

NDRA/North Downtown Neighborhood Meeting

Thursday, October 25, 2007, 7pm, Central Library, 3rd fl. room

In attendance: Board members: Colette Hall, Ruth Stornetta, Debra Weiss, Diane Wilson, Robert LeHeup, Stephanie Bolton, Michael Johnson, Mark Kavit, Liz Jones (late), and Burnie Davis.

Residents & Guests: Jackie Lichtman, Bill Sibley and the seven School Board
Candidates: Lynette Meynig, Colette Blount, Grant Brownrigg, Kathleen Galvin, Sean McCord, Llezelle Dugger, and Rev. Alvin Edwards

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm. by Ruth Stornetta

Minutes of September 27, 2007 approved as presented

Treasurer's report - \$2.95 was spent on PayPal; \$300 was received in membership dues and \$0.69 in interest. The new balance is \$1,017.30.

New Business:

B. After discussing the proposed change in the Bylaws, it was agreed to table the issue until the Dec. 6th meeting, when the new proposal will be presented as follows: "NDRA is nonpartisan and nonsectarian."

C. Colette Hall reported on her July 18th, 2007 meeting with the City Neighborhood Development Services Director, Jim Tolbert. Since that date, ND has been reassigned to another neighborhood planner, Brian Haluska. Of the concerns addressed at that time, the Board of Directors decided that the "vagrancy in Lee Park" issue has been satisfactorily resolved and can be dropped from our list of concerns. The 250 Interchange is still a top priority, but needs to be expanded to include the related issues of Meadow Creek Parkway and the Eastern Connector. Residential parking issues are still important, even though the return of residents' forms is going slowly. There was agreement that there was also the broader issue of public parking downtown, especially with the apparent movement to develop the Water Street sites that currently provides downtown parking. Mall renovation, both the new brick surfacing and broader improvements, is a priority for the NDRA Board. Finally, the issue of signage to the Mall is important and proposed changes need to be monitored. So, the new (but unranked) list of our top concerns is:

- * 250 Interchange, Meadow Creek Parkway, and Eastern Connector
- * Residential parking permits on local streets.
- * More public parking around the Mall.
- * Mall renovation
- * Signage for Downtown, the Mall, and public parking.

A. Discussion of changing the NDRA Bylaws regarding the monthly meeting date, beginning in January, 2008, to the last Wednesday of each month. After considerable

discussion, the Directors voted to keep the present Bylaw language for Thursday meetings (two were in favor of change, five for leaving the same, one abstained.)

Items D., E., F., and G. were postponed to the next meeting.

Old Business: Diane Wilson reported on the parking situation on Wine Street. Last week, Officer Duncan answered her 911 call, after her neighbor caused her car alarm to go off. He spoke to the neighbor who is causing the parking congestion and indicated that he plans to stay involved in this issue.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm., after which the seven candidates for the School Board made brief introductions and answered a few questions. This session was concluded about 8:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Burnie Davis, Secretary.