Old Pasadena Neighborhood Association

Agenda - General Meeting

South Pasadena City Hall June 17, 2024

Welcome and announcements – Shannery Barnes

- Meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm
- Announcements
    - City Council on vacation 6/14-7/7. No guest speakers.
    - Reminder, Juneteenth Wednesday June 19: Certain City Facilities will be closed, check city website for details. Check Hurricane resources on city website.

Community Police Officer Buttar Reports

- Stats for neighborhood are great, we have a very safe neighborhood. No pattern of break ins
- A few reports
    - Aggravated assault. Pointed out difference between assault and battery; assault no contact, just a threat.
    - Porch pirates are on the rise. Gangs follow trucks around. Do not give permission to leave package on porch. Question about cameras on porch – officer said it doesn't deter crime, but helps the police identify the perpetrators.
    - Identity theft was done online.
    - Car theft is a problem as well. Don't leave cars unlocked and don't leave keys in car.
    - If you see something, call the police non-emergency line – 727- 893-7780.

Elissa Elsner, Community Outreach for the City's Neighborhood relations dept. Her job is getting youth involved in neighborhood projects. She has been with city since 2012 and is a recreational therapist.

Communication Report: Kristin Brett

- We are working hard to grow the organization and need your help. If you aren't already getting our emails, please sign up, on the OPNA website (www.oldpasadenana.org) or leave on sign-up sheet. ***Please read your email*** because we can't always do door hangers. In addition, please pass along info to your neighbors.
- City has grants available for up to $20,000 for neighborhood improvement projects. It's a rolling application, so can apply at any time. Monuments need repair and restoration. Kristin would appreciate assistance with this project. Ideas for other improvement projects are welcome.

Upcoming Events: Holly Edwards

- June 20th porch party 6pm-8pm 438 Villagrande Ave S

- Need volunteers for September Porch Party – sign up on table - Details: you will open your home/yard and provide Ice. Day of the week is open for discussion. Movie night on driveways is also fun.
- Food Drive: We participate in a citywide initiative. Next food pick up is June 29-June 30. Watch email for details. Drop off at 7023 Mango Ave S.
- Yard sales – we don't have any planned as yet. Need to find a good date. Sign-up sheet for volunteers.
- We are looking for ways to raise money, as we do have some expenses, like printing, room rentals, website maintenance. We need a treasurer to help with financial matters.
- Next Meeting in Fall, Aim for at least one per quarter, Maybe September or October

Requests: Shannery Barnes

- We need a Treasurer: May be temporary, until elections are held. Responsible for setting up and monitoring bank account, deposits, payment for expenses, helping with grants from city etc. Signup sheet at table.
- Neighborhood Improvement committee: Monument, grants, trees, villagrande streetlights may need repair. Signup sheet at table.
- Yard Sale: Commitment for committee volunteer for fall/winter due to weather. Signup sheet at table.

Dues: Shannery Barnes

- We have some expenses. Not currently collecting dues, so officers have just been paying expense out of pocket. Currently accepting donations until formal budget is adopted and dues are implemented.

PCC Rezoning Application Update: Shannery Barnes

At May 14 meeting, committee unanimously voted against the rezoning however the Church and developer have appealed. Aug. 8 at 5 pm is next hearing at city hall. Shannery is registered opponent, as a city resident, not representing the neighborhood. Anyone can speak at meeting. She said that all letters that were written previously were forwarded to council. Developer hopes to get appeal, but it's not a done deal. Contract is contingent on rezoning.

Copies of orig. application, appeal, plans and process were on table to review. Shannery showed the orig. application and talked about the 11 points of criteria/standards for review, that came from the comprehensive plan. That's what we are arguing and need to address. Also, there is a video of the May 14th meeting online. Shannery recommended that everyone look at that, consider the points and consider talking at the meeting.

Discussion:

Holly said the City's Planning and Preservation Committee indicated that the nature of a neighborhood can change if it's a "major street" and there is a designation for that.

Susie Ajoc (City Neighborhood Services) suggested we look at comprehensive plan and reference that when we communicate with council.

Shannery said that Old Pasadena has a petition that anyone can sign.

Janet Knapp talked about future land use. City has established different types of neighborhoods, and the city has the burden of maintaining that.

Question about whether we need to form a 501 (c) 3. Susie Ajoc said she is looking into it. If we are a non-profit, we are recognized as an entity by the state of FL, can apply for grants, etc.

_____, a neighbor stated he is an attorney, and knows something about setting up a non-project organization and that we could incorporate very quickly and fairly cheaply. A 501 (c) 3. Can accept tax deductible donations. Susie said a few neighborhood organizations have that designation, so they can apply for grants. She recommended that we file through SunBiz and worry about the 501 (c) 3 later.

Question about a historical designation. Susie said there is quite a process for that. She mentioned Historic Kenwood and said there are areas within Kenwood that have that designation and others that don't. She said if you are a national historic neighborhood there are sometimes tax credits.

Janet Knapp got up and talked about why the church needs to sell the property. She talked about how the church is planning to move things around and to save money on their operating budget, they need to move and remodel. Their overall plan is just to reduce expenses by moving things around.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm