

MENLO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Minutes

August 08, 2019

ITEM	ACTIONS
Board Members present	Zach Yentzer-President, Wendy Sterner-Vice President, Liza M. Grant-Secretary, Isabel Doe-Treasurer, Steve Brown-Parliamentarian, and Matt Perri-Historian
Introductions	Board members were introduced to the attendees. Attendees and special guests introduced themselves to the group.
July Minutes	July minutes were accepted without objection.
Treasurer's Report by Isabel Doe	Balance of \$754.97 in our account
Neighborhood Plan Update by Wendy Sterner	<p>Scope of Work for the Neighborhood plan was presented. We are the first neighborhood to do a plan from scratch. The Scope of Work is how the neighborhood will work with the consultants who assist with composing the plan. "Neighborhood Engagement" and the "Timeline" were highlighted:</p> <p>The extent of Engagement will be directionally proportionate to the amount of money we save toward the cost by the consultants. As a neighborhood we should define our vision and goals so to influence policies; collect data and provide feedback; arrange space for meetings with neighbors; provide photos; maintain and develop a plan website; conduct field research with guidance from the consultants.</p> <p>The estimated Timeline is as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The plan was initiated with and supported by Mayor and Council on 08-06-19. 2. The consultant will be chosen by the planning committee and presented with the Scope of Work in Sept 2019. 3. Scope of Work and contract finalization to occur in Oct-Nov 2019 4. Neighborhood Engagement will begin in Nov and Dec 2019 5. "Public Kickoff" will begin in Nov 2019 (the consultant is introduced to the neighborhood) 6. Public participation and Input will take place between Jan 2020 and May 2020 7. The finalization of Goals and Vision Development will take place Jan 2020-Feb 2020 8. Completion of the data collection will occur Dec 2019 – March 2020 9. Development of Policies for Topics Mar 2020 through May 2021 10. Completion of a Draft of the plan will be ready by May 2020-Jun 2020 11. Completion of a Final Draft for COT Formal Review will be ready Aug 2020-Sep 2020 12. Formal review for Mayor and Council will be planned for Oct 2020 through Feb 2021 13. The end-product will be complete sometime between Dec 2020 and Feb 2021 <p>There are 3 instances when the plan will be useful--putting our values on paper:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rezoning 2. Special exemptions 3. Flexible lot development <p>The number of residents needed for responses has not been determined nor has the inclusion of bilingual element. Historical elements and properties will be included as well as an inventory of our neighborhood assets (asset mapping). This will be important with the election of a new Ward 1 council person and Mayor.</p> <p>Zach reported that we were accepted into the Live Well Arizona program (only 5 in the state!) which provides a mentor who can also assist with plan development.</p>
Parks and Connections Bond (Prop 407) meeting review and Menlo Park options by Zach Yentzer and Ann Chanecka, COT Special Projects Manager	<p>Zach reviewed that 1.6 million from Prop 407 was earmarked for the park and \$75k from the cell tower payment (of which we have \$35-45K to leverage after the \$15-25K for the Neighborhood Plan). From the Master Plan \$1.7 Million has been spent on the park. The money from 407 is a General Obligation Bond and COT has to follow through with the projects (The bonds are not to be sold until 06-2020). These projects are divided into 3 phases with specific</p>

	<p>completion dates. The only way these projects can be completed sooner is to fall into one of 2 categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safety concerns 2. If neighborhood has money to leverage to move projects up. (Leveraging means that we have money to give toward each project and it is presented to the Citizen’s Oversight Commission, to make each project better or completed faster) <p>The 2 projects that are considered to move up are the Splash Pad and the Walking Path, due to be completed between 2026-2028, Phase 3. The more money that we can give up the more features can be added. The walking path could be placed strategically to have lighting per COT. Pool stairs is a Phase 1 project and will be completed between 2020-2022.</p> <p>However, concern for the poor lighting of the fields and the swing set area was brought up. Prop 407 does not include lighting. The old irrigation system and the possibility of leakage and sink hole development was raised. However, it was pointed out that the irrigation system could be a separate issue and not need leverage funding because of the seriousness of the sink hole causing a portion of the park to not be used.</p> <p>It was reported that the Menlo Bike Blvd. is a Phase 2 project. There will be connections to Joaquin Murrieta Park (slated to receive \$11 million) and The Loop. It is a project aimed to slow traffic and reduce cut-through traffic. There will be a crossing at Alameda and one on Speedway. At Alameda and Grande there will be a pilot, solar powered crossing light. There is a small amount of money for a few traffic calming items.</p> <p>At the last meeting three uses of the cell tower money were presented as 1. Neighborhood Plan, 2. Historic preservation, and 3. Pursuing non-profit status, if we felt it wasn’t needed for the park. Reorganizing the list of projects is part of “leveraging”. Additionally, a sola powered light runs between \$10-15k a piece.</p> <p>If there are any more questions or concerns regarding this topic, please send them to menloparktucson@gmail.com. This topic should come to a vote soon, in either Sep. or Oct.</p>
<p>Sentinel Peak Road safety review and recommendations by Ann Chanecka, COT Special Projects Manager</p>	<p>Christa Hansen with DOT plans to go to Mayor and /council in September with results of a community survey which had 3k responses.</p> <p>The results of the survey can be read online at the Sentinel Peak site through the Parks and Recs page. Some of the survey results included these prioritized items 1. Preservation of natural surroundings, 2. Improvements for walking and biking, and 3. Safety improvements. Another example of survey Questions included whether people preferred Car-free days, car-free ½ days or no changes at all. The top suggestions for increased used of park are 1. Address vandalism, 2. Trash removal, and 3. Car-free days.</p> <p>A set of recommendations were arrived at which included short term, medium term, and long-term goals. Some short-term goals are being completed: Speed humps are being repaired, new signage and reflective markers have been added.</p> <p>There will be a Safety Review Assessment meeting in October.</p>
<p>Community Updates and Call to the Audience</p>	<p>Antonio Ramirez from the Pima county Health Department indicated that the PCHD received a REACH grant from the CDC to focus on how to encourage native Americans and Latinos to use The Loop. There is a community wide committee with 40 members.</p> <p>Wendy proposed that the question of Landmark status be placed on the agenda for voting purposes. Diana Hadley explained the Landmark Tucson Heritage project and asked for the support of the neighborhood. MPNA agreed to offer a letter of support for the inclusion of the</p>

	<p>“Festival Area” which has been left out of the planning/maps.</p> <p>Isabel reminded everyone to donate books to the Pasqua Library at the former Richey Elementary School. She offered to deliver them if people brought the books to the meeting in September.</p> <p>Zach presented that since the “incubator” meeting with Live Well Arizona will occur on the 12th, all day in Phoenix, the next meeting will be scheduled for the 19th. At that time, the MPNA election will occur for the new officers.</p> <p>Isabel informed the group that she will not be seeking re-election to Treasurer.</p> <p>Matt and Isabel announced that the Menlo Park Centennial reunion meeting will occur on 08-16-19 at 2PM at the Pima county Housing Center.</p> <p>Zach reminded everyone that at the next meeting the election of Executive committee members will take place.</p>
Next Meeting	September 19, 2019 (However, the Executive Committee returned the date for the meeting to the 12th, which is the 2nd Thursday of September)