

NAC Minutes May 22, 2018

Members Present: Maura Harrington, Peter Bruce, Helene Sroat, Colleen Minaker, Marc Kaufman, Tom Kraus, Susan Reisler, Tarik Lucas, Dana Dagostino
Others present: Fred Arnstein

At 7:05 pm. Maura Harrington opened the meeting. The minutes for April 30, 2018 were approved. The minutes for May 15 were not approved and will be revised for the June 14, NAC meeting.

At 7:20 pm. Helene Sroat said that Rachel Powers from the Planning Dept. sent information about CDBG funds for bus shelter designs. Meetings have been set up. NAC members can contact Rachel about the dates if interested. Marc Kaufman said that NAC members have not attended the CDBG meetings in the past. He thought the NAC might consider attendance at some future CDBG meetings. No NAC member volunteered.

At 7:45 pm. Marc Kaufman discussed some word changes in the Charrette Report. Several members had disagreed about the projected number of housing units along Washington St. After much discussion about whether the projected number of units to be built would be hundreds or thousands. The NAC members decided to vote on the issue.

Dana D'Agostino made a motion: approximately 1200 units should replace the words "many hundreds of units". The vote was 5-4 in favor of the change of words. Harrington, Dagostino, Minaker, Reisler, Bruce voted for the change. Kraus, Kaufman, Sroat, Lucas opposed.

At 8:15 pm. Maura Harrington discussed the dissemination of the Charrette Report. Once all final changes are complete the report will be distributed in PDF form to the Mayor, City Council, the Planning Dept. and several active community groups. The NAC membership list and Beautiful Newton will also receive the report. Marc said he would also write a notification letter to the TAB newspaper.

One NAC member, Colleen Minaker, said she would like to wait to disseminate the report until the upcoming survey results are complete. She also, thought the report was very long at 12 pages and recommended that a one page executive summary report be available with the report. Other NAC members disagreed and voted 8-1 to distribute the Charrette report within the next 2 weeks.

At 8:30 pm. Tarik Lucas discussed the possible cost for the Washington St. public survey. Costs will be over \$4200. Marc Kaufman and Tarik compared ways to cut some of the post card mailing costs. At present there will be 11,000 post cards mailed to residents in Wards 1,2 and 3. The post card will be sent to one member of a household and will include both the Ward and Precinct number. Tom Kraus will set up the URL in the next week. Several members recommend that the NAC members fill out the survey before the final survey questions are complete. The 4 members of the survey sub group will meet to finalize the report next week.

At 9:15 pm. Maura adjourned the meeting. The NAC will meet Thursday June 14, at 7:00 pm., at Newton City Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Colleen Minaker