



UNITED NEIGHBORHOODS OF THE HISTORIC ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, WEST ADAMS AND JEFFERSON PARK COMMUNITIES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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UNNC Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 15, 2012
Council District 10 Field Office
1819 S. Western Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90006

MINUTES

(approved June 19, 2012)

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-President Billie Green opened the meeting at 7:08 p.m. A quorum was present.

Members present: Stevie Stern, Billie Green, Wesley Todd, Norman Gilmore

Members absent: None.

Additional UNNC board members present: Andrea Dunlop, Chris Carlson, Laura Meyers

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Stevie Stern moved to approve the agenda as presented, but with the Treasurer's Report moved to after Public Comment.

Norman Gilmore seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Donna Jones announced that Saturday July 7th is the soft opening of the Benny Potter Park Annex upgrades, and the Aquarium of the Pacific mobile van will be there on that day as well.

She also noted that the buses for Mid-City Magnet are no longer waiting in front of Frederick Douglass High School, and that is hugely improving parent access to Frederick Douglass.

Elizabeth Fenner stated that she was still available to be appointed to represent Region 3. She will be able to attend to the July meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Wesley reported that we have submitted \$16,500 in demand warrants for the last week. All outstanding funding requests have currently been paid or are in progress. In addition, the encumbrances for the election will be submitted tomorrow.



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. Funding Request – 28th Street Block Club – July 4th Block Party- Renee Gunter – ACTION

Renee Gunter presented a funding request for the insurance for the annual Fourth of July Block Party for the 28th Street Block Club. The neighbors provide the food, games, and flyers for outreach. The council office loans tables and chairs. They will have basketball, and water activities and a reading area for kids to hang out.

Renee obtained an insurance quote from Frankel and Associates for \$482.91 through New Hampshire Insurance Company/Houston Casualty Company.

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved that the UNNC Governing Board consider funding insurance for the 28th Street Block Club event on July 4th, 2012.

Stevie Stern seconded.

Vote: 4 in favor, none opposed.

B. Update and possible further actions by UNNC, such as a letter to Zoning Administrator, per continued infractions to Conditional Use Permit (CUP) by F. Douglass school on West Adams – Jeff Camp – ACTION

Stevie Stern and Chris Carlson were invited by the neighbors to observe the traffic issues at Frederick Douglass on May 14, 2012, which they did.

Derek Japha presented the following status update on current Frederick Douglass non-compliance issues with the CUP.

By way of background, the school has already been found to be non-compliant with the CUP by the Zoning Administrator. The Zoning Administrator added a condition to require reporting by the school to the city and community.

The council office received the first report covering April 9th to May 8th, 2012. The school was required to come into full compliance with all conditions upon receiving the determination letter, which probably occurred in early March.

A report consisting of four data sheets purporting to cover a 53 day period was submitted to the council office. The cover sheet summary statistics do not reconcile with the supporting data sheets.

The neighbors estimate that on a low volume morning that there would be 20 unpermitted pick-up and drop-offs. They have counted as much as 35 unpermitted drop-offs.

If 30 violations a day is typical, there would be 810 violations expected over a 27 day period, much higher than the 5 reported to the Council Office.

The illegal turns are also not counted. People are now driving down to the Adventist Church to make a U-turn, presumably because that is out of range of the Frederick Douglass monitors.

Frederick Douglass has not yet put in parking landscaping. Staff has not been provided with off



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street parking.

Previously violations were minimized when Frederick Douglass maintained a system of progressive discipline. F. Douglass is supposed to report their violation policy. At the moment the monitors are not identifying repeat offenders and are giving verbal warnings only.

They are not compliant with monitoring requirements. Violations start at 7:00, but monitors appear at 7:40 or 7:45.

They have not used a camera to document violations, but this has not been observed.

They are supposed to maintain a hotline for neighbor comments, which wasn't functional when last checked.

They signed affidavits in 2008 and 2010 that they would comply.

The neighbors met with CD10 staff and the landlord. Frederick Douglass representatives said that they were "prioritizing" what they wanted to report and enforce.

Stevie Stern noted her observations yesterday were consistent with the above characterization.

Since the school at this point appears to be scoffing at the CUP, the question is what steps could UNNC ask the city to take at this point to attempt to gain compliance.

Donna Jones noted that the neighbors have met with the owners of the school, Pacific Charter, and have not received results.

By way of comparison, Donna Jones noted that once the neighbors had identified the right person at LAUSD to address bus parking issues, the issues were addressed overnight.

Donna Jones also pointed out that kids are high school age, and are very independent. The result is lots of unsupervised kids in the local park all afternoon.

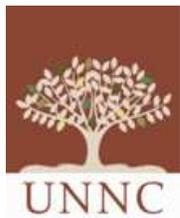
Frederick Douglass tells the neighbors that Mid-City Magnet also contributes to problems but the neighbors dispute this. Mid-City Magnet has younger kids and are in fact they are closely monitored during pick up and drop-off times.

The neighbors agree that Frederick Douglass is clearly at fault and not making efforts to comply.

Stevie Stern suggested that the neighbors get further advice from the Council Office about possible enforcement next steps. An item could be brought to the UNNC Board once there was a more specific request.

UNNC will also attempt to corroborate the neighbor reports with our own eye witnesses.

Derek will reach out to Andrew, and Stevie Stern and Jeff Camp will contact Parker Hudnut for reports on the days they observed.



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C. Review Board Members' absences

There are no board absentee problems that need to be reported.

D. Plan agenda for June Governing Board meeting

Jeff Camp went through CERT emergency training, and offered to summarize it for the Governing Board. The West Adams Avenues may come with a specific request. Other items as noted above.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Stevie Stern reported that the Avenues Neighborhood Watch appears to be very miffed with UNNC regarding the proposed re-purposing of the cameras at the former Washington Stop-In Center.

In addition, the Washington Blvd median that had to be hardscaped had a lot of complaints via email. But when Stevie went to the block club meeting, no one had any additional concerns.

However, at that meeting, some neighbors did object to UNNC re-purposing the cameras. The cameras are now in storage with the block club captain Bernie, since the Washington Stop-In Center is closed to us.

Stevie Stern is going to ask the city attorney to confirm that UNNC does in fact still own the cameras.

The neighbors want to use the cameras at the Washington Library, but the library representatives have always said those particular cameras are not suitable or approved for use inside the library.

Stevie Stern will send a letter to the block captain and the Friends of the Washington Irving Library attempting to clarify the situation.

Billie Green reminded us that she had let us know that the soil test for the LaSalle monument came back not as bad as they thought. There are multiple levels of asphalt, concrete, and sand, so it is a challenging area. Ms. Koontz, at Public Works, told the neighbors to submit new plans. Billie is asking around to find an engineer to design the new monument.

NEW BUSINESS

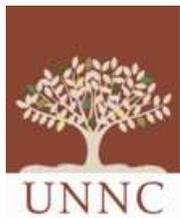
Stevie suggested that we ask Peter Schulberg to consider setting up one of the painting days at the July 7th soft opening of the Benny Potter Park Annex.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Stevie Stern moved to approve the April 17, 2012 minutes, with a correction removing the reference to Aunt Rosalie's.

Wesley Todd seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.



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MOTION: Stevie Stern moved to approve the April 25, 2012 minutes, clarifying a statement on page 3 regarding a conversation with the city attorney, and correcting the spelling of Lacy.

Norman Gilmore seconded.

Vote: 3 in favor, none opposed, 1 abstention.

Meeting adjourned around 8:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Gilmore

UNNC Secretary

May 15, 2012

Attachments: None.