

CHNA Neighborhood Meeting

Church of the Beatitudes

January 8, 2018

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Jennifer Wright, 1st Vice President Brandy Stark, 2nd Vice President Adam Vasallo, Secretary Susan O’Gara, Treasurer Kristine Mason, Membership Angie Conner, Newsletter Sylvia Raymond, Social Media Sarah Suits, Past President Thomas Paterek

VISITORS PRESENT:

Officer Joshua Jordan

Pastor Phil Miller-Evans, Pastor of Church of the Beatitudes

Lisset Hanewicz, President of Crescent Lake Neighborhood Association

Jennifer Wright called the meeting to order at 6:53 pm.

Our new Community Police Officer Joshua Jordan introduced himself and shared police reports from past month.

1 residential burglary-pressure washer stolen and no prosecution

No vehicle burglaries

21 traffic stops which include our border streets.

5 Walk and Talks with no dispatch calls to meet neighbors.

4 Directed Walks

One member reported that 2 people are sleeping out near the dumpsters at the Gas Station at 26th St & MLK.

Officer Jordan can be reached at (727) 831-1476 or joshua.jordan@stpete.org

Pastor Phil shared the sad information that the Church of the Beatitudes, built in 1928 has been sold. This was his 15th year as pastor. On November 19th, 2017, the congregation voted to sell. There are only 73 members remaining. They are vacating April 1st, 2018. The building will be demolished. The CHNA members expressed their sadness and thanks to Pastor Phil for all he has done in the community and for hosting our meetings through the years. Someone suggested that possibly one of the local crafters could use the stained glass windows. People asked why it could not be sold and remain intact, but there are only 3 exceptions to residential zoning (church, school and community building).

The November 6, 2017, CHNA Neighborhood Minutes were not read as they had been preapproved by Louise Barrett, Sarah Suits and Thomas Paterek.

The Treasurer's Report is attached below.

Crescent Lake Neighborhood Association has asked us to partner with them for a potluck in the park. They asked us to donate \$100. The neighborhood was asked for a raise of hands of those in favor of donating \$100 toward the get together. It passed unanimously. Lisset Hanewicz, President of Crescent Lake Neighborhood Association, introduced herself and said they would also be providing materials for painting rocks.

Discussion about seeking Local Historical Designation:

CHNA has previously heard speakers from St. Petersburg Preservation, the city, and our neighborhood historian Jim Tomlinson. President Jennifer Wright introduced a question session to compile questions to be answered at a future meeting. She felt we should also get the input of developers and those against local designation. Below is a partial compilation of questions and comments both pro and con.

Designation-Harder to sell house.

What are the protections?

Meets certificate of appropriateness? What is this?

Do builders go through regular guidelines and then also the certificate of appropriateness?

Protection of granite curbs and appropriate green spaces.

Greater control of what is being built?

Does not mean property values are frozen.

People want to move to neighborhoods with designation because they have character like Rosary Park, etc.

What makes us exceptional? Highest point in Pinellas County, alley access, etc.

Another approach to designation, like in Old NE, is getting designated block by block.

Concern for larger buildings- taller and less green space.

Concern for development going the wrong way.

Jim Tomlinson has lived here 40 years. In 2002 his home was designated as a local historic sight. He gave a very brief overview of the Architectural/Historical Survey of Crescent Heights completed by the Stevenson Architects, Inc. in May of 1996. Over 75% of the homes would have qualified for historical designation approval simply because they were over 50 years of age.

Jim then offered this perspective: What can I do for my neighborhood, not what can my neighborhood do for me?

Need 50% of all homeowners plus 1 to pass.

Questions regarding fences and windows.

National historic designation versus local historic?

Contrast Historic and Local Historic designation

Time is the essence.

We must act now.

Kenwood is on National Designation, not local, and have stricter regulations.

Jim discussed past designation and current city administration giving bonus points to builders for adding an extra tree.

Our present Neighborhood Plan is very weak.

What kind of growth do we want?

If I wanted windows redone, does one person or board make the decision?

Research average days on market if historic district?

Does Historic Designation reduce the potential pool of buyers?

Jim Tomlinson made a motion to ask a person from city to come to answer questions about certificate of appropriateness, seconded by Gail Stark. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim Tomlinson suggested that, in order to avoid confusion, we create a document with 3 columns:

1-National Historic designation requirements/consequences.

2- St. Petersburg Local Historic designation requirements/ consequences.

3- Florida Home owners and flood insurance requirements that comply with local code requirements. This 3rd column is specifically for the purpose for one to be aware of and to not confuse these requirements with that of Local Historic Designation consequences.

Pdf on city site.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Sign across from Crescent Lake Park on 7th still does not work. That is a private inventor's project. Solar panel does not get enough power.

Jim Tomlinson congratulated Jennifer Wright and thanked her for her efforts at her first Neighborhood Meeting as President.

Susan O’Gara mentioned the resurfacing of MLK Street would begin this Spring.

Thomas Paterek mentioned off shore oil rigs. 60 days of public comment.

Meeting was adjourned by Jennifer Wright at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Susan O’Gara, Secretary

**Crescent Heights Neighborhood Association
Treasurer's Report
(December 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017)**

Balance as of December 1, 2017	\$ 7,727.70
Balance as of December 30, 2017	\$ 6,452.47

Advertising Escrow for 2017 Newsletter

No escrow at this time

Revenue

2018 Pay Pal (1)	\$ 20.00
Flags (1)	\$ 40.00
2018 Membership (2)	\$ 40.00

Total Revenue **\$100.00**

Expenditures

CONA 2018 Dues	\$ 45.00
PO BOX	\$ 90.00
Pay Pal Fee	\$.74
Facebook (Oct)	\$ 54.52
Neighborhood Signs	\$ 130.00
Retirement Remembrance	\$ 100.00

Lights in the Heights- Total Expenses \$ 954.97
(512.61, 55.24, 69.69, 228.80, 88.63)

Total Expenses **\$ 1,375.23**

net change -**\$ 1,275.23**