



Minutes – Italian Village Society Monthly Meeting

Date: January 12, 2016

Location: Community Center at The Jeffrey

Board Members Present: Christopher Vidoni, President; Mike Navarro, Vice President; Stephanie Harris, Treasurer; Mark Bair, Web Master; Audra Wheeler, Secretary. 10 people total in attendance. (10 members).

1. Welcome and Introduction Members and Guests: President Chris Vidoni called the meeting to order at 7:30PM and made introductions.

New Secretary: Audra Wheeler
Communications and Web Master: Mark Bair

No approval of October, November and December (Pot Luck) minutes because they were not present.

Chris V. asked where would you like more park space? (7:40p)

Andy K – park space east of Smith Brothers. Audra W. stated the school on 2nd has a large space. Playground was recently torn out. Andy K. said playground equipment was paid for by a grant. Meter set up for parking in the parking lot. Church may also be in danger of being sold off to developer. Josh G. will inquire with Columbus City Schools about park equipment and who removed it along with what is happening to that land.

2. Italian Village Commission Report – Josh Lapp 7:55PM

Josh reported no new projects on the agenda, more litigation of previous projects such as changes to buildings that have already been approved.

- The Eagle is changing signage.
- Wagenbrenner is building another building.
- Another pass at the Stonewall building and preserving the existing building. The curb cut on High St. will go away but there will be no building to replacement due to sewer line and city easement.
- The Exile project came up again.
- Bud Dairy development purposed another townhome as part of the project.
- A pet store is going in to the Fireproof building.
- A business is going in to the Surly Girl space but there conflict between ADA rigorous standards and city code standards. Randy Black and Connie Torbeck have met with the person in charge of following up with the ADA standards and how these standards are different than Historical Standards. It is difficult to make historical buildings meet the ADA standards just because of how they are built.

Christ V. asked Josh L. about brick sidewalks. Josh said if they were brick they should be restored to brick. They should be maintained if they have been brick. The Commission and the Society will encourage future projects to use brick. For the site at Say Avenue and Fourth the brick was not visible before the construction process started to it was hard to determine either way. The Commission is encouraging the builders and new projects to use and maintain brick within the project. Various projects are using brick in parking spaces.

Andy K. asked was anything ever done to pursue the demolition by Sunset Bar / Kevin Lykens. Josh L. says the Commission raised the issue and they didn't discover what was going on. Society specifically asked the Commission to require a letter for the City Attorney. Mike N. said if code violation is involved they will be called in for documentation. Mike will e-mail John Hughes to see if there is an outstanding ticket on the Sunset Bar issue and its demolition.

Inquiry about the Greenhouse Tavern on 5th. The University Area Commission had plans for property / used car lot on 5th and Summit but that was taking to city council.

3. Complete Streets Committee – Andy Klein 8:08

The merge on to 4th street from 670 there is brush and there is no visibility until you merge on to 4th. ODOT said it's too short of a distance to stop. Andy recalls two plans that involved brush removal and/ or they were going to do a crosswalk.

Andy made a request to Commission to identify areas that have brick side walks.

Communication from Shannon Hardin's aid saying we should resubmit our application for street calming and other items. The aid said development is willing to consider a resubmission. The University Area Commission is trying to identify streets for street calming and there focus is on 5th Avenue. Andy said that given the fact that we are now allowed to resubmit our application that we should consider including 5th Avenue. Josh L. said there will be a lot of changes to 5th Avenue and both sides are going to look a lot more like High St. with pedestrians so there needs to be a more global plan. COTA is part of their planning process. There has been discussion of rail or transit on 5th Avenue.

Andy discussed Columbia Gas work on N 4th street and area of 5th Avenue where they dug up and covered with asphalt. There were complaints from properties owners who were not satisfied with quality of work.

Seventh Son reserved last day of the month at 5:30p for Complete Streets Committee. October, November, December meetings will be combined to Thursday December 1st, 2016.

Member inquired about tree planting program. Chris said that would wait until Spring.

4. Italian Village Park and Pavilion Update – Stephanie Harris 8:30

Tim Li was not able to attend tonight. Lisa and Isabela from the City's Neighborhood Design Center have other commitments. All will be more than happy to attend the February meeting.

5. Membership Report – Mike Navarro 8:33

- 8 additional signups last month. Mike is following up with other inquiries.
- Mike will be dropping off T-shirts for more sizes. Ask a board member for shirts if you would like one.

6. Treasurer's Report – Stephanie Harris 8:35

See Treasurer's Report

7. Crime Report – Officer Steve Smith 8:38

Officer Steve Smith said incidence on Punta Alley where kids are knocking on doors and when no one answers the kids are kicking in the door. Most of the homes are vacant to Officer Steve Smith's knowledge.

8. Announcements

Chris V. – Short North Alliance is taking application for unsung heroes.

Josh L. – Transit Meets 2nd Wednesday of every month. Plan on 2016 being a big year because the city is continuing to look at public transit, COTA renews levy, looking at bike lanes and designated space for pedestrians.

Adjourn 8:40p

**Respectfully Submitted,
Italian Village Society Secretary, Audra Wheeler**