

Normal Heights Community Planning Group

APPROVED MINUTES

February 3, 2015, 6:00 P.M.

Normal Heights Community Center

Board Members present: Joseph Fombon, Marianne Green, Scott Kessler, Joe Kissell, Mark Lawler, Nancy Lawler, Suzanne Ledebor, Caroline McKeown, Mark Rowland, Dan Soderberg, Ryan Zellers

Absent: Phillip Kramer, Gary Weber

Community Members/Guests: Jim Baross, Khalisa Bolling, Mathew Boomhower, Art Harrison, Leonard Lagrone, Mike Magers, David Moser, Jane Naseem, Tariq Naseem, Norma Stafford, Peter Stafford, Earlene Thom

Welcome and Introductions

- The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Caroline McKeown, at 6:01 P.M.

Modifications to Meeting Agenda

- None.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of the January 2015 NHCPG meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Corrections were made. Ryan moved to approve the minutes as corrected, and Marianne seconded. All board members voted to approve the minutes, except Dan, who abstained. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

- Mark R.: No activity with the treasury. Balance remains the same. Submitted request for reimbursable expenses to the city but hasn't received a check yet.

Non-agenda Public Comments

- Earlene Thom: Public comments should be kept to at least 3 minutes each. City council committees have a 3-minute rule.
- Doug Generali (owns car wash on Adams Ave.): Sits on AABA board. Concerned about mentions by Caroline of "boycott" of AA businesses. Thinks it's counterproductive and inappropriate and wanted to bring it to the board's attention. Caroline stated that her words were taken out of context. She also stated that it was her personal opinion, and was not speaking for the board.
- Jim Baross: Has a poster about bike safety and is looking for a place to post it.
- Matthew: Will we take public comments once we start working on the agenda? Yes, this is just for non-agenda public comments.

- **Marianne:** On January 28, she testified for street beautification before the city budget and government efficiency committee meeting.
- **Art:** Regarding the school, his concern is the cleanliness and order of the streets, in particular unattached trailers—can't get any enforcement from the city. Fighting over parking spaces rather than classrooms at the school, but boats are being parked on the street. He called parking enforcement, called Jenny Hall, called Adriana Martinez. Caroline recommended the OpenDSD Web site—can report code compliance violations there. Earlene: if it's not moved for 3 days, you can report it, whether it was parked legally or not. It'll be tagged, and towed after 3 more days.

Reports from Government Representatives and Community Groups

- **Marianne** (representing 37th Street Block Association): Submitted a letter regarding tree trimming, and started a tree planting initiative. Has reported potholes, code violations, broken sidewalk, trailer, and a narcotics dealer.
- **Scott (AABA):** AABA annual report is out, copies are on the table.

Information Items

- **Nicole Capretz, San Diego Climate Action Plan:** New nonprofit whose mission is to stop climate change. Wrote the city's draft climate action plan. Gave a presentation on climate change, how it affects San Diego, and the city's plan to address it.

Action Items

- **Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance:** Went before CPC and going to City Council in March. Marianne: Gave a presentation. New infill approach in urban areas. Asks for a recommendation from the NHCPG. Suzanne: concerned about increased load on (water/sewer) infrastructure. Marianne: We're not even at halfway capacity for sewer, and current laws require meeting water standards. The ordinance encourages private ownership, and less density than apartment buildings/complexes. This would affect new development only. Joseph moved, Mark R. seconded, for the NHCPG to support this proposed ordinance. Passed unanimously.
- **NHCPG Bylaws Update:** Suzanne: Council Policy 600-24 says that in two instances only, we need to have a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote. a. Does the Board want to continue voting on each individual candidate nominated for the March election? Ryan moved to have everyone eligible appear on the ballot, Marianne seconded. Passed unanimously. (So: *No* to the question as posed.) b. Does the Chair participate in discussions but only vote to break a tie? Does the Chair participate in discussions and vote on all action items? The Chair does not participate in discussions or vote. Joseph moved to have the chair participate and break ties. Ryan seconded. Passed unanimously. (That is, we keep the status quo.) c. Does the Board want to add a Corresponding/correspondence Secretary? Otherwise, vice-chair would take over records retention, communicating with city. Joe K. moved to keep secretary duties as is, Marianne seconded. Passed unanimously. Marianne

expressed a concern about leaving the board lately. Should we allow for sabbaticals? Currently four absences are permitted in total, three in a row. Suzanne has not seen that provision in other policies/guidelines. Caroline noted that people can always come back later. (Suzanne later asked Michael Prinz, and he said sabbaticals are not allowed.)

- **Nominating Committee Candidate Proposal for March Elections:** Remaining on the board are Ryan, Mark & Nancy, Marianne, and Joseph. Running for reelection: Caroline, Gary, Mark R., Scott, Joe, and Dan. Phil is ineligible to continue due to five absences but could be elected.

Joe is to write Phil a letter stating that he has exceeded his absences and is no longer on the board. He could be appointed later if there were an empty seat. (Update: After checking attendance records, Joe discovered that Phil had in fact been absent only four times, and therefore did not send the letter. However, Phil will still not be on the ballot because he never replied to Ryan's query about his interest in continuing to serve on the board.)

There are four empty seats, and five nominees: Kathryn Gray, Earlene Thom, Jim Baross, Art Harrison, and Dena Harris. Nominations from the floor: Jim nominated Khalisa Bolling, but she's currently ineligible, although she could be appointed later. Joe moved, and Marianne seconded, to approve the slate of nominees. Passed unanimously. An outstanding question is which of the electees will serve one-year terms, since some of the open slots are for the normal two years and others are only to fill one-year terms remaining for board members who have left. Jim suggests drawing lots after the election (from the whole pool of candidates). Everyone liked Jim's idea. We will need paper ballots for everyone.

- **Local School Development Projects Ad Hoc Subcommittee Recommendation:** "The Normal Heights Community Planning Group enthusiastically supports the modernization and improvement of the Adams Elementary campus and looks forward to reviewing and approving plans and details as they come forward. However, we strongly urge the city and school district to work together to take advantage of this opportunity to maximize the investment and create the greatest number of community assets on the site and surrounding area, including expanded park spaces, recreation facilities, parking, and after-school educational facilities for the children in our community." — Marianne moved, Joseph seconded. Passed unanimously except for Ryan, who abstained.
- **Mid-City Unleashed Event Participation:** a. Shall the NHCPG host a table at the Mid-City Unleashed dog park rally? Marianne moved to do so, and Joe seconded. Passed unanimously. b. Shall the NHCPG approve funding for promotional items as proposed? Doggie bags—150 for ~\$300, to be used as giveaways. Joseph moved to approve, not to exceed \$400. Marianne seconded. Caroline asked what it should say, and the board agreed to let her figure it out. Passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

- **Community Planners Committee:** Marianne: Voted to approve land development 9th code update with Normal Heights amendment about companion units. The CPC voted to approve a letter requesting funds for increased code enforcement, community plan update funding, and funding of infrastructure, and the Civic San Diego is meeting this Thursday.
- **Projects Review Committee:** No projects.
- **Historical Properties Committee:** Three properties this month, nothing significant noticed.
- **Ad Hoc Bylaws Subcommittee:** All changes requested by next week.
- **Utility Undergrounding Working Group:** Mark had already left by this time. Suzanne: Utility Undergrounding Advisory Committee will have last meeting on 2/20 and should approve a draft report, which will then go to City Council. Huge changes were made to the process. More steps have to be taken before city council selects undergrounding projects and creates map for them.
- **Transportation/Traffic Calming Working Group:** Ryan: On March 3 Danny Veeh from SANDAG will be at our meeting presenting their plan for Meade. He went to the infrastructure meeting today and advocated for the traffic merits of the Ward Canyon project.
- **Library Branch Working Group:** The working group has pretty much been dissolved.
- **City Infrastructure Committee:** Suzanne: Meets again a week from tomorrow, February 11th. Suzanne will go.
- **Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Local School Projects:** Next meeting is February 23 at 8:30 a.m. at Lestat's. They're going to propose some fence choices for the joint-use field. School district officials will be presenting a full plan to the Planning Group on March 3.

New Business/Future Agenda Items

- Norma Stafford: First Saturday of every month at 9 A.M. is a Normal Heights Cleanup. Meet at Cabaret Café.

Adjournment

- Joe moved to adjourn, Ryan seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. Adjourned at 8:25.

Next meeting: March 3, 2015