

# **Normal Heights Community Planning Group**

## **APPROVED MINUTES**

August 6, 2013, 6pm  
Normal Heights Community Center

Meeting called to order at 6:02P.M.

Board members present: Jim Baross, Joseph Fombon, Scott Kessler, Mark Lawler, Nancy Lawler, Caroline McKeown, Alison Moss, Mark Rowland, Frank Stappenbeck, and Earlene Thom.

Members absent: Art Harrison and Dan Soderberg. It was reported that Richard Rios has resigned from his seat on the board effective immediately.

Community Members/Guests: 14 additional community members were present. Of those, the following signed in: Bill Conway, Jean-Louis Coquereau, Debbie Descans, John Hartley, Suzanne Ledebor, Conni Musset, and Clare Truong.

Welcome and introductions

Non-agenda Public Comments

- There was public comment from John Hartley about the NHCPG getting a no-cost ad page in an upcoming issue of Brad Weber's Normal Heights Community Magazine. This idea was well-received and Caroline McKeown will follow up with Brad Weber.

Modifications to Meeting Agenda

- It was requested that Information Item #2 –Water Purification Demonstration Project Presentation be moved up in the agenda prior to the action items. This was agreed on by all in attendance.

Approval of August 2013 Minutes

- The draft minutes of the August 2013 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting. Alison Moss moved to approve the minutes and Mark Rowland seconded - the Board approved the August 2013 minutes with a 9-0-1 vote.

Government Representatives

- Adrian Granda from Council President Todd Gloria's office was present at this meeting. Adrian updated us on the Oversized Vehicle Ordinance which is an overnight limit on street parking of oversized vehicles (mainly RVs and trucks). Residents can get a free permit that will allow for 72hr parking up to 4 times per month.
- Discussion was raised about the current situation in the Mayor's Office and what would happen if Mayor Filner were to resign. Adrian informed us that City Council President Todd Gloria would become interim mayor until a special election is held, within 90 days. He also informed us that District 3 staff would still be serving Normal Heights and the Pro-Tem Sherri Lightner would take District 3 under her jurisdiction for the 90 days that Council President Todd Gloria would be Interim Mayor, if something were to happen with Mayor Filner's current situation.

Information Item (out of order):

- Goldie Thatch from the Long-Range Planning and Water Resources Division of the San Diego Public Utilities Department gave a very interesting talk about the current status of the Water Purification Project. The presentation was extremely informative and thorough, and I couldn't begin to do it justice, so I will instead direct you to their Demonstration Project where you can have a tour, either virtually at [www.PureWaterSD.org](http://www.PureWaterSD.org) or in person by contacting them online at [www.PureWaterSD.org/tours.shtml](http://www.PureWaterSD.org/tours.shtml) or by phone at (619) 533-4631.

Action Items:

- **Historical Reviews:** No proposals were brought forward by the Historical Review Committee and no vote was taken.
- **Community Planners Committee:** Shall we designate an alternate official representative to the Community Planners Committee, presumably the Vice Chair Mark Rowland? Scott Kessler moved that Mark Rowland be the alternate CPC rep, Caroline McKeown seconded, vote passed 10-0-0, Mark Rowland accepted the duties.
- **September Street Fair Involvement:** Continuing discussion from the last meeting concerning the Adams Avenue Street Fair and the NHCPG involvement. Caroline McKeown volunteered to organize the volunteers and loan a table and chairs. Caroline moved to have our own booth with CPG information, Mark Rowland seconded, the vote passed 10-0-0. Scott Kessler informed us that we need to register on the AABA website for our booth, but that it would be a no-cost booth. Caroline agreed to register the NHCPG booth for the Street Fair.
- **NHCPG Merchandising:** Frank Stappenbeck and community member Suzanne Ledebor presented their proposal for a Normal Heights license plate frame and/or coffee travel mugs to be sold at the Street Fair as an NHCPG fundraiser. We discussed the cost of the license frames and design at length and came to a consensus it would be more cost-effective to go with one item at this time and the license plate frames seemed to be lower cost and less risky. The cost of the frames is estimated to be \$400 for 250 frames (\$1.34 each + \$35 set-up fee + shipping), and the predicted price-point is \$5 each. The design that was discussed was "Normal Heights" across the top and "Why be normal?" with a backwards R at the bottom. Mark Rowland moved that we financially back the purchase of the frames with the discussed design and we sell them at our Street Fair Booth, Mark Lawler seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 6-2-1.
- **Visioning Workshop Support:** In a previous meeting, we discussed a "Normal Heights Visioning Workshop" and agreed to participate as one of our two required CIP out-reach events. At this meeting, we were informed that an outside consultant had been hired to give a presentation at the workshop for \$300 and that our chair and 2 community members had fronted the money to pay for the consultant. They requested that the NHCPG reimburse their out-of-pocket expenses to cover the cost of the consultant. (The secretary would like to note that the board was never asked to vote on whether to hire the consultant, only to pay him ad hoc.) This generated significant discussion and debate. Alison Moss moved to fund the Visioning Workshop as requested if we have funds available (see action item on merchandising above) and Joseph Fombon seconded. The vote passed 7-2-0.

- **Second CIP Meeting:** The Community Planners Committee is requiring the Community Planning Groups to hold at least 2 outreach meetings for the CIP list proposal and submission. As mentioned above, the Visioning Workshop will count as one of those meetings, this proposal is to reach out to the Community Association, and have our next CPG meeting on Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> be the second (or third?) official meeting. And then finalize our CIP list by Oct 1<sup>st</sup> if possible. However if the Sept 24<sup>th</sup> deadline is hard-set, then we would hold a special meeting. Mark Rowland moved that we make our Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> CPG meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> official CIP meeting and Caroline McKeown seconded.

Other Old and New Business and Informational Items:

- 1) Jim Baross reminded the Board that the Community Orientation Workshop (“COW”) is available online and that all Board members must take the COW within one year of being seated on the Board.
- 2) A membership change was announced – Richard Rios resigned from the planning group board. We thank Richard for his years of service and hope he will continue to remain involved as a community member.
- 3) Traffic Calming Issues – Alison Moss reported that the city is moving forward with installing pedestrian cross-walks at 34<sup>th</sup> and Adams, and at Hawley and Adams. They are also installing pedestrian signs on Adams at East Mountainview and at 33<sup>rd</sup> St. Great progress from the Traffic Calming Working Group!
- 4) Jim Baross reported from the Community Planners Committee that the Bicycle Master Plan passed by 1 vote. The plan took 4 years to develop and does not contradict our current community plan. The Bicycle Master Plan will go to the City Council in August.

Next meeting: September 3, 2013

Meeting Adjourned at 8:19 P.M.