

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes

Sunday, May 2, 2010

5:00 p.m. at 105 Stanford, SE

I. Preliminary Items

- A. Call to order – Sherry Smith called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.
- B. Introductions – Sherry Smith, Lanny Heinlen, Brian Stinar, Jennifer Simpson, Greg Gould, Joseph Aguirre, Ethan Brown, Augustine Grace, and Don Hancock. Marsha Garcia from Rep. Heinrich's office.

II. Rep. Heinrich's office – The *2010 Consumer Action Handbook* was distributed. The Representative's office can help with advocacy with other federal agencies. May 14 from 1 to 2:30 is the next meeting with the congressman; there are 5 minute slots to discuss any issue; they request RSVPs. May 10 is a job fair at West Mesa High School from 4-7.

III. Additional preliminary items

- A. Approval of agenda – Approved.
- B. Approval of minutes of April 4 meeting. Approved.
- C. Next meeting - Tuesday, June 1 at 7.
- D. Financial Report – Lanny donated \$25 for Crime Prevention Conference, \$2 for History Handbook, interest of 11 cents. Paid \$20 for Greg Gould to attend the Crime Prevention Conference. Balance of \$2,366.02, plus \$1,075 in tree donations.
- E. Open forum – Nothing.

IV. Action/followup items

- A. Spring cleanup – Saturday, May 22 from 8 to 12. Sherry talked with zoning about some problem properties and is waiting to hear back.
- B. Newsletter – Articles on Lead/Coal-Joseph, Sherry has various things on the Block Party, Crime/Safety cities, Cleanup, Smith's, Facebook/website article; UNM Student Housing-Don. Email to Jennifer by Friday, so she can do it over the weekend.
- C. Diamond Shamrock conditional use/variance request – The store wants to add a cooler, which would eliminate the pumps on the east side of the building. They need a conditional use for the gas station and variances for not having a landscape buffer between parking and sidewalk and from design regulations for windows on the cooler. A front setback variance also should be required; awaiting a reply from Zoning Enforcement. Agreed to support the conditional use, as it's not detrimental to the neighborhood. To address the blank walls on the east and south, we'd suggest security cameras. We'd like to have the pay phones taken out. We'd like to have some trees along the right of ways, if there can't be more landscaping along Central.
- D. Smith's gas station – Smith's corporate representative from Salt Lake City will be at Sherry's at 6 on May 5 to discuss a gas station on the southeast corner of Coal and Yale. Some opposition to gas station while some think it would be better than the empty lot. Concerns about traffic congestion and that it doesn't fit well with the new Lead/Coal vision.

- E. Block Party – Saturday, September 11 is preferred date, do on the 100 block of Stanford, from 3 to 6. Because of city budget cuts, they won't pay the required overtime for a Saturday. We'll try to get the city to provide people, even if we have to pay some of the overtime.
- F. Neighborhood traffic – Joseph, Lanny, and Ethan met with Councilor Benton. University and Silver bike lane is still being looked at. Ike will do a meeting with Bike ABQ and others with UHA soon to discuss future plans. North/South traffic study on residential streets will be deferred until after the Lead/Coal project is done. Ike will send parking enforcement a thank-you for they've done and ask to extend the parking enforcement beyond the 100 blocks. Suggestion to study speedhumps on 200 and 300 blocks of Columbia and 300 and 400 blocks of Stanford because of the stop lights. Suggestion to do three-way stop signs on Garfield at Cornell and Columbia.

V. Committee reports

- A. Lead-Coal Task Force – Meeting on May 11; the project still hasn't been out to bid. Councilor Benton will attend the May 11 meeting.
- B. Crime and Safe City Project – Greg attended the Crime Prevention Conference on April 30; mostly there were older people from neighborhood associations. New Mexico is #6 in the nation for identity theft. The UHA area is part of a pilot website study in which neighborhood watch people will report information. Car theft is frequently while cars are warming up, so people are encouraged to not do that. Except for May, the last Saturday of the month is VIN etching at the Target on Eubank. Last week was Safe City meeting, Sgt. Solis is the new night sergeant. Sandy Pino at SE Substation coordinates neighborhood watch programs – 256-2050. For Target's \$100,000 grant, additional lighting in this area might be a possibility. Capt. Conrad said that they will be doing an intensive enforcement on Silver. Sherry will ask for the sign that shows vehicle speeds on Silver for westbound traffic.
- C. Gilchrist House – Joyce Pullen of the mayor's office has a picture of the house on her desk. Tito Madrid from the mayor's office has agreed to convene a meeting with Build New Mexico and the neighborhood.
- D. Neighborhood traffic/transportation – already discussed.

VI. Discussion items/followup/updates

- A. Website/Facebook – UHA now has 14 fans on Facebook.
- B. Mayor meeting on April 22 – Sherry and Don and representatives of six other neighborhoods met with Mayor Berry at the Heights Community Center for one hour. Major issues were UNM and the traffic study. We also raised the Gilchrist House.

VII. Officers' reports

- A. President – nothing further.
- B. Vice President – Beer and wine license request for Pita Place is later this month. Cheba Hut is putting big tables on the sidewalk, and we'll object to that.
- C. Secretary/Treasurer – nothing further.

VIII. Adjournment at 6:48 p.m.