

Neighborhood Advisory Committee Minutes

April 27, 2015

Public Works Building, 6:30 pm

Committee Members Attending: **Saul Chase, Joe Fioccola, Pastor Spencer Hardaway, Teddy Jordan, Barber Melton, Bob Roepnack, and Elaine Poovey.** Members not present: Alan Escovitz and DeWayne Barton.

City Council Liaison: **Chris Pelly.**

Neighborhood Coordinator: **Marsha Stickford.**

Elaine called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m.

Item I. Approval of Minutes of February 23 Meeting: Two item numbers in the March meeting minutes were corrected. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Item II. Planning for East Regional Meeting May 18. The location has been confirmed at St John's Episcopal Church 290 Old Haw Creek Road on Monday May 18 at 7-9 P.M. Elaine introduced a discussion of the format for the meeting. Along with the invitations notes from the previous area meeting from 2013 were included. She has heard back from Bull Mountain, East Asheville Alliance, Haw Creek Neighborhood Association, Parkway Forest, Oakley and Kenilworth Residents Association. She has not heard from the Cloisters and will follow up with Redwood Forest, Viewpoint and Beverly Hills. Next to be discussed were presenters. Marsha will ask if a presentation on Simple-City—which will replace Map-Asheville, is ready. A review of the Azalea Park upgrade will be presented. A topic of interest is the status of the East Asheville Library whose upgrade has been in limbo. Ken Putnam will be asked to update the neighborhood sidewalk criteria and report on developments such as the increase in funding over the next five years. The new police Community Resource Officer should be introduced and possibly the Fire Department. The program will begin with presentations and be followed by neighborhood responses.

Item III: Assessment of Citywide clean-up day: Bob reported that Eric Bradford at Green Works told him there were more volunteers in one day than they got during their past clean up months. Twenty Five neighborhood groups turned out—some were not even from organized neighborhoods. The success was attributed to advertising, newspaper articles, the NAC connection to neighborhoods and the City Council Proclamation. Marsha suggested that a report from NAC be put together for City Council. Bob suggested that a second City Wide Clean Up be scheduled for the fall after the leaves have fallen but before it gets too cold. (Possibly the first weekend in November.) Chris asked how to get more involvement? Eric is working on providing a few stations around the City with tools for groups to borrow. Chris suggested enlisting the elementary schools—which fits in with Green Works already working with the schools.

Item IV: Neighborhood Sidewalk Criteria Update: Bob has been meeting with Sidewalks as part of Multi-Modal Task Force. They have been developing a list of neighborhood sidewalk needed linkages based on criteria such as proximity to bus routes and volume of traffic. The criteria are still in draft form. Funding has been increased over the next five years for new sidewalk construction. A database was started. The question was raised: how to get on the list? The survey from the Festival is helping to give weight to some criteria and next month they are reaching out to public housing residents as presumed frequent users of public transportation.

Item V. Discussion of Summer Retreat: Elaine brought up the subject of having a summer retreat such as the one we had last year in June instead of the July monthly meeting. The purpose is to look at our current plan, assess and revise as needed. She volunteered to facilitate and asked Bob to reserve the same place through the Unitarian Church. Without objection and pending confirmation the date was set for Friday June 26, 2015 from 9-12.

Item VI. Meetings attended by Committee Members: **Joe** attended meetings of the WECAN Garden Club, Community Garden Organizing meetings, and WECAN Board. He helped plant the Hillcrest Orchard, and install the WECAN Community Garden Fence. He attended the Asheville Police Department Annual Awards Ceremony and was honored as Volunteer of the Year. He organized the WECAN contingent to the Green Works City Wide Clean-up and was interviewed at Green Works for the noon news by WLOS. **Bob** completed training with Building Bridges attended 3-4 Green Works meetings, and has had several meetings with the city planning Overlook Park on Beaucatcher Mountain. **Spencer** has met twice with the Asheville Buncombe Community Relations Council, also UNCA Wellness meeting and Shiloh Community Garden. He also appeared before the County Commissioners for Project Lighten Up Day Camp. **Barber** attended CAN board, Haw Creek, CAN meeting, Affordable Housing Committee and Technical Review Board. **Saul** met twice with Green Works and was interviewed on two radio stations. **Teddy** attended Kenilworth Residents Association meetings and as a result of the Festival of Neighborhoods was asked to assist a neighborhood group that is beginning to organize. **Elaine** has been to Burma.

Item VII Agenda Items for June 22, 2015 meeting: I) Debrief the May East Area Meeting; II) Retreat Planning (review the Strategic Plan); III) See if Alan Glines can talk about comprehensive planning for neighborhoods to include visioning and land use.

Item VIII Announcements: **Chris** announced that Community visioners Bill and Marianna Bailey were to be honored as Asheville Living Treasures on May 31 at 1:30 at UNCA. **Elaine** reminded Teddy and Spencer to get neighborhood profiles done in May and asked Joe to do one for July. **Bob** announced that he was submitting his resignation from NAC. He will need to be replaced on the Multi-Modal and Sidewalks Committees. **Saul** noted that his term was expiring in June and he would not seek an extension.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm by Elaine.

Minutes submitted by Joe Fioccola, Secretary