



**NORMAL HEIGHTS COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUP**  
4649 Hawley Boulevard San Diego, CA. 92116

**Meeting Minutes – April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018**

Meeting Called to order at 6:00 pm by Chair Jim Baross

Board Attendance (x means “present”):

X	Gary Weber (C)	X	Linda Case	X	Mark Lawler
	Bill Conway (in at 6:37)	X	Ralph Enriquez (VC)		Scott Kessler
X	Jim Baross	X	Alison Flynn	X	Marty Graham
X	Caroline McKeown (T)	X	Dan Soderberg	X	Michael Chandler
X	Rose Kelly	X	Thomas Lovell	X	Adam Deutsch (S)

C=Chair; VC= Vice Chair; T= Treasurer; S=Secretary

**Administration Items**

1. **Call to Order:** Welcome. Introductions & seating of new Board members – Alison Flynn, Linda Case, Marty Graham, & Michael Chandler. (Reminder re “COW” requirement.)
2. Thank you for your service to Board members who have left the Board – Joseph Fombon, Khalisa Bolling, Nancy Lawler, & Ryan Zellers.
3. **Election of Officers:** According to our bylaws, Dan, as current longest serving member of the board, asked for nominations for position of Chair. Jim nominated himself, and Caroline nominated Gary. Gary talked about how he’d like to shift our focus back to our Community Plan, and wants us to make sure we’re staying on top of specific state legislation. He’d like for us to focus on numbers to drive our conversations. Jim talked about his experience and dedication to being Chair, and his goals to make sure that people’s concerns are heard. Dan and Jim voted for Jim, and Gary, Caroline, Rose, Linda, Ralph, Alison, Thomas, Mark, Marty Michael, and Adam voted for Gary, making Gary the new chair.

Gary took title and gavel, and asked for nominations for Vice Chair. Caroline nominated Ralph. Nobody else was nominated. Ralph gave his background, and spoke about how he felt that his area was underrepresented, and he’s enjoyed being an NHCPG board member. The vote for Ralph as Vice Chair was unanimous.

Marty nominated Adam for Secretary. Nobody else was nominated. Adam joked that he'd write a full thing about why he should be voted for in the minutes. He won unanimously.

Adam nominated Caroline for Treasurer. Nobody else was nominated. Caroline won unanimously.

4. **Approval of Last Month's Minutes:** Adam distributed the minutes from last month's meeting to the board prior to this meeting, and took feedback via email, incorporated the comments into a new draft, and shared them again prior to tonight. **M/S: Caroline/Marty. All approved,**

5. **Treasurer Report:** Total at \$2203.79 in our account. We're getting some money back from the glass printer. We'll have an additional \$500 operating expenses for 2018, which are not part of this total and will expire in June. We'll make an action item in the next few months to discuss that. **M/S: Thomas/Mark. All approved.**

6. **Agenda Setting:** Caroline is concerned about having prompts under non-agenda public comment, and is opposed to those, therefore we're moving the public bikes to the Discussions section (time-permitted). Also, have to appoint CPC reps, which will happen in the Action Items.

## Communications

### 7. Reports from Representatives:

- a. **Brett Weise from Chris Ward's Office:** Councilmember Ward's office is meeting this month about developing more homeless programs in the city, including Workforce Development.  
They had a round-table with the new police chief yesterday, and they talked about homelessness and community policing.  
They're also in communication with the new chair of the MTS, Georgette Gomez, about making transit accessible for the homeless population.  
They also had a press conference about the downtown bike plan.  
April 7<sup>th</sup>, 10am community meeting at Krakatoa in Golden Hill.
- b. **AABA:** They gave a commendation to Officer Jenny Hall. They also have concern about how the District still has stuff in our park north of Adams Elementary.  
The Unplugged Festival is coming up.  
There's also less grant money coming in from the city, so that's also a concern for the business association.
- c. **Norma Stafford from the NH Urban Arts Council:** Meeting tomorrow night to talk about the utility boxes on Adams Ave. They're also working with 37ECB's alley project.
- d. **Ralph for El Cajon Blvd. Business Improvement Association:** The Centerline station is now open!  
They're also trying to modernize the Blvd, for 2020, and Ralph is taking suggestions about what we'd like to see there.
- e. **Communications from Web/Social Media/Other sources:** Caroline announced the NHCA April 26<sup>th</sup> Mixer at Clem's. There's also a couple of guys driving around hucking eggs at people. Also, there was a big coyote.

- f. **Non-agenda Public Comment (may be limited to 2 minutes each):**
- i. Jessica wants a mic system so we can be heard.
  - ii. Earlene mentions the ADA resources listed at the end of the agenda, but those seem to be just for accessing the agenda.

**Action Items:**

8. **Update and recommendations for additional actions regarding Adams School shared park space reduced by construction storage containers:** We've been in touch with the district, but haven't gotten any positive response. Gary recognized Captain Art Harrison, who said that this is what happens when we have a shared school and park land, and they'll eventually move the stuff. Marty suggested we contact the city attorney. Brett explained provision from the Joint Use Contract (which is now expired), like that they should have given us 30 day notice, and they didn't do that. Jim explained that since some in the community met with the district, it's gotten worse. Jim thinks, due to the dissolution of the Rec Council, the NHCPG should be involved in the renegotiation of a new Joint Use Agreement. Jim told Brett that we'd like to be at that table. Ralph asked Brett if there's any action we can take about this.

**M/S:Jim/Ralph:** We recommend that the Park and Rec. department and Council office renegotiate a new Joint use Agreement in consultation with the Normal Heights Community Planning Group, and that the District specifically address the alternatives we've provided regarding storage of their equipment. **Vote** was unanimous.

9. **Recommendations for adjustments to the conditions for public access to NH Elementary Shared Use Spaces:** Elizabeth Chennamchetty, a Rep from Normal Heights Elementary parents, read a request for new Joint Use Guidelines. Marty asked about the "special care" hours, when gates would be locked, which would be 6am to 6pm. Marty also asked about the outside contractor who conducts the after school program and whether the joint-use agreement includes them.

Elizabeth gave an explanation of the design that require students to leave the building to use the restroom. Caroline asked about the hours again to clarify that the outside restroom use was occurring during aftercare and not during the school day. There are no lights on campus, and security would allegedly have to come from Parks and Rec. during public hours.

Jim points out that this could result in a severe park reduction to this community; he also explained that the design of the school was meant to accommodate the public. He says a curfew might work, but would be interested in knowing what the community gets in return for giving up access to public space. Captain Art Harrison asked to be recognized, confirmed he was recognized, then turned to Elizabeth, and said, "You seem very interested in this. Who are you, exactly?" The board did not share his confusion, as she's introduced herself before, and this has been a conversation that has spanned a few meetings already. Elizabeth is not a representative of the District, but is a parent and is in communication with the school principle. Alison suggests Park and Rec be asked about their obligation for providing security.

**M/S:Caroline/Marty:** Motion to form an ad hoc subcommittee, with Emily, Rose, Jim, Linda, Mark, and Ralph, Marty, Earlene Thom, and Richard Rios. All approved.

10. **Shall we prohibit non-NHCPG developed petition signing during NHCPG meetings?** Public Comment time may be used to promote these but gathering signatures should only take after or outside the meeting.

Caroline explained that petitions that have been brought here in the past and it confused people who meant to sign into the meeting in previous months. It's a rule we already have.

**M/S:Caroline/Jim:** Petitions should not be circulated during our meetings. Board voted Yes, except for Thomas, who voted no.

11. **Review and (re-)assignment for standing ad hoc committees &/or responsibilities;** NH Library, NH Canyon access/preservation, Communications, Traffic, Historical review, Project review, Community Planners Committee, Bylaw Updating.

Gary proposes that in the next month, we have a list of our projects/committees, and let people sign up for those at that time. Jim reviewed the list at the end of the agenda, and suggested we call them Projects, rather than "committees" so there's less formality and more focus on the goals.

We need a Projects Project from which we can project our intentions.

As for CPC voting representation, Marty nominated Jim as our rep to the CPC. Jim said that typically the Chair goes to those. Gary and Jim will go to the next one together.

**M/S:Marty/Jim:** Move that we have Jim and Gary both be able to vote at the CPC. Vote was Yes, except for Ralph, who opposed.

#### **Discussion Item:**

12. **Presentation about "Public Land Public Vote" the involvement processes; especially pertinent regarding Mission Valley/Stadium redevelopment issues.** – Joe LaCava: They've changed their name to "No on Soccer City." They're against the investors behind the Soccer City project, and he explained the loopholes involved in the referendum that's coming on the ballot in November.

Caroline asked if the group plans to continue after the November Election so we can avoid these ballot initiatives in the future. They do, and are looking at policies at the state level. Marty asked if he's here as a volunteer, but he's paid to be here tonight.

13. **Roadway repaving plans and progress:** Bret Weise explained that roads are being repaved/slurried. Some streets are going to get completely reconstructed, like sections of 35<sup>th</sup>. Lots of questions about roads that aren't being addressed. Apparently it costs way more to rebuild a street than to do minor cosmetic maintenance.
14. **City Code Compliance issue response prioritization schedule.** Jim says he will circulate the schedule, and we'll look at it for next month.

15. **Response to request that the City of San Diego** report the potential carrying capacity if the blocks were fully developed in terms of density or Floor Area Ratio, height, and required parking on the blocks along El Cajon Boulevard in the NHC boundaries.

Rose said that the city hasn't been very quick on coming up with these things. Because of the Centerline transit stop, we'll likely be allowed more density than what's permitted. Gary mentions that more density means more demand on our schools, and on the parks we don't have. He's curious about how we address this mindfully.

The next step seems to be to follow up with our planner.

16. **Other updates/issues when/if information is available:**

- a Ward Canyon: Caltrans ramp modification. It seems that the council office is willing to communicate with Caltrans about reconfiguring that ramp.
- b SR 15/El Cajon Blvd.: property disposition. Ralph is going to look into that.
- c Utility Undergrounding: Can someone please tell us what's going on? Maybe we can get an assessment district, so that we can get ornamental lights. Meanwhile, Marty reports that Maintenance Assessment Districts are currently suspended.

**Committee and Ad Hoc Group Reports**

17. Community Planners Committee – Jim B. Proposed “Middle Income Density Bonus Regulations” – CPC opposed; SB 827 & SB 828 “... Bonus Act” to remove local control & increase density along transit corridors – CPC opposed; Code Enforcement priorities issues; Marijuana Production Faculties issues.
18. Properties provided for review for historical significance – .4966 E. Mountain View, 4416 Felton, 4631 E. Mountain View, 3226 Madison Ave. Most of them had the historic value removed. If a property owner wants to meet with us, it'll likely be before our meeting next month.
19. Transportation/Traffic Calming – Rose is going to take this over, and communicate with Ryan Zellers.
20. NH Canyons, a Friends of NH Canyons action group is forming – Michael C. He'd like an Action item in May to reach a consensus on what we want.
21. NH Library Update- Ralph E. We sent a request to Director Misty Jones but we did not get a response. Caroline reminded us that places that go up for sale should be acquired by the city for Library use. A bunch of options were batted around.

**Meeting ended 8:06 pm**

**Anticipated/Requested Future Agenda Items**

*Agenda order and timing are approximate and subject to change. This information is available in alternative formats (sign language, oral interpreter, and/or Assistive Listening Device). To request an alternative format, call 619-533-3650 at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting. If you have questions concerning the NHCPG, please express them at the meeting or contact the NHCPG Chair, Jim Baross, at*

[jimbaross@cox.net](mailto:jimbaross@cox.net) or 619-280-6908, or the City of San Diego Associate Planner, Naomi Siodmok at [NSiodmok@sandiego.gov](mailto:NSiodmok@sandiego.gov) or 619-236-6017.

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<http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/profiles/normalheights/agendas.shtml>

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