

**Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition
Meeting Minutes • Monday, October 3, 2016**

1-2. Meeting called to order at 7:05pm with welcome and introductions.

3. Guest Speaker: Christi Snyder, RCS: Summarized RCS's efforts throughout Pinellas County. RCS Food Bank serves 70 thousand people each year, 45% of which are under 17. RCS Grace House is an 8 week transitional program for homeless families, providing shelter, life skills, transportation and child care assistance. Haven of RCS is a domestic violence shelter; the RCS Thrift Store on East Bay Drive serves RCS program families at no cost and is always looking for donations. Attendees thanked Ms. Snyder for her speech and applauded the organization's efforts. More information may be found at www.rcspinellas.org.

4. Officers' Reports

Secretary Spencer Cook summarized minutes of the September meeting. Motion to approve made by Doug Williams and seconded by Kathleen Agnew. Motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer Doug Williams presented Treasurer's Report. Expenses included post office box renewal and \$152 for Ric Ortega to attend the Florida Neighborhoods Conference. Clearwater Gas has agreed to renew its \$1500 annual sponsorship. CNC membership dues are due January 1 and may be paid in advance. Motion to approve made by Jack Mortimer and seconded by Spencer Cook. Motion approved unanimously.

Vice-President Karen Cunningham praised the meeting turnout considering the inclement weather and new location, and presented general comments concerning the MPO and its impact on the city.

President Warshauer announced that Imagine Clearwater consultants are working on the redevelopment plan and will present their results in November. A comment from the floor noted that Imagine Clearwater meeting times and locations could be more convenient. Attendees were urged to visit www.imagineclearwater.com for the latest information.

Lawrence Young, Clearwater Neighborhoods Coordinator announced Code Enforcement and CPD will conduct a Code Enforcement sweep in the Lake Bellevue Neighborhood On October 28. He also announced that the National Night Out event will be held October 4 from 5-8pm.

5A. Committee Reports: Ric Ortega, Code Enforcement Committee Chair reported that committee efforts are in progress and asked for input related to code enforcement concerns.

6. Old Business:

Florida Neighborhoods Conference: Will be held October 13-15. Ric Ortega will attend and report back to CNC. Attendees asked Ric to discover how other neighborhoods and/or cities are handling CNC priority issues including downtown redevelopment, neighborhood revitalization and membership.

Neighborhood Revitalization: Howard Warshauer circulated the CNC position paper which was sent to city council members and the city manager. Traffic calming, improved curbs and sidewalks, and walking and biking trail improvements were cited as top priorities. In the paper, CNC stressed its position that these priorities should comprise a large portion of the upcoming Penny for Pinellas IV list. Attendees suggested that CNC should present its general position to council, but that specific “street by street” proposals should come from the neighborhoods themselves.

A general discussion followed, including advice on traffic calming and clarification of CNC’s position that speed bumps and/or tables should not be used unless absolutely necessary. Concern was raised about the lack of a specific engineering standard for speed tables and a recommendation was made that CNC invite traffic calming and bike/pedestrian trail experts to speak at upcoming meetings.

Concerns were raised about the safety of specific trail intersections including the Duke Energy Trail at Gulf-to-Bay and Drew Streets. Vice Mayor Bill Jonson clarified the Penny for Pinellas process; a concern was raised over a tentative \$30 million Penny IV allocation for the Sand Key Bridge and there were questions concerning ownership and jurisdiction of the bridge. Ric Ortega filed a motion to have President Warshauer look into the matter in more detail. Motion was seconded by Karen Cunningham and approved unanimously.

7. New Business:

CNC **Holiday Party** is scheduled for Monday, December 5 from 7 to 9pm with brief CNC business to be followed by buffet and reception with cash bar at Nauti Nancy’s Restaurant. Invite list to include paid members and city officials. Lee Mortimer filed a motion to approve \$500 for party expenses. Motion seconded by Doug Williams and approved unanimously.

Nominating Committee: Lee and Jack Mortimer agreed to co-chair the committee. Officers have tentatively agreed to retain their positions pending elections in December. Anyone interested in running for CNC officer positions should notify Lee and Jack Mortimer as soon as possible.

Sewage Issues: Question from the floor concerning the recent pump failure at the Marshall Street plant. Vice Mayor Jonson provided details on the situation. The city is conducting an investigation and an official report will be made upon completion.

7. Next meeting scheduled for Monday, November 7 at 7pm. Meeting adjourned at 8:34pm. ###