

MINUTES for NDRA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Thursday, April 27 7:00pm | Central Library, Jefferson Room

Present: Heather Hill (President), Jon Bright (VP), Dave Groff (Secretary), Jim Neale, Mark Kavit, Jane Myers, Rebecca Quinn, Diana Filipi,

Absent:, Bernie Martin (Treasurer), Stephanie Bolton, Maureen Deane, Jessica Baker

Guests: Brenda Kelly

Treasurer's Report - no report

Approval of Any Outstanding Minutes: *N/A, distributed and approved electronically.*

A. Guest Introduction:

Brenda Kelly, City Redevelopment Director

- *She works primarily in the Strategic Investment Area (SIA), part of which is adjacent to our neighborhood.*
 - *SIA has been identified by the City as an area that needs further study and analysis.*
 - *Cunningham/Quill put together a SIA Plan that City Staff is now implementing.*
- *She also works with the Redevelopment & Housing Authority (CRHA) & the Public Housing Association of Residents (PHAR)*
 - *The City appoints a Board of Commissioners for CRHA, who then work independently*
 - *PHAR is an advisory board of residents that advises the CRHA*
 - *HUD is currently doing a scheduled inspection of all CRHA properties, including:*
 - *South 1st Street, Crescent Hall, Scattered Sites & the Levy Property*
- *She briefly summarized the upcoming area projects that could effect our neighborhood:*
 - *Lexington Avenue & High Street road improvements*
 - *Belmont Bridge*
 - *New City Garage (East Market St. & 9th St. NE)*
- *There is an upcoming "SIA Community Talk" on May 16 at Friendship Court, which the entire community is invited to.*

Old Business:

B. Recap from Altamont Street Walk with Zoning Administrator

- *Several violations were noted and citations were issued by the City.*
- *Lakshmi Fjord will be contacted soon to see if any of these issues have been resolved.*

C. Review of NDRA Survey Results regarding Lee Statue and Aligning on Communication

- *Detailed survey results were distributed via email to the Board prior to the meeting.*
- *The Board has decided to take no position on the survey's results, but we will distribute the full document to NDRA members via email, including the anonymous comments & vote results.*

D. Belmont Bridge Update

- *The public charrette went well and the consultants seem to be doing a good job working towards a design solution.*

New Business:

E. Central Library Exterior Landscaping Vision

- *Rebecca has identified a potential landscape improvement project in front of the Central Library (along Market Street near the corner of 3rd St NE) which she would like to solicit feedback and assistance.*
 - *There are slope and drainage problems, exacerbated by the fact that no plantings can grow in this heavily shaded area.*
 - *A new site wall adjacent to the sidewalk is likely the only solution.*

F. Neighborhood Leaders' Quarterly Meeting with City Manager Recap

- *Heather noted that City notifications and signage for future development are insufficient.*
- *CADRE and the Chamber of Commerce voiced many of the same concerns that NDRA has: slow response time from the City, no accountability, etc.*
- *Traffic calming and other streetscape concerns are too slow to progress.*

- *City seems unresponsive and unaccountable, possibly due to new traffic engineer and inadequate staff.*
- *Tracking software for the City isn't used but has been talked about for some time.*
- *There must be some prioritization in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), but citizens don't know and can't seem to find out what is going to happen .*

G. Preparing for April 30th Event at The Inn at 400 West High

- *Review of supplies on hand and those needed for the upcoming neighborhood event.*

H. Aligning on Summer/Fall Events Schedule and Support

- *June 15 or 22 will be the Annual wine and cheese event on Lyons Court.*

Next NDRA/North Downtown meeting Thursday, May 25th 7pm, Central Library, Jefferson Room