

# Normal Heights Community Planning Group

## APPROVED MINUTES

April 2, 2013

6:00 PM

Normal Heights Community Center

Meeting called to order at 6:03 P.M.

Members present: Jim Baross, Joseph Fombon, Scott Kessler, Nancy Lawler, Caroline McKeown, Richard Rios, Mark Rowland, Dan Soderberg, Frank Stappenbeck (appointed at this meeting)

Members absent: Judy Elliot, Art Harrison, Earlene Thom

Community Members/Guests: Vicki Genowitz, Dionne Carlson, Suzanne Ledebor, Jessica McGee, Mark Lawler, Anthony J. Mullen, Alison Moss, Nancy Wolfing, Bill Conway, Andy Paulis

Welcome and introductions

Non-agenda Public Comments

- A question was posed to Mr. Scott Kessler regarding the presence of vendors at the 2013 Adams Avenue Unplugged event. Mr. Kessler responded that there is a plan to have vendors present.

Modifications to Meeting Agenda

- No modifications to the agenda were requested in April 2013.

Approval of March 2013 Minutes

The draft minutes of the March 2013 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. The Board unanimously approved the March 2013 minutes as-is.

Government Representatives

- There were no government representatives present at the April 2013 meeting.

Other Old and New Business and Informational Items:

- 1) Mr. Jim Baross reminded the Board that the Community Orientation Workshop ("COW") is available both online and at periodic in-person events and that all Board members must take the COW within one year of being seated on the Board.
- 2) The Normal Heights Community Association is forming a graffiti removal committee.
- 3) A general reminder was issued to the group to be mindful of the provisions of the Brown Act as it pertains to discussions of Board members.
- 4) Mr. Baross gave a brief review of the last Community Planners' Committee. Mayor Bob Filner was present and spoke highly of empowering community planning groups to enact more change within their boundaries.

Action Items:

- NHCPG elected officers for the 2013-2014 term, expiring March 2014. The Planning Group's new officers are:
  - Jim Baross – President
  - Mark Rowland – Vice President
  - Caroline McKeown – Secretary
  - Art Harrison – Treasurer

**Congratulations to the current term's officers!**
- Mr. Jim Baross introduced Mr. Frank Stappenbeck to the NHCPG. Mr. Baross mentioned that he, with the Board's approval, would like to appoint Mr. Stappenbeck to a one-year term on the Board. Ms. Caroline McKeown formally motioned to appoint Mr. Stappenbeck to the Board; Mr. Mark Kessler seconded the motion. **The Board then unanimously approved the motion to appoint Mr. Stappenbeck to the Board.** Congratulations and welcome, Frank!
- A brief discussion on a volunteer opportunity at the Adams Avenue Unplugged event that would generate revenue for the NHCPG was held with no formal action.
- Mr. Dan Soderberg and two representatives of the North Park Community Planning Group briefly gave background information on two recent modifications to the City Charter that were made that, as written, would weaken historic preservation protections. One motion, introduced by Mr. Soderberg and seconded by Mr. Richard Rios, would oppose altering the City's Municipal Code to weaken historic preservation protections. The second motion, introduced by Mr. Soderberg and again seconded by Mr. Rios would recommend rescinding the July 2012 amendments to the Balboa Park Master Plan ("BPMP") and Central Mesa Precise Plan ("CMPP"). Text of both motions is stated below.
  - "The NHCPG opposes altering the City of San Diego's Municipal Code (especially Section 126.0504(i) to either weaken its protection for historical resources in general, or to create an exception for the Plaza de Panama project in particular." **This motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.**
  - "The NHCPG recommends that the City Council and Mayor rescind the July 2012 amendments to the BPMP and CMPP of 1989 be reinstated until such time as these plans can be updated in their entirety via an established Plan Update process." **This motion was passed with unanimous approval by the Board.**

Committee Reports:

- Mr. Scott Kessler provided an update of the Adams Avenue Business Association. There is a program in the planning stages where public parking would be available St. Didacus Church and at Adams Avenue Elementary. Mr. Kessler also mentioned that a traffic study has been requested for the intersection of 34<sup>th</sup> Street and Adams Avenue. Lastly, Mr. Kessler mentioned that 7.5 tree grates were recently stolen along Adams Avenue; the police have been notified and the remaining grates have been welded in place.

Next meeting: May 7, 2013

Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 P.M.