



Colonial Heights Monthly Meeting Minutes Wednesday April 14th, 2021

Police Update:

- Police not in attendance during April meeting.

Library Update

- Library representative not in attendance during April meeting.

Jay Schenirer Update:

- Council approved 2 items:
 1. EIFD ENHANCED (**Enhanced** Infrastructure Financing Districts) The financing district directly involved to help fund affordable housing in Sacramento.
 2. Aggie Square details new community benefits agreement providing \$50 million dollars for affordable housing. They will be focusing on major areas such as affordable housing, transportation. The 4 zip codes around Aggie square will be the target. They will be also focusing on hiring locals.
- Councilman Schenirer spoke on allocating dollars for education system/pathways.
- 50 million dollar housing fund, working with SHRA, other funding from UC Davis matching philanthropic fundraising.
- Councilman Schenirer briefly spoke on the SIWD program (as later discussed in detail by representative Tamika), working with communities on being “forward working”.
- Resident concerns/Questions: Questions from attendee regarding the cost of the proposed shelter. Councilman Schenirer explained that it will cost approx.. \$5-6 million dollars, the hope is to move people into permanent housing within 4-6 months of residing in shelter. “We hope to have a flow of individuals moving through”. Attendee asked clarifying question if capital operational costs will be consistent with railroad drive project. Councilman Schenirer confirmed it is and he is confident this will have a better outcome.

Discussion on Goals and Priorities for 2021

- The primary purpose of discussion was to discuss what the community wishes our goals and priorities should be for the year 2021.
- FB/NextDoor Poll created by KC Shuft: The top contenders for goals and priorities included the following top contenders:
 1. Walking/jogging path around Colonial Park: This was the most voted for option on Facebook. However it was explained that a few years ago the parks dept stated it would cost upwards of \$75k to create this, and that topography due to trees and playground may limit it as an option. This was brought up to Parks Dept representative Cameron who stated she will confirm this information.
 2. Colonial Park Restrooms: Restrooms listed as second ranked option. Shared concerns by group on cleanliness of the restrooms, as well as that they are locked all the time which poses issue for events/sports games held at the park. For example our annual kickball league would be impacted by the closed restrooms. Per Councilman Schenirer cost of remodeling restrooms is reported to be of concern, ranging between \$300-350k due to plumbing etc. Attendee questioned quoted amount of

restroom remodel. Councilman Schenirer explained that running new plumbing lines etc. raises the cost compared to in home remodels.

3. Alley/Community Garden:
4. Public Art: Ed Fletcher and Mark Harrington interested in bringing more local/community art to Colonial Heights.
5. Adult Exercise Area in the park: Similar to Tahoe Park, some community members requesting exercise areas for adults around the park.
6. Lights on SF Blvd: Community members interested in lights. It was discussed by leaders that lights were on in the past but city of Sac had to turn them off due to not being able to afford the cost of keeping them on.
7. Wading Pool: Per City of Sac within the next year the plan is to begin removing all wading pools and replacing them with splash pads. They also plan to remove the fence surrounding current wading pool. Shared concerns that the neighborhood should be surveyed regarding this before it is removed, Mark Harrington voiced the joy he has witnessed (from his home across the way) it brings kids & their families throughout the years.

Committee Updates:

- **Communication-**

- Per head of Communications, Greg, he explained to group that the different social media platforms, and modes of communication are now better organized, “all in one place and reachable”. Kaitlyn and Chelsea open to taking part in communications committee and will be meeting with Greg soon to learn more. CHNA leaders actively looking for other community members to take part. Please email Greg at Gregnextdoor@gmail.com if interested in taking joining committee.

- **Welcome-**

-From January to current date there have been 5 new homeowners in Colonial heights, welcome baskets put together for new residents, will be distributed soon. The hope is that for our proposed first in person meeting to have cards for attendees to sign for future homeowners in the neighborhood.

- **Finance-**

- No new updates. Current balance is \$1350, Team thanked Jay Schenirer office for contributing to Easter Scavenger Hunt.

- **Traffic and Safety-**

- Kaitlyn is continuing to speak with other community members as well as police on ways to reduce traffic issues such as speeding in the neighborhood. If anyone else is interested in joining committee please email Kaitlyn Johnson at kaitlyncjohnson@gmail.com

- **Art (Newly proposed committee)-**

- “Art walk” in McKinley village discussed, Councilmember Schenirer willing to work on this with our neighborhood. Allison has done lot of work on murals and may be able to assist with this.
- Ed Fletcher, willing to help make art happen in our community, suggest starting small and moving towards bigger things, “involve local artists, start with back stop” Talks of tree just went down (bare spot), look for small opportunities for local artists. May be funding available through councilman Schenirer office towards art.
- Mark Harrington is meeting with Parks community coordinator & Colonial Park supervisor at the park on 4/20 at 9am.
- Best contact for art murals is Donald Gensler, can be contacted at dgensler@cityofsacramento.org

- **T-shirt**

- KC Shuft discussed that there are a few different designs, options such as old map, people liked this option in the past, or the very first designed t-shirt, (maroon with sign topper on it), She wishes to buy more but needs to know which one is the favorite. She asked attendees, it was of mixed opinions. May survey community members on social media platform prior to ordering.

- **Parks**

- Park updates provided during Goals & Priorities for 2021, as well as during Parks Master Plan presentation.

Tamika L'Ecluse, Sacramento Investment Without Displacement

****KC Shuft introduced Tamika from SIWD to the group. KC was connected to Tamika after someone reached out to her from SIWD explaining what the programs goals are and the benefits of being a member. KC Shuft also said that she was going to join SWID, but indicated that to join, another person from Colonial Heights needed to join.

1. Tamika spoke about the purpose of the organization, indicating that it was to ensure that the impacts from development and growth in Sacramento, including Aggie Square, were mitigated to the extent possible and that growth in Sacramento did not have to be at the expense of existing long term residents. "Sacramento Investment Without Displacement (SIWD) was created to serve as a single coalition of multiple organizations and individuals that are working together to help protect vulnerable communities and neighborhoods from potential negative and destabilizing impacts of large development projects in Sacramento. SIWD seeks to work with and negotiate with large institutions and developers that propose developments that threaten to destabilize existing neighborhoods, their residents, cultural norms, small businesses and community institutions. This idea emerged from the Sacramento Building Healthy Communities " Community Development Action Team (CDAT), and specifically, CDAT's research on Aggie Square, a 20 acre commercial and mixed-use development proposed by UC Davis on land owned by the State of California, and controlled by the University of California"
2. Per Tamika, "Community members drive the success of the neighborhood", and it's important for multiple neighborhood to become involved to strengthen the program.
3. Tamika provided an overview of organizations that came together to establish a precedent of how development works in partnership with communities and not against, to not exploit them. Example: Mercy housing, "it's going to be an amazing program, childcare component, how to mitigate the impacts, we love things to help and serve, but we also can't leave the people who are currently there behind".
4. She explained the importance of having seats at the table when decisions are going to be made such as workforce, housing, transportation, & youth programs. "These are Sacramento goals. In order to reach these goals, to have clean air, mobility, all of it is possible if policies are out in place and leaders are partners with us in achieving them".
5. Tamika then engaged in discussion regarding details of the \$50 million plan (previously discussed by D5 Councilmember Jay Schenirer) with Jay Schenirer and attendee Chris Jones. This resulted in an extended policy discussion. Eventually due to time constraints moderator called an end to the discussion due to the next presentation. Attendee Greg Ruszovan objected that no questions had been permitted of Tamika regarding the SIWD organization, membership, dues, individual participation, and pointed out that SIWD required that CHNA, not individual neighbors, join the organization, and that permission from CHNA had not been sought or obtained. Chris agreed and indicated he would like to be the second person if joined. Chris further explained that the neighbors in attendance (6 total, with only 1 not being a CHNA leader) at the meeting should suffice for joining as all neighbors are invited/encouraged to attend and submit their opinions if desired. Greg requested that the issue be tabled due to time and be discussed at the next monthly meeting.

If interested in joining or have additional questions please go to SIWD.org

Cameron Grannis, Parks Master Plan

-Main Purpose of discussion was to evaluate what is working well within the neighborhood and address neighborhood concerns/questions. Per Cameron & Brianna Moland these meetings are called community connection meetings.

-To start, an Interactive poll was posted so that attendees could register and complete. These results are forwarded to parks Department for review.

- Shared Concerns: Multiple attendees questioned the current status of restrooms, they are locked & the current process to get them unlocked is difficult. The ask is for the restrooms to be modified so they are no longer unpleasant to be in & easier to unlock. Some activities/events where reliable/accessible/safe restrooms are needed are for when the neighborhood opens the wading pool, kickball league games, soccer in the park etc.
- Per Cameron she was told by her supervisor that there are plans in place to upgrade the park restrooms. She was unable to discuss specifics at this time but will report back that neighborhood wishes to know how and when the upgrades will happen.
- Cameron confirmed that the wading pool is planned to convert to a splash pad. The reason behind decision by City Of Sacramento is that it's more modern and no staff required making maintenance cheaper for the city.
- Attendees voiced preference on maintaining restrooms before converting the wade pool.
- Shared concerns regarding whether the community has an opinion in the conversion of the wading pool to splash pad. Per Cameron it is the city's plan, if people wish to voice their opinion they can submit a "Project request form". This will be sent to Greg for f/u.

- If there is additional interest or questions in the Parks Master plan for 2021 please go to website below: <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/ParksandRec/Parks/Park-Planning-Development/MasterPlan>

Final Announcements/Updates:

- **Mercy Housing Update:**
- Mercy housing update: Greg reported that a meeting was held on south side of 22nd Ave, where concerns were addressed such as the "serious significant impact on what we identified as traffic, parking, privacy and safety. Handed out flyers door to door. Neighborhood leads on this were Terri and Mary Jo. They handed out surveys in the neighborhood and discussed potential future impacts with multiple households. The meeting with Mercy to discuss impacts was conducted on 4/12. Greg reported it was a positive meeting, "people expressed what concerns they had directly and now other street are organizing with 21st". Namely concerns on how traffic will be routed down 54th and the impacts on 22nd. "Intentionally routing traffic through neighborhoods", starting conversation to help with those issues. "Nobody is opposed with the project just trying to make people feel more comfortable".
- More updates to follow at future meetings.
- **Easter Scavenger Hunt:**
- KC announced that the Easter Scavenger Hunt (held the past 2 years) was a fun event with 17-18 homes participating. There were treats or small toys to find in different yards. However there was not a lot of participation this year. The hope is to go back to the Easter Carnival next year. KC thanked councilman Schenirer's office for \$250 donation towards event.
- **Colonial Height Neighborhood Birthday:**
- This year marks 111th colonial heights neighborhood with its birthday on 5/11/21. Typically an event would be held in the park but due to Covid this is unable to take place. An idea posed by Mark Harrington is we can acknowledge this at the National Night out Event.
- **National Night out:**
- Kathy & Steve are attempting to plan a traditional night out event dependent on pandemic. They will be meeting with Greg soon to begin planning for that. It is scheduled for 8/3/21.
- **Kickball League:**
- Kickball season officially begins 5/13/21, see you on the field!