

Minutes for NDRA/ND MEETING

Thursday, January 28, 2010, 7 pm, Central Library, 3rd Floor

In Attendance: Board: Colette Hall, Bill Sampson, Rick Berman, Jane Myers, Pat Napoleon, Juanita Milby, Catherine Wray, and Ted Jones. **Residents:** Edith Good, and Garrett English.

The minutes for December 3, 2009 were approved.

Treasurer's report: Bill Sampson reported there is \$1,379.57 in the treasury.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Issues discussed with the City Traffic Engineer: Reflective paint on the Park St. bump-outs would be subject to peeling off and so the engineer suggested paste-on reflectors instead. As for modifying the bump-outs near the Park St. bridge which Dragana has to veer away from when entering Park St. from her driveway, it was suggested to eliminate the parking place where a parked car prevents her seeing oncoming traffic soon enough to avoid the possibility of collisions. None of the bump-outs on Park St. will be eliminated because they are needed to slow traffic on a "collector road" like Park St., for which "traffic calming" measures are not allowed. As for preventing the flooding at Farish and Park Streets' crosswalk, this would be a project for the Public Works Dept. Resolving the problems of cut-through traffic off of McIntire Rd. onto Perry Drive and Nelson Drive will have to await the completion of the proposed MCP /250 Interchange design. It was suggested that a concrete traffic circle similar to the one at the juncture of Park Plaza and Parkway might alleviate or control cut-through traffic.
- B. Mark Kavit's proposal of Recognition of North Downtown businesses was deferred until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. In her report on the Alliance of Neighborhood meeting, Colette stressed that this group needs more members in order to serve their agenda of dealing with issues that city and county have in common. She requested that as many of us as possible attend their annual meeting in March where it is hoped each neighborhood will have a representative, because without more members this worthwhile Alliance might go into hibernation. Colette will be sending us a survey to complete in which we rate major neighborhood issues in order of importance.

At this time, Schools and Safety are the main City issues. The Alliance is a cooperative in which there is no coercion from a majority of neighborhoods over a minority of others.

- B. In her report on the neighborhood presidents meeting with the City Manager, Colette emphasized that the Capital Improvement Budget has not been finalized and that there will be a Community Forum on the Budget on March 24 in which we can talk one-on-one with City Council members and City Staff members. The discussions in this meeting will serve as a framework for the FY2011 budget. The City Manager explained that as decrease of revenue is anticipated in the next couple years, some projects will be put on hold to avoid having to borrow from the Capital Improvement Projects. Borrowing from C.I.P. would tend to downgrade our AAA Credit Rating. But the projects which will consequently be put on hold include repairs to Belmont Bridge (which means it will remain a structurally unsound bridge) and also the Fontaine Ave. Fire Station.
- C. As for Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, there were none submitted to the Planning Commission and now the deadline for submission has passed.
- D. Matters by Directors: Janet Milby brought up the need for better collaboration between District Police and their neighborhoods of surveillance. Since Safety issues are now paramount with the recent spate of juvenile break-ins, it was agreed that getting our District Police Officer to speak at our next meeting would be worthwhile and might attract more attendance at the meeting. Pat Napoleon brought up how bags of leaves are left along neighborhood roads for weeks on end because residents don't seem to realize City leaf pick-up only occurs twice a year. Colette suggested it would be good to better publicize the rules about pick-up.
- E. The motion to cancel the NDRA/ND February meeting was made, and the majority voted in favor of so doing. Therefore, our next meeting will be March 25.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jane Myers, Secretary