

Kern Place Association, Board Meeting Minutes

August 31, 2016

The KPA Board meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM

The meeting was held at at the Tennis Club on Virginia St.
Board members present were John Byrd, Barbara Christopher, Andrew Dand, David Nemir, John Russell, Charles Intebi and John Newfang.
Regular member present was Patricia Dand. Special guest was Richard Teschner

Minutes

To save time, Barbara Christopher emailed the minutes of the previous meeting to Board members. John Newfang moved to accept those minutes and David Nemir seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Andrew Dand gave the following report.

Checking Balance as of 7/29: \$5566.06

Savings Balance as of 7/29: \$2521.31

CD Balance as of 7/29: \$4530.50

Recent Deductions

To Jamey Rupley for Movie Night in the Park expenses and web domain:
-\$257.01

Rim-University Neighborhood Conservancy Overlay (NCO)

Current Rim Area Neighborhood Association president, Richard Teschner, gave an overview of the Rim overlay. Included was the history, description and implementations of this overlay which has added requirements to the basic R3 residential zoning of the Rim area. This overlay applies to property changes costing \$2000 or more. The full copy of this NCO Plan is at

<https://www.elpasotexas.gov/~media/files/coep/city%20development/planning/long%20range/study%20area%20plans/2001%20rim-university%20neighborhood%20plan.ashx?la=en>

Resignation of Ted Escobedo

Ted Escobedo's resignation from the board was accepted. He said it was more of a time commitment than he anticipated. He would, however, be glad to serve on specific projects. This leaves an opening on the Board. This vacancy can be filled by the president of the Board. However, the interim director cannot vote until elected by a vote of the KPA members.

Newsletter

Jamey Rupley has volunteered to replace Ted as Newsletter chairman. We will produce a newsletter in the next few months so that dues may be collected. It was suggested that passing out newsletters could be done by El Paso High School students as part of their community service requirement.

Facebook

Barbara Christopher moved that we be allowed to purchase “Boosts” for important announcements on our Facebook site. This means that we would appear higher in the news feed of our Facebook Friends. The cost would be approximately \$5 per boost. The motion was seconded by Andy Dand and passed unanimously.

Parks

John Newfang said that Alethea Park is looking nice after its restoration. The new playground equipment for 5 to 12 year olds will be built in Madeline Park within the next 12 months. There will be no canopy.

Barbara Christopher presented three services we might provide for our part of the Park Partner contract. These services were:

1. Patrol park and notify Parks and Recreation Department of damage to park facilities, vandalism, or graffiti.
2. Donate trees, benches, tables, trash receptacles, and other park amenities when approved by the Department.
3. Conduct one free community event annually.

John Newfang moved that these services be submitted and David Nemir seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. John Newfang will be the Park Partners contact person for KPA. The contract will be submitted to Joel McKnight with these provisions.

Cincinnati Business District Petition

An unofficial meeting of the directors was held Aug. 17 to discuss the contents of the petition and also the wording of a letter to Peter Svartzbein about this petition. The final form of these documents, written by John Byrd, were presented to the board at the August meeting. Barbara Christopher moved that they be accepted and mailed to Peter before passing out the petition to residents. David Nemir seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. These two documents are attached to the end of these minutes.

It was mentioned that Carlos Gallinar is leaving City Development and Planning and moving to El Paso ISD. Mathew McElroy will be the future city contact for the development of the Cincinnati business district.

Coming Events

9/11 - Quintessential Brass concert in the Madeline Park gazebo
TBA – Fungi Mungle concert in the Madeline Park gazebo

KPA Logo

The Board will vote on a logo at a future date

518 Gregory

The owner of the quadraplex on 518 Gregory, Kara Eifolla, will go before the City Planning Commission on October 6 to request that her property be changed from R-3 (Residential) to R-MU (Residential Mixed Use.) She and her next door neighbor, Fred Ozyg are planning an information meeting for residents after September 22.

The meeting adjourned at 9:44 PM

Email sent to Peter Svartzbein on September 6, 2016 by KPA Board:

Peter: Thank you for giving me a phone call the Friday before last. I appreciate you giving me an opportunity to explain the board's reasoning behind its petition in response to the improvements in the Cincinnati business district.

It's unfortunate that you heard about this petition before the KPA board had a chance to share it with you. We haven't yet started circulating this petition, and had wanted your feedback and input before we proceeded. It is attached here. Please do give it some thought and send us your comments.

The board's intention with this petition is to gather the neighborhood's input on the improvements the city has proposed for the Cincinnati district. We feel that the majority of the neighbors are supportive of how these improvements will make the business district friendlier for families, pedestrians and bicyclists. We also hope the changes will create a diverse and robust business culture in the district. But there is also concern that businesses in the district may revert to practices that strained relations between the district and the neighborhood just a few short years ago.

We believe that some common sense, good-neighbor policies will make the improved business district a success for everyone. Neighbors will feel that their quality of life and property values are preserved, and even enhanced. While business owners will profit from commerce with its neighbors.

Thank you for your consideration.

Petition sent to Peter Svartbein on September 6, 2016 prior to passing this petition out to Kern Place residents:

The board of the Kern Place Association welcomes the city's investment of \$1.5 million in the Cincinnati businesses district. The upgrades will benefit neighborhood residents by making the area safer for pedestrians and bicyclists. The city's investment also provides substantial benefits to the property and business owners in the business district because it will make the area significantly more attractive for customers.

In light of the substantial benefits this investment will bequeath upon the property and business owners, the undersigned request that the city work with business and property owners to put in place the following common-sense rules to ensure that the business district remains good neighbors to the Kern Place neighborhood.

- Validate parking at the Glory Road Parking Facility and otherwise encourage patrons and business district employees NOT to park in the Kern Place neighborhood
- Minimize noise pollution in the neighborhood, possibly by banning outdoor amplification
- Use environmentally friendly light to reduce light pollution in the neighborhood
- Proactively work with to city to ensure compliance with all laws and codes that maintain a clean, friendly business district.