

MINUTES for NDRA MONTHLY BOARD MEETING
Thursday, November 30th 7:00pm | Central Library, Jefferson Room

Present: Heather Hill (President), Jon Bright (VP), Dave Groff (Secretary), Bernie Martin (Treasurer), Jim Neale, Mark Kavit, Rebecca Quinn, Jessica Baker

Absent: Diana Filipi, Maureen Deane, Stephanie Bolton

Guests: Patty Myatt, Evelyn Boatwright, Jackie Lichtman, Marianne Starsia, Pam Bracey, Susan White, Jeanne McNergney, Jane Myers

Welcome and Call to Order (7:03)

Approval of Outstanding Minutes (7:04-7:06)

- *September minutes were approved, pending one deletion.*

Treasurer's Report (7:07)

- *Current account balance is \$1,791.86.*
- *Heather will send a targeted email to all past members who haven't paid this year's dues.*

Old Business:

A. Steps Taken to Provide North Downtown Feedback for Independent Review: (7:08-07:12)

- *Heather met with Mr. Heaphy and expressed our neighborhood's concerns about the City's general lack of communication during this summer's events. Similar sentiments were expressed by other organizations.*
- *The report will be released tomorrow, with a press conference at 11:00.*

B. Decisions/Status for MACAA PUD and STARS SUP (7:12-7:20)

- *MACAA's PUD request was denied 5-0 by City Council in November.*
 - *A somewhat surprising outcome based on past meetings and conversations*
- *STARS SUP request was denied 6-0 by Planning Commission. It will be discussed by City Council on December 4. A full report is on the City's website.*

C. East High Streetscape Project - Neighborhood Representation (7:20-7:23)

- *We may have a neighbor willing to volunteer. Rebecca will contact them and then report back via email.*

D. Upgrading and Maintaining Website (7:23-7:32)

- *We need to convert our current website to a new format.*
- *A "professional" website is likely out of our price range, as it's likely to cost upwards of \$1,000.*
- *A few years ago we used a grant from NDS (approximately \$500) to upgrade our site. This may be an option again.*
- *Jackie Lichtman volunteered to maintain a new site, though she isn't able to upgrade the old one.*

E. Neighborhood Projects (7:32-7:35)

- *Rebecca wants to put together a list of potential projects that NDRA can spearhead.*
- *There is likely an early spring submission deadline to receive City funding.*

New Business:

F. Board Involvement in Neighborhood Issues (7:35-8:18)

- *How should we respond as an association when important events require action?*
- *Should we take a position regarding events outside of our neighborhood?*
 - *How far outside of our boundaries?*
- *Should we be more involved with the preservation of historic structures?*
- *Do we need to poll the NDRA distribution list every time a controversial item comes up?*
 - *Due to modern technology and the age of our constituents, this is probably unfeasible.*
- *Pam Bracey told us about NDRA's history regarding development, preservation and activism.*
- *We will try to make more of an effort to solicit neighborhood input via NextDoor's website.*

G. Recap from October Neighborhood Leader's Meeting with City Manager (8:18-8:29)

- *Several topics were discussed, including:*
 - *Riverbend Project in Belmont - traffic and parking issues were a big concern.*
 - *Belmont Bridge traffic patterns.*
 - *Johnson Village assault - neighbors want targeted communications from the city to inform them of ongoing events and potential safety issues like this.*
 - *Bikes and skateboards on the Downtown Mall.*
 - *Affordable housing issues.*

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H. Revisiting Officer Elections (8:29-8:38)

- *Heather will resign as President and from the Board of Directors, effective immediately.*
- *New Board members are needed. We have a few volunteers, but how do we get them to formally join after missing the vote at the Annual Meeting?*
- *John Bright was unanimously elected as President.*
- *Jim Neale was unanimously elected as Vice President.*

Next NDRA/North Downtown meeting Thursday, January 25th, location TBD