

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes

Thursday, July 12, 2012

7:00 p.m. at 120 Vassar, SE

I. Preliminary Items

- A. Call to order – Jennifer Simpson called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.
- B. Introductions – Jennifer Simpson, Sherry Smith, Greg Gould, Brian Stinar, Julie Kidder, Marlene Brown, and Don Hancock.
- C. Approval of agenda – Approved with adding redistricting to the agenda.
- D. Approval of minutes of June 14 meeting – Approved.
- E. Next meetings – Thursday, August 9 at 7; Thursday, September 13 at 7.
- F. Open forum – (1) Police Appreciation Day was today, with Brian and Greg from UHA attending, but not too many other neighborhood people, along with lots of officials, including the mayor, police chief, DA, other elected officials, and there was lots of food. (2) Tami Brunk from Querencia Green, which is a nonprofit organization to promote neighborhood, cooperative green projects, spoke about their work. They have done a walk about in Huning Highland about using rainwater runoff and developed a report of possibilities. They also do grant writing, workshops, surveys, and other activities. They are doing outreach to neighborhoods to identify and prioritize projects and want to introduce themselves. In their surveys there is a lot of interest in green street design, community gardens, and weatherization in this area. They are working on partnerships with businesses and other organizations. Jennifer notes that we don't have a gathering place so it's harder to get people together than some places. Brian would like to have fruit trees, using runoff, as a neighborhood project. We could ask Professor Chris Wilson to open up his UNM class tour to allow neighbors to come along. (3) A neighbor on the 300 block of Cornell is concerned about load noise and parties and asking for help. (4) Marlene did a couple of workshops for LED lights and PV construction. (5) Marlene's next door neighbor is having trouble, since a suicide a few months ago, and may be moving. (6) Greg is hosting a presentation at the Peace and Justice Center on Monday, July 30 on coffee growing in Guatemala. (7) Jennifer wants to put together a grief writing seminar and is looking for space. (8) Next Wednesday, July 18 at 6 is The Makioka Sisters film by the Japanese American Society at the SUB.

II. Action/followup items

- A. Neighborhood Patrol – Jennifer and Marlene patrolled on Tuesday night and did identify some issues, including trash, graffiti, which have been reported to the city.
- B. Fall block party – Ideas include doing something to help draw people since we don't have the parking permits. Querencia Green could help develop a model "green" block party, but would need more time than September; they will consider what they could do and will get back to us. Solar cook off, plants, raffles, food, music, poetry, short stories and other things would be draws.
- C. Tree Program – Jennifer had two inquiries about trees and Sherry had two people last year. Jennifer, Sherry, and Julie will be the committee to develop this fall's program.

- D. Redistricting – On July 19, the Victory Hills Neighborhood is hosting Councilor Benton to discuss his redistricting legislation at 6:30 at Loma Linda. Jennifer will go to the Council meeting on August 6,

III. Committees

- A. Lead-Coal Task Force and UNM/CNM and Girard traffic studies. Lead-Coal Task Force met on July 3. The construction crew has been demobilized and essentially all work is done. The State Department of Transportation has not approved the city's request to use about \$2.6 million of the \$25 million grant to do additional work in the Huning/Highland Neighborhood, so the only funds available are \$500,000 from the last bond election, which could fund bulbouts and some landscaping. UHA agrees to support expediting that work. Greg moves support, passed unanimously. There is one blue bench that hasn't been placed. The bench could go to Suntran or be used in the area. Preference is to put it on the east side of Yale between Lead and Coal at the bus stop. Don attended the June 25 public meeting with about 70 people to discuss the UNM/CNM traffic study. Phase 1 (initial work) is about 4 months through October. Phase 2 is analyzing various options for both near-term and longer-term work for about another four months. Phase 3 is determining the preferred alternatives, which is expected to take about three months. There will be other public meetings and online feedback options.
- B. Crime and Safe City Project – Last Safe City meeting had discussion about speeding on Lead and Coal and request for the city to do more enforcement.

IV. Officer's reports

- A. President's report – Nothing further.
- B. Vice President – Nothing further.
- B. Secretary/Treasurer – Financial report – \$100 from Hartman + Majewski for Police Appreciation and Interest of 12 cents. Expenses were \$5 for newsletter paper and \$175 for Police Appreciation. Balance is \$2,719.90, plus \$1,075 for trees.

V. Adjournment at 8:45 p.m.