

Newtonville Area Council Minutes April 5, 2018

Members present:

Maura Harrington, Peter Bruce, Helene Sroat, Susan Reisler, Tarik Lucas, Tom Kraus, Marc Kaufman, Dana Dagostino, Colleen Minaker

Members of the public present; Sarah Quigley, Councilor Emily Norton, Bob Carter

President M. Harrington opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. She asked for public comment. Bob Carter spoke about street snow plowing in his immediate neighborhood. His main concern is that plows damage tree roots and dig up grass and soil along the berm and private property.

NAC members offered a possible solution. Bob ought to take pictures of the damage and send them to the city complaint number which is 311. Emily Norton, city councilor for Ward 2 has recommended this process to people in her ward.

At 7:15 pm. Maura asked the NAC members to approve the March minutes. The council approved the minutes.

At 7:20 pm Maura reviewed the goals and objectives for the public survey: educate and engage the city residents; strengthen the NAC role in the community; advise the Mayor and City Council on salient public issues; analyze data to inform city officials; gauge public opinion; provide a vision for Newtonville's future development.

There was a discussion about the survey and to whom it should be sent. The NAC voted 9-0 and approved it ought to be sent to Wards 1,2,3. The council also discussed various methods of the survey distribution, such as a digital survey and a snail mail survey. Both will be used. Also, several members recommend that a post card system be used to notify residents about the survey. Marc Kaufman will draft a post card and send it to members for approval.

Members spent some time talking about potential survey questions and how to format the questions. After some time the NAC members decided to form a smaller subcommittee of 4 people: Peter Bruce, Tom Kraus, Tarik Lucas and Susan Reisler. They will meet in a week and organize 40 questions for the survey. During the process they will send out lists of questions to NAC members and ask for recommendations and feedback.

The timeline for the survey question completion will be May 10 which is the next monthly council meeting. The ultimate aim is to finalize the public survey results mid to late June.

At 9:00 pm. Maura Harrington adjourned the meeting. The next NAC meeting will be May 10, 2018 at city hall. The Cabot School update will be at 6:30 pm followed by the NAC meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary, Colleen Minaker