

Highlands Neighborhood Association

Executive Team Meeting

18 July 2017 / 6 PM / Healthwise Conference Room

ATTENDEES

Jeff Bradley/HNA President, Scott Tuthill/HNA Vice President, Shannon Reagan/HNA Secretary

AGENDA

- Review 2017 Picnic - lessons learned, what to do next time.
- Review 2017 Chipper Truck program
- Financial Review
- Working session on potential neighborhood Committees
- Open feedback from neighborhood attendees

NOTES

Scott opened meeting by welcoming visitors, explaining this is our HNA Executive Team working meeting. Boise meeting tomorrow, and a TIP, the city of Boise neighborhood website. Will disseminate minutes in the next couple of weeks.

In the fall there will be a meeting at Bown Library, to help neighborhood associations work more effectively to produce change. Jeff will rearrange his schedule to be present.

COMPASS messages - Transportation improvement program. Projects that involve federal funding. On Next Door, there is discussion. We could ask commenters to direct input elsewhere.

General discussion from audience regarding input and whether it is noted.

For Highlands, other than the staff for Safe Routes to School, the projects aren't anywhere near us. Not something we need to try to find out about, since it doesn't involve us. Get a note out, if you want to get involved, here are the links. As an HNA we are not going to get involved.

The City of Boise is updating its website. HNA needs to provide photos and neighborhood description of the Highlands. Shannon will submit.

Scott's Picnic update:

Good weather. 200-250 people attended, used all name tags and all hot dogs were served as well as two turkeys, which were prepared by Jeff. Scott updated HNA manual with a picnic how-to document for the next person or picnic committee. School renovation may dictate the need for a new picnic location eventually. Spent \$1200 on picnic. More than in the past due to 40% on communications: yard signs and flyers. However, \$125 of that 470 was yard sign holders that can be reused. HNA also bought new signage.

Question from resident: can the signs be reused?

They don't cost that much, but can be taped over. Took Scott 30 minutes to re-do one by hand. Depends on budget. We have plenty of holders.

Flyers should not be done next year. They are not too expensive, but they are not especially effective.

Resident comment: there has been past discussion about need for flyers.

About 50 still left. Scott removed them.

20% of budget: porta-potty. Positive comments received about the porta-potty. 30% of budget: table rentals and BBQ. 10% of budget: food. Low cost due to donation from Albertsons for buns and water. Probably about \$1,000 of donations. Scott will prepare thank you card for store manager.

Tweaks to communications: no flyer, trash cans donated by Republic Services. Need fewer round tables next year. Tates delivery: we are well below minimum and they were reluctant to deliver this year. Perhaps ask for truck volunteers next year. Probably don't need any paper products next year. Perhaps need a picnic committee for next year.

Chipper truck review:

Rob Parsons was helpful in gathering funds and meeting with City. Visited 666 homes. (Same home each week, counted 2x) Weight about 440 Cubic yards or 220,000 lbs of material. Total cost: \$20,000 spent which might be more than the city had allocated but have not heard back from Kathleen Lacey.

Molly Mouser - community garden - dumped two full chipper loads onto community garden from vendor. This is the last year for the current funding. We can't use city grant money any more. Either neighborhood needs to come up with 20K or, come up with \$20/\$30 per household. Could self fund, or seek funding perhaps by becoming a Firewise community.

Some interest from the community. Two individuals interested in FW designation. Many neighbors are getting together to chip in for mowing. Eligibility depends on the things we do as a neighborhood.

Resident: There is a list?

Yes, it's not that difficult. But the neighborhood as a whole should decide. Event each year - \$2 per resident or in kind.

The city has access to advanced mapping to show fire danger. It's a lot more than what people think. He wasn't willing to share yet. Will probably be comfortable.

Many of us have personal interests in Firewise, but this is something the neighborhood would have to do.

Financial Review:

Laura Barton couldn't be here. Compiled report to share with group in lieu of her absence.

Scott asked Kathleen who watchdogs the neighborhood association line item? Mayor and council.

1600 of 2k left to spend by July 2018 - should the HNA purchase a neighborhood snowblower? Kathleen said it would have to be checked out.

Grant money in the works for trailhead restroom - \$150K.

Laura is comfortable with grants and following money.

We have \$1600 to spend out of this year's money. Perhaps we'll need to make up difference for chipper truck meeting.

Neighborhood Commitees:

Working session on potential neighborhood committees. Scott started researching. Outline for writing committee charters. Possibly: traffic or traffic safety, firewise, highlands school remodel, neighborhood assistance, picnic committee.

Standing v. special committees? Membership? Any Highlands resident. Should have at least 5 members from different areas of Highlands. HNA team should recruit, could sit on committees if we want to.

Firewise decision - if it's made by next April, we could possibly get it in time for chipper truck.

Neighborhood assistance committee - is this something we should do?

Joe Konkol - not sure about assistance program. Is a broader program needed? Neighbors around tend to know and assist those neighbors. Highlands school...not sure that's the right timing.

Scott - maybe a great idea but not now. People have talked to us about it, so we are presenting these ideas as possible committees.

Traffic committee: standing committee that is on top of traffic issues, would expect that they would be actively involved in keeping tabs. Keep a Highlands list of projects/concerns. The committee should get out of the ombudsman role, where we take a concern and are expected to make it our priority. Link into annual planning calendars, etc. Perhaps it should be focused on traffic safety.

Picnic committee

We should take a poll - perhaps Survey Monkey.

-collect names and email addresses

-Ask: Important or interesting is this something you'd put your time into? Is there something we've missed?

Five committees

-Is this important?

-Are you interested in helping with it?

-Anything else we've missed (other committee ideas)?

-Chipper truck? - people would have to promise to a fixed cost.

*** Are there simple questions to include in survey that would gather necessary demographic data?

Neighborhood Watch committee?

Konkol - compost bins....can help.

Firewise- give you confidence that chipper truck program would be likely if we do FW? Scott - have to have a plan. These homes in this area...remove all evergreen type plants....4 requirements.

Jeff will ask the other neighborhood associations what they're doing on Firewise.

Jeff will take notes and pass along to Shannon for publication.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Question from Sharon Konkol - any updated info on potential development on assisted living facility?

Jeff - get emails when they are trying to put forth something to get an exemption with the city.

Scott - time for input is before plats are done. Already zoned platted, etc. Nothing we can do that's worth our time. Hackberry North input. There's really nothing there for us to make input on.

How do we use existing HNA plan to put input to various projects. Still pretty relevant. Asked the writers, has it been used? It's a big project. It's use is in acting as the guideline (like Foothills plan).

Also a facility to replace church.

Other houses that should be part of Central Foothills.

If there were any developments that we should be a part of, we would know about it.

Talking to Kathleen about updated data on the project,....demographic data.

Joe Konkol - traffic committee - should have a connection with the people who have done the traffic work in the past. There's a set of things that would require follow-up. Enhance crosswalk, flashing lights, no curbed walkway on HVD. Stuff that needs to be watched in the future, when Highlands Cove was approved, that 20K was approved for traffic, that is still floating out there. Want to make sure it gets used.

Supposed to be used outside of Highlands Cove.

Scott: Your job to stay connected and on top of traffic issues.

Concurrence that the committee did a lot of work and should work with former committee.

Scott: Make sure there is good representation as committees get formed.

General discussion of Highlands Cove progress. Road complete, some lots pending.

Sharon Konkol - Rob asked several times about Neighborhood Watch committee. Add it to list?

Molly Mouser - Contact neighborhood watch lady, take a map and divide up home and have block captains. Way to increase communication between police department and neighborhood. Hosts a National Night Out event at her house. Well structured? Yes.

Thanks to HNA committee from residents for open session.

Scott: bylaws are “mushy.”

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm