

Normal Heights Community Planning Group

APPROVED MINUTES

February 4, 2014, 6pm
Normal Heights Community Center

Meeting called to order at 6:01pm.

Board members present: Jean-Louis Coquereau, Marianne Greene, Scott Kessler, Mark Lawler, Nancy Lawler, Caroline McKeown, Alison Moss, Mark Rowland, Dan Soderberg, and Earlene Thom.

Members absent: Jim Baross, Joseph Fombon, and John Hartley.

Community Members/Guests: 12 additional community members were present, including Bill Conway, Bridget Druken, Joe Kissell, Phillip Kramer, Suzanne Ledebor, Alan Payne, Judy Pollick, Conni Snyder, Gary Rose Weber, and Ryan Zellers.

Welcome and Introductions

Non-agenda Public Comments

- In the absence of the Chair, the meeting was chaired by Vice Chairman Rowland, as allowed by Council Policy 600-24 and by the NHCPG Bylaws.
- Scott Kessler passed out the AABA newsletter and made a public comment that the police and the city are aware of the increasing homeless population in the Adams Ave park area near the Rec Center at 35th and Adams and they are working together to find a solution.

Approval of January 2014 Minutes

- The draft minutes of the January 2014 meeting was distributed to the board prior to the meeting. Community members were informed that the final approved minutes would be made public on the city's website. Jean-Louis Coquereau moved to approve the January minutes as written, Alison Moss seconded, and the motion passed with a vote of 7-0-3, with NL, MR, and DS abstaining due to not being present for the January meeting.

Treasurers Report: There are no changes to the treasury, which currently contains \$610.

Government Representatives: No government representatives were present this month.

Action Items:

- **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: 4415 Swift Ave., 4661-62 32nd St., and 5067 Mansfield St. There was some discussion about the property at 4772 Felton St. (St. Didacus Church) that was submitted for review last month – the historic St. Didacus Church was designed by Frank L. Hope Sr. and the stained glass windows in the church were made by a significant local artist whose name needs further research. There has been no response to our requests to the city for further information on plans for the St. Didacus Church property. The committee will report back with an update on St. Didacus Church at a later date when they have more information.

- **Establishment of the Election Ballot for March Elections:** The NHCPG has annual elections at the March meeting. The group must identify eligible potential candidates for the ballot via a nominating committee. The nominating committee may not include any members who are up for re-election. As per City Planner Michael Prinz, the committee was to identify and contact all eligible community members, and present a nominee list for the ballot to be voted on by the board at the next meeting. Potential candidates are eligible community members (residents (homeowners or renters), property owners, business owners, or non-profit representatives, within the boundaries of Normal Heights) who have attended at least 2 NHCPG meetings in the past 12 months (Mar 2013-Jan 2014). There are currently 7 board members who are scheduled for re-election in 2014, and each of those board members has chosen to run again for a 2 year term. They are: Jean-Louis Coquereau, Joseph Fombon, Marianne Greene, John Hartley, Mark Lawler, Nancy Lawler, and Alison Moss. In addition to the 7 board members running for re-election, Secretary Caroline McKeown identified 17 community members who met the eligibility criteria (as defined in the bylaws and briefly described above) for board membership. The 17 eligible community members were contacted and of those, 4 responded that they would be willing to be nominated for the ballot and serve if elected. The name of each potential candidate was announced, and a motion and second were made to put that person on the ballot. The potential candidates, their primary motion and second are as follows:

- Jean-Louis Coquereau (CM motion, ET second)
- Joseph Fombon (AM motion, ML second)
- Marianne Greene (MR motion, AM second)
- John Hartley (J-LC motion, DS second)
- Mark Lawler (MG motion, MR second)
- Nancy Lawler (J-LC motion, MG second)
- Alison Moss (CM motion, DS second)
- Kris Haworth (AM motion, MR second)
- Suzanne Ledebouer (CM motion, DS second)
- Art Harrison (no motion, no second)
- Gary Weber (MG motion, MR second)

Furthermore, it was announced that nominations of eligible community members would be accepted from the floor, however no additional nominations were put forward. The nominees receiving motions and seconds will appear as candidates on the Election Ballot at the March 4th election. They will be running to fill 8 2-year seats, with remaining candidates filling open 1-year terms.

Committee Reports:

- **Normal Heights Library Working Group:** Caroline McKeown reported that the group met with San Diego Unified School District Board President Kevin Beiser and discussed the possibility of a joint-use library. Kevin Beiser's response was very positive and he informed us that the school district is very supportive of school/public joint-use library facilities and that we should plan to come up with some more concrete options so that he can present it to the school board. Both the committee and the library plan itself are in the early stages and we will keep the board updated as they gather more

information. The group will continue to meet as a working group until the re-establishment of an official library committee is voted on at a later meeting.

- **Traffic Calming Working Group:** Alison Moss reported that we are still waiting on the results from the traffic study and speed profiles for East, North, and West Mountain View. Committee member and traffic engineer Ryan Zellers commented that he working with a group of SDSU students who are designing a conceptual NH-MV trail as part of their student project. It was agreed that the students could be added to a future agenda to present their project ideas to the group. Gary Weber added that the requested stop sign at 36th and Madison was rejected by the city traffic engineers.
- **Undergrounding Project Subcommittee:** No update on the proposed task force.
- **City Infrastructure Committee:** Meets the first Wednesday of the month. Suzanne Ledeboer attends the meetings and reported that a 5,000 mile city-wide sidewalk survey is currently underway.
- **Wilson School Site Development Project:** Marianne Greene reported that she took a group of architects to Ward Canyon Park and Normal Heights Elementary to encourage them to include green-space linkage from Wilson Elementary to Ward Canyon Park in the Wilson plans. She also noted that the most recent plans include a school library facing El Cajon Blvd that might be a good joint-use library site for the Library Working Group to consider. Marianne is going to invite the school architects to come give a presentation to the NHCPG at a future meeting.

Information Items:

- **San Diego Foundation Great Neighborhoods Challenge:** The San Diego Foundation will be accepting grant proposals of up to \$5,000 for neighborhood projects. They are offering a workshop for the grant submission process on February 13th from 3:30-5pm. Marianne Greene volunteered to attend and spearhead the grant process.
- **NHCPG Membership and COW Reminder:** Community members residing within or owning a property or business within the boundaries of Normal Heights are encouraged to fill out a membership application. The Secretary has applications on hand at the meetings, and they are also available as a pdf on our website and on our page at www.facebook.com/NHCPG. Community Orientation Workshop (“COW”) is available online and all Board members must take the COW within one year of being elected.
- **Agenda Items for Next Month:** A city traffic engineer will be giving a presentation. Additionally, we have 2 outgoing board members who will be receiving commendations for their years of service – a special guest will be coming at 7:30pm to present commendations to Jim Baross and Earlene Thom for their 8 and 9 years, respectively, of service on the NHCPG.

Next meeting: March 4, 2013
Meeting Adjourned at 6:57pm.