

NEIGHBORHOODS COMMISSION

November 10, 2010
City Hall – Wing Room 118-119
200 East Santa Clara St.
San Jose, CA 95113
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

| Commissioners Present | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Charles E. Jones – D1 | Lori Kahn-D1 | |
| Manuel Souza - D2 | Marie Arnold-D2 | Vacant - D2 |
| Beth Shafran-Mukai – D3 | Mauricio Astacio – D3 | |
| David Biagini – D4 | Linda Locke –D4 | Rafael Sabic – D4 |
| Elsie Aranda – D5 | Vacant - D5 | Vacant-D5 |
| David Dearborn – D6 | Larry Ames – D6 | Richard Allen - D6 |
| Moses C. Ramirez – D7 | Bertha Ward-D7 | Robert Sandoval – D7 |
| Matt Wahlin – D8 | | |
| Hugh Graham – D9 | Melisa-McCoy-Evans -D9 | |
| Jim Ramsell-D9 | Robert Boydston – D10 | Vacant D -10 |
| Commissioners Absent | | |
| Ed Brooks – D1 | Jaime Angulo-D3 | Neetu Dhaliwal – D8 (EX) |
| Thomas Paramo-D8 | Russ Petruzzelli – D10 (EX) | |

Staff:

Ernest Guzman, Devony Taylor– Neighborhood Development Center

(a) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. by Commission Chair Shafran-Mukai. Roll Call by Commission Chair Shafran-Mukai. There was quorum.

(b) Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Commissioner Sandoval and seconded by Commissioner Allen, the minutes for October 13, 2010 were approved with the following changes: 1) correction to the attendance, and 2) spelling out of acronyms. Commissioner Souza abstained.

(c) Ceremonial Items – None

(d) Open Forum

- Amanda Aldama, of the Youth Commission, invited the commissioners to attend a Workshop regarding the proposed Party Host Ordinance on Friday, December 3rd, at the Mayfair Community Center.
- Commissioner Aranda, who was not present at the October Neighborhoods Commission meeting but caught up with the current City Council conversations regarding the San Jose Police Department, would like to request that shift changes be emphasized.

(e) Consent Calendar – None

(f) Council Liaison Report – None

(g) Items Presented for Discussion and Action

(1) Discussion and Action – Panel Presentation on City of San Jose Street Trees Policy
Jim Ortbal and Diane Milowicki – Department of Transportation (DOT)

Ralph Mize – City Arborist

Laurel Prevetti – Planning Building and Code Enforcement (PBCE)

Jaime Ruiz – Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS)

Rhonda Barry – Our City Forest (OCF)

- Diane Milowicki provided an overview of policies, and efforts to advance those policies, that grow the city forest. She also emphasized that resources have been reduced, including tree care services.
- Rhonda Barry spoke about Our City Forest and the partnerships with various City departments. She mentioned that the city needs a plan with teeth in order to ensure a beautiful and healthy city for the future.
- Laurel Prevetti spoke about overarching policies regarding the community forest that are included in the 2020 General Plan as well as the Draft Envision 2040 Plan. The policies have been strengthened in the Plan and the Draft Plan will be considered by Council in June/July 2011. The environmental evaluation through the process evaluates biological impacts of replacement tree species, and the number of trees. One focus is to ensure that the trees are in fact planted and that they survive.
- Jamie Ruiz spoke about the services that the Parks Department provides in regards to trees. The Parks Department follows established city policies but does not need permits for work. PRNS coordinates with DOT and the Arborist for evaluation of trees prior to removal, follows the public notice process, and a private vendor is hired to do the work.
- Ralph Mize spoke about the community forest and the recent tree inventory efforts.
- Commissioners had the opportunity to ask questions to the panel members. Additional questions were recorded and will be responded to by DOT.

(h) Informational Items

(1) Committee Reports

(a) Executive Sub-Committee

The Executive Subcommittee will meet with Joe Horwedel to discuss Council Policy 6-30 on December 8th from 6-7 PM.

(b) Work Plan Sub-Committee

The Sub-Committee will meet on December 8th from 7-8 PM to discuss the proposed Neighborhood Summit.

(c) Communications and Outreach Sub-Committee

Will meet briefly after the meeting to discuss next steps.

(d) Caucus Sub-Committee

**Neighborhoods Commission - Minutes
November 10, 2010**

Prior meeting was cancelled. The Sub-Committee will focus on gathering feedback from the annual meetings, best practices and recommendations for future caucuses.

(e) Ad Hoc Budget Sub-Committee

The key point is education. The Sub-Committee would like to schedule significant time to outreach to and educate the Commissioners. The Chair will coordinate with the Communications and Outreach Sub-Committee to get information out the Commission.

(i) Emerging Neighborhood Issues Roundtable

- (1) Commissioner Arnold announced that there will be a Safety Meeting at Christ the King Church with the Police Department and Council, concerning youth and safety.
- (2) Commissioner Ames announced that there are meetings happening to discuss the Alum Rock corridor. The Main Street Zoning Policy will apply to other areas of the city as well.
- (3) Commissioner Aranda spoke regarding elections for City Council – actions and practices during the campaigns need to be reigned in.
- (4) Commissioner Sandoval agreed that tactics during elections need to be addressed. The recent grand opening of the Seven Trees Community Center was a great success with over 2000 residents in attendance.
- (5) Commissioner Astacio mentioned that he lives in a Property-based Business Improvement District (PBID) area and is trying to understand how maintenance will occur. Groundwerx might be contracted for the work.
- (6) Commission Chair Shafran-Mukai shared that in her neighborhood there is a model for shared maintenance. There is cost sharing with homeowners to ensure ongoing and regular tree maintenance.
- (7) Commissioner Ward shared that she is a Tree Amigo with Our City Forest (OCF). OCF offers free classes on pruning and learning the warning signs to look for so that homeowners can learn for themselves how to care for trees.
- (8) Commission Chair Shafran-Mukai requested the group send her responses to the following question: If you have strategies or best practices, how are people working together to advise each other about crime and work with the Police Department?
- (9) Commissioner Sabic recommended people know their neighbors and know them well, install locks on gates and not warm up their car unattended.
- (10) Commissioner Sandoval agreed with Commissioner Sabic that it is not necessary to warm up your car.

(j) Staff Report

- (1) Commissioner Elects will likely go to the City Council in December.
- (2) The Commission's role in the budget process has not been determined.
- (3) There will be a special Budget Study Session on November 18th.

(k) Correspondence – None.

(l) Adjournment. 8:45 pm.

(m) Next meeting- January 12, 2011 from 6:30pm-9:00pm, City Hall, Wing Room 118-119, 200 E. Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95113