

# **Willard Neighborhood Steering Committee Meeting Minutes from Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

## **Housekeeping**

Minutes from 4/30 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

The treasury reports that we had no new dues and no new expenditures. We still have \$904 on hand.

## **Announcements/Changes to the Agenda**

EBMUD is asking all of us to conserve water this summer. Please do your part.

Tracy Nguyen for Students for a Safer Southside stopped by with a survey that we need to fill out and return to Vincent. We will provide Students for a Safer Southside with a copy of our Party Policy for their information.

Rodney Brooks and Mateo Reys from Keith Carson Office—Alameda Board of Supervisors 5<sup>th</sup> District stopped by. We will arrange a meeting at a later date to address crime and other issues that are of concern.

## **Public Works/Clean Up**

The City and UCB have gotten together to put out dumpsters

We have seen some dumpster diving and some people unloading personal garbage into the dumpsters from their homes. It depends on your willingness to engage people you see doing this if you want to say something or not.

This weekend and next is the move out center on Haste to help get things organized. Thanks everyone who volunteered to help.

Discussed sending a thank you note to the City for doing this. As of this writing, it seems to have worked really well for the neighborhood in terms of amount of trash that is not sitting on the curb.

## **National Night Out**

This year it is Tuesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>

See page 7 of the packet for volunteer information/needs etc

We are doing an ice cream social again this year.

Brief discussion on if we want to buy something to give out. Last year it was whistles. There was some consensus that we should only buy ‘useful stuff’—possibly related to disaster preparedness.

There was talk of selling some t-shirts.

There was additional discussion about have a presentation of some kind—be it dance, music, disaster prep etc.

There was a motion to give Janet a budget of \$250 to spend on ice cream that was passed and carried unanimously.

## **Street Fair**

For the last 4 years has been in August or September

For students to meet and greet with folks in the neighborhood and it turns into a block long garage sale with food and some sort of entertainment.

The best location is the 2700 block of Hillegass, basically in the park.

It is co-sponsored by the City and University

August 24<sup>th</sup> was put forth as the date to have this event, students are getting back but classes haven't started and it isn't Labor Day weekend either.

There was a motion that was seconded to have August 24<sup>th</sup> be the date of the street fair that was passed unanimously.

Greg will get the permits for Willard Park.

There was a motion that was seconded to give Greg a budget of \$100 to secure the necessary permits that was passed unanimously.

There will be a need for volunteers etc that will be discussed at a later meeting.

## **Retreat Recap**

There was a review of what happened at the retreat

There was discussion at the retreat on what was going on in the neighborhood

A look inward at the Steering Committee

David Cottle passed out a very good summary of the meeting. Please read it and refer to it when necessary.

There are 5 categories that are important to the Steering Committee and can be used as an opportunity to bring in other neighbors.

They are: Physical Environment (Greg Murphy)

Crime Prevention (David Cottle)

Disaster Preparedness (John Caner)

Political Action (George Beier)

Community Outreach (Janet Byron)

Motion to establish standing sub-committees and selected chairs seconded and passes unanimously.

## **Principles and Procedures**

Find a way to hold each other accountable for behavior

Remove members from the committee—courtesy policy

Improve At Large participation by having more general neighborhood meetings and forums on crime prevention

## **Executive Committee**

Vince was nominated and elected President

John and David were nominated and elected co Vice Presidents

Elizabeth was nominated and elected Secretary

## **Courtesy Policy**

The policy that Janet provided was read

It is an attempt to make the meetings more courteous

There was discussion around the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph about all of us being responsible, how do we communicate. Does this fall on the chair to be make the decision?

‘Bring a Point of Courtesy’

John will work on what this means and how it will work

We felt that the document was missing a component on loudness (voice not clothing) and temper issues—shouting should be in here as well. John will also work on that.

If there is continuous bad behavior in a single meeting we will develop a 2 strikes and your asked to leave policy

Please be away if you point has been made—step up and step back.

For email—

How to handle?

No forwarding emails without permission in the body of the email

If the conversation is between 2 people, it needs to stay between those 2 people and not go out the world.

Can we bring emails to meetings to do a point of courtesy?

We’d like to remove the section about banning people from the next meeting

Need for a neutral 3<sup>rd</sup> party to talk with the offenders

John will revise the Courtesy Policy

## **Public Safety/Crime/ Homelessness**

Berkeley Host Program is getting started

On Shattuck and Telegraph Ave

Walk around and say ‘No’ to public nuisance crimes. They will act as witnesses. They are being trained by the Berkeley Police and they have as a goal to encourage people to get into Social Services programs. Some of the people working for Berkeley Host are ‘graduates’ of various Social Services programs so they know what they are talking about.

## **Signs**

There is a new website

We need to get permissions for the signs

We need to get quotes for metal signs

Discussion on Welcome vs. Now Entering

Put up various signs to test reactions

Possibly put a phone number on the signs

Sign design needs to be discussed—maybe

Do we want to put population number on it?

Work with Jim Heinz in the City on them

Do we want to be able to change out the bottom part of the sign with information?

## **Organization Structure**

What topics and what would you like to know and what would you like to put in the ‘nosy book’

**Pilot Parking Program**

One side is B permit only the other side is B permit and 2 hour parking

What area—entire Willard Neighborhood?

We need to see the proposal

We should test and see what happens

Speak with Jim Heinz on this

**Agenda Topic**

What does it take to bring something outside of the 5 sub-committees to the meeting?

Vince will write up some sort of a policy/guideline