

Kensington-Talmadge Planning Group



P.O. Box 16391, San Diego, CA 92176

www.ktpg.org

Regular Meeting Minutes - Approved

August 11, 2010

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PARLIAMENTARY ITEMS

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

A regular meeting of the Kensington Talmadge Planning Group (KTPG) was called to order by KTPG Chair Tom Hebrank on 8/11/10 at 6:37pm in the Kensington Community Church located at 4773 Marlborough Ave., San Diego, CA 92116. The minutes were recorded by KTPG Secretary John M. Garrison.

Members present at the start of the meeting: Bob Coffin, Daniele Laman, David Moty, Frank Doft, Fred Lindahl, Gail Greer, John M. Garrison, Kevin Kelly, Pam Hubbell, Tom Adam, Tom Hebrank, Tom Hoyt.

Members absent: Guy Hanford, Sean Harrison, Sherry Hopwood

Also present: Representatives from Don Kelley Construction Company, J.C. Thomas III - Regional Manager - Fire Preparedness - SDGE, Theresa Nguyen – Little Saigon Project, and numerous members of the public

MODIFICATIONS TO AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA (ADDITIONS / DELETIONS TO AGENDA)

A motion to approve the agenda with no changes was made by Kevin Kelly and seconded by Danielle Laman. The motion was approved 12-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETING(S)



A motion to approve the June minutes was made by John M. Garrison and seconded by Tom Hoyt. The motion was approved 12-0-1. Tom Adam abstained because he missed part of the June meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT – REPORT FROM PRIOR MONTH

Starting Balance: July - \$105.97

Donations: \$18.00

Expenditures: None in July, but \$150 rent is due

Ending Balance: \$123.97

COMMUNITY FORUM / NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Dion Akers from Council Member Todd Gloria's was on vacation, so we had no representatives from any political or city offices who wished to address the KTPG.

A community member mentioned that a speed limit sign has recently been placed in an alley.

Danielle Laman – At the entrance to Norfolk Canyon, there is a large gate that keeps cars from driving over the storm drain and driving into the canyon, but I have noticed people parking there and walking into the canyon as if it were a public park, which it is not. I asked Dion Akers to investigate additional signage there (e.g. no parking, no trespassing...)

NON-SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

RENT

Tom Hebrank – We owe the church \$150 in rent for July – December. We only have \$123.97 in the bank.

A KTPG member raised a question about whether we could get a lower rent, since we did not meet in July and probably will not meet in December.

Tom Hebrank replied that the church wants to increase the rent due to additional demand on the facilities. He also noted that we did have subcommittee meetings in July. He didn't feel it would be to our advantage to seek a lower rent, as doing so could backfire.

Tom Hebrank requested a motion authorizing our Treasurer to pay up to \$150, as funds become available for rent covering July 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010. Kevin Kelley made the motion, and Frank Doft seconded.

The motion passed 12-0

NON-SUBCOMMITTEE INFORMATION ITEMS

KENSINGTON SIGN



Deana Koenig – Vice President of the Kensington Talmadge Community Association gave an update on the sign:

- Their engineer is making some city-required structural engineering changes.
- Celia Conover went out with Harold Koenig to inspect the sign to determine the proper historic color. They did find a piece that had not been painted over previously. It is a dark green. Celia was very careful to match it correctly. (Deana passed around color swatches that will be used on the sign.)
 - Benjamin Moore - Hunter Green – 2041-10
 - Benjamin Moore - Simply White – OC-117
- The goal is still to have it put back in place around Thanksgiving, 2010.

DON KELLEY – WATER AND SEWER PROJECT

G. Lowe - Most of the west side of Marlborough is done and we are starting to do some paving. Then they will be moving to the East side and continuing to pave.

John M. Garrison – noted that we have not received a newsletter or schedule for 6 months.

G. Lowe - Apologized for the lack of newsletter updates and said that they had experienced some transitions and restructuring of responsibilities. They said they have just created a new newsletter and sent it to Dion today; they will send it directly to John Garrison the next day.

Kevin Kelley - mentioned that the temporary lines often leak large amounts of water. The representatives encouraged us to call the water department's emergency line.

G. Lowe - they have decided to overlay the street curb-to-curb, and that will delay the undergrounding so that it will not start within 3 years of the repaving.

SDG&E – SMART METER PRESENTATION

J.C. Thomas III, Regional Manager, Fire Preparedness, SDGE.

All electric and gas utility meters are going to be replaced with smart meters. Example models were passed around.

The main benefit is expected to be people having more information about their electric usage. It is hoped this will lead to increased conservation. Eventually, it may lead to other improvements, such as being able to charge less for energy at night, when demand is lower.

The meters use existing systems for communication. They do not expect to need any new towers.

The program is costing hundreds of millions of dollars to implement; it is expected to receive a positive return on investment in 10-12 years.

John Garrison noted that several technology publications have pointed out security flaws in the meters and stated that they may be subject to hacking (e.g. cheating by lowering your own bill, increasing the bill of your neighbors, causing a disruption in service.) J.C. Thomas said SDG&E believes the meters are secure, but he did not have specific information regarding the security measures that will be in place.

LITTLE SAIGON PROJECT



Theresa Nguyen - they are a non-profit located in City Heights, and they are trying to revitalize the area by encouraging storefront improvements and by giving El Cajon Boulevard between Euclid and Highland the name "Little Saigon"

For more information, please see their website at: www.littlesaigonsandiego.org.

In two weeks they are hosting a lantern festival, with 6,000 lanterns, as a way to share Vietnamese culture with the community. The event will be Aug 27-29, 2010 at Hoover High School, in 2 parking lots and inside the front quad.

45-YEAR HISTORICAL REVIEW BOARD – LIAISON REPORT

Maggie McCann – Currently, when a structure over 45 years old needs a construction or demolition permit, a historic review is triggered. Most projects are cleared as being not a problem, so no modification to the project is needed in that case. In some cases however the city will ask for modifications to the project. In some cases, the project may need to go to the Historic Resources Board for a determination.

Maggie McCann – When the city is wondering if a project may trigger a historic review, they do not send staff out to the property. That is an expense that the city does not have budget for. So the city seeks community input, and that is when they contact Ms. McCann as our liaison. She looks at whatever she can observe from the sidewalk, as well as any digital photos that were submitted by the property owner. In some cases Ms. McCann takes additional pictures and sends them in to the city.

Maggie McCann – She last gave a report to KTPG about a year ago. At that time, she had a report from the city that gave some metrics about how many projects were proposed, approved, considered historic, etc. Ms. McCann said when Tom Hebrank asked her if she could give a report tonight, Ms. McCann asked the city for a new set of reports. The city's response was that they were totally swamped, had not figured out how to compile the information from their database, and would not be able to get it to us in the near future. Ms. McCann noted they have lost at least one staff member., therefore, she did not have specific metrics to report. She noted that the economy has had an impact on the number of projects being done, and that the numbers in general are down from last year. She estimates there were about 65 projects last year, one of which went all the way to HRB for consideration. She mentioned that Kevin Kelley had a project at his house that caused a level of review, but it only went to city staff, and city staff determined that his project was in line with Secretary of Interior standards.

Daniele Laman – I learned that Pearson Ford was more than 45 years old, yet they did not trigger a historic review. Why is that?

Maggie McCann – I wondered the same thing but I don't have an answer to that. I think it may be because they are in a redevelopment district and so therefore it may go through a different process.

Maggie McCann – I should point out that I am not the only person on the distribution list from the city. For example, Bruce Coons, David Marshall, and Keith York are also on the list.

Roger Utt – asked Maggie McCann to provide all her e-mails related to the 45-Year historic review process. Ms. McCann declined using an expletive, stating that she is a volunteer, she is not an elected member of the KTPG, she is not covered by the Brown Act, and that there is no requirement to keep or provide such detailed information about the review process.

At this point, the time was 8:00pm. Tom Hebrank skipped to the KMAD subcommittee since the people for that item were present.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING SPACE



David Moty – we have lost the ability to use upstairs meeting space at the church. The only place we can use is the downstairs conference room (not the main space where the KTPG meets). We managed to have 30 people in that room at least once, but that is really too many.

There was some brainstorming about possible alternatives

- Talmadge Community Center recreation room – holds about 50.
- Hoover High – depending on school schedule
- Franklin Elementary school
- The church on Estralla Avenue where TMAD used to meet
- The church in Kensington where the Heart of Kensington had their home tour
- The Normal Heights community center where we met temporarily before when our normal space was being refurbished
- The Kensington branch of the San Diego library

David Moty said he would take the suggestions under advisement and do some more investigation.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

TRANSPORTATION AND SAFETY – BOB COFFIN

INFORMATION ITEM - UNDERGROUNDING

Bob Coffin - The subcommittee has been gathering a lot of information. We have submitted questions to the City, Cox, and AT&T. We have received responses back from the City and Cox. When we have the information back from AT&T we will review that again.

Bob Coffin - We have realized that they don't have enough information to make an informed decision or recommendation. We asked the city if we stepped out of line for the creation of the Utility District, would that cause a delay in completion of the project. They said the vote on the Utility District could be delayed as late as May 2011. The subcommittee unanimously voted to ask for that change in the Utility District creation date.

Bob Coffin read the motion passed unanimously by the subcommittee. The motion is attached here as Exhibit A. Since the motion was passed by the subcommittee, it did not need a second.

Pam Hubbell – proposes changing the date in the letter from 2013 to 2012.

Bob Coffin accepted that as a friendly amendment.

Pam Hubbell – at some point we may also have to consider whether we prefer to slip the construction date if necessary, or whether we are not willing to slip the construction date.



David Moty – agrees it is important to work with the other planning groups. He also thinks it is important to know who is speaking with those other groups, and that we have authorized them to speak for us. Our bylaws state that the chair speaks for us or someone else who is designated. That could be the subcommittee, since we have assigned this to the subcommittee. Other community members are welcome to help and make inquiries, but it is important to be clear about who speaks for us.

Danielle Laman – what about the HH block behind Hoover in Talmadge. That block has not yet been done, but it was included in the district created in Talmadge.

Bob Coffin – I don't think we can postpone that.

Danielle Laman – has anyone asked about the possibilities?

[Secretary's Note: Secretary missed the reply, if one was given.]

Motion passed 10-2 with Danielle Laman and Fred Lindahl voting against.

SPEAKER SLIPS SUBMITTED ON THIS ITEM:

- Ralph Riebli – urges the KTPG to approve the request to delay the formation of the utility district.
- Don Taylor – applauds Bob Coffin and the subcommittee for their work so far, encourages voting for the delay, and encourages us to continue and increase our coordination with the other planning groups who are looking into this.
- Gretchen Pattingill – supporting the motion, also supporting the notion of having publically elected board members contacting the relevant authorities, so that the voice will have more weight, and to reduce the cacophony of requests.
- Betty Wooley – supports what has been said so far.

Tim Hoover - submitted a speaker slip on crosswalks – he wants to know if there has ever been any discussion of a crosswalk across Adams at Kensington.

Bob Coffin – we passed a motion asking the city to look into that. The city's response was that they are not usually doing crosswalks unless a light is placed there. They say that a crosswalk without a light can be more dangerous than not having a crosswalk.

PROJECT REVIEW – TOM ADAM

Tom Adam - Nothing to report, except the subcommittee does plan to meet in August.

MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS – JOHN M. GARRISON



ACTION ITEM:

None

INFORMATION ITEM

John M. Garrison - www.ktpg.org continues to grow to contain more information. In particular, there is a lot of information posted there now on the undergrounding project.

The subcommittee is going to start meeting 15 minutes earlier, at 6:15pm, in order to have less overlap with the Project Review subcommittee. The website reflects the new meeting times.

KMAD – TOM HEBRANK

INFORMATION ITEM

Tom Hebrank - The subcommittee asked that more information needed to be distributed to the community before doing a door-to-door signature drive. To be able to reach as many people as possible it is going out to about 1,600 houses on Friday.

A community member asked if we could post it on our website.

Maggie McCann mentioned that this was considered but only property owners will have a say (e.g. not renters, not people outside the neighborhood,...). Therefore, there was a concern about posting it to the website where anyone could download it and submit it.

John M. Garrison – said that if the KMAD subcommittee would provide him with a copy, he would put a watermark across it so it would be difficult for a non property-owner to download it and attempt to mail it in. That would make it possible for a copy to be placed on the www.ktpg.org website.

John M. Garrison – asked how the mailer was funded.

Tom Hebrank - The mailer was funded by private donations.

KTPG LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fred Lindahl – wants to state for the record that he does not approve of the tone or language in the response from the KTPG's 45-Year Historic Review Board Liaison (Maggie McCann) in answering Roger Utt's question. Mr. Lindahl said he plans to raise his concern with the HRB, and Council Members office, and Mary Wright with the City Planning and Community Investment Office.

David Moty – CPC Report – Bill Anderson, Director of the Planning Department appeared at the CPC and commented on a report provided by Caltrans regarding I15. They believe that a lot of the demand on I15 is not San Diego based traffic, but instead is through traffic from Mexico to the Inland Empire. Additionally, Councilmember Frye was there to discuss making Step 2 of the drought regulations permanent. In what he considered to be a controversial vote, David Moty voted against this because he felt it was more about



micromanaging behavior with such measures as what days you can water rather than restricting how much water is actually being used.

AGENDA FOR THE NEXT KTPG MEETING

No specific items were raised for the September 8, 2010 meeting. The subcommittees will meet in between and will send their items as normal. Hoover High utility vacation is expected to go through subcommittee in the meantime, so that item is expected to be an action item out of the subcommittee.

ADJOURNMENT

Fred Lindahl made a motion to adjourn. Danielle Laman seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Tom Hebrank adjourned the meeting at 8:55.