

Normal Heights Community Planning Group

APPROVED MINUTES

October 1, 2013, 6pm
Normal Heights Community Center

Meeting called to order at 6:02P.M.

Board members present: Jim Baross, Scott Kessler, Mark Lawler, Nancy Lawler, Caroline McKeown, Alison Moss, Mark Rowland, Dan Soderberg, and Earlene Thom. Joseph Fombon arrived at 6:35pm.

Members absent: Art Harrison and Frank Stappenback

Community Members/Guests: Additional community members were present, including Jean-Louis Coquereau, Marianne Greene, John Hartley, Bob Keiser, and Suzanne Ledeboer.

Welcome and introductions

Non-agenda Public Comments

- Bruce Coons, one of the San Diego mayoral candidates, gave a brief introduction about his background and mayoral candidacy platform. His information can be found at www.brucecoonsformayor.com

Approval of September 2013 Minutes

- The draft minutes of the September 2013 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting, however there were some technical problems with the digital format of the minutes. It was decided that the minutes approval vote would be deferred to the next meeting. Additionally, it was discussed and agreed upon that the secretary would take note of board members arriving after the start of the meeting, specifying their arrival time in the minutes.

Government Representatives

- Vicki Burgess of the San Diego Dept of Developmental Services and Facilities Financing spoke about updating the MidCity Finance Plan. She discussed the relationship between the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) and the Finance Plan and indicated that the two can, but do not have to, be applied to the same projects, but that the Finance Plan was specifically for “new development” and cannot be used for maintenance or repair. She reported that there is currently \$1.48M in the MidCity Fund that covers 4 community groups including Normal Heights. She asked that we form a subcommittee to provide input on our prioritization list for the MidCity Finance Fund (which again may have overlap with our CIP list). Volunteers for the subcommittee are Mark Rowland, Earlene Thom, Alison Moss, Marianne Greene, and Ron Ferrero.
- Ron Ferrero, President of the Normal Heights Community Association, informed us of 2 upcoming events sponsored by the Community Association. There will be a Family Safety Fair on Saturday Oct 5 from 11am-3pm at Ward Canyon Park. And a Mayor Forum cosponsored by the Ken-Tal Community Association will be held on Thurs Oct 17th at 7pm the Kensington Community Church.

- Jim Baross announced an oil and oil filter recycling event to be held at Balboa Park on Oct 12th from 9am-1pm, and a Bike Safety Class to be held on Saturday Oct 5th from 10am-1pm at the Normal Heights Community Center.

Action Items:

- **Treasurers Report:** No treasurers report was given. Caroline McKeown reported on the success of the fundraising effort at the Adams Avenue Street Fair. The NHCPG Volunteers sold 106 license plate frames at \$5 each, raising a total of \$530. The initial investment in the frames was roughly \$430, so we made back our investment plus a small profit of \$100. The remaining items will hopefully be sold at future NHCPG meetings and events, with each one being 100% profit from this point forward. It was agreed that the money should go into the NHCPG bank account, managed by the AABA. Caroline made plans with Scott Kessler of the AABA for the full amount to be transferred to the NHCPG account via Scott immediately following the meeting. If you would like to purchase a “Why be normal?” license plate frame, please contact Caroline. Thank you to all the volunteers for your hard work to make the Street Fair a great success!
- **Historical Reviews:** The NHCPG aids in the historical reviews of properties when the city receives a permit request for any property over 50 years old, in particular, what do we know about that property that the city needs to know. Properties submitted for historical review this month were: 3362 Madison, 3446 N. Mountainview, 3451 N. Mountainview, 4434 Wilson, 4883 34th St., 4439 Felton, 4378 33rd St. Suzanne Ledeboer a community member on the Historical Review Committee, commented that at least 2 of the properties she visited (3362 Madison, and 4434 Wilson) were already essentially demolished when she arrived, immediately following notification of historical review. It was discussed that the city should be informed that either the NHCPG was not being notified quickly enough, or that the builders were not aware that they should not proceed while the historical review process is still underway. The Committee agreed to forward these concerns on to the City and report back at a future meeting.
- **CIP (Capital Improvement Project) Prioritization:** It is the duty of the Board to prioritize the CIP items as informed by the community at the Normal Heights Community Planning Group Visioning Workshop and at the outreach meeting with the Community Association. A private ballot-form vote took place with each Board member ranking their top 5 projects. There was some discussion about whether we should submit only the top 5 or 10 projects or whether submitting the entire list would be a better strategy, the argument being that the City should be made aware of all the different needs in Normal Heights. Jim Baross stated that he will submit all the proposed projects, ranked in order of Board votes, to the City. Mark Rowland tallied the votes at the end of the meeting. The “Completion of Ward Canyon Park” was the most voted-for project.

Other Old and New Business and Informational Items:

- 1) An announcement was made about Board Vacancies. We currently have 3 vacancies on the board, putting our Board at the minimum number of 12 Board Members. Qualifying community members can be appointed to the Board by a Board Vote, where they would serve the remainder of the term (currently 5 months) and then be up for re-election at the March meeting. In order to qualify for the Board, you must be a

registered community member (homeowner, renter, business owner, or representative from a non-profit organization, located within the boundaries of Normal Heights), have filled out the application form to be a recognized community member, and have attended at least 2 NHCPG meetings in the previous calendar year (with the appointment meeting counting as 1 attendance). Interested, qualifying community members are encouraged to contact Jim Baross or any current Board Member for more information.

- 2) A reminder was made about Board Member attendance. Board members missing 3 meetings in a row, or a total of 4 meetings in a term year (defined as Apr-Mar) can be relieved of their seat on the Board.
- 3) Jim Baross reminded the Board that the Community Orientation Workshop (“COW”) is available online and that all Board members must take the COW within one year of being seated on the Board.
- 4) Jim Baross reported from the Community Planners Group and the Bike Community that the City of San Diego is authorizing the installment of Deco Bikes, a fee-for-service bike-sharing program. They are looking for public input on where to put their stations, which can be accessed at www.decobikesandiego.com. Scott Kessler reported that the AABA is currently lobbying for 3 locations on Adams Avenue where there are wider sidewalks and the bike installments will be least obstructive: 30th/Adams, 34th/Adams, and at I-15/Adams in the Ponce’s parking lot.
- 5) Suzanne Ledeboer volunteered to get more information about the V-1 Pipeline Project.
- 6) The Undergrounding Project Subcommittee reported that they are currently awaiting the initiation of a Task Force and that the City will not be voting on a new undergrounding schedule until June/July 2014.

Next meeting: November 5, 2013

Meeting Adjourned at 7:08 P.M.