

Downtown Area Neighborhood Alliance

Meeting Minutes

Izaak Walton Club, Fairmount Park
Monday October 16, 2006, 7:00 – 8:30 PM.

Attendees (per sign-in sheet): Keith Alex, Dan Hantman, Joan Donahue, Nancy Chaffee, Robbie Kennedy, Lucy Tello, Meredith Maur, Nomr Gritton, Alison Roell, Heather Troxel, Bettina Brotzen, Ron Kushner, Pete Kallinger, Fred Gordon, Stan Shannon, Molly Dougherty, Randy Blakman, Erick Lewis, Dorette Peterson, Laurie DeFrance, Jim Talcott, Nicki Sands Tina Lang, Churck Griffiths, Nanci Larsen, Jack Larsen, Jerry Crouch, Kevin Bauder, David St. Pierre, Chani Beeman, Jason Gladnet, Rod Wolfe, Bonnie Reynolds, Bruce Reynolds, Nancy Starmer, Jerry Starmer, Pat Dean, Claire Cessma.

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Keith Alex at 7:05 p.m.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes September 18, 2006

✓ Motion to approve Minutes as submitted

M/S/C: Hantman/Kallinger/Carried

3. Report from Councilman Dom Betro

- The Riverside Renaissance Plan was passed by Council. This is an ambitious but doable 5-year plan. It will accomplish tasks that are critical to our city's infrastructure; it will do things that are long over-due. There is a projects list available. It's important to keep in mind this is a 5-year plan and adjustments can be made along the way. The projects that have not already been approved by the Council will have to be reviewed and approved before being funded. The \$30/parcel assessment to cover the cost of lighting and landscape maintenance costs will go to voters for approval.
- A proposal for city-wide WIFI demonstrates that this city administration does not have a "band-aid" approach to addressing community needs. They take a much more comprehensive approach.
- Dom rode around downtown with City Manager Hudson, and Public Utilities director Wright to survey the hodge-podge of street light styles in downtown. Soon there will be a replacement of lights so there will be consistency and they will be historical in nature. Will begin around Fairmount Park and move toward the Wood Streets.
- Festa Italiana is this upcoming weekend, hope you can attend.
- Fairmount Park Task Force has completed its work and has recommendations to submit to Council (probably in about 3 weeks). Since that is before our next meeting, have asked Ralph Nunez to provide an overview of the recommendations.

Questions:

- Any plans for a city jail? Not at this time. A new arrangement has been made to lower booking fees.
- What happened to the “way-finding” project? It has been integrated into the street improvement project for downtown. That way it can be consistent with other features included in the improvement.
- There are many lights on Mission Inn Ave. that are out.
- Parolee management? The city is working within the law. Since Dom has taken office 25 houses have been closed. As property values increase, we should see a change since the property will be too valuable to use in that way. Changing the economics is key to improving the quality of housing.
- Any plan to put utilities underground? Public Utilities is working on a plan but it is not part of the Renaissance plan. Downtown may prove to be too difficult for that.

4. Riverside Police Department – Nancy Castillo and Lt. Chuck Griffiths

- On September 21st there was a Downtown Security forum and about 35 people attended. There is some indication that Project Food, at the First Congregational Church, will be closing in spring for renovations. That might provide an opportunity to find some new solutions to feeding the homeless.
- Victoria Market is in escrow. The POP team has been addressing the alcohol sales and public drinking issues at that location.
- A report contact Chuck about meeting with some homeless people, but they couldn’t find any in the park. Don Smith’s program is providing effective outreach and action.
- Crime stats for the city and the downtown area are dropping...consistently.
- Fifty nine homes have been inspected and 32 of those were either closed for various violations or brought into compliance. They are currently looking at 2 active problem properties. There are 9 homeowners on the list for civil penalties.
- Will work with Chani to update the list of problem properties reported by DANA members. If you suspect an unlicensed group home, call Chuck with the address.

5. Planning & Development -- David St. Pierre

- The installation of traffic signals on 3rd St. are scheduled to be completed in November.
- The new RCC parking garage should be open November 7th.
- Maruvka’s development (M-Sol) between 3rd- 4th / Orange-Market St. is scheduled to break ground at the end of October.
- There will be an ice skating rink in the Library parking lot during the Festival of Lights. Vendors appropriate to the season will also be part of the festival and coordinated by city staff.

6. Treasurers Report -- Heather Troxel

- \$1,779.00 (see attached report)
- \$250 has been set aside for roses, although many roses have been donated.
- The Wildflower seeding project will begin in December. Please bring your ideas for where to seed to the next meeting.
- ✓ **Motion to approve the purchase of a plaque for Steve Liebring to show appreciation for his efforts to calm traffic on Redwood Dr. and Pine St. in Evergreen Quarter.**

M/S/C: Beeman/St. Pierre/Carried

Dom will schedule time on a City Council agenda to make the award.

7. Nominations Committee

- Nominations received by the committee:
 - Molly Dougherty for Secretary
 - Keith Alex for 1st Vice-Chair
 - Chani Beeman for Chair
- Nominations received from the floor:
 - Nanci Larsen for 2nd Vice-Chair
 - Norm Gritton for Chair
 - Heather Troxel for Treasurer
- ✓ **Motion to approve to close nominations**

M/S/C: Kallinger/Troxel/Carried

Without more than one nomination, the offices of 1st Vice-Chair, 2nd Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer will not need an election. Those nominated will assume office in January.

Elections for Chair will be held at the November meeting. Per the Bylaws, Norm Gritton and Chani Beeman are encouraged to submit "Candidate Statements" to Keith Alex so they can be sent with the next meeting agenda.

8. New / Old Issues / Open Issues / Subcommittee Update

- Next month's meeting we will focus on projects for the upcoming year.
- Anyone interested in forming a DANA team for the Mission Inn 5-k run on November 12th, it takes 5 people, please contact Keith.
- December's meeting will be a social meeting, with a potluck. An organizing committee will meet to plan and bring back to the November meeting a request for volunteers and a potluck sign-up sheet. The organizing committee is:
 - Laurie DeFrance
 - Nanci Larsen
 - Rod Wolfe
 - Heather Troxel
 - Dourett Peterson
- A representative from the U.S. Tennis Association presented information about their organization and talked about efforts to work with Parks and Recreation and getting people to utilize the courts in the parks.

- Joan Donahue announced that \$100,000 of Community Development Block Grant money is available. Proposals must be submitted by December 1st and money must be spent by April. Appropriate projects for this money would be sidewalk repair/replacement, monuments, capital improvements. Please see her if you have ideas for projects.
- There will be an Evergreen Memorial Park fundraiser on Veteran's day November 11th.
- DANA will sell water and soda at the Festa Italiana event. Please let Keith know if you can volunteer some time at the booth.

**9. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 20, 2006
7:00 PM. Izaak Walton Club, Fairmount Park**

10. Meeting was adjourned at 8:35

Respectfully Submitted,

Chani Beeman, DANA Secretary

DANA Summery of Accounts

July, 2006

Balance	\$1070.00
Deposits	0
Ending Balance	\$1070.00

August, 2006

Balance	\$1070.00
Deposits	412.00
Ending Balance	\$1482.00

September, 2006

Balance	\$1482.00
Deposits	297.00
Balance	\$1779.00