



NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARD

SUMMARY MINUTES

**THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2012 @ 6:30 PM
CITY HALL, GALLERY AREA
200 WEST FIFTH STREET**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

NAME	DISTRICT
Carolyn Glast *	1
Betty Hines *	2
Ann Maxwell, Chair *	3
Scott Hucks *	4
VACANT	5

NAME	DISTRICT
Kim Carney, Vice Chair *	1
David Douglas x	2
Vince Bellis *	3
Caroline Doherty x	4
Brenda Diggs *	5

ALTERNATE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Stacy Jarrell (District 4)

LIAISONS & OTHER GUESTS:

Richard Crisp (Elmhurst-Englewood); Diane Hucks (Eastwood); Misun Hur (The Oaks); Freddie Outterbridge (Red Oak); and Lisa Wilbourne (Eastwood)

CITY STAFF PRESENT:

Laura Searfoss, Neighborhood Liaison/Ombudsman (CDD); and Gwen Turnage, Administrative Assistant (CDD)

MEETING AGENDA, DISCUSSION, AND ACTIONS:

ROLL CALL—A quorum was established.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES—May 17, 2012

Motion: Scott Hucks

Second: Kim Carney

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion & adoption of 2012–13 workplan

Motion to adopt the 2012–13 workplan.

Motion: Kim Carney

Second: Carolyn Glast

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

2. Video: Jason Roberts: How to Build a Better Block

“How to Build a Better Block” was generally well-received by board members, who recognized the spirit in the short video—residents working together to improve their neighborhood without government involvement—is already happening in Greenville.

Mr. Outterbridge stressed the need to push policies forward, as well as mentioned that some of Greenville’s history related to the tobacco industry has been torn down. Mr. Bellis mentioned that he and his wife moved a bike rack, which remained in place for several years. Ms. Jarrell pointed out that an artist along Dickinson Avenue is putting up large metal sculptures to beautify that area.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Open Discussion on 3-unrelated standard & input meetings

Several members mentioned difficulty in locating the input questionnaire online. Ms. Searfoss showed them where to access the questionnaire on the city’s website, as well as said she would email the online form to the NAB membership on Friday. Mr. Crisp asked if staff planned to publicize the input form more.

Several members expressed concern over the public input meeting’s format and questionnaire—namely that residents could only ask questions at the meeting; that no concrete alternatives were shared for consideration; that staff did not communicate how the input will be used and communicated back to attendees; and that the form’s questions assume a change will occur.

In response, Ms. Searfoss explained that staff was directed by City Council to propose alternatives that increase occupancy, and the questionnaire sought to collect information about people’s suggestions related to higher occupancy—while also recognizing that attendees may not support any change and record that information as well.

Mr. Bellis recommended that, as an advisory body, the NAB try to get the best information out to its membership to make informed opinions about a possible change to the city’s 3-unrelated standard.

The board also agreed that without better information from staff—such as case studies or proposed alternatives—the board is in favor of keeping the ordinance the way it is. Mr. Bellis also suggested that each neighborhood send a representative to see if other residents also oppose the standard.

The board requested that Chris Padgett, Interim Assistant City Manager and Chief Planner, attend the July 2012 NAB meeting to share the input from meeting.

Ms. Hines added that her neighbors always attempt to engage new residents, especially renters, in a friendly way and explain their neighborhoods goals, and if they encounter problems, also try to get the property owner involved.

Ms. Maxwell is concerned that City Council may only apply a change to her neighborhood, which is near East Carolina University, and asked members if a standard only applied in the university area (or one neighborhood), would the NAB continue to oppose the 3-unrelated rule? The members expressed support for all neighborhoods, because as Ms. Hucks put it, “While a change might apply in your neighborhood first, it could be my neighborhood next.”

2. Action on Summer 2012 meeting schedule

Motion to attend the City Council meeting on August 9th in lieu of its regular August meeting.

Motion: Kim Carney
Second: Carolyn Glast

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

3. Staff report—Laura Searfoss

Ms. Searfoss announced that the Greenville Police Department is focusing on neighborhood-scale National Night Out celebrations rather than having a big event on the Town Common. Ms. Searfoss encouraged all neighborhoods to participate on August 7th, and distributed a letter from GDP that suggested ideas for these celebrations—gatherings, cookouts, or walks—and directed organizers to contact Lt. Edwards at (252) 329-4317 for further assistance.

Ms. Searfoss said that Councilmember Kandi Smith would like to organize a meeting with residents of the Hop Tyson Road area. Ms. Searfoss asked the NAB if they would be interested in holding a community-wide meeting in District 1 for this purpose. The NAB agreed to consider this request and discuss it at its July meeting.

Ms. Jarrell asked for an update about the separation standards for family-care homes. Ms. Searfoss explained that Paradigm, Inc. requested a text amendment to create a reasonable accommodation when a family-care home wants to locate within ¼ mile of an existing family-care home. The BOA would determine whether the proposed accommodation is “reasonable” and “necessary” (defined over time by court decisions) on a case-by-case basis, and if it deems appropriate, impose additional standards on the proposed accommodation.

The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval of this text amendment at its June meeting, and it will go to City Council for final approval in August. Assuming this text amendment becomes effectively immediately, Paradigm can apply for a reasonable accommodation at the next BOA meeting following Council approval.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: Scott Hucks
Second: Kim Carney

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:44PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Searfoss
Neighborhood Liaison/Ombudsman
Community Development Department