

Allied Neighborhoods Association

Wednesday, March 23, 2005 (7:00 p.m.)

American Red Cross

2707 State St. (east of Alamar)

ACTION MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

- A. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p. m.
- B. There were no adjustments to the Agenda

Members Present: Loyd Applegate (Riviera Association), Rosanne Boardman (Bel Air Knolls), Dianne Channing (Riviera Association), Earl Danielson (GLANA), Joe Guzzardi (Samarkand), Paul Hernadi (Hitchcock Ranch), Tom Jacobs (Mission Canyon Association), Vijaya Jammalamadaka (Eastside Study Group), Jim Kahan (Grove Lane), Cathy McCammon (La Mesa Improvement Association & League of Women Voters), Judy Orias (Hidden Valley), Joe Rution (Bungalow Haven), Joanne Shelton (Veronica Springs Neighborhood Association)

Others Present: Lisa Burns (Upper East), John Caulfield (Hidden Valley), Bob Hawkins (Cars Are Basic - CAB), Gary Earle (Coalition for Sensible Planning - CSP), Grant House, Beatrice Rosales (CAB & Eastside Study Group), Jacqueline Roston (Alameda Park & Villa Constance), Scott Wenz (CAB), Mary Whalen (CSP)

2. INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES AND NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVES

Completed

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Continued

4. TREASURER'S REPORT - PAUL HERNADI

Given

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND QUESTIONS

A. FUTURE MEETINGS: ON 4TH WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7 PM

1) Group concurred with scheduling meetings on 4th Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm

2) Next meeting will be on APRIL 27

3) Future meetings are scheduled for May 25, June 22, July 27 and August 24

4) SUGGESTIONS FOR SPEAKERS AT FUTURE MEETINGS

5) OTHER

B. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

1) LAS POSITAS VALLEY & CITY COUNCIL INACTION, MARCH 1

Judy Orias reported on potential development in the Las Positas Valley.

She said that she had spent more than 20 hours reviewing documents which members of the

Planning Division stated were relevant and current, but she was only given two minutes to make her presentation to the City Council. Judy said that most of these documents were not current and some were not even directly related to the Las Positas Valley. The City Council rejected the request for a comprehensive plan for the Valley and it ignored the Charter Section 1507 which states that the City should live within its resources. The Valley will continue to be developed in a piecemeal manner without comprehensive planning.

2) FUTURE GENERAL PLAN, CITY COUNCIL & PLANNING COMMISSION, MARCH 10

Dianne Channing reported

3) 15 SO. HOPE ST., UPPER STATE, S-D-2 AND ABUSE OF MODIFICATION

A. Paul Hernadi and Jim Kahan reported that the ABR gave concept approval to a housing project. Paul Hernadi requested comprehensive planning in Upper State prior to any approval, but his request was rejected. This project is in the S-D-2 zone, but the ABR staff excused it from the setback requirements. This project received a bonus density because it contains 2 units at the affordable level, but the architect said that he did not know the level of affordability. Jim Kahan requested that this project should not be considered until the environmental review had been completed, but the ABR continued and made some discretionary determinations. There will be further discussion when this project comes before the Planning Commission.

B. RECOMMENDATION: Oppose granting of modifications, support compliance with zoning laws (including S-D-2)

C. ACTION: Board unanimously agreed to support recommendation

4) 220 EAST JUNIPERO STREET MODIFICATION

A. Jim Kahan reported a hearing by the Modification Hearing Officer wherein (1) the wishes of all neighborhood residents and neighborhood compatibility and (2) good planning principles were ignored

B. RECOMMENDATION: If an appeal is filed, Allied should oppose the modification and support the appeal)

C. ACTION: Board unanimously agreed to support recommendation

C. ALLIED WEBSITE (<http://www.allied-sb.org/>)

1. Earl Danielson was thanked by the entire group for getting the website up and running

2. Earl Danielson gave an update and requested that information be submitted to the Executive Committee so that it could be posted.

6. MEMBERSHIP - ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION BY MORE NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS

The Coalition for Sensible Planning and Cars Are Basic (CAB) were welcomed to the meeting.

7. NOVEMBER 2005 CITY ELECTIONS - ADEQUATE REPRESENTATION OF ANY AND ALL NEIGHBORHOODS

A. CANDIDATES WHO SUPPORT ALL NEIGHBORHOODS

Brief discussion

B. ELECTION BY DISTRICT (CHARTER AMENDMENT)

Brief discussion

8. WEBSITE

A. WEBMASTER

There was a request for a webmaster, but there were not volunteers. It was suggested that Allied hire a webmaster

B. CORRECTIONS OF ITEMS ON WEBSITE (BY MEMBERS)

None

C. SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS (BY MEMBERS)

SUGGESTION: Joe Rution made some suggestions about the website and By-laws

ACTION: Joe's suggestions were referred to a committee for review and refinement. The Executive Committee will act until an ad hoc special committee is appointed

D. John Caulfield reported that the Santa Barbara School District is considering the sale of a school property in Hidden Valley and this sale could have significant adverse effects on Hidden Valley and he referred interested people to the District website which contains the RFP at <http://www.sbsd12.org/>.

9. BY-LAWS - AMENDMENTS

Continued

9. NPO/SINGLE FAMILY DESIGN GUIDELINES UPDATE STEERING COMMITTEE

A. Dianne Channing and Joe Guzzardi (Neighborhood representatives on the NPO Update Steering Committee) gave reports.

B. Diane Channing, the Chairperson of the NPO Update Steering Committee, distributed handouts about (1) the Steering Committee process and progress and (2) proposed FARs. She led an extended discussion about FARs and answered many questions about the NPO Update Steering Committee

C. Dianne and Joe said that the NPO Update Steering Committee website had a great amount of information in the Community Development Department website at

<http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Resident/Community/Planning/NPO.htm>

D. She added that much of its history and relevant documents are contained in its Archives at

http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Resident/Community/Planning/NPO_Archives.htm

E. There was a lengthy discussion about FARs

10. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

A. FAR

1. REPORT: It was reported that Allied submitted a letter about FARs. Its Committee with (Sue Trescher and Jim Kahan) will continue to work on that issue.

2. ACTION: Board ratified

B. ZONING AND MODIFICATIONS:

1. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION: It was reported that Allied has opposed numerous modifications as destructive to neighborhoods, an abuse of the zoning laws and that the City should only grant deviations from zoning laws if there if it can make the more

stringent findings for variances. It was also noted that the bonus density given to for affordable housing further undermines zoning. It was recommended that Allied continue its strong opposition to variances and oppose bonus density for housing because it undermines minimal zoning standards. Allied's Zoning & Modification Committee (Sue Trescher, Joe Rution and Jim Kahan) will continue to work on this issue.

2. ACTION: Board ratified

C. TRANSPARENCY AND OPENNESS IN GOVERNMENT (SUNSHINE LAWS, OPEN GOVERNMENT - BROWN ACT, PUBLIC RECORDS ACT, NOTICING, WEBSITE)

1. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION: It was reported that Allied has expressed strong support for transparency and openness in government. This includes defense of the Brown Act (Open Meeting Law), The Public Records Act (Sunshine laws), increased noticing (uniformity of noticing, snail mail to larger area, e-mail, extend time periods, post plans on a the City website, post agendas, staff reports and plans City websites at least 10 days prior to hearing), retain agendas on website (preferably with staff reports) for than one year, post minutes on City website for at least two years (see County and City of Goleta). These matters have been approved at prior hearings. It is recommended that Allied oppose further expansion of City staff to grant approvals on an administrative basis. In other reduction and elimination of **STEALTH PROJECTS**. Allied's Transparency Committee (Sue Trescher, Cathy McCammon and Jim Kahan) will continue to work on this issue.

2. ACTION: Board ratified

11. GENERAL DISCUSSION - ISSUES OF CONCERN

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p. m. and a discussion continued thereafter.