

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (SDCC)

March 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Tracy Granneman (President, Rosedale), Molly Rater (Secretary, Kingsbury Square), Yvette Kell (Treasurer, Washington Heights), Jim Holzer (Rosedale), Jeff Stokes (Grace Methodist), Tim Woodcock (Rosedale), Mike Stephens (Parkview), Linda Cross (Rosedale), JoAnna Schooler (Washington University), Kathryn Bulard (Busey Bank), AnnaMarie Bliss (at large)

Not Present: Carl Merritt (Cote Brillante), John Wright (Parkview Agents), Kim Freter (St Roch)

Visitors: Ald. Shameem Clark-Hubbard, Grady Vaughn (Security chair), June Vaughn (engagement chair), Marvin Nodiff (Zoning and housing chair), Emmett Coleman (Ward 10 aldermanic candidate), Kaitlin Daniels (dog park chair) Kelly Kessel (Dog Park), Andy Cross (beautification), Karen Clifford (outgoing NIS), Cherie Hickman (new NIS), Jennifer Panbord (Wash U WSP), Jeff Morrissey (Wash U), Ridul Hendricks (WashU)

Executive Director: Michael Reid

Meeting was called to Order at 7:05 in person

Introductions

Wash U plans for safety enhancements at Forest Park Parkway and Skinker:

Jennifer Panbord from Wash U WSP shared a presentation about the proposal:

Washington University used information from traffic study to come up with goals:

- Improve safety at conflict points
- Separate bikers and walkers (green bike lane)
- Enhance crosswalks and signals, protective ballards, ADA curb ramps
- Possible right on red signals, reduce speed limit at intersections

Time line:

- Neighborhood Zoom meeting on March 27th
- Finalize plans by early April
- Complete project by mid August before students return

Process will go quickly because completely funded by Washington University

Suggestions made by Mike Stephens to put crossing guards at intersections and have Wash U repair potholes.

Board asked to help Wash U set up public meeting. Mike Stephens made a motion to help Wash U with the meeting. AnnaMarie seconded and the motion carried.

Dog Park: Kaitlin Daniels gave presentation on proposal

Location is 520-532 Des Peres. Housing Corp owns the lot but is willing to let the Dog Park use it (document signed in 2020). Housing Corps will pay for water

Dog Park will need a building permit and petition signatures from neighbors

Kaitlin has a lead on some inexpensive fencing from Craig's List but has to move quickly on it.

Plans to build in phases to keep cost down

Neighborhood volunteers will put up the fence (neighbors with construction experience)

Dog Park Committee requests from the board:

- Funds to buy fence (1750 dollars for 140 feet of used five foot wrought iron fencing)
- Money for land survey
- Timeline for decision by board
- Answer where dog park fits in SDCC

Concerns/Questions raised by board:

- Is Housing Corps stable? Will they be dissolving soon and land sold? What would happen to the dog park?
- SDCC is not financially solvent enough to take on this cost and liability
- Who will sustain the park long term?
- Non-professionals constructing fence
- Dog Park money cannot be found in QuickBooks (around 3000 dollars)
- SDCC does not have the resources to support the park and the Dog Park should function as its own entity independent of the SDCC
- Would a city park like Lucier Park be a better location and protect us from liability?
- Would Housing Corp be better served than SDCC to support the dog park?

No decisions made on Dog Park and further discussion needed. Molly asked Mike Reid to find out how much an insurance rider for the dog park would cost. Yvette is hiring an accountant to help sort out the financials and find where the dog park money was deposited. Tracy plans on talking to Gary Boehnke (Housing Corps Director) directly.

Aldermanic report: Ald. Clark-Hubbard was available throughout meeting for questions. She reported that funds were allocated for street calming improvements in 2020 and this was now in the hands of the city public service committee. She will find out if any of the improvements have been implemented.

She is working with the police on security

Vote to approve two new board members, JoAnn Rankins and Georgia Barnett, was postponed as neither were present

Meeting Minutes: February minutes were approved.

Executive Director Report:

- Attended SDCC committee meetings
- Continued neighborhood “porch chats”
- Assisted 9 neighbors with neighborhood issues
- Grant proposal for RAC grant completed
- Attended SLACO meeting
- Collaborating with NOFA (Notice of Funding Available) from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 about opportunities for neighborhoods and non profits

AnnaMarie asked that Mike clarify what the 9 neighbor issues were so we could identify problem areas

Financials: Financials were distributed electronically before the meeting and no formal financial report was voted on. Yvette is working on getting help to sort out QuickBooks. We are in a budget deficit.

Committee Reports were submitted in separate reports via Google Docs

SDCC Strategic Plan Planning:

Each subcommittee (governance, finance, communication and engagement) submitted goals electronically before the meeting. We ran out of time to finalize SDCC goals at this meeting. Board will have a special meeting on April 3rd 7 pm to confirm SDCC goals before the neighborhood meeting on April 10th. Board members should review the proposed goals before the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9 pm

Minutes submitted by board secretary Molly Rater 3/20/2023