

ALLIED NEIGHBORHOODS ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
December 17, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

President Orias called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The following member representatives were present: John and Anna DeVore, Judy Orias, Roseanne Boardman, , Paul Hernadi, Charles Croninger, Steve Dunn, Jules Bender, Joe Rution, Catherine McCammon, and Jean Holmes. Also attending were Joan Livingston, City Planner Bettie Weiss and Planning & Development Director Dave Gustafson, Brigitte Forsell, and Kristin Jepson.

The President declared a quorum present, and welcomed our guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION to approve minutes of November 19th; **PASSED** unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Hernadi reported a treasury balance of \$1,187.98, and estimated outstanding obligations of \$150. He urged member organizations to make their annual dues payments (\$50) promptly at the beginning of 2008.

CHAIR COMMENTS

Ms. Orias reported on a number of items:

The city recently presented project plans for construction over Mission Creek in the Haley Street area that are engineered for a 30-year projected flood potential, far short of the Allied recommended policy of engineering waterway and flood plain construction based upon 100-year flood projections.

She reviewed a growing number of pending projects in the Hidden Valley and Las Positas area that present serious potential impacts upon traffic and intersections in the surrounding vicinity.

NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES

Ms. Livingston (who has moved from the Westside, that she formerly represented, to the Upper East) raised questions about the proposed Radio Square mixed use project, that touts units "affordable by design", in light of recent

experiences with the new large buildings on Chapala Street. The size of Radio Square proposal was recently criticized by the Historic Landmarks Commission.

Mr. Bender (Riviera) discussed the new web site being developed by Riviera Association, and solicited suggestions from other associations that have experience with web sites.

Ms. McCammon (La Mesa) discussed a rezone proposal for an area in the Santa Fe Place vicinity that is scheduled to come before the City Council.

She also noted that the backers of the "HOT Principles Statement" ("Common Ground", *et al*), that advocates approaches to housing development, plan to submit it to the January 3rd Planning Commission meeting in connection with the General Plan Update. It was later decided that the Executive Committee will review the response Allied had earlier endorsed, and submit it to the Planning Commission for that meeting.

Ms. Boardman (Bel Air Knolls) reported that her association recently elected a new board, and had not yet decided on membership in Allied beyond 2008, for which year she handed a membership renewal check to the treasurer.

Ms. Orias (Hidden Valley) expressed concerns about the speeds at which traffic generated by the various new developments traverses the neighborhoods, and the threats it poses, especially to children and elderly pedestrians.

Mr. DeVore (recently elected President of the Samarkand Association), discussed developments with the city proposal to redesign the State Street and De La Vina intersection.

GUEST SPEAKERS

The dialog concerning the General Plan Update process with Mr. Gustafson and Ms. Weiss ranged from questions as broad as the scope and nature of the process itself, to specific issues it will presumably address.

Ms. Weiss noted that the requests for the City to do an expanded community attitudes and opinions survey will be part of the Planning Commission agenda on the 3rd of January, which will be devoted to the General Plan Update.

She outlined tentative scheduling of meetings and sessions relating to the Plan Update process:

- "Plan Santa Barbara" status report and approach, Planning Commission meeting – January 3rd, 2008.
- Community Health Forum – Saturday, January 19th, 9:45 – 12:30.

- Regional Housing Numbers Allocation discussion at Planning Commission – January 24th.
- City Council check-in & EIR contract - January/February.
- “Sustainability” Forum – February/March.
- Land Use and Housing Planning Commission work session – March.
- Economic Forum – May.
- Transportation Work session with Planning Commission & Transportation & Circulation Commission – May.
- Draft Policy Options Report review by Planning Commission – May & June
- (Possible) Community Poll – Summer (tentative).
- Outreach Committee Preparation for workshops - June & July (tentative).
- Community Workshops – Summer or Fall (tentative).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **General Plan Update:** John DeVore discussed the possibility of preparing a new Trifold Brochure on the recently published city summary of the initial outreach phase of the General Plan Update, and asked members to send him suggestions.

OLD BUSINESS

Building Heights Limits Initiative: Ms. Orias noted that Allied had endorsed the tentative initiative on building heights, but did so when it was tentatively limited to the El Pueblo Viejo (downtown). Since then, the planned initiative will extend a height limitation of 45’ to the remainder of the city.

MOTION to endorse and support the proposed building heights Charter amendment to extend the limitation to a building height of 45’ in areas of the city outside the El Pueblo Viejo, in addition to the limitation of 40’ within El Pueblo Viejo, made and seconded. **PASSED.**

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on January 21st, 2008. The chair requested that notices for upcoming meetings contain an RSVP request, so she can estimate the number of copies of pertinent reports and documents to prepare.

ADJOURNMENT at 9:10 P.M.