MINUTES v.1

Whaley House, this meeting came to order at 3:32pm

Members Present: Linda Acuna; Chuck Ambers; Gloria Andrade; Chuck Curtis; Ann Dahlkamp; Vickie Durham; Patricia Fillet; Fred Grand; David Swaresns; David Thornton; Robert Zink

Members Absent: Amie Hayes; Geoffrey Mogilner; Arvilla Rodgers

Visitors: Vickie White <vwhite@sandiego.gov>; Vanessa Bernal <vbernal@sandiego.gov>; Sunny Lee, Old Town San Diego <sunny@oldtownsandiego.org>; Zach Bunshaft <zach.bunshaft@mail.house.gov>; Andrew Perry <awperry@gmail.com>; Patricia M. Brand; Hiram Haynes; Diane Roberts <dcroberts2000@yahoo.com>; Angela Abeyta <aabeyta@sandiego.gove>; Ben Hatertepe <bhatertepe@sandiego.gove>

1. Non-Agenda Public Comments:

4th Grade Program
Hiram Haynes was introduced to the group. Mr. Haynes gave a short background of himself and stated that he is in the process of working to expand the educational experience of the 4th grade student California history program.

2. Agenda Modifications: None

3. Meeting Minutes:
David Swaresns motioned and Fred Grand seconded that the November meeting minutes be approved. Motion passed (9 yes, 2 abstain, 3 absent). Fred Grand motioned and Gloria Andrade seconded that the December meeting minutes be approved as amended. Motion passed (7 yes, 4 abstain, 3 absent)

4. Treasurer’s Report:
Today’s meeting collected $28.00 which brings the total-to-date to $166.00.

5. Action Items:
Diane Roberts (DC Roberts Design) presented conceptual designs of a client project (phase I) located at 4004 Taylor Street. This proposed project would sell food (not a restaurant), wine and spirits.

During discussion, questions were raised regarding the issue of a liquor license. Ms. Roberts informed that the owner is working on transferring a liquor license from another business he already owns in Mission Valley to this location on Taylor Street.
Further discussion and questions continued on other aspects of this project, to which Ms. Roberts responded that as this project is in the beginning stages, more information will be forthcoming to better address these concerns.

Ms. Roberts rescinded her action item request and will return at a later date with more information.

6. Information items:

African Museum
Chuck Ambers expressed his appreciation for the plaque awarded to him from the community at their December annual meeting. As it is the 20th anniversary of his museums, and to further express appreciation of the community support, he offered free tours of the museums to Planning Group affiliates.

Antonio Garra Uprising
Fred Grand informed that he attended a presentation on the Antonio Garra uprising. There is a transcript of the presentation on the Pala Reservation website and encouraged everyone to visit the website as it was very informative.

San Diego Avenue
Chuck Curtis brought to the group’s attention that speeding on San Diego Avenue appears to be on the rise. He suggested that perhaps speed bumps and additional crosswalks could help alleviate this issue.

Another concern he raised was increasing visitors to come up San Diego Avenue to the Sheriff’s Museum area. A suggested was made that the addition of extra lighting on the building might be helpful in drawing attention to that area.

Underground Utilities
Ann Dahlkamp spoke about the putting of utilities underground. She passed out information on upcoming workshops addressing this issue for those who want to get more information on this subject.

Homeless Update
Patricia Fillet gave an update on efforts to address issues with the homeless in the area. She has contacted Lorie Zapf’s office and is waiting to hear back. Two areas of particular concern are that 1) there is an influx of people coming in and overnighting, especially in the area around Fiesta Island, and 2) that there appears to be a large increase in people going over fences onto private residential property. Both issues are cause for concern for personal safety.

Planned District Ordinance/Draft Environmental Impact Review (DEIR)
Vickie White distributed a draft with a summary of the OT Planned District Ordinance. It is proposed to keep a special ordinance for Old Town based on the uniqueness of Old Town and its architecture and usage. Zones have been renamed to specify these individual areas are Old Town.

A draft of the Environmental Impact Review will be released by the end of the week. Planning groups will be given a timeframe to review the report and provide comments.

Planning Department/Facilities Financing, Impact Fee Studies (IFS)
Angela Abeyta and Ben Hatertepe, City of San Diego, gave a general introductory overview on what facilities financing does, where the funds go and what types of projects qualify. This program applies to new development. The goal is to come to a meeting in March/April
timeframe to present a draft and seek recommendations in May. It was suggested that a subcommittee be formed to be involved in the process. (Patricia Fillet, David Swares, Ann Dahlkamp expressed interest)

City Council Update
Vanessa Bernal distributed Councilman Ward’s monthly newsletter. She provided updated information on the committees Councilman Ward is a member and also information on upcoming community meetings and events where the Councilman will be attending.

Update from Susan Davis’ Office
Zach Bunshaft passed out the Davis Dispatch newsletter. Budget preparation at the federal level is ongoing. On Saturday (Jan 13), 9:30am - 11:00am, there will be a panel discussion regarding the new tax law. Location: Grossmont College, Griffin Gate Auditorium.

Chamber of Commerce
Sunny Lee gave information for the upcoming Old Town Chamber of Commerce and encouraged all to attend.

7. Committee Updates:
The election committee (Ann Dahlkamp, Patricia Fillet, Geoffrey Mogilner, Linda Acuna) will meet to prepare for the upcoming March elections.

8. Announcements: None

Adjournment
David Thornton motioned and Robert Zink seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:06pm.
Officially submitted,
Linda Acuna, Secretary