

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Amy Aldana, Scott Andrews, Frank Bernard, Taffi Brandriff, Susie Doss, Christina Duran, Albert Figueroa, Norm Gritton, Cindy Jensen, Gurumantra Khalsa, Karin Roberts, Justin Scott-Coe, Nancy Sturmer

Members Absent: Nancy Hart, Jeff Kraus, Bob Treen, Robin Treen

Mayor/Council Members: Brenda Flowers for Mayor Loveridge and Andy Melendrez

Guests: Damien O'Farrell, Lisa Driggs

Staff: Eva Yakutis and Don Smith, Housing & Neighborhoods Division, Lt. Chris Manning, RPD, Lisa Johnson, Shene Turner, Nancy Castillo

1. Call to Order/Introductions – Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chairperson. Introductions followed.

2. Approval of Minutes for September 14, 2009 –

Correction – need to add absent board members. Motion to approve minutes. (Sturmer/Khalsa/Carried)

3. Visiting Council Members/Mayor's Office –

Council Member Melendrez: Announced two new neighborhood groups. JE Wall Senior Community had their first meeting which went well with 2nd meeting on October 23. East area lieutenant was there. Went over city services for seniors.

Other new group is the 5th Street Group next to the metal recycling plant, and they have had two meetings. They have outlined their issues and will be inviting the owner of Riverside Recycling to their meeting to discuss issues. City will be working to take comprehensive look as to how to bring the neighborhood together and how we can make some improvements to help.

At the Eastside Forum, discussions had about a proposal for Senior Project. They will be meeting with a number of the neighborhood association in the Eastside about their project.

University N'hood Assn. Had representatives from air quality district re: implications of train stations.

Brenda Flowers on behalf of Mayor Loveridge: Announced October 10th Walk with the Mayor on Victoria Avenue. Next MNO at Hawarden Hills Neighborhood at Washington Elementary School.

4. Neighborhood Watch Update –

- Shene Turner thanked everyone for their participation in NNO. Events coming up:
- Partnership with churches in Wards 2 and 4. The Grove and Mission Grove business complex having Halloween event. Recent crime: vehicle burglaries at Café Sevilla area.
- Business Watch Groups: Canyon Crest town center. It has been in existence for two years. Starting two new business watch groups in Ward 4.
- Lt. Chris Manning handed out his business cards. He is in charge of North end of city.

- Nancy Castillo started business watch in Magnolia Center, particularly near the railroad underpass.
- Grand Avenue Neighborhood Alliance has lost its leadership and search for new leadership.
- Hate crime incident yesterday at First Congregational Church. Tagging with swastikas and 666. Immediate response by RPD. Meeting is taking place with the church and RPD, and church has idea who may be involved. Church did some counterprotest at city hall against the neo-nazis, so it may have been those people. Hate crime taken seriously by RPD. Also will be discussing the homeless feeding there and whether the perpetrators are also creating trouble because of that.
- Staff being diligent about Greyhound.
- Christina Duran asked if Lt. Manning knows about a return of the neo-nazis.
- Amy Aldana asked about how far in Ward 2 he covers, which is Hunter Park Business Park.

Housing and Neighborhoods Report –

- a. Southern California Neighborhood Partnership – overview of meeting in Monrovia and potential for NUSA conference in Pasadena in 2012 or 2013
- b. Introduction of Damien O’Farrell as nominee for non-profit/community of faith representative. Damien discusses his interest in the RNP and his involvement with Today’s Urban Renewal Network and its collaborative approach to serving the community. Followed by Q and A.
 - Discussion followed as to Damien filling the position.
 - Vote taken. Damien O’Farrell voted on the board.
 - Damien’s name will be forwarded to the Mayor’s Nominating and Screening committee

5. Committee Reports –

Marketing/Caucus Committee - reported as to how the caucus would go. Eva emailed the meeting minutes to RNP after the meeting. Cindy suggests that all members go out to the neighborhood groups to encourage them to go to Caucus. Best to do it one on one. Justin, Nancy, and Cindy have divided their area meetings up. Everyone on the board asked to be at the Caucus at 8:00 a.m.

6. RNP Monthly Activity Reports – Amy requesting that they do the activity reports on line. Hilda has created a PDF form that all can fill out on the computer and then send to Amy. Amy asks that everyone fill out the form at END OF MONTH rather than as you go to meetings.

Discussions of presentations at City Council. October 13 will be the brief presentation at council re: the Caucus. Taffi, Scott, Cindy presenting. Brenda Flowers suggested no more than ten slides for three minutes but that is pushing it. Everyone sit down frony so you can jump right up. Brenda recommends one spokesperson with three people standing there with the designated speaker making the introductions. Who you are, why you are in the role you are in, and then the caucus. Next time in two months, you won’t have to say as much about the RNP but events, strong activities, promote a group that just had a huge success. Have one main theme. Be sure to state your name, what neighborhood you are from, and introduce the people that are with you. Have all RNP there and have them stand. Get there at 6:15 so you get place down front.

7. Old Business –

- a. Mayor’s Neighborhood Governance Proposal – Chairperson reviews the Mayor’s Neighborhood Governance proposal with the group. Q and A follows.
- b. Susie would like to set up a committee to explore with Mayor. Brenda supported that. Gurumantra made a motion and asked who wanted to volunteer for the committee. Many are interested. Susie seconded the motion to form a committee.

(Khalsa/Doss/Carried) Volunteers: Gurumantra Khalsa, Cindy Jensen, Frank Bernard, Christina Duran , Norm Gritton, Taffi Brandiff, Scott Andrews, Karin Roberts, Susie Doss

- c. Mayor committed to be at RNP on November 2
- d. With the \$50,000, it wouldn't be a brand new employee but rather an internal staff person which would save a job.

8. New Business

- a. Nancy Sturmer mentioned that Grand Neighborhood Alliance inactive recently. Would be beneficial for RNP to help. RNP should contact them to see what we can do. Area 1 represents them and may help.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:02