





NORTH PARK PLANNING COMMITTEE

[northparkplanning.org](http://northparkplanning.org)

Like us:  [NorthParkPlanning](https://www.facebook.com/NorthParkPlanning) Follow us:  [@NPPlanning](https://twitter.com/NPPlanning)

## **PUBLIC FACILITIES, TRANSPORTATION, PARKS, AND PUBLIC ART SUBCOMMITTEE**

### **CORRECTED MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 14, 2012, 6:00 p.m., North Park Recreation Center/Adult Center  
2719 Howard Avenue, San Diego, CA 92104

#### **Attendance:**

**Seated Board Members:** Dionné Carlson (Chair), René Vidales (Vice-Chair), Vicki Granowitz, Peter Hill

**Community Voting Members:** Rob Steppke, Ernie Bonn, Kitty Callen

**Board members not seated:** None

**Also present:** Angela Landsberg

#### **Parliamentary Items:**

**Call to order.** The meeting was called to order at 6:10 pm

**Approve March 14, 2012 Agenda. Motion: Approve Agenda. Granowitz/Steppke. 7-0-0**

#### **Chair's Comments.**

- None

#### **Approval of Previous Minutes February 8, 2012.**

The February meeting minutes were not ready and therefore will be presented in the April 2012 meeting.

#### **Announcements:**

1. Annual SoHo Home Tour, March 17 and 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
2. University Heights Visioning workshop has been cancelled
3. Conservation Areas update, April 12, at Grace Lutheran Church. Bernie Turgeon, planner at the City will be gathering information in order to update conservation areas.
4. Ernie Bonn attended a Housing Element Workshop on the General Plan in Mission Valley last Friday, where the majority of the comments were on Affordable Housing.
5. Saturday, March 17, from 5 to 7 Arts Open benefit event for community gardens
6. The County Board of Supervisors will vote on the fate of Community Planning Groups within the unincorporated County on March 28.
7. Ernie Bonn got re-elected for another 4-year term with Uptown Planners

#### **Non Agenda Public Comment:**

1. None

#### **Information Items:**

- A. None

## New Business

### A. Request from North Park Main Street (NPMS) for letter of support for Bike Corral. *Bike corral to be located on 30<sup>th</sup> Street and North Park Way. Presentation, discussion, and possible action. Angela Landsberg*

NPMS has received a grant from the County to install bike corrals, trash bins, etc. NPMS would like to use the grant money to implement the Bike Corral effort as soon as possible, because there is a deadline to spend the money.

Angela Landsberg from NPMS presented an initial drawing to be used as a design starting point in determining what the first bike corral in North Park might look like. The presented design features a silhouette of the North Park sign, was done by local artist Lynn Susholtz and, because it is a non-standard bike corral, is awaiting feedback from the City in order to determine whether it would be covered under the existing maintenance assessment agreement. NPMS will be meeting with the Bicycle Coalition to get their input. The presented design has already been reviewed by the NPMS Design Committee.

The proposed location for the first Bike Corral is the southwest corner of North Park Way and 30<sup>th</sup> Street. The proposed Bike corral will be within the public right-of-way, and will replace two existing parking spaces in front of the Linkery. Although two parking spaces will be removed, since many more bikes can be parked in the corral, the argument is made that this project would be replacing the cars with bicycles and encouraging fewer car trips and thereby, sustainability. This effort would also be consistent with strategies from the “Sustainable North Park Main Street” program.

An agreement with the North Park MAD would need to be in place for maintenance. NPMS received letter of support from Jay Porter, owner of the Linkery, which is the property fronting the proposed bike corral location. Approximately 8 to 10 poles will be part of the corral, depending on future feedback from the City. Bike corrals in other cities like Portland get a lot of attention and use, and are not City standard. Main Street hopes to publicize this effort by word of mouth.

The number of corrals that may be implemented in other locations in the future may need to be further analyzed, so NP does not end up losing a too many parking spaces. It is unknown if there is a limitation as to how many bike corrals can be installed within a certain geographic area.

It was suggested that Ms. Landsberg seek support from folks in other areas in the City for non-standard bike corral designs, as this matter may have to go to City Council. After further discussion, the following motion was made:

**MOTION: The NPPC supports in concept the design of the bike corral at the southwest corner of North Park Way and 30<sup>th</sup> Street as proposed by Sustainable North Park Main Street. We ask that North Park Main Street return as design is finalized. Granowitz/Bonn 7-0-0**

### B. McKinley Elementary Joint Use Field. *Update, discussion, and possible action*

Chair Carlson presented a letter from Councilmember Todd Gloria to the Mayor dated February 2, 2012 asking the Mayor to fully fund the McKinley Elementary Joint Use Field; Councilmember Gloria also included the December 10, 2011 letter where the same request was made. A liaison report on the status of the Mini Park will be given at the full board. This item does not need to be discussed any further.

## Old Business

**A. Texas Street Improvement Design.** *Update/Continuation of discussion of improvements to Texas Street from Madison Avenue to Camino Del Rio South, part of the mitigation improvements for the Quarry Falls (Civitas) Development in Mission Valley. Action Item.*

Chair Carlson gave an update from Mark Radelow of Sudberry, the developer for Civitas.

Mr. Radelow would like feedback from the board on the proposed entry sign, which will consist of a large rock with letters engraved. Chair Carlson presented a handout with various type options and showing the various community signs and typefaces for discussion.

While it would be desirable to wait until consistent entryway monument guidelines for North Park are developed, the time line for making this decision on this sign will not allow for that, so the committee will do the best they can for this single project.

No lighting is proposed for the entry sign. It is important that the sign be as clear and readable as it possibly can. It is more important that the sign be visible & attractive to pedestrians than to vehicles, as these improvements are specifically designed for pedestrians, however it is desirable that the sign be readable by people in vehicles too, if possible.

The sub-committee reached agreement on the following:

- that all the type used in the sign should be in one single type face (rather than using different type faces for the two community names “North Park” and “University Heights” )
- that the font used for the sign be reflective of the Arts and Crafts character of the both North Park and University Heights, but not be particular to either community (fonts from both NP and UH signs were rejected)
- It is understood that the font size and type face should be appropriate to the size and shape of the rock that will be used. The words “University Heights” are longer and “North Park” is shorter, so the placing of the words has to fit the rock shape, and word order may be adjusted accordingly.
- While the font “Willow” was preferred of the various free arts and crafts fonts presented, the committee is open to and willing to be guided by superior suggestions from the professional sign designer.
- The below word/line order and font “Willow” were selected from several options as preferred. Again, committee willing to be guided by professional sign designer, and rock size and shape constraints.

Welcome  
to  
the Historic Communities  
of  
**NORTH PARK**  
&  
**University Heights**

Since the UHCA members were not present at the meeting, Rob Steppke volunteered to present to them the options discussed and make sure they are satisfied.

Chair Carlson will give this feedback to the sign maker. It is hoped that the sign maker will then present a couple of signage options for the committee to vote on at a future meeting.

(Vicki Granowitz left at 7:35 p.m.)

- B. Plaza de Panama – Balboa Park (Project No. 233958).** *Proposed project includes an amendment to the Balboa Park Master Plan; an amendment to the Central Mesa Precise Plan; and a Site Development Permit. Ongoing discussion of parking, pedestrian & vehicular circulation*

Robert Barry received the latest iteration on the plans for the Site Development Permit dated 3/7/12; the mailing date is March 9, 2012. Central Mesa Precise Plan and Balboa Park Master Plan amendments dated March 8, 2012 were also included in the package.

The plans do not appear to have substantial changes, but rather more details have been added. Comments are due to Vicki Granowitz or René Vidales by Wednesday, March 21 to be included in the NPPC's comment letter for the draft Environmental Impact Report.

- C. North Park Entry/Gateway Monuments.** *Continuing discussion of potential improvements to entryways to North Park, including landscaping, signage and entry monuments/gateways. Action item.*

Efforts in this area are currently ongoing with Omar Passons and the North Park Community Association, Adams Avenue BIA, and others. Subcommittee members have not had time to devote to this effort due to other project, however it was agreed that the various efforts need to be coordinated.

Dye reiterated the need to study existing City signage guidelines as a starting point. Carlson is interested in how to finance a community branding effort, and wondered whether we should start a discussion around whether cell towers like the one proposed recently for El Cajon Blvd couldn't be turned into entry monuments, and whether some guidelines that meet community goals couldn't be drawn up for these sorts of wireless structures. Granowitz said the City governs all agreements and collects all revenues from the wireless tower placement into the General Fund and would be unlikely to support this idea or to allow North Park access to those revenues. No further discussion due to time constraints.

**Adjournment. Motion: To adjourn meeting Bonn/Steppke. 6-0-0. Meeting adjourned 7:54 p.m.**

**Images for Texas Street Signage discussion:**  
NPPC PF-Subcommittee 3/14/2012

Sign Sample from Mark Radelow.



University Heights Signage



The North Park Sign



University Heights Sign



Welcome to  
the Historic Communities of  
**University Heights**  
&  
**NORTH PARK**

\*\*\*\*\*A

Welcome  
to the Historic Communities of  
**NORTH PARK**  
&  
**University Heights**

\*\*\*\*\*B

Welcome  
to the Historic Communities of  
**NORTH PARK**  
&  
**University Heights**

\*\*\*\*\* C

Welcome to the Historic  
Communities  
of  
**NORTH PARK**  
&  
**University Heights**

\*\*\*\*\*D



Welcome  
to  
the Historic Communities  
of  
**NORTH PARK**  
&  
**University Heights**

*(Willow)*

\*\*\*\*\*

Welcome  
to the Historic Communities  
Of  
**University Heights**  
&  
**NORTH PARK**

*(Willow)*

\*\*\*\*\*

Welcome  
to  
the Historic Communities  
of  
**NORTH PARK**  
&&  
**University Heights**

*(Chelsea Studio)*

\*\*\*\*\*

Welcome to the Historic  
Communities  
of  
**NORTH PARK**  
&  
**University Heights**

*(Eaglefeatherformalregular)*

\*\*\*\*\*

**University Heights**  
(century)

**University Heights**  
(AR Delaney)

**University Heights**  
(Times New Roman)

**NORTH PARK**  
(Arial Black)

Notes:

- a) The typefaces shown are just listed FYI. These are not the exact typefaces on the signs, just the closest I had in my collection. I believe the sign maker can match the fonts on the signs.
- b) Note sample wording in various typefaces. Think about which words should be grouped together and which words should be on a stand-alone line.
- c) Consider vertical and horizontal balance of sign & readability.
- d) There was previous discussion of using an “arts and crafts” typeface. Included are some samples of what that might look like.