

Neighborhood Advisory Committee Minutes

January 27, 2014

Public Works Building, Conference Room 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

Committee Members Attending:

Saul Chase (Chairman), Bob Roepnack, Alan Escovitz, Carmen Ramos-Kennedy, Joe Fioccola, Barber Melton, Pastor Spencer Hardaway, Elaine Poovey

City Council Liaison: Chris Pelly

Neighborhood Coordinator: Marsha Stickford

Item 1: Welcome and Approval of Minutes of January 13, 2014 Meeting

Chairman Saul Chase called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. *The minutes of the January 13 meeting were approved on a motion by Alan and seconded by Barber.*

Item 2: Announcements

Saul reported he had met with Alan Brailsford to discuss the Community-Police Network proposal. That committee has six active members and all of them would be involved in the new project. NAC members would make up the rest of the committee. There would be up to one monthly meeting. E-mail would be used for communication among committee members. Discussion followed. Marsha will issue an invitation to Captain Stony Gonce to meet with us at our February meeting to secure more information about NAC's role.

Marsha announced the application for the Dynamic Governance Grant was for two years; however the grant was awarded for one year for \$30,000. The first meeting will be held on Thursday, January 30 with Trina Boyd from the Asheville Housing Authority Residents Council, a resident assistant at Aston Towers and Tara Irby of the East of the Riverway Committee. A curriculum will be developed to create a common meeting language to facilitate groups coming from different backgrounds and issues.

Item 3: Annual Report for 2013, Review of Draft

Saul asked for additions to the annual report for City Council. Additional suggestions were discussed and the committee agreed to add that the Festival of Neighborhoods was co-sponsored with the Coalition of Asheville Neighborhoods. Clarifying language was added to the Kenilworth neighborhood report. Chris suggested adding the date for the March regional meeting. NAC members' names will be added as well. Alan moved and Pastor Hardaway seconded *that we approve the annual report with the proposed changes.* The motion carried.

Item 4: Community Signs Subcommittee Report

Bob presented the report for the subcommittee. The group met on January 23 and revised suggestions for permanent neighborhood/community identity signs and temporary neighborhood/community identity signs. Joe suggested eliminating "identity" in temporary neighborhood/community signs. Two additional changes were proposed. Under temporary neighborhood/community signs, for regularly scheduled meeting signs, Carmen suggested signs be permitted for three days prior to meetings. For event signs, the committee agreed the signs can be in place for up to 10 days before the event only. Discussion followed regarding the definition of a recognized association. Marsha stated there is a registration process and a map defining neighborhoods. The process currently in use needs further study. Bob moved *we approve the recommendations from the signs subcommittee with suggested changes.* Alan seconded and the motion was approved. The NAC subcommittee members will meet with City Staff to incorporate suggested changes.

Item 5: Plan for 2014

The committee compiled two lists for consideration, "What We Plan for 2014" and "Possible Activities for 2014".

- **What We Plan for 2014:**
 - Three regional meetings-Central, North and West
 - Community Policing Project
 - Festival of Neighborhoods celebration

- Define registered neighborhood association
- Working with non-profits
- Future requests from City staff for assistance
- Annual report to include findings from regional meetings
- **Possible activities for 2014**
 - Collaboration with other groups in the community
 - Breakfast listening workshop with neighborhood leaders
 - Budget for breakfast and Festival
 - Review tool box to assist neighborhoods in developing an organization including define neighborhood association
 - Broad themed State of Neighborhoods Report

After discussion, the committee agreed to prioritize the items on each list.

Item 6: Agenda Items for February 24, 2014 Meeting

Agenda items will include the following:

- Eric Bradford-Green Works
- Captain Stony Gonce-Community-Police Network Proposal
- Breakfast with neighborhood leaders
- Bob Roepnack-Multi-Modal Commission
- Final planning for Central regional meeting

Item 7: Community Meeting in Central Region on March 24

Saul stated that outreach efforts inviting people to the regional meetings are an opportunity to get information circulated. We also need to get more information from the regional meetings. The e-mail invitation could include citywide information and a list of non-profits oriented toward neighborhood activities. He suggested that posters be created to post in community gathering places. Alan suggested visits to radio stations to publicize meetings. Saul asked for volunteers to serve on a standing communication subcommittee to craft our messaging. Pastor Hardaway and Saul agreed to work together on this subcommittee. As a representative for the Central area Joe will also be involved in their first meeting. The e-mail list of neighborhood leaders and personal contacts will be used as well.

For the meeting format, committee members suggested the neighborhood leaders be asked to respond to the following questions:

- Define your neighborhood.
- Tell us about the activities taking place in your neighborhood.
- What really works in your neighborhood?
- What concerns do you have for your neighborhood?

Marsha will contact City staff to request reports on major projects and activities taking place in the Central region. AB Tech's building project and East of the Riverway were suggested as ideas to report on.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm by Saul.

Elaine Poovey
Secretary