

Neighborhood Advisory Committee Minutes

April 28, 2014

Public Works Building, Conference Room 5:30 pm-8:30 pm

Committee Members Attending:

Saul Chase (Chairman), Bob Roepnack, Alan Escovitz, Joe Fioccola, Barber Melton, DeWayne Barton, Elaine Poovey

City Council Liaison: Chris Pelly

Neighborhood Coordinator: Marsha Stickford

Other City Staff Attending: Judy Daniel, Director of Planning and Development

Item 1: Welcome and Approval of Minutes of March 24, 2014 Meeting

Chairman Saul Chase called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. *The minutes of the March 24 meeting were approved on a motion by Bob seconded by Barber.*

Item 2: Presentation and Discussion Regarding Short Term Rentals in Neighborhoods

Judy Daniel shared information about short term rentals. The Planning & Economic Development Committee is studying the issue as strong interest had been generated from the Asheville communities, especially in the north end, the Montford community, and those streets directly off the Haywood Road corridor. The City currently employs two zoning officers. Judy shared proposed changes to the home stay policy and presented printed materials that included rules regarding short term rentals as well as statements from cities in the United States who were grappling with the issue. She stated that the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee likes the idea. Concerns surrounding the topic are size of property, off-street parking, trash, noise, increased traffic, tipping effect on property values, contributes to rising home prices, and policy enforcement. Judy encouraged everyone to talk to your neighborhood associations and get feedback. Home stay changes are on the Council agenda for May 15. Short term rental changes may be delayed until June or July.

Item 3: Planning for May 2 Coffee and Conversation Breakfast

Elaine gave an update on the coffee scheduled for Friday morning, May 2 from 8:30-10:30 am. Pastries, doughnuts, and bagels have been donated by Atlanta Bread Company and Krispy Kreme. Carmen and Bob are donating juice. Bob will bring cream cheese. Elaine will bring all paper/plastic goods and coffee. She will also bring name tags with color coded smiley face dots. Joe provided the coffee maker. The committee will meet at 7:45 am at the Public Works Building to set up the room and prepare for the event. Five double tables will be set up with 8-10 chairs each. Marsha will bring a sign in sheet and copies of questions for participants. Assignments were accepted for the roles of moderator and recorder. The program will begin at 8:45 with a welcome from Saul and brief purpose from Chris and conclude promptly at 10:30. Facilitators will not engage in the conversation but will keep the conversation going and make sure everyone is heard and get through as many of the nine questions as possible. All attendees will have a copy of the questions and may submit answers in writing. Joe will compile all the recorded responses.

Item 4: Planning for May 19 North Community Meeting

Marsha had secured either the North Asheville Community Center or the North Asheville Library as the meeting site. The committee agreed to the Library site and will park at the Fresh Market lot so as to make parking available at the Library for attendees. The meeting will be held from 7:00-9:00 pm. Two weeks ahead (May 5) Marsha will send a press release notification to neighborhood association leaders in the north area of the city and advise about limited parking. Saul will follow-up with a telephone call and an email that will include an agenda for the meeting. The agenda will include introductions of NAC members as well as City staff and attendees. This will be followed by presentations from neighborhood leaders to include a history of the neighborhood, community activities, and neighborhood concerns. The second hour will have City staff share information in 15-20 minute blocks. Included in this section will be Asheville Police and Fire Department representatives and Blake Esselstyn, Planning and Development Department, who will share information about short term rentals. As a review of the Central region meeting, additional

changes were suggested as to seating arrangement and the role of the committee. We agreed not to post additional informational fliers in the community because it was too much work with too little return, if at all.

Item 5: Proposal for a Summer Retreat

Elaine explained the purpose for a retreat to assess and evaluate the progress or lack thereof with our vision and mission plan developed almost two years ago. We need to pull together information gathered at the Festival, area meetings and Coffee. The committee agreed to hold a one-day retreat during the summer on a week day. Bob suggested the Unitarian Church cottage as the site. Committee members were asked to e-mail dates for summer holiday travel to Elaine in order to secure a day that all members would be available. Elaine is working to secure a facilitator. The committee stated this retreat should be instead of a monthly meeting. A volunteer outside facilitator was also recommended to look at our plan and begin the conversation about what changes were needed, how to update it and begin setting goals and strategic planning for next year.

Item 6: Agenda Items for June 23, 2014 meeting

- Debrief the coffee/conversation breakfast meeting
- Debrief the North region meeting
- Presentation by the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee
- Add “What’s going on?” as an item that will include meeting attendance information by committee members.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm by Saul.

Elaine Poovey
Secretary