



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

Meeting Minutes – October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

Board Attendance (x means “present”):

X	Gary Weber (C)	X	Linda Case	X	Mark Lawler
	Gautam Dey	X	Zephen Specht		Scott Kessler
X	Jim Baross	X	Alison Flynn	X	Marty Graham
X	Caroline McKeown (T)	X	Dan Soderberg		Michael Chandler
X	Rose Kelly	X	Thomas Lovell	X	Adam Deutsch (S)

C=Chair; VC= Vice Chair; T= Treasurer; S=Secretary

### Administration Items

Call to Order - Start of NHCPG Meeting at 6:00pm

1. Introduction of planning group members.
2. Agenda Modifications/Setting. No changes were made.
3. Approval of previous meeting minutes – Adam sent out a draft of the Minutes from last month, received comments from the board, made edits accordingly, and sent out the Minutes again.  
**M/S:Marty/Caroline. All approved, except, who Dan abstained because he was absent.**
4. Treasurer’s Report – Caroline: Balance is at 2341.79, and the sound system we purached is being installed as the meeting is happening.

### Public Comment

5. Non-agenda public comment may be limited to two minutes per person
  - a. Earlene is asking about the sound system, and the tech is working on it right now.
  - b. John, who lives on East Mountain View, is concerned about garbage in the area, especially around the freeway corridors. They also did a Canyon Cleanup, and the city workers didn’t let them pick up trash. The event was hosted by ILoveAClean San Diego.
  - c. Another commented on how cleanup crews she used to see haven’t been out.
  - d. Someone else commented that empty lots also seem to have a lot of garbage in it.
  - e. Marty commented that she went out with a CalTrans for a Homeless Cleanup event, and the budget for that seems to be exhausted for the year, only six months into the year.
  - f. Jim comments that after the Street Fair, the AABA did a wonderful job of cleaning up the Avenue and up to one block north and south as well.
  - g. Alison also relayed from Scott that power-sweeping will happen in a few days.
  - h. Marty wants to inform us about solar motion sensor lights that are on sale at Harbor Freight, for those who might want to get more lighting near their homes #lighttheheights. Caroline wants a discussion next month about seeing about funding some of them.
  - i. Jim wants to offer a bike ride on Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> to look at “cool stuff” around the

neighborhood, for positive observations instead of looking at problems. 10am here at the Community Center.

- j. Gary asked about a mailer that's coming from the Community Association chair, that's promoting a neighborhood watch making a statement that "crime is on the rise," which is not necessarily true. Caroline added that it's not appropriate for them to use a community neighborhood watch mailing list to advertise for their real estate business.

## Reports

### 6. Government Representatives:

**Javier Gomez from Assemblymember Todd Gloria's office:** the Governor signed 13 of the 15 bills Gloria wrote, and a full list of what was signed is here:

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/2018/09/30/governor-brown-issues-legislative-update-23/>

The Assembly doesn't meet again until January, so there are a number of community events coming up that he'll be holding between now and then.

Jim asked about Prop 6, but Javier can't talk about propositions, as he's on the clock, and cannot discuss issues like that. He could talk about funds generated from SB 1.

Linda asked about parking with housing projects, and he gave some background about that.

**Brett Weise from Councilmember Chris Ward:** Actions are begin taken with the Select Committee on Homelessness, and they're requesting all 9 districts identify areas where housing and services could be provided. They want to build at least 100 units in each place. That should come to council in late October. The city is also exploring options for homeless outreach that don't put all the responsibility and action on the SDPD.

He also spoke about the proposed ban on Styrofoam, on our agenda tonight.

They're exploring legislation and policies to manage scooters. There's a comprehensive memo here: <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/cd3memo180919.pdf>

He also explained that the city has gotten \$30m from SB 1 funds so far, and impacts should SB1 funds cease.

Alison asked about ridership data from today, Free Ride Day, to see if we can understand what would change if our bus service was free. She also mentioned broadly about how communities that give free passes to students report a number of wider-ranging benefits. Marty mentioned that CAN and SANDAG arranged for Hoover students to have free passes, but SANDAG discontinued that program. Rose briefly talked about how difficult it is to plan a trip, and Brett offered that the app isn't very developed.

Caroline wants to know how many developer impact fees (DIF) are coming from Normal Heights, and being invested back into Normal Heights.

Thomas attended a conference about homeless services and policy, and will send his notes to Brett. He also asked about 36<sup>th</sup> and El Cajon Blvd (one of the "fatal 15" intersections).

Gary complimented how much work Brett does.

### 7. Community Groups

- a. **Adams Avenue Business Association:** Scott isn't here, but Alison is can update us a bit. Power-washing is happening soon. The AABA meeting will be a week from today at 8am in this room. Gary complimented all the work AABA does for the Street Fair.

Trip, a new neighbor, complimented how undisruptive the beer garden was right outside

his house. He only wished they let kids in to be with their parents, or someplace where kids can safely hang out while parents are in the beer garden (maybe a play area attached/within).

- b. **El Cajon Boulevard Business Improvement Association:** Nobody is here from there, but Gary's been at their recent meetings, and he reports that their efforts are aligned with ours for developing the North side of ECB.
- c. **Normal Heights Community Association:** Nobody is here from that group tonight.
- d. **NH Urban Arts:** The next meeting (a week from Tuesday) is in this room from 6 to 8, for input about the Adams Ave. Park. Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>. There are also some bags for sale (made from the old street banners) for \$35, and all funds go to the NH Urban Arts Association.
- e. **Adams Rec. Advisory Group:** Bob Keiser reports: they've had two meetings in the last month, mostly about developing Adams Ave. Park at the Rec. Center. Meanwhile, the Marque needs new software, and they're in the process of buying that. Jim asked about the gates by the soccer field at Normal Heights Elementary, and Bob has no updates about that. Brett confirms that Wards office has been working with School District staff about honoring the joint use agreement. Jim says that if we can't use our own park, the neighborhood should get their money back.
- f. **Social Media & other Communications:** Adam D. & Caroline M.: A dog walked into a guy's house, and he tried to find the owner, but the thread eroded into condemnation about the idea of him keeping the dog. The owner got it back the same day, then accused the guy of trying to steal his dog. It was everything that's wrong with social media. No coyote sightings, but it's possible the coyotes have broken apart into swarms of flies.

### Chair Report

- 8. Memo to Council District 3 - Plan implementation strategies: Further on the agenda.
- 9. ECB Zoning – Development criteria: density, intensity & application: He's talking to the ECBBIA about getting data on our strip. There's also a coming change to the current set of amendments, and we're reviewing that with the CPC. Rose asked if the city wants our feedback, and Gary says they will eventually, so we should prepare.
- 10. November meeting date and location: Next meeting conflicts with Election Day. We can move to Adams Elementary on that date, or we can move it to Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>. We'll get more into that in an Action Item.
- 11. CPC report – They went dark in September.

### Action Items

- 12. Consideration of the proposed Styrofoam ban, support letter for Councilman Ward:  
**M/S Jim/Thomas: Motion to support the ban. All voted in favor.** We will send a letter of support to Councilmember Ward in support of that.
- 13. Accepting the BYOBike tour findings and topic structure, transmitting to CD3 and the City, and requesting support in pursuing a means of funding those items. **M/S:Jim/Marty: approve and send the findings to appropriate offices. Vote in favor was unanimous.**
- 14. Accepting the working group proposed structure and topics: Zephen will head the group on History, Gary is Density, Rose is Traffic, Caroline on Parks, Michael has the Canyon path, Linda on the Library, Gerald on Undergrounding, and Norma is on Gateway Art, Adam will head Schools, and people have signed up for various interests. Jim thinks that each board member associated will act as a point person. **M/S:Jim/Alison: Accepts the list as we've**

**discussed, and establish these groups. All voted in favor.**

15. November meeting - Election day conflict: where and when? **M/S:Jim/Linda:** Motion to stay on the day and time, but move to Adams Elementary. Others want the 30<sup>th</sup>. We took a poll, and the 30<sup>th</sup> wins. "This is the last place she's ever going to show up," said Gary about his wife attending the meeting. **M/S:Rose/Marty: have the meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> at Adams Elementary Auditorium. Costumes're optional. All voted in favor.** Caroline will secure that with Sylvia.

### Discussion Items

16. Street Fair Community Booth Review: Caroline shared a story from a resident who is visually impaired and commented on the conditions of our sidewalks. It's a reminder that everyone has concerns, but for some residents, the issues of sidewalk maintenance and street repair are actually major threats to their health because of abilities.

Adam mentioned that the brochure got messed up by the printer, but we'll have those soon.

Linda said someone at the street fair complained about the cross walking flashing lights, and Jim pointed out that the motorists need to see you, so rather than look at the car, pedestrians need to try to make eye contact with drivers.

Gerald commented on our booth location. He thinks further west might get more traffic, but a. we take what we can get since we're not paying, and b. in front of the Rec Center and school and a park covered in dirt was a good place to have conversations. It was also nice to be grouped with the other community groups and Adams Elementary PTCO.

17. NH Canyon Access and Preservation: Michael isn't here, so we'll save that for next time. Another resident had minutes from 2011, where the NHCPG board voted on dedicated open space down in the canyon. A conversation ensued about the canyon, then the nature of the working groups.
18. SD parks Master Plan, Normal Heights Segment: More will be discussed as the Parks working group meets.
19. Projects with 45-Year Rule applied: None of these called for comments to the city at this time.
1. 4393 Wilson
  2. 4656 Bancroft St.
  3. 3450 El Cajon Blvd.
20. NH History Project: Zephen will work on this with those who are interested.

### Adjournment 7:53pm

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 Vice Chair, Rose Kelly at [rosemargaretkelly@gmail.com](mailto:rosemargaretkelly@gmail.com), or the City of San Diego Associate Planner, Naomi Siodmok at [NSiodmok@sandiego.gov](mailto:NSiodmok@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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