

NEPNA June Meeting Minutes

6/14/18

6:30 PM to 8:00 PM at Northeast Park Recreation Center

- I. Update on 1717 Central Development
 - a. Update on the development
 - i. There have been slight changes to the plan for the 1717 Central development, which is undergoing the 3rd revision. Neighbors should get digital access to the plan by June 20. The information has not been distributed widely, only to immediate neighbors.
 - ii. The hearing has been postponed again (for last time) to Monday, June 25 4:30 at City Hall
 - b. Neighbors and the community are encouraged:
 - i. To submit comments in writing to the planning commission by **MONDAY, JUNE 18**. Send to Peter Crandall, the assigned planner, at peter.crandall@minneapolismn.gov. All letters will go into the plan. **QUESTION: Should/can people cc the NEPNA info mailbox?**
 - ii. To get the word out to others – social media, talk to neighbors, etc.
 - iii. To visit/share the website www.no5at1717.com created by neighbors. The same group prepared a letter that will be posted to the website (also see photo of the draft letter).
 - c. Proposed action item: Send joint letter from the NE neighborhood associations.
 - d. Other neighborhood associations (Windom and Logan) will also hold a vote and are interested in the outcome of our meeting.
 - e. Concerns about the development:
 - i. There are several other construction projects already planned in the area (Building Restoration site and 705/708 Central) that will increase congestion
 - ii. A traffic study needs to be done
 - iii. Plan does not have sufficient parking, and parking has shifted all the way to the alley. There are only 11 surface parking spaces, which does not seem like enough given the intended use of the space.
 - iv. Traffic will go in/out of Central (not the alley). Traffic is already backed up severely in the area during rush hour.
 - v. Need more walkability in the space. There is very little outdoor space.
 - vi. We do not want to develop the art out of the NE Arts District. We are losing our history and culture!!!
 - vii. None of the small area plans will be honored by this plan
 - viii. Variances do not seem fair – 5+ blocks of homeowners would have to live with variances for a single corporate developer, but it is almost impossible for individual homeowners to get even minor variances pushed through
 - f. All 7 board members/alternates in attendance voted unanimously to:

- i. Oppose 1717 Central Project, to deny all variances, and to support maintaining the current zoning
 - ii. Require a traffic study
 - iii. Encourage the other neighborhood associations to consider similar motion.
 - g. Side note: Windom was interested in having more interaction and sharing of information between the associations. For example, they were not aware of the Triangle Project until Mandy attended the Windom meeting.
- II. Alley traffic
 - a. Alley on Tyler/Polk has tight and narrow turns. Neighbors have hit the poles causing substantial damage or have hit curb causing cars to “bottom out.”
 - b. Safety issues due to low visibility, especially for areas near bus stops and bike lanes
 - c. Action item for next meeting: Ask someone from the city to attend the July meeting to hear the neighborhood concerns about the alleys. Neighbors are curious about regulations in general and possible solutions. Also invite a representative from Windom Park come as a liaison because they have the same issues.
- III. Sexual assault survivor memorial
 - a. Sarah gave overview of background. Also see background in link posted on NEPNA Facebook page.
 - b. \$100K left to fundraise
 - c. 501c3 charitable organization
 - d. St. Anthony West, Sheridan, and downtown neighborhoods have made contributions between \$2K-\$5K. NEBNA is voting next week.
 - e. A neighbor, who requested to remain anonymous, has volunteered to match any donation made by NEPNA
 - f. All 7 board members/alternates in attendance voted unanimously to contribute \$500 to the sexual assault survivor memorial with option to consider additional donation subject to plan modification). Recommend that other neighborhoods meet or beat our donation, including matching.
 - g. Action item: Laurie to research which fund a donation would come out of and if/when plan modifications are needed to make donation.
- IV. National Night Out Planning (August 14)
 - a. Neighbors are interested in an event but do not want to take away from individual block parties. Possibly host an event at the NE Rec Center.
 - b. If we host an event, make sure it is registered and spread the word throughout the neighborhood
 - c. Action item: Find out from Jenny at Sociable for National Night Out. If Sociable is planning an event, propose a postcard invite to generate awareness or partner with NEPNA to extend invitation throughout NE.
 - d. Action item: Allocation of funds to various blocks for food or list of vendors that provide free support
 - e. Volunteers: David Donnelley and Luna

V. Staff Person

- a. We have one staff person that works on regulatory compliance, bookkeeping, etc.
- b. Tasks for additional part-time staff person:
 - i. Attend meetings and take meeting minutes
 - ii. Follow-up action items identified during meetings (either directly or indirectly by coordinating with other volunteers)
 - iii. Update website, Facebook, and Next Door
 - iv. Create and distribute newsletter
- c. Qualities for the position: Passion for the neighborhood, proactive, organized
- d. Discussed that if a current board member is interested in the position, the individual would need to recuse him/herself from the board position
- e. Proposed next steps: Board members review documentation and get input via email. Executive officers share the proposed job description and related logistics (pay rate, posting date, deadline for applications, etc.) at the July meeting.