



**City of Santa Barbara
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL
Regular Monthly Meeting**

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:06pm by Chair Sebastian Aldana

ROLL CALL

Advisory Council Members Present

Aldana, Sebastian

Cavazos, Ed

Fragosa, Abbey

Greene, Naomi

Heaton, Brittany

Lafond, Susan

Limón, Javier

Peña, Theresa

Soto, Ana

Staff Present

Neighborhood & Outreach Services Senior Supervisor Mark Alvarado

Administrative Specialist Jessica Martinez

Liaisons Present

Beebe Longstreet – Parks and Recreation Commission

Bendy White – City Council

Murillo, Cathy – City Council

Advisory Council Members Absent

Foxen, Sally

Haynes, Christy

Rution, Joseph

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Isis Castañeda: 'MAD' Academy will be doing Community Service at Bohnett Park and Franklin School on Saturday and Sunday, respectively at 9am

Frank Bañales: District Elections Committee is organizing a meeting on February 22nd and would like for the Neighborhood Advisory Council to help host

Norma Aldana: Advocating for pedestrian lighting. It is too dark at night for pedestrians.

Cruzito Cruz: Would like to bring attention to marginalized communities of Eastside and Westside Santa Barbara. Would like for Neighborhood Advisory Council to create a list of prioritized needs in each town

Tony Longo:

- Advocating for Cacique St not to be opened for freeway access. If so, speed bumps and stop signs needed.
- Bad lighting, allows for graffiti
- State owned Las Positas St needs sewage line replacement (Deferred maintenance is huge)
- Maintain the neighborhood vs. creating new projects

Tony Davis: Advocating for allocation of funds toward street lighting. Lighting is bad in certain corridors in the Eastside.

NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATES

The following updates were reported:

- Aldana: Attended Milpas Action Task Force meeting
 - Casa Esperanza Day center will be closing
 - No more meal program

COUNCIL AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

M. Alvarado – Reported the following:

- Megan Diaz-Alley resigned from the Parks and Recreation commission
- In response to the Neighborhood Enhancement Program delay, there were some liability issues with regard to private property, volunteers and individuals identifying projects. Considering having the N.A.C. identify the projects to spend the money this year. Waiting to hear back in February with direction (The policy was never approved. NA.C. would be the best option to identify the projects)
- Blighted area developing behind Parque de Los Ninos, PD, Parks aware, City trying to get that situation Mitigated
- Haley Street Youth Center: Friday, January 17 is the deadline for applications, must be a youth serving program
- Request to look at leasing space at the Lower Westside Center – Not currently an option for the current budget year – No funding available
- Arts alliance program working on canvas art to set up an art show to showcase artists
- Job apprentice program – 39 spots – 20 filled currently (placement is an issue because of availability of jobs and liability of placement with outside agencies)
- Franklin community Police office – Positive report, residents feel positive about the office at the Franklin center, it is a pilot program, would like to do this at the Westside if this is successful
- COAST will be sponsoring a March on January 22nd from Cleveland school to Montecito/Yanonali bridge to advocate to council to use some of the one-time funds to be used there
- New park on Bath and Ortega streets
- Davis parking lot to be resurfaced and restriped – Possibly turned into paid lot
- VITA program starts in February – Free tax preparation at several centers in Santa Barbara

- Will need to identify one resident in the lower Westside area to speak on behalf of updates for Parque de los Niños

C. Murrillo reported the following:

- Last official meeting as Council Liaison, Greg Hart will be new Council Liaison
- Amber Rowley is the new Youth Council representative

White reported the following:

- Will continue as liaison
- Received an update on Mission Creek project (multi decade project involving replacement of many bridges, on #4 so far, Mason St and Cabrillo) changing out older bridges, adding pedestrian amenities
- Received a water update, in a dry situation, if we don't get significant rain in February, March will enter stage 1 of Drought conditions

HEALTH, SAFETY & OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Member Pena reported that the Subcommittee Discussed

- Neighborhood Improvement community enhancement
- Brainstormed: Montecito culvert is a major need, would like for N.A.C. to seek funding through CDBG
- Created survey, took pictures, interviewed approximately. 23 residents
- What neighborhood improvements would you like to see?
- What improvements regarding the bridge? Most did not want the bridge
- Got feedback from residents on Cacique that there is a bottleneck on Voluntario St.
- The area looks completely neglected
- Eastside Traffic survey pointed out lighting as a major problem, City should work on that project

Councilmember Murillo added that she attended the meeting as well

- City Council looked at the Cacique street footbridge
 - A lot more money to make it a vehicular bridge than to rebuild the footbridge.
 - It is not going to turn in to a vehicular bridge anytime soon because of the cost
- Suggested creation of Neighborhood Watch, volunteered to help get one started
- Neighborhood watch would help that area to keep an eye on things

Staff member Jessica Grant:

- Reminded the committee that the bridge is on the 6 year Capital Improvement Program under Streets section
- City has applied for 2 grants and has not yet been successful in getting the funds to replace the footbridge.
- Cost is 1.7 million
- It was a priority in the Neighborhood transportation project process
- Also included is to create another pedestrian bridge on Soledad st.
- City meeting with Police department regarding NO RV parking
- Dumping in the Creek also an issue
- The cost to make the Cacique street bridge a vehicular bridge could cost 5-10 million dollars

Liaison Longstreet asked if neighboring apartment complexes have sufficient trash receptacles in order to not dump

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of the Minutes – For Action (Attachment)

That the council waive the reading and approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 11, 2013.

It was moved and seconded by Advisory Council Members Cavazos and Peña respectively, to approve the minutes. Members Fragosa, Lafond, and Greene abstained. Motion Carried.

2. Issues identified by Health, Safety and Outreach Subcommittee – For Action (Attachment)

Recommendation: That the council waive the reading of the December Health, Safety and Outreach Subcommittee Minutes, approve the list of issues identified and forward to appropriate City department.

It was moved and seconded by Advisory Council Members Cavazos and Soto respectively, to waive the reading and approve the minutes (with changes). Members Fragosa, Lafond, and Greene abstained. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Welcome New Members – **For Discussion**

Recommendation: That the N.A.C, liaisons, and staff make introductions to new council members.

2. Use of One-Time Monies for 2014 Capital Projects - **For Discussion & Action**

Recommendation: That the Neighborhood Advisory Council take action to support the use of one time monies for capital projects to be approved by City Council

Use of One-Time funds – Presentation by Paul Casey Assistant City Administrator

Passed out Staff report with the following information:

- Generally, Capital projects are funded through Capital Improvement Program and submitting projects through the CDBG process
- There is also the unique opportunity because the City has one-time funds to reinvest in our community through capital projects roughly 4.3 million – money is coming from 4 sources
- A redevelopment agency was shut down by the State a couple years ago, we had to get rid of the cash from that agency, city gets 12% share of property taxes most goes to school districts over 2 million dollars
- Cities in California sues the state and the county reimbursed the City 1.1 million for administrative fees
- Embezzlement of Parking fees have been reimbursed from our insurance 600,000

- Sold extra properties - All for one-time capital but sat on the money because the City was trying to spend the bond proceeds before these one-time funds. Finished 4 really important projects with the redevelopment projects and would have used the one-time funds had they not been able to use the bond proceeds
- 4.3 million dollars and over 8million dollars worth of projects as options

Discussion/Comments

Aldana:

- Asked about Montecito/Yanonali bridge (Jessica said design and construction – in floodway, hydrological analyses, cantilever sidewalk, vehicle protection barrier)
- Lights – on-bill financing why do we need additional monies – Edison says that it costs 1000 to city per light to retrofit for LED

Cavazos:

- Cabrillo Bathhouse and Pavilion - will it be funded by other funds
- Will N.A.C know if /when this goes to Council if the N.A.Cs recommendation
- Also wants the projects that we've been talking about are included

Fragosa:

- Greene: Lights, shouldn't actual projects be acknowledgement of the way the lighting projects will proceed, would like for it to be articulated

Heaton:

- Would like to recommend that the N.A.C. look at these projects and make a recommendation that the projects we've been focusing on remain our priorities

Longstreet:

- Art museum funding - will it be art museum's design or city's design – Paul says joint design is ideal and in the works
- Would we wait until after drought for construction projects involving landscaping

White:

- Cabrillo bathhouse – is this amount a must to get the project done – it is roughly a 10 million dollar project – get approvals from dept of finance approval every six months to spend 8+ mil dollars
- On the 2014-2016 light, N.A.C. would like a map

Murillo:

- What would not be lighted if we went with current light proposal – retrofitting all existing lights with LED, then go after additional dark spots – estimate was 10 million to do all lighting – city working in improvement first and then incremental additions to lighting annually
- Concerned about the workshops and the areas that concern the residents
- City is making sure the streets that the residents are concerned about are the ones that were identified in the Franklin school workshops are included

Motion: It was moved and seconded by Advisory Council Members Cavazos and Limón respectively that the N.A.C. support the city administrator's office recommendation to city council provided that of these items, the items in the respective neighborhoods of the Neighborhood Advisory Council members get priority including, but not limited to the items already included in the application for CDBG funds.

Discussion:

Councilmember White asked for number 1,2,3 priorities

Aldana noted that the subcommittee talked about top priorities is creation of a community center that will provide and improved light conditions

Subcommittee said:

- Cacique bridge
- Lighting study for both east and Westside neighborhoods
- Lower Westside community center design and environmental review

Aldana: Eastside projects remain number 1 as priorities

Greene: If this report is in priority order than she can support this list

Limón: Asked about how the subcommittee priorities should be brought forth

Staff Alvarado: Subcommittee should bring them to the entire Neighborhood Advisory Council as an agenda item

Heaton: it would be difficult to add new projects; 4.3 million is at Cabrillo ball field renovation, if Neighborhood Advisory Council is comfortable with those projects

Cavazos: If we approve the current motion, do our projects get moved up?

Lafond: asked if subcommittee is asking that the street lighting project be changed from in eastside lighting project getting lights immediately to an east side-Westside study and what is on-bill financing

Aldana: Recommended that the funds for the street lighting project be directed toward a street lighting study for both the east and Westside neighborhoods instead of moving forward with the proposed project.

Cavazos amended to motion that additional funds be provided for further lighting improvements in the East and Westside neighborhoods.

In favor: Limón, Soto, Peña, Cavazos, Heaton, Lafond, Fragosa, Greene

Opposed: Aldana

Motion carried

3. N.A.C. Annual Events Calendar - **For Discussion & Action**

Recommendation: That the N.A.C. select two N.A.C. members who will be responsible for developing and producing the annual event calendar.

It was moved and seconded by Advisory Council Members Heaton and Cavazos respectively, to table item number three, for a future meeting.

In favor: All

Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 8:18pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Martinez
NOS Administrative Specialist