

**Minutes of the NOTICe Board Meeting
September 11, 2017
Portner's Landing Community Room**

Present: Agnes Artemel, Tom Soapes, Clarence Tong, Roger Waud, Anne White-Olson, Penny LaPorte

Absent: Matt Henessey, Howard Middleton, Christa Watters, Fran Zorn

Sgt. Casey

Sargent Casey attended, but had to leave when he received a police call about gunshots, however, he returned shortly after he found the shots were a false alarm. While he had “nothing major to report”, the group discussed traffic updates, police presence in Montgomery Park and at the Canal Center for the Taste of North Old Town event.

Tom asked Sgt. Casey if the trucks and construction workers at the Holiday Inn are allowed to block the sidewalks on N. Pitt Street. Sgt. Casey said that the permit had expired, so that they could no longer block the sidewalk. He was going to follow-up on that. Also, Tom mentioned that construction workers brought down lots of garbage from the roof and that the Holiday Inn has possible safety issues with garbage blocking the exit door at the hotel. Again, Sgt. Casey will check into it.

Penny asked if the police could alert or ticket taxis and commercial vehicles that park on N. Pitt, which is zoned for residential parking. He agreed that he would look into it and mention it to his employees to make their presence known and alert taxis that they are parked in a residential area.

August Minutes Approved

Treasurer/Membership Report

Matt announced that this month, NOTICe finances were \$7576.48 Total
149 household members
222 individual members

September Member Meeting

Tom discussed planning for the September Member Meeting.
Fran will take care of refreshments.
Christa sent out the flyer.

NOTICe Board members are to show up at 6:45-7:00 to prepare for the annual meeting.

Agnes suggested that Jeff Farnar, speaker, Deputy Director of Planning and Zoning, bring copies of his slides so they can be loaded on the NOTICe website.

Taste of Old Town Debrief

NOTICe was a sponsor and staffed a NOTICe table at Canal Center Plaza. People were under the impression that food was going to be part of the event. Agnes provided a brief history of how the event was handled in the past. Penny suggested getting restaurants back to provide food in

Montgomery Park next year. More planning is needed if NOTICe is to sponsor this event in the future.

Updates on Development Projects

An RFP is to be released during September for the Bus Barn development, probably with townhouses Old Colony Inn is to be developed with new townhouses. The block where the Crowne Plaza is, is planning to be re-developed with private residences, probably townhouses.

Annual Meeting Program Ideas

Tom asked that we begin thinking about program ideas for the November meeting. With 2-3 board members stepping down, Tom reminded us that there will be an election at the meeting. Penny North Old Town Arts Project Planning as a possible topic for the November meeting.

Montgomery Park Security Issues

During the summer concert series, that NOTICe helped sponsor, there was an unfortunate incident where the police had to be called due to a vagrant taking up space where the band was to play. Sgt. Casey has promised that at future events, police will drive by or be in the park to ensure safety for all.

Website/Facebook

Brian Lam, the NOTICe webmaster, asks that we bundle up new items for posting on the 1st and the 15th of each month.

The NOTICe Facebook page needs some promotion and new information posted. Clarence promised he would work with Anne on this effort.

Power Plant Site

Roger proposed that the group become more active in addressing the NRG site. He suggested surveying the community about how it wants site developed. Tom reminded Roger that NOTICe conducted a survey 3.5 years ago in which it included feedback results about the site that were included Small Area Plan. Clarence suggested that we keep tabs on this topic and keep our views known to the City including that we want to go forward on development, sooner rather than later, but realize that a lot of cleanup of the site must take place, prior to any re-development. In addition, the Slater's Lane and Parkway intersection have to be re-engineered. We might question how this will fit with the Energy Transfer Station that is probably going to stay there and how can we do this at the same time that the bus barn RFP and development happen, etc.

It was agreed that there is a lot planning and meetings that have to be accomplished for the site, before a group comes in to develop it. We are probably some years away from seeing that site developed

Next board meeting is October 9.

Meeting Adjourned