



UPTOWN PLANNERS
Uptown Community Planning Group
December 4, 2018
DRAFT MINUTES

Call to order by Chair Wilson at 6:08

In attendance: William Smith, Jr., Jay Newington, Jennifer Pesqueira, Bill Ellig, Amie Hayes, Ken Tablang, Tim Gahagan, Mat Wahlstrom, Michael Brennan, Leo Wilson, Soheil Nakhshab, Stuart McGraw, Tom Mullaney, Bob Daniel, Roy Dahl, Dennis Seisun, Kyle Schertzing

Absent: none

I. Board Meeting: Parliamentary Items/Reports:

a. Introductions

b. Adoption of Agenda and Rules of Order

Wahlstrom / Nakhshab motion to move letter for St Patrick's Day Parade to the consent agenda.

Motion carries by voice vote

Dahl / Wahlstrom motion to approve consent agenda as amended

Motion carries by voice vote

c. Approval of Minutes

Wahlstrom / Dahl motion to approve minutes w/ no amendments

Motion carries 16 / 0 / 1 chair abstains

d. Treasurer's Report: Current account balance remains unchanged at \$150.65

e. Chair/CPC Report: Appeal for 6th and Olive project has been filed. The project will be heard at Planning Commission in January.

II. Public Communication: Non-Agenda Public Comment

Chuck Pennell: Resident of Bankers Hill, member of Bankers Hill 150 steering committee. They would like to commend our group for action on the 6th and Olive project.

Donna Champski: Also a member of the Bankers Hill 150 group. States concerns about the 6th and Olive project regarding excessive height.

Gerrie Trussel: Uptown Community Parking District representative, introduces herself and the neighborhood initiatives they are working on.

III. Representatives of Elected Officials: (Item heard after Proposed Rainbow Crosswalk)

1. Honorable City Council Member Chris Ward -- Councilmember Ward will make a presentation regarding the Normal Street Promenade Project, which will be located along Normal Street between University Avenue and Washington Street in Hillcrest. Planning for the proposed promenade is moving forward, and is expected to be finalized in 2019

<https://sduptownnews.com/promenade-on-the-hillcrest-horizon/>

Ward states that 40 new parking spaces will be created and \$1.8 million will be available from the Uptown Community Parking District.

Community outreach meetings will be conducted at the Uptown Planners Public Facilities subcommittee meeting on Jan 22nd and a subsequent meeting on February 19th. These will be held as full board meetings if more than a quorum of board members are interested in attending.

Public Comment:

Ian Epley: Mentions design elements of the park such as parking and movie screen from the original design. Brittany states that some design changes will be made from the original design but an effort is being given to keep it in tact as much as possible.

Ben Nicholls: Suggests designing a public space that is easy to manage yet vibrant and activated.

Kyle Heiskala: Expresses support for the project.

Rich Goren: Mentions the transit aspect of the project. Brittany provides clarification that it is a pedestrian and bike oriented transit project.

Sharon Gehl: Thanks the Councilmember or their action on this project.

Dre Sparks: Supportive of the project.

Clint Daniels: Supportive of the project. Suggests it should be delivered sooner than later.

Peter Raymond: Supportive of the project.

Board Comment:

Kyle Shertzing: Expresses interest with the promenade connecting to mass transit. Ward mentions a possible street car in the future for Uptown.

Smith: Supportive. Suggests discussions and coordination with DMV and potential new density along the Normal Street corridor.

Mullaney: Supportive given the value of additional neighborhood park use.

Hayes: Supportive. Suggests this be the site of a regional AIDS memorial.

Ellig: Clarifies that the promenade extends to Lincoln. Between Lincoln and Washington there would be parking realignments and parking gains.

Nakhshab: Supportive

Brennan: Supportive of the project, encourages the entire board to be part of the planning process.

Wilson: Supportive

Dahl: Supportive

Wahlstrom: Will additional parking be metered? Will it be used by the DMV? Will the DMV pitch in for parking costs? Will the PRIDE flag permit be evaluated to include the expanded public plaza? States the design for the plaza seems very detailed and hopes they will ask for more input.

Gahagan: States the DMV could be a valuable partner with the parking. States concerns about management and homelessness.

Seisun: Supportive of the new park space.

Daniels: Supportive of the project and better transit options.

Newington: Supportive.

IV. Consent Agenda (moved before item III).

Wahlstrom / Dahl motion to approve, motion carries with a vote of 16 / 0 / 1 chair abstains

V. Information Item: None

VI. Action Item: Planning (Item heard immediately after consent agenda)

- 1. PROPOSED RAINBOW CROSSWALK IN HILLCREST** – Council Member Chris Ward is seeking a recommendation from Uptown Planners regarding where a “rainbow crosswalk” should be placed in Hillcrest. A rainbow crosswalk is a means to express support and acceptance of the local LGBT+ community. Issues involving its location and design will also be discussed.

Public Comment:

Unknown Speaker: Vote for Normal St. & University

Brer Marsh: Concerned about traffic safety

Sharon Gehl: Vote for Normal St. and University

Dre Sparks: Vote for 5th & University

Ian Epley: Vote for Normal St. and University

Rich Goren: Vote for 5th & University or Normal St. and University

Donna Champski: States 5th & University may be too dangerous

Public Poll: University and Normal receives 18 votes, 5th and University receives 14 votes

Board Poll: University & Normal first choice receives 14 votes

5th and University second choice receives 3 votes

Board Motion:

Dahl/ Newington: Uptown Planners hereby ranks the University & Normal intersection as the first-choice location for a proposed rainbow crosswalk installation with a second-choice of 5th and University.

Motion carries 16 / 0 / 1 chair abstains

VII. Action Item: Projects: none

VIII. Action Item: Letters of Support: (item moved to consent)

1. **LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE** – Bankers Hill/Park West & Hillcrest – The event will take place on Saturday March 16, 2019; the parade will go north on Fifth Avenue to Robinson Street, then east on Robinson Street to Sixth Avenue, and south on Sixth Avenue to Laurel Street. There will also be a festival in Balboa Park at Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street.

IX. Planning Staff/Community Reports

1. **Historic Preservation Subcommittee:** – Action Item – Subcommittee Chair Amie Hayes will report on the November 15, 2018 meeting of the Joint Historic Resources Subcommittee of Uptown Planners and the Greater North Park Planning Group.

Uptown Planners will also consider the following item continued from its October 2, 2018 meeting agenda, regarding the proposed Park Boulevard Residential Historic District, and the following motion:

- a. “The subcommittee met on August 2, 2018. It discussed the proposed Park Boulevard Residential Historic District, and reviewed the proposed district’s context statement, boundaries, and reasons for designation. Board members from the Greater North Park Planning Group were in attendance. The subcommittee passed the following motion:

The HRC/Joint NP Subcommittee endorses the May 30, 2018 Memorandum to the HRB Policy Subcommittee, with subject as Park Boulevard Residential Historic District, regarding establishment of the Park Blvd. Historic District as presented: Motion by Wahlstrom; second Carlson. Motion passed 8-0.”

(See Attachment #1)

Public Comment:

Dre Sparks: Not supportive as the proposed district is a transit priority area and should not be restrictive toward new housing.

Ian Epley: not supportive. States these districts should be developed by grassroots neighborhood action, not mandated from the City down.

Sharon Gehl: Not supportive. States this district should be able to grow and change.

Stan Evans: States a majority of property owners are not supportive of this district. Urges the board not to support this district over their wishes.

Louise Railing: Encourages support of the district. States that a majority of owners have not voted and that they are mostly absentee owners in the district.

Clint Daniels: Opposed

Patrick Santana: Opposed because it is a transit corridor and should support greater density.

Matt Demeres: Opposed to the district

Board Comment:

Newington: Opinion on record with subcommittee

Pesquiera: Against

Daniel: Against

Seisun: against

Gahagan: Clarifies content of the City memos, specifically about polling of neighbors. Supportive of historic districts that are grassroots. Does not support this district.

Wahlstrom: Supportive of this majority multi-family and affordable housing historic district.

Dahl: Supportive of historic districts in general. Concerned with the designation of this as a "transitional" district. States that the memo does not adequately describe the architectural styles to be preserved.

Brennan: Supportive of grassroots historic districts but neighbors should have a way to opt out. Does not support this district as property owners have expressed concerns.

Nakhshab: Supportive of historic districts in general but not supportive of this historic district. States concerns about future density.

Ellig: States there should be greater outreach to owners and possibly tenants to establish the district.

Tablang: States concerns about future growth of the district.

Hayes: States the district will be different and worth of preserving as it contains a large amount of multi-family and transitional housing. Supportive of the district.

Mullaney: Supportive of historic districts and states that there is plenty of room for new growth in Uptown.

Smith: Concerned with the imposition of a historic district over a large swath of a neighborhood. States owners of historic properties should take advantage of the Mills Act on their own initiative or be supported by the City in that endeavor. Not supportive.

McGraw: Concerned about property rights. States that knowledge and consent of property owners is critical. Not supportive.

Schertzing: Supportive of protecting architectural history and also supportive of respecting the rights of property owners. Undecided.

Hayes withdraws motion. The board may consider this item after additional property owners from the proposed district respond to the poll.

2. Appointment or Reappointment of Election Committee - March 5, 2019 Board Election.

Wilson suggests that the previous election committee be re-established to include Gary Bonner Michael Prinze and Beth Jaworski

Motion put forward by Seisun / Pesquiera

Motion carries 16 / 0 / 1 Chair abstains

X. Adjournment by Nakhshab at 8:09