



NORMAL HEIGHTS COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP
4649 Hawley Boulevard San Diego, CA. 92116

Approved Meeting Minutes – 11/1/2016

Meeting Beginning Time. 6:02pm by Jim Baross

Board Attendance (x means “present”):

	Gary Weber	x	Nancy Lawler	x	Mark Lawler (in at 6:09)
x	Khalisa Bolling	x	Ralph Enriquez	x	Scott Kessler
x	Jim Baross		Ryan Zellers		Joseph Fombon
x	Caroline McKeown	x	Dan Soderberg (6:10)	x	Bill Conway (in at 6:17)
	Marianne Green	x	Earlene Thom	x	Adam Deutsch

Administration Items:

Modifications to Meeting Agenda: Caroline wants to add an action item for a previously approved expenditure. Item 10 won't be discussed since Marianne is absent.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:

The minutes of the 10/4/2016 NHCPG meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. In response, Marianne sent an alternative summary of her presentation last month, so the board debated inclusion of that alternative summary. Jim suggested there are 3 options: keep original notes, include Marianne's, or have both accounts. Conversation ensued. Caroline moved to approve the minutes as they were prepared by the Secretary, and Earlene seconded. The approval was unanimous except for Ralph who opposed (suggesting he'd prefer a note about context). Abstentions from Khalisa (for not reviewing the minutes) and Dan (who arrived late in the conversation).

Treasurer's Report:

Our current account balance is \$2342.74. This does not include additional funding provided from the city for operating costs. Nancy motioned to accept, Ralph seconds, and all approved.

Communications:

1. Reports from Government Representatives – None present.
2. Reports from Community Groups –
 - Adams Ave. Business Association (AABA): Scott reported on CyloSDios, and promoted Spirit Stroll, an event coming up on 11/26/16 that invites the community to enjoy the businesses along Adams Avenue and enjoy festive seasonal cocktail tasters. They're currently looking for volunteers for that event, just email Scott or visit AdamsAvenueBusiness.com.
 - NH Arts group that was created for things like street-surface murals is called *Normal Heights Urban Arts*, and their first project is the doors of the Rec Center. Their meetings on the First Wednesday of the month at 6pm at the Rec Center.
 - Recreation Council: they meet on the 4th Thursday of the month, and they've started up a committee to speak to the iDog Park #mulchage2016
3. Non-agenda Public Comment: No public comment at this time (likely because the World Series is in progress).
4. Other Communications: Jim pointed out that Marty Graham and other residents have sent a new communication from residents regarding the SANDAG project on Meade-Avenue, and are hoping for a constructive response. See Item 7 for more on this.
5. Web & Social Media - Caroline: The joint-use fields at the schools are a big topic. Apparently a child was chased and bitten by a dog, and new signs were posted prohibiting dogs, sports, and practicing sports. The debate is being framed as "dogs vs. kids." But dogs are actually allowed, as long as they're on leash, and children are allowed to play sports, practice, etc. on the joint-use fields.

Jim also mentioned the gates that are locked at Normal Heights Elementary playground. There's a joint-use agreement in place to allow pedestrians to walk through from one part of the neighborhood to another, but they are often locked. The Park and Rec Council discussed it at their last meeting, and it seems that some students stay late, and the gates are locked while they're in school (typically until 6pm). Nancy suggests there is some new staff at the school, and she'll communicate with them at some point.

Those who live to the south of the park have the gates closest to their homes locked, and Jim hopes the school can help give access to those. Scott raises the point that this has been a 10 year history between the schools' obligations to fulfill the details include in the joint use agreements.

Information/Discussion Items

6. Exploring a Normal Heights Library: There was a subcommittee a couple of years ago, but it didn't gain traction. Jim offers to take it into an ad hoc committee, and Ralph volunteered to chair that committee. He will do research on this.
7. Meade Ave Bikeway Project – Discussion Opportunity: SANDAG is not present. They are offering to have design revisions to share with the community for our December meeting. No new updates or questions.
8. Potential New Activity on Adams Ave: A Bay Area company called “Off The Grid” (<https://offthegrid.com/>) that specializes in organizing weekly markets with food trucks, general merchandise vendors and sometimes beer sales, and who operates around the state, is proposing (via email to Jim) to initiate weekly public food market on the Masons' parking lot at 33rd and Adams.

The community discussed how the lot at the Mason's Lodge is historically underused, as they do not often give access to the lot for community parking needs when the Lodge is closed. Scott gave a summary of how the city regulates things like markets/food trucks/Neighborhood Use Permits. The AABA has concerns about parking impacts and how it might impact other businesses on Adams Avenue. As it happens, the city doesn't have rules that would differentiate out of town groups (vs. those established in the community), from proposing or initiating public markets. The AABA is concerned about parking impacts from a weekly market.

We're looking forward to their presentation to this group.

Caroline has questions: is the company already negotiating (seems to be Yes, according to the AABA); would they serve beer? (that would be a different license but Scott suspects they wouldn't operate beer on this site at the moment); there are two things like this on El Cajon Blvd, and Caroline wonders: would the lot at 40th and ECB NW corner would be a better lot for this? (Scott explains as a private business, they might prefer to be in the middle of the well-developed business district).

Jim explains that we haven't been asked about this, but it seems like it would fall within the preview of this group.

Dave Rodgers brings up the point that the Mason's charter prohibits alcohol, but Scott points out that alcohol permits can be provided on a case by case basis.

The AABA will hopefully meet with them next week, and if they want permits for land use in Normal Heights, Jim suggests, they it would have to come through the NHCPG.

(The Cubs are up 7 to 1 at 6:39 in Game 6 of the World Series.)

9. Soliciting interest in a Friends of Normal Heights Canyons group: There's a Friends of Normal Heights Canyons Sign-up Sheet by the door. The goal is to have some kind of foot path from Normal Heights to Mission Valley.
10. CycloSDias event Oct. 30th comments/discussion. Some difficulty getting across 30th, but it was manageable. Everyone seemed to love it.
11. Update and potential action on acquiring promotional/Info materials &/or merchandise. We've had stickers, pint glasses, license plate holders, dog-bag holders. We're thinking about ideas for how to replenish our merchandise. We're brainstorming:

Scott says we can do the pint glasses whenever.

Jessica from the Community Association: thinking about a single flyer multiple groups could use; maybe mugs for Acoustic on Adams event in April; Ralph would like something that includes the other zip codes in the community; Caroline priced out a lot of other materials bike sized license plate holders would be a minimum of 300; (ask Jim for his list); stickers would also be easy. Between Ryan and Caroline, there has been a lot of research. The Community Association will work up info for the new flyers with community resources.

The group seems to be interested in stickers, license plate holders, shopping bags, mug (ceramic with a handle), other glassware like stemless wine glasses or beer taster glasses, and modified logo pint glasses, beer cozies, shopping bags, and modifications of the 9-21-16 glass, for other events, and also designed to include the other zip codes in our neighborhood (92104 and 92105).

Any proposals about how to spend more funds? We'll bring that up in December.

Action Item:

Approve \$55.08 for pizza from last month's event. Scott moves to reimburse Marianne, Khalisa seconds. Vote is unanimous.

Committee and Ad Hoc Group Reports

12. Community Planners Committee – Sherri Lightner on High Occupancy Single Dwelling Unit Ordinance: the City Council is considering that proposal.

Elec. Vehicle Charging Stations: no specifics about where or how they'd be put in. One was approved in this community, near Vons, but it would appear the company who had that original contract has gone out of business.

13. Properties reviewed for historical significance - 4536 33rd Street, 4783 34th Street., and no significance was found on those properties.

14. Project Review Committee – (none received at this time)

15. Learning our Community Plan Training (see above) - Marianne not present to speak to that.

16. Transportation/Traffic Calming; Stop Signs? – Ryan not present to speak to that. There are new Stop signs that have been proposed, and Jim will provide details on where those would go next month.

A few late Public Comments:

17. A community member asked about street resurfacing, citing that Kensington has had multiple recoating/repair in the last few years, and we haven't had significant work since 1984. There's also just general confusion about how these things get done, as people open tickets, but the city closes them without doing the work. The community is afraid that we're always waiting for nothing.

18. Street Maintenance and Undergrounding also came up. Jim mentioned that some lines would move to the street, and others to the alleys under that plan, but Earlene points out that most alleys are too narrow to accommodate those boxes. Jim will put concerns about street maintenance on the agenda for December to explore these issues in more detail.

Also, there's a De Anza Revitalization plan meeting 11/7, 6pm at Mission Bay High School.

Adjourned at 7:12pm

The Next Meeting is 12/6/16

Anticipated/Requested Future Agenda Items

Agenda order and timing are approximate and subject to change. This information is available in alternative formats (sign language, oral interpreter, and/or Assistive Listening Device). To request an alternative format, call 619-533-3650 at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting. If you have questions concerning the NHCPG, please express them at the meeting or contact the NHCPG Chair, Jim Baross, at jimbaross@cox.net or 619-280-6908, or the City of San Diego Associate Planner, Bobby Mordenti at BMordenti@sandiego.gov or 619-446-5064.

Past Agendas and Minutes are available at <http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/profiles/normalheights/agendas.shtml>

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