

LPNA Board Meeting
Monday, June 16, 2016, 6:00 pm
1876 Oak Street

Board Members present: Jude Levy, Dan Bridinger, Kelly Franklin, Juliette Reynolds, Betsy Sublette, Alice Sundstrom

Board Members not present: Don Baillie, Marwan Khammash, Jim Lingley

Also present: Jodi John, Jack Notestein

- **Call to order.** President Alice Sundstrom called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- **Minutes.** The minutes from the May 9, 2016 LPNA Board Meeting were approved by acclamation.
- **Treasurer's Report** submitted in writing and *approved by acclamation* showed a current balance of \$7972.44.
- **Housekeeping.** Alice led a discussion about meeting schedules and email protocols. She also announced that Ginger Mermin has agreed to head the membership committee. Don Baillie will serve on the committee as well.
- **Upcoming Events.**
 - The Board agreed to have its next meeting on Thursday, September 15.
 - Tunes in the Park will be held October 29, 2016 and April 17, 2017.
 - The Holiday Party will be held on Sunday December 4.
 - Fall and Spring General Meeting dates TBD.
- **Tunes Grant.** Since the Board will not be meeting again until September, and the Tunes Grant request to the City will be due at the end of August, Kelly moved that the Board authorize Jolie to submit the normal grant request to the City for the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 Tunes. The motion was seconded by Juliette, and was *approved unanimously*.
- Dan gave an update on **CCNA** and neighborhood initiatives:
 - At the recent meeting of the CCNA, representatives were asked to identify their top concerns. The group Dan was in honed in on **traffic**, **homelessness**, and **parks**. With regard to parks, the focus was on activating the parks and ensuring ongoing maintenance (not just squeaky wheel attention).

- Dan will be leading a contingent of 15 volunteers from Laurel Park to work at **All Faiths Foodbank** on Saturday June 18.
- **Commercial Lights.** Kelly reported that some residents have expressed concerns about light pollution from commercial businesses on 301. The City's code explicitly carves out automobile showrooms as entities that can have nighttime lights up to 3x the brightness permitted other businesses. However, there are still requirements to hood and angle lights to avoid excessive spill-over into residential areas or streets. Kelly spoke to the Ford dealership, which said it had passed inspection on its parking lot lights 18 months ago; they had their maintenance crew retest, and they believe they are in compliance.
- **Traffic Calming.** Jude reported that the traffic studies the City conducted on Laurel did not yield enough speeding to warrant traffic calming measures at this time. Residents' experiences don't jive with these findings, and they will continue to monitor.
- **1836 Laurel.** The vacant property at the corner of Osprey and Laurel, now owned by David Weekly homes, had become overgrown, with grass spilling over the sidewalk. Juliette contacted David Weekly to ask them to have maintenance performed. The grass has now been cut, although a few spots on the sidewalk still need to be trimmed back to allow usage of the walkway.
- **Women's Exchange.** Kate updated the Board as follows:
 - When the City Commission voted on April 11 to support the appeal of the LPNA and deny the Women's Exchange plan to construct a loading dock on Rawls, City Attorney Robert Fournier advised that the Commission should formalize its decision in a resolution and official written notice for reasons it was denying the site plan as well. Those steps are planned for the City Commission regular meeting scheduled for Monday, June 20 from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m..
 - In a related matter, Mr. Fournier is proposing that the City Commissioners consider adopting some zoning text amendments that would permit the Women's Exchange to build a portico on its south wing, and, if it so chooses, to relocate its existing loading dock to the southern end of that wing of the building (abutting Oak). Egress and entrance to this loading zone would be via Oak. We are pleased the City is trying to work with the Woman's Exchange in order to help them remain on-site.

- **Beautification.**
 - Jack Notestein and Don Baillie attended the county workshop on neighborhood landscaping grants. Up to \$10,000 is available, but the neighborhood needs to provide funds matching half the requested amount, or the equivalent in donated hours. The grants need to specify benefit and existing issues to be addressed. There has been discussion of various ideas regarding the Oak Street median, Laurel Park improvements, and signage. Jack plans to outline several options for consideration at the General Meeting prior to preparing a grant request for the Spring 2017 cycle.
 - Jack will also follow-up with the City to try and get clarity on when they plan to replace the diseased palms that had to be removed from Oak. The City proposes to use Sabal palms instead. The root balls from the diseased palms will need to be removed.
- **Security.** Jodi John updated the board regarding discussions she and other neighbors have had with county officials about the safety concerns arising from vagrants using the county parking lot adjacent to Dolphin.
 - The county is preparing to address the issues of loitering, trespass, and abandoned property in that lot, parks, and other public places.
 - Board members discussed options for improving security in Laurel Park (increasing lighting, trimming bushes, calling 911 about problems).
- **Hawkins rebricking.** Alice has received a 3-phase plan for rebricking Hawkins Lane. The City would handle excavation and site preparation and provide the bricks. Neighborhood residents would donate labor to lay the bricks. The plan was tentatively to do this over the Fall / Winter, however, there is a renovation project planned for a property on Hawkins which will likely entail significant truck traffic during construction, so the rebricking project might be delayed.
- **Thunder by the Bay.** Between the May and June meetings, an issue arose regarding the proposal pending before the City to relocate the 2017 Thunder by the Bay from Main Street to Payne Park. A number of residents near the Park expressed concerns about noise, traffic patterns, and compatibility of this event with the primary uses of the park.

- Via email, the **motion was made for the Board to express these concerns** and oppose moving this 3-day event to Payne Park. That *motion passed* with 6 votes (Kelly, Marwan, Dan, Juliette, Betsy, and Alice); 2 board members (Don and Jim) did not feel the LPNA should oppose the move to Payne Park and Jude abstained.
- On behalf of the LPNA, Alice spoke to the Associate City Manager Marlon Brown regarding our concerns, and sent a letter opposing this location for the event to Mr. Brown and the City Commissioners.
- **Osprey closures.**
 - Microtunneling. Microtunneling to support the new lift station is scheduled to begin in mid-2016. Information about this initiative is available at <http://liftstation87.com>.
 - There will also be improvements to Osprey as part of this project (new water lines, bike paths in some areas). Information on this is available at <http://ospreyimprovements.com>.
 - Phase 1 of Osprey work will begin in January and cover Siesta Drive to Bahia Vista.
 - Phase 2 will cover Novus street to Main street, and is scheduled to begin in March or April 2017.
 - There were concerns expressed about the implications of new water lines and the possibility of bike lanes for the medians on Osprey in Laurel Park.
 - The Board suggested that Jolie McInnis would be a good candidate to reach out to the designers of Phase 2 and ensure that the plans don't disrupt the medians.
- **Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Kelly Franklin