete and gutters.

Geoffrey Mogilner spoke in favor of have Oak trees to replace Pepper trees.

David Swarens resign to the discussion but wanted a more collaborative meeting, CEQA required mitigation. Public had no time for discussion in the Pepper trees. Monica forward information from earlier meetings to city design team.

D.S. said city design team should be more of a collaboration with public/OTSDCPG.

Bruce Coons commented he was in three public meetings making recommendations.

Patricia Fillet didn't think the removal on the east side would be so soon (tomorrow). Committee was lead to believe there would be more time.

Jon of DMI put concrete down to day. On the east side trees growing on top of the sidewalk.

OTSDCPG tree committee just received email from Thurston today.

Visitor commented on short notice about tree review tomorrow.

Bruce Coons is concerned that the tree information was to come back to committee so the members can be notified.

Visitor said trees were planted over 80 years by policeman families.

Jon of DMI is pledging to water the trees the first month after planting.

Tree committee; Bruce Coon, Patricia Fillet and Martin Schmit to meet tomorrow at 9:00am. The question is will there be time for other input from Mission Hills, Hillcrest and other communities.

Bruce Coons expressed concern that the elected body is not updated.

D.S. as CEQA required mitigation happening with the community? D.S. wants to make sure it is happening because community can be a resource.

****And added as additional guidance**, David Swarens emphasized to the continued working relationships with the City's team to immediately establish:

1. A focus group consisting of the current designated Pepper Tree Team over several workshops to provide input on the next phase of the planting of younger pepper trees as a replacement for the old growth pepper trees that were designated for removal.
2. The recommendations equally apply to phase one and phase two of the removal of the pepper trees on the west and east side of Juan street and have been sent to the city as part of the overall mitigation response to the removal of a total of 17 old growth pepper trees. A detail list are also included in the August, 2015 approved meeting minutes.
3. Time relevance is critical to the establishment of the new pepper trees to be planted and will require proper care, placement, and watering (survivability without continued care may prove to be greater in oak trees than pepper trees; however, the benefits of pepper trees are known to be non-invasive and certainly provide a sense of cultural landscape, consistent to the historical significance of Old Town, altogether).
4. Establishment of a "volunteer" team to continue to monitor, nurture, and provide continued input to the City on the success of the healthy growth of the newly planted trees.

Other information items;

Vicki White has draft of Bylaws for OTSDCPG members for October's meeting.

Gloria Andrade has ecological report on Hacienda Heights.

Geoffrey Mogilner concerned that OTSDCPG is not getting CEQA notifications on time.

Meeting adjourned at 5:26 pm.

Officially submitted,

Ann Dahlkamp, Interim-Secretary