

May Neighborhood Council meeting

Attendees:

Mike Flahaven, Sandy Gill, Ruth Snyder, Buzz Bellessa, Sarah Winger, Cliff Winger, Julie Shepard Hall, Tom Bauer, Wendy Bauer, Chris Snow, Ginny Butts, Melissa Wittstruck, Karen Stratton, Roy Butts, John F Lange

Jeff called the meeting to order at 6:35pm and began with introductions. Carrie recorded the meeting notes.

Officer Doug Strosahl

- car prowls/burglary reports/activity down in N Hill
- only a couple of houses that have been reported and being followed up on regularly.
 - Log sheet from Cop Shop to mark license plates, activity, etc to help give the officers eyes
 - Call crime check, even if not an issue that would merit officers coming out, all calls to that address are logged and help with building the case
- Confirmed that there are data transmission issues in the area
- Buzz advised that there has been a lot of activity on Courtland Hill with graffiti, etc. Neighborhood Svcs is the place to report that kind of activity
- Neighbor advised of transient camp activity at bottom of the bluff. NCO and/or Code Enforcement is place to report.

Karen Stratton - City Council

- Contact numbers 625-6290 office or 869-4293 cell
- New COPS Director, Patrick Stryker (get contact info)
- Council President Stuckart is working on an ordinance focused on how to City departments managing projects happening notify neighborhood and in timely fashion and manage feedback. Karen will come to review once finalized.
- AirBnB ordinance passed (covers unoccupied properties) - What is best way to keep neighbors notified as to who homeowner is, contact info, etc. 400 foot radius notification.

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- Cell tower moratorium - 6 months. Applies to upcoming and future permits. The tower on Monroe was in play prior to the moratorium, it was approved. Karen will check into this.
- Paid, Sick and Safe leave - Task force put together to review idea.

Neighborhood Plan

- Sandy and Buzz presented the updated plan and reviewed the overall process steps that the planning sub-team has gone through.
 - Julie advised Gathering House has renderings of their plans for their back parking lot which includes a gateway sign, parklet, trees, etc. They are working with YES non-profit organization to design the project.
 - Garland theater also met with YES group to maybe do something similar on the theater property.
- The latest version of the plan is posted on the NHNC website ([link](#))
- Buzz noted that Jo Anne Wright was a pivotal partner in the development of this plan. The city did not guide the creation of the plan, Jo Anne however was immensely helpful in ensuring we captured what was essential and important to the neighborhood and she and her team
- Mike asked for reaction from attendees. Response was very positive. Cliff asked that this be part of the overall city plan to ensure that city projects account for neighborhood priorities and try to implement their projects within the vision of the plan.
- Buzz advised next steps are the plan goes through the Plan Commission for review and then will be presented to City Council for resolution. It does become a guiding document for future planning and development.
- Mike and Jeff asked for a showing of hands as to those in favor of what was presented, majority hands raised.

Community Assembly

- Sandy advised no significant news this time around.

CBDG

- Buzz advised confirmation finally back regarding Lacrosse between Stevens and Howard sidewalk work with offshoot onto Stevens. July/Aug timeframe.

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- We are limited in our area with \$26k annual funds, latitude is being provided to allow neighborhoods to pool funds in various ways to the benefit of both neighborhoods.
- 2016 funds and projects are not committed to. In June, some ideas will be discussed, proposals due by end of summer. Will be on June agenda.

Garland Business District

- Julie talked about a grant that they had applied for last year which was not granted but they were recently advised that they were chosen this year for \$15k grant. GBD is creating an advisory committee to work with a consultant to be hired by this grant to work on revitalizing the GBD.
- Renderings or drawings will hopefully be available this summer. This is likely a 2+ year plan, smaller projects will be done along the way as funding and planning allow.
- Up to 3 greening grants available for each neighborhood. Applications due by end of June. GBD received one of these grants last year, flowers and trees were planted May 1st on Post St.
- Gathering House has been working with Catholic Charities - Food for All program which focuses on providing produce to communities. Rob could use help organizing.

Wellesley/Maple property

- Conversation happened with representative of property owner. Letter was submitted advising no objection but some considerations neighborhood wanted addressed.
- Asked that when site plans ready that they present those to the neighborhood.

Jeff adjourned the meeting at 8:12pm