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Minutes of the January 3, 2005 monthly meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1-D

These minutes approved at the February 7, 2006 meeting.

Call to order

Chair Jack McKay called the meeting to order at approximately 7:25 pm, noting the presence of ANC 1D Commissioners Edwards, Scott, Backfield, Wysocki and himself, a quorum. Commissioner Wayne Kahn was absent.

Election of officers

Rich moved that “we postpone the election of officers to a special meeting held on Wednesday, January 11, so that we can have a full Commission here.” *Motion passed, four votes for, one abstention (Gregg), none opposed.*

Calendar of meetings

Gregg moved the following list of regular monthly meetings for 2006: January 3, February 7, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, July to be set later, August 1, September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5, with this proviso: that the regular monthly meetings will be held on the first Tuesdays if possible, except where there is a conflict with holidays, or a major issue affecting folks who work weekday evenings, in which case the meeting will be reset, preferably to a weekend.” *Passed unanimously.*

Approval of minutes

Rich moved acceptance of the minutes of the December 6 meeting. *Passed unanimously.*

Treasurer’s Report

Rich moved the following: “resolved, that this Commission approves the ANC’s participation in the Advisory Neighborhood Commission Security Fund and authorizes the Treasurer to pay the \$25 fee for the period January 1, 2006, through December 31, 2006. The Chairperson and Secretary are authorized to execute the attached agreement.” *Passed unanimously.*

Rich distributed copies of the proposed budget for FY2006 to the Commissioners. Members of the audience were advised to contact their Commissioners for copies, if they wish. Gregg moved that the matter be tabled until the next meeting. *Motion to table passed unanimously.*

Standing committee report: Commercial Corridor

Gregg very briefly summarized the meeting of the Commercial Corridor Committee of January 2. The next meeting of this Committee was announced, for February 6 at 6:30 pm. Gregg further moved “that the Commission authorize the expenditure of up to \$70 for light refreshments for the February business meeting, with the contents available for use the night before”. *Passed unanimously.*

Special Committee Reports

Open resource Web site: after a brief report, Gregg introduced this resolution: “ANC 1D resolves to establish the office of Communications Director, to be held by a commissioner, with the following responsibilities:

- * Oversee the Web site, including web hosting, domain registration, and employees or contractors that prepare and/or post content,
- * Coordinate with the Secretary on official content, and
- * Work with the Web committee to provide links and web service methods that promote better relations among neighbors and government agencies.

After some discussion, Gregg reduced this to an agreement by the Commission that “the Web site committee continues, and it will accept the responsibility to put up and post a continuing Web site”. *This motion passed unanimously.*

Long range planning: report deferred.

Unfinished business

The FY06 budget matter had been considered under the Treasurer’s report, and the Web site policy issue was temporarily handled with the motion under committee reports. The non-voting delegates question was set aside for this meeting.

New business: interpretation equipment

Gregg moved that “ANC 1D authorizes up to \$300 for the purchase of equipment and gear that will allow speakers of a second language to be translated, including simultaneously.

Why: with the current equipment, English speakers can be translated for the benefit of Spanish speakers. However, Spanish speakers cannot conveniently be translated for the benefit of English speakers. To provide this capability, a second transmitter is required, plus the gear for connections, and perhaps a new microphone or two.

Passed unanimously.

New business: bilingual assistant

Gregg moved that “ANC 1D authorizes \$800 for FY06 for the engagement of bilingual assistance that can assist in translations using the multichannel equipment, can help set up and run communications equipment, can greet and welcome residents and visitors to the meeting, and can translate meeting notices and minutes, and can outreach to the Mount Pleasant Spanish-speaking population.” *Passed unanimously.*

Public discussion

Due to the large number of residents wishing to speak, the meeting was turned over to public discussion for the following hour and a half.

Greg Powe, architect, presented a brief outline of the Bestway 17th Street frontage proposal.

Alberto Ferufino, proprietor of Don Juan's Restaurant, spoke in support of the project.

Laurie Collins, president of MPNA, read a formal statement in opposition. Jack obtained assurance from Laurie that this statement was approved by the board of the MPNA.

Fay Armstrong, representing Historic Mount Pleasant, noted their concern about the exterior appearance of the building, promoting the restoration of the appearance of the early years.

The proponents said that the changes were limited to adding two masonry projections for trash storage, and "tidying up" the landscape. Truck operations in the rear of the building would be unchanged.

A number of people spoke their opinions on this issue, including Walter Martinez, Julia Begley, Marika Torok, Lucille Coutard, Julio Prego, Bill Wooge, Jonathan Herz, Sam Broeksmit, Steve Mudd, Jennifer Sherman and others.

Lyle Blanchard, a practicing zoning attorney, and former Mount Pleasant resident, asserted that it has been illegal since 1887 to store trash on public space.

New business:

Jack asked if the Commission wanted to request that the Public Space Committee postpone the hearing of the Bestway proposal for a month. The sense of the Commission was that this could be considered at the special meeting on the 11th.

Jack asked if the Commission would support an inquiry to the District Attorney General for clarification of the law concerning trash deposits on public space. Gregg moved that "we send a letter to all the reasonable authorities asking their opinion on trash on the parkings including the status of longstanding grandfathered operations". *Motion passed unanimously.*

Adjournment

After concluding remarks by Ted Loza, by unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm.