

San José Neighborhoods Commission (NC) monthly meeting
May 11, 2016; rm 118 City Hall.

informal notes by L. Ames, 5/13/16 (updated 5/25/16)

Agenda: >[link](#)<

Orders of the Day:

Voted to take agenda item D(2) before D(1) so that guest speakers could leave, and Commissioners wouldn't have to rush our discussion on the budget.

Public Comment:

- Mary Tucker (D3) talked about need for traffic calming in the Hensley Historic District.
- Janice Rombeck (Santa Clara Co. staff: janice.rombeck@bos.sccgov.org) discussed planned bus trip to Sacramento and also County incentives for landlords to rent to homeless vets.

Liaison Report by Andrea Hyde (Andrea.Hyde@sanjoseca.gov)

- Budget season: public meetings in the various Council districts. Upcoming sessions near D6:
 - Mon May 16 in D1: Cypress Com. Cntr, 403 S. Cypress, 6:30-8:30 PM
 - Mon May 23 in D3: Roosevelt Com. Cntr, 901 E Santa Clara St., 6 - 8 PM
 - Thur May 26 in D6: Bascom Com. Cntr, 1000 S Bascom, 6:15 - 8:15 PM.[call 408/535-4858 for more info and other times/locations.]
- Guadalupe Landfill Com. Meeting Mon May 16, 7 PM, at Almaden Com. Cntr, 6455 Camden Ave.
- 8th Annual Senior Health Fair & Walk with CM Rose Herrera & State Sen. Jim Beall, Fri May 20, 8:30-11 AM, Eastridge Mall, Entrance C.
- Town Hall meeting on Homelessness, sponsored by CMs Rocha & Jones, Sun May 15, 9:30 AM - noon, Branham High, 1570 Branham Lane.

Agenda Item D(2): Removal of Shrines & Memorials by Rick Scott (SJ Dept. of Transp.) & Israel Canjura (PRNS / MGPTF)

Presentation on Shrines by Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force (MGPTF).

- City has studied the issue for past couple years; now is implementing the policy
- Regarding makeshift memorials on public lands to the recently deceased
- Issue: some memorials are related to gangland deaths and can become rallying point for revenge killings and turf battles.
- New policy: memorials are to be removed upon notice after 10 days. City coordinates with family regarding artifacts; city will follow policy of preserving materials for 90 days if unclaimed.
- Public safety is important: e.g., can't block sidewalks
- If shrine solicits violence or if reappears after removal, it can be removed immediately.
- Complaint-driven. Mayor's Gang Taskforce coordinates with SJPd. SJ Dept. of Transp does the actual removal.

Agenda Item D(1): Budget

Dates:

- May 17: Initial public hearing
- May 25: budget item proposals from various Council Districts are due

- June 3: Release of final proposal
- June 13: Public hearing
- June 14: Council final review
- June 21: formally adopted.

For Nghbrhds Commission letter to have impact, should be timely. Decision: aim for release to Staff for Legal review by May 21 so that it can be received by Council prior to May 25. More important to be timely than to be overly detailed.

Motion passes to authorize Chair to write draft with aid of ad hoc cmte (Norma Callender, David Dearborn, Mimi Herandez, Nichole Edraos, and Desiree Barragan) by May 21, share thru Staff with Commission; release final by May 21.

- Some discussion as to contents: general guidelines, based on input from D5, D6, and general conversations: no point-by-point review.
- Commission discussion regarding Meas. B's 1/4% sales tax proposal: some misgivings regarding lack of specificity, but general understanding of reason for such (50% vote threshold vs. 2/3rds+1).
- Add note that Traffic Calming seems to be missing from Budget proposal
- Support for volunteers; parks; upgraded computer s/w; filling potholes.

>> [link](#) to Budget Letter submitted to Mayor and Council, 5/25/16

Agenda Item D(3): Caucus Process by Ernest Guzman (NC Staff)

5 Caucuses for the even-numbered districts:

- Sat May 21 for D10: 3 candidates
- Wed May 25 for D2: 3 candidates
- Sat May 28 for D8: 2 candidates. (It was noted that a sitting Commissioner had missed application deadline, wants to run and is eligible for reappointment: Staff will work for variance to allow a late acceptance of the application, as had been done already in another case.)
- Tue May 31 for D4: 1 applicant
- Sat Jun 4 for D6: 18 (eighteen!) applicants – D6 is a politically involved district. Staff is working on the logistics: even just the opening statements would consume nearly half the normally allocated time, allowing little time for questions and voting. Tentatively scheduled for WG Com Cntr in the morning. [More details as they develop.]

>> [link](#) to Illegal Dumping Letter submitted to Mayor and Council, 5/25/16

Agenda Item D(4): Illegal Dumping

Request by Commissioner Pete Kolstad that NC write letter (separate from Budget Letter) in support of City's efforts to control illegal dumping. Sample wording was provided. Commission votes in favor of 2nd letter. We are told that Environ. Services Dept. appreciates the support from the NC.

Agenda Item D(5): Commission Election

Both the Chair and Vice Chair will term-out in June, so the suggestion was to solicit nominees for election at end of June Commission meeting for new Chair & VC to take effect in August.

Commission discussion: what about the incoming Commissioners: don't they get a say? (But would they have a chance to know who's who?) Contrary: is it fair to elect someone at beginning of new session and have them immediately take over the running of the meeting without the time to prepare?

Decision: in June, outgoing Commission will elect Chair (& VC) pro tem to lead just the Aug. meeting, with the incoming Commission then voting on Chair & VC for Sept. and beyond. Pro tem Chair & VC are eligible to run for position for remainder of term if they so choose.

June Agenda Items:

- Staff will report out to Council on NC's accomplishments of the year.
- Presentation to Commission on Mayor's Smart City Initiative, originally planned for this month, will happen in June.
- Intern Emilio Saavedra will leave in June.
- Commission wants to review the "User's Manual" that David Dearborn, Nichole Edraos & Matt Wahlin have been working on these past months. LLA will join in on the effort in preparation in advance of meeting, with intent of providing documentation of "Lessons Learned" for the incoming Commissioners.
- Discussion about taking group portrait, and of having a goodbye event somewhere.

Next meeting:

June 8th.

June will be the last Commission meeting for the six remaining original pilot-program even-numbered district representatives, including yours truly.

Informal notes by Larry Ames, 5/13/16