



The Riverside Neighborhood Partnership mission is to support neighborhoods in organizing to protect and maintain neighborhood quality of life. It is the Partnership's belief that organized neighborhoods are better equipped to tackle problems that periodically emerge. Organized neighborhoods are proactive in addressing crime, disaster preparedness, information sharing, beautification and helping each other. There is power in numbers! Organized neighborhoods create a unified voice at City Hall which can accomplish more than individuals working alone. Organized neighborhoods are fun and improve quality of life for all!

**Monday, November 1, 2010 Mayor's Ceremonial Room, 6:30 p.m.**  
City Hall, 3900 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92522

## MEETING MINUTES

**Members Present:** Amy Aldana, Scott Andrews, Taffi Brandriff, Damien O'Farrell, Norm Gritton, Erin Snyder, Cindy Jensen, Cecile Johnson, Gurumantra Khalsa, Jeff Kraus, Karin Roberts, Justin Scott-Coe, Ed Jones, Aurora Chavez, Mickey Lawler, Jeff Wright, Councilman Paul Davis,

**Members Absent:** Susie Doss, Bill Scherer, Robin Treen

**Staff:** Don Smith, Housing & Neighborhoods, Development Department

1) **Call to Order/Introductions** – Meeting called to order 6:31. Introductions followed.

2) **Approval of Minutes, October 4, 2010** – No corrections. M/S/C with no objections.

3) **Mayor's Office/Council Members' Update**

Mayor's Office: Walk with the Mayor on Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, Evergreen Cemetery; No Mayor's Night Out in November or December.

**Councilmember Andy Melendrez, Ward 2:**

- Councilman Melendrez gave updates on several Neighborhood Groups in Ward 2
- Councilman noted that many of the groups in the Eastside have been so successful at getting their issues addressed that some of them are facing challenges with keeping their groups together and engaged.

**Councilmember Paul Davis, Ward 4:**

- Councilman Davis gave an update on activities in Ward 4
- Councilman noted a new neighborhood revitalization plan being implemented in Casa Blanca. Commitment of over \$3 million dollars to be invested in neighborhood/community improvements over 18 months.

4) **Presentation**

Partners for Better Health – Ellen Fry-Bowers

- Organization helps build public/private partnerships around community health concerns. Hope to build a "Healthy Riverside Movement".
- Conducting a "Healthy Eating Active Living" (HEAL) community assessment to include County data drilled down to city level, survey of residents, focus groups, interviews with key leaders

5) **Neighborhood Watch Report**

Nancy Castillo, RPD Public Service Rep, gave a brief update. Encouraged people to watch out for vehicle burglaries, mail theft.

## **6) Concerns from Visiting Neighbors**

No concerns presented.

## **7) Housing & Neighborhoods Report**

- a. Neighborhood Leadership Academy – Last session this week – “All About the RNP.” Scott to lead presentation with assistance from Cindy, Erin and Norm. Great class of participants and excellent workshop sessions. Scott and Cindy have attended several sessions. One of the newly elected Board members is in a NLA participant this year.
- b. Annual Meeting and Caucus – Six new elected members of the Board. Jeff Wright starts tonight filling the remainder of the term held by Albert Figueroa. Five other members start in January. Several present tonight.
- c. Neighborhood Council Criteria – meeting set for discussion of drafting guidelines, application and marketing materials.
- d. December Board Meeting – Holiday Potluck and recognition of outgoing Board members.

## **8) Subcommittee Reports**

- a. Bylaws – Justin reported that the Bylaws Committee is waiting on final word on the Neighborhood Council criteria before looking at the need for adjustments to the bylaws.
- b. Marketing/Membership – Cindy is the only Board member sending in activity reports at this stage. Membership Committee suggests that current/retiring Board members serve as mentors to new Board members.
- c. Conference/Caucus subcommittee – Welcome new members. Cindy and other members thought the Caucus ended too abruptly. There should be a closing session where the newly elected members are announced/introduced. Attendance was low. Board should consider whether to return the caucus/elections to the Conference. Several members argued in favor and against the suggestion. Scott suggested possibly holding Caucuses in each of the RNP Areas.
- d. Neighborhood Success Story – Next presentation scheduled for December 14<sup>th</sup>. Taffi suggested “Helping Hands”, a youth service group from La Sierra (not a neighborhood group). Other suggestions included Casa Blanca Community Action and Grand Avenue Neighborhood Alliance. Committee needs to work with Hilda to get this organized.

## **9) RNP Board Member Announcements**

Board members made announcements about meetings and activities taking place over the next month.

## **10) Future Agenda Items –**

## **11) Adjournment – 8:03 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: December 6, 2010– Holiday Pot Luck, Mayor’s Ceremonial Room**