



Wednesday, September 6,, 2023 Minutes
6:30 pm Board Meeting / 7:00 - 8:00 pm General Meeting
ZOOM Virtual Meeting

Board meeting in attendance: Tomas Rey, Tori Emmerling, Rob Denny,, Jim McCutcheon, Nicole Williamson, Monica Clark, Marc Weiss, Mary Fanning Horaist

6:30 pm board meeting begins

Membership

Jim sent Melisa all the membership lists
She will figure out if people are still active.
Melisa & Rob - will convene to determine

Treasury Report - Rob

\$3923.15 in the bank
Still receiving Stripe transfers.
How to determine a way for people to pay - something consistent.
Payment - we have to make sure we can tell who is paying. PayPal is set up, need to set up Venmo.

Minutes from the last meeting approved.

City report - Tori

She's watching various city council issues / land-use issues. Overall problem of affordability of housing and rentals, big issue for the city.

Night Out Against Crime - ARNA - WRAP

- Monica - chair, but the more the merrier. Mary assisting, Tim Betbeze from WRAP.
- No live music. Rob will get the PA from Jordan to make any announcements, play music.
- Monica has been reaching out to some food trucks. Hatch & Harvest. Monica is meeting with Taceaux Loceaux on Friday.
- ARNA Night Out Against Crime - called that previously, about 20 years

- We are aligned with WRAP so it will be a good time for us to come together. We aren't merging, just both supporting the same event.
- Notify the neighbors near Alma Peters that it's going to be happening.
- Mary - has been in touch with neighborhood liaison, and she will be there or someone else representing. Usually 10 NOPD show up. 2nd district commander. We have to contact the Fire Dept separately.

Details about the event

- Open the public
- Flyer / website is where it will be posted
- Food vendors -
- Not selling booze officially
- Need a table so people can join.
- Need to accommodate credit cards
- We still have Strike
- Make sign-up sheet
- We can take hard checks as well.
- QR codes for membership

7:00 pm - General Meeting

Night Out Against Crime

- Bring a chair
- Tables & chairs for ourselves
- Raffle for a single thing - much easier than an auction. Something donated like a dinner at Patois. Wishing Town. Clancy's. Tom will talk to these folks.
- Price simple paper tickets - must be present to win.
- Nicole will get tickets.
- PA: President makes a statement. Joe makes a statement. 2nd District commander makes a statement. Tom will be out of town, so will Jim. Tori is going to talk!
- Invite Joe and his staff to come. Council At Large to come as well.

Follow-up meeting NOAC - and meetings increase the closer we get.

Next meeting - September 13th, 6:30 pm.

Jim needs to do website stuff before October 3rd. Jim will do social media as well.

What about Nextdoor? Can we post up there?

Send out meeting notices for the next meeting on September 20th & 27th to try to increase meeting turnouts.

Need to find electricity. Monica going to scout the neighborhood for options but Tim also has a contact.

Rob is in charge of getting beer. Will also touch base with Tim about his connection.

If you don't hear back from NORD, let people know and they will follow up.

Fire truck - Mary says they never commit. We have to fill out a form, they have a coordinator. Mary will do that!

If someone doesn't want to have a food truck, maybe they will donate for a raffle.

We don't have any business members, something we have to do outreach on. Highlight businesses during the holidays is something that we have done in the past.

We need content for the website/social media. Jim suggests offering people a spotlight on a website for a business membership.

We are still figuring our roles with a new board. The content will come.

We need to push out publicly the things we discuss at the board meeting so there is copy for the website.

Night Out is a great opportunity to do all this content and recruit folks.

Aimee McCarron, District A Policy Director. - 7:28 pm joins as does Councilmember Joe Giarrusso.

Joe - has a presentation on Charter amendments on the ballot.

2023 Proposed City Charter Amendments - some on the ballot for October.

2 charter changes, 4 amendments and other things in addition to candidate races.

Two changes Joe wants to shed light on:

1. **Budget Ballot Proposition** - asking for longer timeline. Answer is yes. City Council and Mayor in agreement on this one. Time is currently too short. Currently broken up by holidays. 25 calendar days / 12 working days. 1.5 billion dollars. Proposal to move date up to October 1 - allows more time for hearings,

We can have as many as 18 hearings. More time to engage - Engagement Days. 60 days / 39 working days. Triple the time. Other cities have much more time, average about 2.5 months. Budget is very condensed and hard to make heads or tails of so more time is needed.

2. **Code Enforcement Ballot Proposition** - safety & permits, DPW, EMS, etc. It makes it one department with one director. They do some things you probably aren't aware of like mowing, fighting blight, etc. Blight is a citywide issue. Blight and crime go together - both personal and property crime are affected by blight. Determine imminent danger issues. Healthy homes ordinance. Quality of life and nuisance properties. Collect revenue from fines. Gives residents a one stop place to call for the myriad issues.

Questions for Joe:

Jim - recorded what Joe said, can he share?

Tom - Code Enforcement - is this where we call to report illegal AirBnB's?

It falls under Safety & Permits. But it straddles other departments.

Next election - October 14th. Early voting is Sept 30th.

Joe has created a one-pager to share with this information. He will be informing the press on these issues.

Tori - I don't think we have too many questions this month. When is D2D legislation up for the Council?

Technically up tomorrow. Working with Harris on the overlay. Also what a better process might look like. Needs to win some hearts and minds with various groups, lots of misinformation out there. At council meeting early as Sept 21 as late as Oct 5

Land-use - will file it but you'll have to win over people. Not an endorsement. Worried it's going to be too close to the holidays. Will let people know as soon as possible but it's been radio silent so far.

Mary - Entergy does a good job at outage numbers, what caused and what they anticipate to happen over time. AT&T getting away with "unknown" causes. Landline outages - changing explanations? Can the utility committee let us know the issue, how long, how many affected?

Other telecoms run federally, we have no control over them. City only has control over Entergy. City is hesitant to bring them before the Council to fuss at them.

Mary - there is a 1700% air traffic increase over this time last year. The ERA company - helibusses now flying over the neighborhood, Three at a time. Huge rotors.

Joe - the city can't do anything, it's the FAA. Be sure to notify CH about your issues, and Joe will as well.

Meeting ended - 7:55 pm