



## NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARD

### SUMMARY MINUTES

Thursday, June 20, 2013 @ 6:30 PM

City Hall Conference Room 337  
200 WEST FIFTH STREET

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#### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Members present are denoted by an "\*" and members absent are denoted by an "x".

NAME	DISTRICT	NAME	DISTRICT
Carolyn Glast *	1	Kim Carney, Vice Chair *	1
Betty Hines *	2	David Douglas *	2
Ann Maxwell, Chair *	3	Laura McKenna *	3
Lisa Wilbourne *	4	Caroline Doherty *	4
Sharon Stang *	5	Brenda Diggs *	5

#### ALTERNATE MEMBERS & LIAISONS:

NAME	DISTRICT	NAME	DISTRICT
Vince Bellis	3	Peg Gemperline	4
Blythe Tennent	4	Harry Stubbs	4

#### CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Seth Laughlin, Planner II (CDD); Gwen Turnage, Administrative Assistant (CDD); and Dave Holec, City Attorney

- I. **ROLL CALL** - A quorum was established
- II. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES– May 16, 2013**  
Motioned: Sharon Stang                      Second: Kimberly Carney
- III. **OLD BUSINESS**
  1. Discussion of NAB bylaw language and the request by the Greenville City Council

Ann Maxwell, NAB Chair, drafted options 3 & 4 for the NAB to review during tonight's meeting and requested that each board member initially provide one comment. City Attorney Dave Holec expressed to the board that City Council asked the NAB to provide comments on inclusivity, and requested that that board focus on those issues. Seth Laughlin explained that NAB that Attorney Holec will provide the legal language for the ordinance.

#### COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS:

Lisa Wilburn – it may be difficult to have a rent on the board in the future with these changes.

David Douglas – Wanted to know why can't they all fall under the umbrella of "Neighborhood Association"

Laura McKenna – Wanted to know will the sub groups constitute more than one association?

Kim Carney – read something from the internet

### **A MOTION TO ACCEPT OPTION #3 AND CONTINUE TO WORK ON THE LANGUAGE**

**MOTION:** LISA WILBOURNE

**SECOND:** DAVID DOUGLAS

### **AMENDMENT to the motion to read as stated below.**

#### **OPTION 3**

The NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARD would like to increase participation on the board for all elements of our city and would like to increase the inclusivity without placing any barriers to participation that would exclude some groups such as homeowners' associations. We feel that it is important to hear the concerns of all groups that represent neighborhoods.

In order to include renters' perspectives, the NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARD shall include at least one at large board member and an alternate board member who are renters. The board would then consist of 11 members. Also to further increase inclusivity and the acknowledgement of all subgroups within communities, it is recommended that neighborhood or homeowners' associations have board positions that reflect their subgroups such as churches, non profits, businesses, renters, retirement homes, tenant associations, etc. Each association is unique and the board and bylaws need to reflect the specific needs of each neighborhood group.

There shall be only one "neighborhood association" for each neighborhood with defined geographic boundaries.

Members of the NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARD wish to promote inclusivity so that all groups of residents in our city feel welcomed and their opinions valued. With a strong desire for inclusivity, we do not want to change the ordinance in a manner that would exclude groups of residents. It is our desire to be inviting and to include all groups without mandates. The strength of the NAB comes from sharing ideas and concerns from all areas in Greenville. The board also has stated strongly that there be only one association in an area. A police officer is assigned to neighborhood associations and the officer will attend all meetings of that association, therefore, it is easier to have just one organization. There are situations where one or more homeowners associations may be present within a neighborhood association. In those cases, everything is under the umbrella of the neighborhood association. During the past year, the board has increased its membership by helping neighborhoods become organized, and at the current time we have one board member who is a renter as well as two alternate board members who are renters. We are suggesting the at large board membership for a renter so that there will always be a renter on the board to voice concerns of renters.

It is recommended that neighborhood associations be given a minimum of six months to make changes to their bylaws. Many associations have 1 or 2 meetings annually and would need adequate time to make thoughtful changes.

Discussion:

Will there be a representative from the NAB at the City Council meeting when the ordinance is adopted?

**A RECOMMENDATION TO THE AMENDMENT**

Recommend that one at-large representative be added to the board

Discussion:

Ann Maxwell, NAB Chair requested that each member send her an e-mail by Sunday, June 23, 2013 which will include their thoughts to be included in a cover letter to City Council.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

2. National Night Out discussion
3. Public Comment Period

V. ADJOURN

**I. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Reflection on Third Annual Neighborhood Symposium “*Imagine! United Neighborhoods*” held on May 4, 2013
  - Brenda Diggs, Chair of Symposium planning committee, shared some observations after a debriefing session held with the planning committee following the Symposium:

**GENERAL COMMENTS**

- Good pre-event coverage in the Greenville Daily Reflector
- PSA sent for Go Family Guide, but information was not included
- Best organized NAB Symposium ever
- Pictures from neighborhood association events should be emailed to the board quarterly for future symposiums/events
- Not posted on City of Greenville main Web-site
- Lead article in Greenville Daily Reflector following the event
- Very well received by the public

- Brenda Diggs, presented Ann Maxwell with an certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the committee which was overlooked on the day of the symposium
  - Specific incidences were noted which indicated to the committee a lack of support and general enthusiasm for volunteer efforts to execute a city sponsored public event
2. Discussion of NAB election results held on May 4, 2013
- The following people were elected to the board
    - Laura McKenna, District 3 – board Member
    - Lisa Wilbourne , District 4 – board Member
    - Sharon Stang, District 5 – board Member
    - Traci Eley, District 1 – Alternate Board Member
    - Lennard Naipaul, District 2 – Alternate Board Member
    - Vince Bellis, District 3 – Alternate Board Member
    - Blythe Tennent, District 4 – Alternate Board Member
    - Misun Hur, District 5 – Alternate Board Member
  - Merrill Flood, Director of Community Development Department explained alternate board membership and liaison membership.
  - The master list needs to be updated to call members when it's time to vote
  - It's important to have all liaisons and alternates present during the election
3. Discussion of NAB bylaw language and the request by the Greenville City Council
- Report with official changes to the ordinance are due to City Council in August 2013
  - NAB should have made progress with changes to the ordinance in writing before the June meeting. Council does not meet in July.
  - NAB does not officially have bylaws. The NAB has “Rules and Procedures” as their guide.
  - NAB requested to change both the ordinance and bylaws at the same time
  - NAB chair suggested that board members take the current bylaws home, and review at the same time they review the ordinance.
  - Merrill Flood, Director of Community Development stressed the importance to the board of them working directly on the ordinance at this time
  - Seth will e-mail members of the NAB the document which the board has been using as their bylaws.
  - Is it possible for the NAB to make a suggestion to City Council to request to meet with the liaisons in their districts once a year to get a report of what they are doing in their neighborhoods
  - Suggested that district meetings be called by the City Council representative in the prospective district quarterly inviting the general public. An election could be held during this time
  - Every neighborhood and homeowner's association should have something in writing
  - A representative from the West Greenville Community has agreed to contact all the neighborhood association president's and report back to Ann Maxwell, chair of NAB
  - It was stated that the political reasons the neighborhood associations was formed by the districts were to gain minority participation throughout the city.

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

4. Public Comment Period

- Why is there not a council member appointed to the NAB / NAB is not an appointed board by council
- Plant Sale – Ann Maxwell passed out information

**V. ADJOURN**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Motion: Kim Carney  
Second: Sharon Stang

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Seth Laughlin, Planner II