

## **LPNA Board Meeting**

Monday, September 14, 2015, 6:30 pm  
310 S. Osprey Ave.

**Board Members present:** Jude Levy, Dan Bridinger, Kelly Franklin, Kasy Kane, Kate Lowman

**Board Members not present:** Chris Jaensch, Betsy Sublette, Ginger Mermin, Marwan Khammash

**Also present:** Steven and Joan Higbee, Jack Notestein, Cherie Wisener

- The June minutes were approved by acclamation.
- Treasurer's Report submitted in writing and approved by acclamation showed a current balance of \$7972.76.
- Dan gave an update on CCNA initiatives,
  - The CCNA has submitted a resolution to the City to request urban canopy protection. The City will be hiring more arborists, and should begin enforcing ordinances which require approval before any trees are removed.
  - The executive board of CCNA is also in the process of outreach to the 2020 Bayfront project. A motion was made, and carried, for LPNA to reach out to CCNA on this.
- Kate gave updates on various zoning / development initiatives:
  - Women's Exchange (WE) proposed expansion.
    - In June, the WE submitted a building permit request to the City for the northern (loading dock on Rawls) portion of the project . That application is pending.
    - In July, City manager Tom Barwin facilitated a meeting between LPNA representatives and WE representatives. He subsequently suggested the WE prepare a list of proffers to mitigate the concerns being expressed by residents about the loading dock. A minimal list of proffers was submitted August 27. The LPNA approved, via email vote, a September 4 letter from Jude Levy restating the neighborhood's concerns and requesting that the building permit be denied

- The owner of the vacant property at the corner of Laurel and Osprey won his appeal, and that parcel can be sub-divided into 4 single family homes. The property remains on the market.
  - The 1938 Laurel project is proceeding with its re-zoning request (to move from mixed commercial use to residential town homes). The developer is working closely with the LPNA to ensure suitability and the LPNA submitted a letter on August 10 in support of the rezoning and the developer's proposal to donate a substantial sum to Habitat for Humanity rather than carving out designated affordable housing in the project (which could then be flipped).
  - We've had no updates on the Urban Design Studio's progress on the form-based code (the project is scheduled for completion in June, 2016). There will be joint meetings between the Planning Board and City Commission on this topic on November 10<sup>th</sup> and December 1 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- Jude mentioned that Chris Jaensch is working on a printed Newsletter which should go out in October.
  - Jude said that the general meeting will be held in late October or early November at the Friendship Center.
  - Board elections will be held at the February General Meeting. Usually, the Nominating Committee consists of 1 LPNA Board Member and 2 non-Board member residents. Kate will be the LPNA representative on a nominating committee to determine a slate of candidates for the Board.
  - Dan shared a proposal from an outside organization to help manage the dog waste problem by hanging a dispenser to be filled with plastic grocery bags. Because replenishing these bags would require an ongoing commitment for someone or a group of people, the LPNA declined this opportunity (although we remain concerned about the health hazards when owners don't take responsibility for cleaning up after their pets).
  - Kelly gave an update on the meetings she and Steve Long had with several county (John Ryan) and city representatives (Stevie Freeman-Monte, Liz

Alpert) regarding the possibility of cleaning up the Hudson Bayou estuary and Hudson Bayou itself. Because of the presence of heavy metal contaminants in the bayou, a grassroots, neighborhood-driven clean-up effort is not possible.

- Dan brought up the homeless problem in Sarasota's streets and parks, and suggested the LPNA consider donating to an organization focused on helping to address this issue. It is obviously a difficult issue. The possibility of inviting Sarasota's new homelessness coordinator to an LPNA Board or General meeting was discussed.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Kelly Franklin