

D6NLG Agenda 12/6/21

(with notes by M.Pizzo and L.Ames in green)

San José District 6 Neighborhood and Community Leaders Group (D6NLG) was held Monday Dec 6th, 2021, 7 PM

The meeting was recorded for use by D6NLG members: ([link to video](#); link to [chat text](#).)

Meeting Agenda:

- Welcome and Introductory Remarks – Larry Ames, chair **Welcome!**
- Attendee Introductions – Name / Organization / Title
Mary Pizzo, Susan Price, Art Maurice, Steve Kline, Bill Rankin, Larry Ames, Jean Dresden, Jim Carter
- Agenda Changes/additions? **none**
- Corrections to [minutes](#) from last month?
 - agendas, minutes, and position papers are archived on <http://calsj.org/D6/>
- Elected Officials / Staff Updates
 - Supervisor Ellenberg – Steve Kline
 - **Last BoS meeting of the year will be 12/14/2021.**
 - **Two hotels have been acquired for 120 units of temporary housing.**
 - **Redistricting will be on the meeting tomorrow. There are 9 maps to be reviewed.**
 - **The board is reviewing changes for incarceration of individuals with mental health issues.**
 - **Grants for \$2,500 available to address solutions to hate and violence.**
 - Councilmember Davis – Marianne Groen **no report**
- Board and Commission Updates
 - Neighborhood Commission – Jim Carter (**see below**)
 - Parks & Rec Commission – Art Maurice (D6); Larry Ames (D3)
 - **Art Maurice discussed the city owned golf courses. They are making money now and leases are coming up for renewal. Larry asked Steve Kline if a provision can be added to a lease in which the lease could be canceled if the property no longer making money. The Commission's main concerns are around water use and the length of the lease.**
 - **Construction and Conveyance Fees and park fees are coming into the city.**
- Advocacy and Community Group updates
 - Save Our Trails -- Bill Rankin
 - **SOT will lead a 9-mile bike ride on the southern end of the "City Loop Trail" on January 23.**
 - **The final section of the 3 Creeks Trail will be developed beginning 12/6/2021 from Coe Avenue north to Lonus Avenue.**
 - SJ Park Advocates -- Jean Dresden
 - **Ron Horii posted on Facebook a presentation on the dedication of the Coyote Creek Trail.**
 - **Yves Zsutty will be retiring from PRNS Feb 2022.**

- There is a survey of 3 plaza style designs for a new park planned for the Alameda, behind Westminster Church.
- The project for River Glen Park with the athletic field improvements will be complete this winter.
- There is a new Taskforce made up of appointments by each Councilperson and some members of parks and planning. They are looking at park fees for new development. These 'New Nexus' meetings are closed, but the public is supposed to be able to hear the recordings of the meetings. However, Jean has requested the Taskforce post the meetings for September and October, but to date they have not been posted. The names of the appointed representatives have not been made public.
- Larry presented some of the current issues with the stated parks fees, which are not meeting current needs.
- A community meeting is scheduled for 12/8/21 for Guadalupe Gardens. Many of the desired uses are not approved by FAA because of the crash zone. Columbus Park had pre-existing fields which are being reconfigured for soccer fields, using the last of the Measure P funds.
- Alma Park, currently in District 3 and may move to District 6 (on Alma near Pomona Street). The land was gifted to the city by a family trust. There are plans for greenery, lawn and play structure.
- A private park is planned for the redesign of Cambrian Plaza (D9), which includes a public easement. Intent: private park gets better maintenance.
- At tomorrow's City Council meeting is expected to change the general plan for Lincoln Ave from Minnesota north to Hwy 280 will be redesigned to allow for mixed use and residential housing up to 6-stories. Jean discussed how 'objective standards' are simply allowed with very little criteria, such as step backs, and passed directly over to Planning.
>> After discussion, D6NLG decided to submit letter to Council re: Lincoln Ave. ([Letter](#) was sent 12/7/21 via email.)

- Discussions:

- the redrawing of Council District boundary lines -- Jean Dresden
 - implications for the future of D6NLG, city park funding, ...?
- updates on SB 9 & 10, Opportunity Housing, etc. -- Jean Dresden
 - City Planning is dropping efforts on Opportunity Housing so that they can concentrate on accommodating SB9 & 10 req'mnts. Law takes effect Jan 1st, but State won't have guidelines and regulations ready until Feb. City has to develop a new Zoning Code.
- Jim Carter joined in, gave update on N'hoods Cmsn:
 - Council appointed members to fill vacancies; now have quorum; are busy
 - many ad-hoc cmtes working various topics (budget, fireworks, redistricting, ...)
 - NC drafting letter to Council re City Budget. All are invited to give input.
 - "Reimagining Public Safety" Group: to report out by March. Not "defund the police", but rather improve their quality. Opportunity to "change the culture" by recruitment and hiring to replace ~117 officers who are retiring in the next couple months.

- NC working to implement n’hood caucus process to elect Cmsnrs in 2022 for odd-numbered districts
 - NC drafting policy letter re Illegal Fireworks. Ongoing issue. SJFD chief and a captain, both firework-control champions, have recently retired. City and SJFD seem to have lost their momentum.
- Continued from last month:
 - D6NLG Finances, and status on the returning of the grant from UNSCC -- Bill Rankin
 - Bill still trying to contact James Rincon to get an accounting of funds spent.
- discussion on whether D6NLG needs formal bylaws, or should update the [current guidelines](#)
 - membership? quorum? decision process / consensus / actions? term(s) for chair & VC?
 - discussion on the role of the Chair as the public representative of the group
 - Note that D2 spent 18 months working on their bylaws: don’t want to do that.
 - Discussion: anyone can speak on their own behalf or for their group, but only Chair (or delegate) will speak on behalf of D6NLG, and will represent D6 in the All District Leadership Group.
 - Consensus: update current guidelines; include policy on public speaking on behalf of D6NLG.
 - [Based on input, Chair has now suggested draft revision: see <http://calsj.org/D6/draftD6NLGguidelines.pdf>]
- Actions or precautions for Covid omicron? no report
- Additional topics? Announcements? none
- Next meeting date: Mon., Jan 3rd
- Final thoughts? Season’s Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year!
- Adjourn until next year.