

**COMMUNITY**  
**NORMAL HEIGHTS**  
**PLANNING GROUP**

**Approved Meeting Minutes – 1/6/16**

**Meeting Beginning Time. 6:00pm by Jim Baross**

**Board Attendance (x means “present”):**

X	Gary Weber	x	Nancy Lawler	x	Mark Lawler
x	Joe Kissell		Dena Harris	x	Scott Kessler (left at 6:53)
x	Jim Baross	x	Ryan Zellers		Joseph Fombon
x	Caroline McKeown	x	Dan Soderberg	x	Gretchen Eichar
x	Marianne Green	x	Earlene Thom	x	Adam Deutsch

**Administration Items:**

**Modifications to Meeting Agenda:**

- None

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:**

The minutes of the 12/1/15 NHCPG meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. No edits were made. Caroline moved to approve the minutes and Marianne seconded. The approval was unanimous. Earlene, Dan and Gretchen abstained.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

No change from last month: \$1888.94 to date. Also, we still have license plate holders for sale. Keep your plates warm this winter with a “Why Be Normal” frame.

**Information & Communication:**

**Non-Agenda Public Comment** – Issue/Subject & speaker’s name only

- Ryan: i-commute program is offering funding (up to \$3,000 for bike projects, by January 22<sup>nd</sup>, spent between April or June. Ideas include a bike-to-the-park event, or parade.
- Gretchen: she’s now a Public Works employee, Environmental and Permitting. (Congrats, Gretchen!) Might cause her to abstain or recuse from decisions at times.
- Joe: our zip code has a date this year! 9-21-16! Maybe we’ll plan a party, or a bike parade.

- Nancy: What happened to Deco Bikes? They're expanding slowly based on use and profit. Charging station? Awaiting updates.

### **Reports from Government Representatives:**

- Adriana Martinez, Tod Gloria's Office:
  - Call Public works in the event of flooding (call 619-527-7500 in case of flooding)
  - Council Member Gloria is the Budget Chair again
  - Updates on Ward Canyon Dog Park: hopefully opening late Jan/early Feb, sidewalk leveled, gates/fences installed, fence will be lowered to 6ft., pergolas for shade will be installed
  - This meeting is the same time as Uptown Planning Group, so she will be here every other month (March, May, July, September, November)

### **Reports from Neighborhood Groups:**

- Park and Rec was dark in December
- Scott of ABBA:
  - Annual breakfast at Rabbit Hole on 2/9. \$10 per person.
  - 350 people attended the event in Kensington Park last month.
  - FYI: ABBA goes from Texas St. to the end of Adams in Kensington.

### **Social Media Update:**

- Popular ideas on the Facebook page include: when is the Dog Park coming? A: mid-Febish. And when are Flashing crosswalks coming in? A: hopefully within 6 months. Hawley, then the 34<sup>th</sup> St. Nothing definite, though.
- Adriana Martinez confirmed that 8' fence at the Dog Park is being lowered to 6', as per discussions at public meetings.
- Car break-ins and package-thefts have been reported. Ryan requested an Amazon Locker at the 34<sup>th</sup> and Adams Ave. 7-11.
- Two armed robberies this month: Incredible Cheesecake Factory and 7-11. Police are investigating.

### **Actions:** (or use voting record sheet)

- Tire Depot Remodel Proposal. No representative present at this meeting. After November Meeting, changes were made to the design. Those designs are not available here. Caroline made a motion for a formal presentation that covers redesign scope and any other changes to the business as a result of the renovation; Dan seconds that. Conesus passes the motion.

## **Other Discussion Items:**

- Proposals for lot at El Cajon and 40<sup>th</sup>, an Ad hoc Committee to explore possible temporary use of the land. Dog Park? Community Garden? Gary suggest that ECB BA is mindful of preserving the land from development, and there are thoughts by some to obtain more land around that area for larger preservation projects at a later time. Marianne made the motion; Joe will assist with looking into that.
- Campaign to “Light the Heights,” project to promote people keeping their porch lights on. Maybe blast social media with a note about it, and encourage business to display a shine with the same message. Feedback from Committee: reach out to the Community Association about it; explore using funds to provide resources for cheaper lights/LEDs/timers, etc. Maybe explore solar lighting options that can be installed.
- Cherokee Park (area from Adams to El Cajon and Cherokee to the I-15): Marianne says that there’s no historical significance to the name, and is inconsistent with the other themes in the neighborhood. Ideas include Wilson Park (Pres. name of street in that area); Beacon Park, Ward Park, O’Connor Park, Nippawa [sic] Park (However, according to San Diego County Library Resources, the 4 indigenous area tribal groups are the Kumeyaay, the Luiseño, the Cupeño, and the Cahuilla). Jim says we should explore the history of the name; Gary says that when the plan was updated, the idea of the subdivision came from the idea that Normal Heights has numerous subcultural areas, and so each subdivision is given a distinction; the idea was to set it apart, then pay attention to it; initial planning included a school that was going to open on Cherokee St., but the school was named Normal Heights Elementary, rather than a name referencing “Cherokee.” The SDPD uses the subdivision maps. Residential activity has fallen off. The Google Maps identifies the names of developments (apartment structures). Marianne will do more research to change the name and change it in time for the community plan. Another possible idea is to include note in bylaws to ask for participation from that subdivision.
- When referring to the Ward Canyon Dog Park, let’s make sure to call it “Interim Dog Park” to keep in mind that it’s temporary, and a larger park is the actual plan that was designed and approved by the city, pending funding for the final officially approved plan.

## **Committee & Ad Hoc Group Reports**

- Community Planners Committee didn’t meet.
- No projects other than Tire Depot (above).

- Bylaws Update: January 21<sup>st</sup> is the likely date on the decision about proposed changes to the bylaws.
- Historical Properties Review: Two came forward but neither were considered.
- Transportation/Traffic Calming: see flashing lights above. We're also looking into proposals for bike-related projects on Meade.
- City Infrastructure Oversight: Planters on Meade over the I-15 have been repaired. Adriana Martinez: 36<sup>th</sup> and El Cajon Blvd. qualifies for traffic signal, and that is hopefully happening in August. Additionally, can we get a signal at East Mountain View and Adams Ave.?

**Adjourned at 7:08pm**

**The Next Meeting is 2/2/2015**