

June 21, 2007 Minutes of NDRA/Neighborhood Meeting

In attendance:

Board members: Colette Hall, Liz Jones, Ruth Stornetta, Debra Weiss, Mike Johnson, Diane Wilson, Jill Williams

Residents and Guests: Rick Berman, Peter Kleeman, Mark Kavitt

Meeting called to order at 7:07 pm.

Approval of May 31, 2007 minutes with this change - (Clarifying - Water St. Design Contest, City desires useable design not just "ideas.")

Treasure's report: \$.80 int., \$45.dues & donations, \$15- fee to Parks & Rec., T= 987.75

Old Business:

A. Annual Picnic Planning (September 16th/Lee Park)

- NDRA has not heard back from the City yet for "Special Events" approval.
- Colette will call Hill & Wood for tent. (Ric suggested we ask H&W if parking will be available in their lot.)
- Ruth will arrange for tables and chairs.
- Bob will write a newsletter at summer's end with an article about the picnic.
- Debra will order "Christian's" pizza.
- Jill will buy water. Everyone else, bring something to eat/drink.
- Music: CHO ? or BRIMS ? (Colette will check.)

B. Report on City Manager meeting for NA Presidents, April 26. (Colette)

- What will city do to realize its "Vision Statement"?
- Water/infrastructure problems of City: aging sewer/water pipes. . .

C. Report of Permit Parking June 4 meeting with traffic engineer Ms. Alexander. (Mark & Colette)

- 6 pm is an inappropriate time for parking surveys. 8 pm is a more realistic time for residents returning home needing parking, Ms. Alexander agrees.
- Some streets need 24 hr permit parking: Altamont St., Altamont Cir., Walker Lane, N. 1st St., Hedge St. Park Plaza, and Parkway. Next step: NDRA needs to poll these residents and see if they want such a permit once Ms. Alexander has taken required steps.
- She asked us to inform four houses of worship, there will be a Sunday 8 am - 12 pm parking exemption. Colette sent a letter to three churches and the synagogue seeking feedback.
- Apartment dwellers w/o on-site parking (such as those who live at Monticello Hotel) will not be eligible for permit parking on neighborhood streets.

- Need better cx-walk designation for new McIntire cx-walk.
- Once, the parking deck is built at Juvenile Ct. the neighbors and churches hope to use it when court is not in session.

D. Resolution to CC on June 18th mtg. for Altamont St. PP. (Mark)

- It passed. Permit parking should be in place by August 6.
- Diane asked if parking space lines could be painted on Wine St.

E. Report on 250 Interchange meeting June 4 (Rick Berman)

- The discussion was about designs C1 and G1. The Committee will recommend both options C1 & G1 to the City at the CC meeting on July 2. (C1 has the least adverse issues. G1 has the least “gateway opportunity.”)

F. Report on Planning. Comm. Public Hearing re: 250 Interchange (Peter Kleeman) *

- Hearing matter, does this Interchange confirm with the 2001 Comprehensive Plan? Some speakers thought the Interchange is not consistent with the current Plan. (The 2007 Comp. Plan adoption or not is scheduled for the next City Council meeting on July 2.) Planning Commissioners voted to recommend adoption of the Interchange as conforming to the current 2001 Plan: 3 in favor, 1 abstention, 1 against. Peter thinks the Planning Commission needs a fair opportunity to understand its role. “Issues should not be allowed to skirt the typical procedure and be fast-tracked, especially for such expensive and controversial projects.” (RK&K had asked that the design approval go before Planning Commission at its next meeting. Planning Commission usually has a work session before making such an important decision, but it did not in this instance!) If they approve it, it just moves forward. Then the rest of the project would go according to funding available and approval of various other steps outside the City, for example the NEPA (Federal) document.

G. Hosing down smell on The Mall, what streets are worse? (Colette)

- Most side streets smell worse, particularly those near nightspots. Colette will ask city to hose them down more frequently.

H. Report on “Eastern Connector” meeting May 22 (map). (Colette)

- The map does not show the new Belvedere development off Rio Rd.
- Is the original Eastern Connector proposed path already obsolete? Should it be further north off Route 29 and east?
- Many County residents do not understand the need for an Eastern Connector.

I. Trees removed in McGuffey Park (Colette)

- Negative neighbor feedback, but Mike Svetz, Dir.of Parks & Rec., defended it, saying that all tree removal was pre-approved.

J. Lee Park (Ruth)

- Ruth suggested that we encourage people to use the park and plan activities there. This is the best way to discourage illegal use of the park.
- She talked to a COMPASS Director to see if he could come and talk at our next meeting about what it is and what it will be.
- ? Cameras on the Mall and in Lee Park? A police officer will be invited to the next meeting to speak on this as well as the homeless issue.

New Business:

A. Report of CC meeting June 18 re: 4th St. Mall Crossing (Colette)

- Permanent Mall crossing was approved by CC.
- Issue must go back to Planning Commission: Should permanent cx be 4th or 5th street? It may take awhile to get on Planning Commission agenda. Cost would be near a million \$ for construction.(Need data from RK&K engineers.)

B. Speed bumps at corner of Nelson Dr., 2nd St. and Northwood. (Colette)

- Requested by a neighbor because drivers do not stop at this dangerous intersection, which features three stop and one yield signs.
- Speed bump approval is a long, cumbersome process that could take years. Traffic engineers do not like the use of speed bumps.
- Colette plans a meeting with the City traffic engineer to discuss.

C. Recognition/award for Board/ ND resident (Change in Bylaws)

- Colette, as President, proposes that the Board shows special recognition to one of its Directors and to a ND resident annually, at the August meeting. She recommends this change to NDRA Bylaws. The Board voted to amend the Bylaws. This change becomes Article XIII, sections 1 -2.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by, Jill Williams, NDRA Secretary

* NDRA has a nonpartisan political policy. Mr. Kleeman is a resident of ND, has attended most of the 250 Interchange Committee meetings and is a Transportation consultant. He is not speaking at this meeting as a political candidate for CC.

Miscellaneous: July NDRA/Neighborhood meeting cancelled.