

2016.05.10 UOTH May Board Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Chris, Frank, Jo, Cate, Jessica, Ryan, Rachel, Judy, Theresa, Sara

Call to order: 6:38pm

1. Meeting Minutes: Cate moves to approve minutes. Jessica seconds. Board approves.
2. Committee Reports:
 - a. Parks & Beautification: Had their first meeting. Four people attended. Potential misunderstanding as to what the final decision was on the garden. Key thing they will work on is getting the old fashioned lights long 17th Ave and other streets working. A suggestion was made to talk to Wayne New about capital improvements.
 - b. Greater Paths: Had a few people stop by the Earth Day booth, got a couple of new email addresses. Jessica has been monitoring the launch of the trains, people seem excited. Jessica and Frank met with Bonita from Wartburg to discuss plans for students in the fall and next spring. Lots of ideas on what we can do with them. Up to Bonita to write the curriculum. They'll knock on doors, come up with ideas, communication strategies for neighborhood (surveying, etc.). Will have a committee meeting next month, third Tuesday (week after the board meeting).
 - c. Land Use & Zoning: Ryan is working on the capstone. Have gotten comments from the public about trash at the Alexan development. City responded to complaints at Benedict Fountain Park.
 - d. Events: Summer walking series begins this month and goes for four happy hours. Will include a tour around the block starting from Uptown Tavern. Ryan will finalize the PDF for the tour, Jessica will post on the website, Rachel will include in the newsletter. Sara has most events locked down through the end of the year and will update Facebook and the website. One City Block wants to do a summer event, Sara will talk to them about sponsoring the Summer Shindig. Sara will work on Facebook advertising for the happy hours.
 - e. Summer Shindig: Date is Saturday, August 20th. Sara and Theresa are meeting next week to discuss further. Need donations for the silent auction. Looking for local items. A donation letter will be created. Would like a larger budget for Facebook advertising. Cate suggested monitoring the impact over the happy hours to figure out how much would be needed. Judy suggested asking OCB to donate a night in a guest suite ("staycation"). Cate suggested donating similar to pledging for someone's hours of community service (like a run/walk). Rachel reminded of the success of the donation jar as an additional source of income. Chris will check with Arlin to see if his son has any ins for printing a new banner with our logo. Possibly also a table cloth. Cate suggested if the committees have tables that Land Use could start collecting data should the survey be ready.
3. President's Update:
 - a. Train had to run for two weeks with horns at every intersection as part of federal regulation. Intersections are also staffed during all hours of operation.

- b. Steuben's is going to name a boozy shake "The Uptown Double". Abby the new manager wants to get involved in the things we are working on.
 - c. Parking: Southern Land did a community meeting with the residents along Pearl. Concerned spots would be lost. Down to only 4 parking spaces being lost by re-analysis of fire needs for ingress/egress.
 - d. Denver Post Article: We sent the press release in response to article about The Wrangler. Found out the tenant was not offered a renewal. Chris ended up talking to the reporter about the Tavern, had no idea it had been saved.
 - e. Stormwater: Talking about getting rid of driving range to turn into a water basin. Discussion on whether Uptown should take a position on the I-70 project which is dependent on the basin. Consensus is that we are not enough impacted to take a position and should not do so unless asked to by the affected neighborhoods. Where there is the opportunity to share information via the newsletter, we can do that.
4. Humboldt St Development: Development at 16th & Humboldt, the neighborhood association has recently found out the development will be 108 micro apartments with no parking. They asked us to help with the city. Seeking a moratorium on developments like this without parking. There is already limited parking and many of the businesses like DBC and The District often get complaints. The developers are saying their tenants don't have cars, but this is not accurate. When the city wrote the parking waiver they only intended it for buildings of three stories, but also included lot sizes up to 6250. Ryan feels going after the Main Street zoning and necessity of parking would have the greatest impact. Doesn't think the city will respond to the moratorium request. Frank agrees and would like us to come forward with solutions. Suggested working with Alyssa Alt to create a shared parking district, getting businesses to leverage their parking. Judy suggested a letter be drafted with our input, suggestions, concerns, and send to the city. Jessica will draft and send to the board for input and approval.
5. Capstone Update: Approached with the intent of creating design guidelines or policies to address challenges along 17th Ave. Bringing traffic from 16th St Mall, gentrification, abundance of surface parking lots. Created a model with two way traffic along 17th with buffer parking and bike lanes, enough space for a 3-ft wide planter. Was only going to approach streetscape, but noticed that Denver codes do not address Main Street usages. Also identified that we need shopfront design guidelines for the historic buildings. Critical to the character of a Main Street.
6. Announcements:
- a. Beer hall is open at the DBC
 - b. Saturday is the deadline to apply to paint utility boxes on Colfax. Creating an open air art gallery, launching Saturday, July 30th in UMB parking lot at Colfax & Gilpin

Adjourn: 8:12pm