

## Revitalizing Neighborhoods Committee

### Meeting Minutes 6/19/07

Present: Rick Chapla, Christine Helms-Maletic (Secretary), Tom Tilma, Jill Myer, Carol Townsend, Gail Heffner, Frank Lynn, Mike Williams, and Blake Hamilton.

The meeting was called to order by Christine Helms-Maletic, Secretary/Acting Chair. All persons present introduced themselves.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved as e-mailed.

#### Zoning Update

Several RNC members attended the June 12 workshop that Suzanne Schulz sponsored. A letter to the Planning Commission thanking them for their work on the new zoning code was delivered to Pat Miles, chair, prior to the meeting on June 14.

The new ordinance is still under revision. The addition of buffers, tree preservation, and renewable energy code language are being placed by Suzanne. Also, the final editing is being done. Therefore, there is another delay in adopting the new code. August 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the date for the Planning Commission's public hearing, and September 25<sup>th</sup> is the public hearing before the City Commission.

Christine raised the question of whether or not it was necessary for there to be a city-wide meeting. It was decided that there is no need for the RNC to organize a city-wide meeting.

There are several additional actions Committee members would like to pursue. 1) RNC should write another letter (similar to the PC letter) to the City Commission for their September 25 public hearing on the new code. 2) Keep track of any needed changes to the new code so that amendments could be offered 6 to 12 months after the code is adopted. 3) Future actions should focus on educating the public on what the zoning code says and how it applies to their neighborhood: develop brochures with Planning Department, distribute brochures at neighborhood and business association meetings, organize workshops on any issues raised or possible amendment needs, etc.

#### NID/CID

Christine discussed what NID/CID was along with BID. It is essentially four pieces of legislation. Two pieces of the legislation deal with neighborhoods and two pieces of the legislation deal with business districts. NID/CID/BID are new tools that neighborhood and business associations can utilize to revitalize their areas. Christine is willing to make herself available for any further questions regarding the matter.

#### Economic Development Sub-Committee – Jill Myer

Jill will be contacting Gustavo of CRI. Further input may be needed.

### RNC Vision/Big Picture

Carol distributed the recommendation of the RNC Executive Team regarding the comprehensive changes RNC activities should seek to accomplish (see attached). The recommendation was based on the brainstorming that occurred at our last meeting. The Committee accepted the recommendation with two additions:

- Aging in place
- Effective public schooling

Committee goals each year should work toward achieving these 2 changes. We need to decide how to measure our progress in accomplishing these changes.

### Other

Christine inquired as to whether any sort of forum can be initiated with the neighborhoods since GRAND no longer exists.

Possible future RNC activities include sponsoring a contest on which neighborhood is the “greenest” and sponsoring a workshop on how to work with developers on revitalization projects. LEED-ND’s checklist might be helpful in judging which projects should be supported. This checklist will be reviewed at our next meeting.

Frank brought up the Universal/Zero Step Standards. These standards could also be incorporated into a checklist for developers and will be discussed at our next meeting.

Paul Haan had asked if the RNC is interested in following up on the Parks Report that the City just completed. It appears that a group is pursuing the recommendation to create a Parks Foundation. RNC members expressed interest. It was suggested that we try to get one of our members on the Foundation.

THERE WILL BE NO JULY MEETING. **August 21, 2007, 9:30AM** is the next scheduled meeting.

***HAPPY SUMMER !!!!!!!***