

Normal Heights Community Planning Group DRAFT MINUTES

September 6, 2011

6:00 PM

Normal Heights Community Center

Meeting called to order with quorum at 6:00 P.M.

Members present: Jim Baross, Joseph Fombon, Art Harrison, Nancy Lawler, Richard Rios, Mark Rowland, Earlene Thom, Nancy Wolfing

Members absent: Aaron Allen, Ben Moore

Community Members/Guests: Charles Bradford, Jessica Cometa, Connie Garrison, Jenny Hall (SDPD), Sandy Johnson, Mark Lawler, Carlo Martinez, David Moser, Lindsay Quackenbush, Anna Scott, Mark Steele, Roy Sugioka, George Trudell, Gary Weber, Diego Velasco

Welcome and introductions

Non-agenda Public Comments

- A community member voiced concern over parking at the traffic-calmed area at Cherokee and Madison. Mr. J. Baross is to forward these comments/concerns to appropriate City staff.
- Several comments were made regarding the church located near the traffic-calmed area consuming too many on-street parking spaces. The comments will be forwarded to the appropriate City staff as well.
- Ms. Holly _____ issued a comment on potential traffic flow impediments near the traffic-calmed area. The street may now not be wide enough for two-way traffic. Mr. Jim Baross offered to solicit a response from Mark Giannoulas, the project's manager, on these concerns.

Approval of August 2011 Minutes

Action of this agenda item was deferred to October's meeting due to August's minutes not being available for distribution.

Modifications to Meeting Agenda

There were no modifications to the agenda requested.

Government Representatives

SDPD Officer Jenny Hall presented the Board and its audience on public safety issues within the Normal Heights community.

- Officer Hall specifically urged residents to exercise caution during hot weather as criminals often make use of open doors and/or windows to unlawfully enter private property.

- Officer Hall distributed her direct telephone number to the Board and its audience: (619) 516-3009.

Other Old and New Business and Informational Items:

- 1) Mr. Jim Baross reminded the Board that the Community Orientation Workshop (“COW”) is available both online and at periodic in-person events and that all Board members must take the COW within one year of being seated on the Board.
- 2) Brief discussion on the San Diego City Council decennial redistricting was conducted. Redistricting is now final. The entire community of Normal Heights remains part of Council District 3 which now includes downtown and loses Kensington and Talmadge.
- 3) The next meeting of the Friends of Normal Heights Canyons will be held at Eugene Place.
- 4) Mr. J. Baross reminded the Board and its audience that civility and respectful conduct during meetings is appreciated and conducive to productive sessions.
- 5) Hannah Gatling and her male associate of Affirmed Housing Group presented an informational session on a proposed mixed-use development on the north side of El Cajon Blvd near I-15 within Normal Heights’ boundaries. Feedback was solicited from the group on what type of amenities residents would like to see built into the project. Visual aids were distributed.
- 6) No sites recently reviewed for historical status appeared eligible for such designation.
- 7) Four community members have recently submitted applications for official membership in NHCPG.

Action Items:

- Ms. Suzanne Ledeboer presented an opportunity for NHCPG to generate income by staffing a booth(s) and selling memorabilia at the upcoming Adams Ave. Street Fair to be held on September 24 and 25. Ms. Nancy Wolfing moved to approve this venture as something NHCPG is willing to pursue. Ms. Earlene Thom seconded the motion and the motion was passed with a unanimous vote of all present Board members.
- Mr. Mark Rowland provided an update on the ball field cellular tower project but no action items were engendered by the discussion.
- The matter of the traffic barricades on 40th Street just south of Adams was discussed. Mr. Gary Weber provided historical background on why the barricades were erected. A motion to continue the discussion on this matter at the October meeting was passed by a vote of 4-3-1 with Mr. J. Baross abstaining and Messrs. Joseph Fombon, Art Harrison, Richard Rios with Ms. Nancy Lawler in the majority.
- Mr. J. Baross stated that San Diego Unified School Board District B representative Kevin Beiser offered to meet with District 3 Councilmember

Todd Gloria on the continuing lack of access to the joint-use ball field in the neighborhood. A motion to send a letter composed by Ms. Suzanne Ledeboer on this matter to SDUSD on behalf of NHCPG was passed by a vote of 7-0-1 with Mr. J. Baross abstaining.

Committee Reports:

There were no further committee reports.

Next meeting: October 4, 2011 at the Normal Heights Community Center.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:46 P.M.

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