

Downtown Area Neighborhood Alliance

Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 20, 2006,

7:00 – 8:30 PM., Izaak Walton Club / Fairmount Park

Attendees (per sign-in sheet): Jack Larson, Nanci Larson, Pete Kallinger, Krista Dixon, Jerry Crouch, Buddy Hutton, Kevin Shellman, Tina Lang, Heather Troxel, Nancy Castillo, Lorri Coles, Walter Reis, Damon Castillo, Bonnie Reynolds, Susane Cesari, Angelo Cesari, Darcy Miller, Rod Wolfe, Lindsay Abercrombie, Norm Gritton, Mary Jerdeman, Linda Goodman, Joe Findels, Dan DeSimone, Ronsami shade, Eric Tani, Keith Alex, Chani Beeman

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Keith Alex at 7:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Meeting Notes February 20, 2006

✓ Motion to approved Minutes as submitted

M/S/C: Nanci Larsen/ /Carried

- Chani Beeman expressed her concern that minutes of our meetings should be utilized to communicate *accurate* information to our neighbors and other community groups. Anyone is welcome to contact her for a draft version of the minutes if the needed before approval at a DANA meeting.

3. Street Closures in Evergreen Quarter Discussion - City of Riverside Traffic Engineer Steve Libring and Public Works Deputy Director Tom Boyd

- Council member Betro introduced Steve and Tom. He noted that the upcoming General Plan does not deal with Traffic Mitigation in any meaningful way, and that concerns him a great deal. The downtown neighborhoods must develop ways to calm traffic and preserve neighborhoods. He invites suggestions and ideas, and looks forward to respectful discussion about the issue.
- Traffic studies in the area of Redwood and Pine streets have yielded the following numbers:
 - Redwood Drive
 - October 2004- 3,070/day
 - September 2005 – 2,935/day
 - Pine St.
 - October 2004 – 3,300/day
 - September 2005 – 4,023/day

These numbers reflect a relatively stable situation and rather than jump into options such as closing streets, the traffic division of Public Works would like to develop some options. Steve Libring is new and may have some fresh ideas to consider. It's too late to coordinate the closure of Pine St. with work at Evergreen Cemetery. And, it's best to implement traffic diversion changes incrementally to give each change a chance to improve the situation. They both provided their telephone numbers: Steve: 826-5368 Tom: 826-5575

✓ **Motion to ask Steve and Tom to return to DANA in 60 days with some traffic diversion options for Redwood and Pine.**

M/S/C: Nanci Larsen/ Pete Kallinger /Carried

- Public Works is coordinating with Cal Trans to install lights at HWY 60 and Market St. Work should begin next week.
- The project to fix problems on 3rd St. between Vine and Market St. is still out to bid, so it will be awhile before that situation is addressed.

4. Report from Councilman Dom Betro

- No report, since the biggest issues were already addressed in the previous discussion.

Questions:

- Not certain if the City of Riverside has a noise ordinance and/or what it addresses. He will track down the information and give it to DANA.

5. Riverside Police Department /Nancy Castillo

- Nancy brought many of the Homeless Resource cards for people to take as many as they needed.
- The North Area newsletter is available, copies were sent to the DANA list.
- Graffiti clean-up products are available for projects targeting clean-up. Before covering please take photos of any gang or bias-motivated tagging. Let the police know and send photos.
- Police need help tracking criminal activity at the Santa Cruz Inn. Police have gone in a couple of times but have not found much evidence of criminal activity. It's important for neighbors to report activity to the police department (use non-emergency line if it's not an emergency) so a case can be made, if appropriate.
- The police have gone to North Hill on several occasions and have not found illegal campers/homeless people.
- Office of Neighborhoods annual awards nomination forms are still available.
- Residents noted there has been a rash of car burglary/break-ins in the 3rd and Main St. area. There are drunks and dopers in the alley in that area, too.
- Dom noted that the Civic Center Motel is coming down. Developers have acquired surrounding properties in the Main/2nd St. area but 2 parcels, so they hope to accelerate the project. We should see that area significantly cleaned up in the Summertime.

6. Planning & Development / David St. Pierre

- No report

7. Treasurers Report / Heather Troxel

- Account balance of \$698 of which \$105 is designated for seed purchase
- Membership is due in January
- Spring Fling project was described a date will be chosen and announced next meeting.

8. New / Old Issues / Subcommittee Update

- Keith Alex announced that Ralph Nunez, Director of Parks and Community Services, as waived the use fee for DANA's use of the Walton building for the rest of the year. So, our meetings will continue to be held in that building.

- The Humane Society will hold its annual “Walk for with the Animals” fundraiser on ????? Pancake breakfast at 7:00AM and walk at 9:00AM
- One of our neighbors, Chris Stamankovich, died on Thursday, March 16th. Funeral services will be Saturday, March 25th at Garden of Prayer on Magnolia Ave. Chris was a frequent walker of Mount Rubidoux.
- The new group “Neighbors of Fairmount Park” will be walking their neighborhood to pass out flyers about their first meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 18th at the Senior Center.
- Several (200) new trees were planted along Magnolia and Tyler Ave. If you know of any other area in the city that needs trees contact the Parks and Community Services Department. They have a budget for trees to be planted on city property (parkways, etc.).
- It was requested that the Hills Video be shown at the next DANA meeting.

**9. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 17, 2006
7:00 PM. Izaak Walton Club, Fairmount Park**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Chani Beeman, DANA Secretary