

**Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition
Meeting Minutes • Monday, February 6, 2017**

1-2. Meeting called to order at 7:04pm with welcome and introductions.

3. Guest Speaker: Sarah Ward, Planning Division Manager, Forward Pinellas

Ms. Ward and her staff presented a summary of their current SR60/Druid Road/Drew Street mobility study, which seeks to find ways to improve traffic flow as well as pedestrian and bicyclist safety along the SR 60 corridor through Clearwater. Ms. Ward and staff distributed information about the study as well as a survey asking attendees to choose which design options they felt would be most effective.

Attendees discussed current conditions in the plan study area, including traffic congestion, lack of safe street-crossing options (including mid-block crossings) along SR60, lack of pedestrian refuge islands, especially along SR60 at the eastern end of the study area, fears for the safety of veterans and other handicapped individuals attempting to cross SR60, and the need for a pedestrian/bicyclist grade-separated crossing (overpass) where SR60 intersects the Duke Energy Trail. Public workshops will be conducted at 5:30pm on both February 28 at SPC and March 7 at the Main Library. More information may be found at www.forwardpinellas.org.

4. Officers' Reports

Secretary Spencer Cook summarized minutes of the January meeting. Motion to approve made by Doug Williams and seconded by Linda Kubilius. Motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer Doug Williams presented Treasurer's Report and reminded attendees that CNC membership dues are due. Motion to approve made by Spencer Cook and seconded by Kathleen Agnew. Motion approved unanimously.

Vice-President Karen Cunningham summarized the ongoing bylaw review and requested that CNC members review the proposed changes in advance of a planned vote at the March meeting.

President Warshauer reported on Imagine Clearwater's final Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting and City Council vote on the consultants' report, which were both held February 2. The Stakeholder Committee passed a unanimous motion in approval of the final report and City Council voted 5-0 to accept the report. President Warshauer praised the consultants and citizen participants for their work on the project, which would be implemented in phases at an estimated cost of 30 to 50 million dollars. Council will review and consider the details of the proposal on Tuesday, February 21 from 4-6pm. More information may be found at www.imagineclearwater.com.

President Warshauer also commented on an upcoming Gateway Neighborhood improvements meeting scheduled for February 8, and discussed concerns that CNC's proposed neighborhood improvements were not included in an city-initiated online

Penny for Pinellas survey. Vice Mayor Bill Jonson pledged to follow up to see why the city did not respond to CNC's request for more information about the exclusion of neighborhood improvements.

5. Other Monthly Reports

Stewart Phillips, Clearwater Police Department reminded attendees that Neighborhoods Day is set for April 8 and that CPD is planning a combination shredding and prescription drug disposal event, which is tentatively scheduled for 8am to 3pm on Saturday, April 22 at Countryside Mall.

Officer Phillips welcomed Sgt. Tim Downs, Supervisor of CPD's Burglary Division. Sgt. Downs reported that Clearwater is a safe city but that 84 percent of burglaries are due to people failing to lock their vehicle doors. Sgt. Downs announced his availability to speak to neighborhood associations, reminded residents to always call police in the event of suspicious activity, and urged neighborhood leaders to remind their residents to keep vehicle doors locked at all times.

Lauren Matzke, Clearwater Planning and Development, reported on behalf of Lawrence Young, Clearwater Neighborhoods Coordinator. Lauren introduced Rick Osorio, Risk Manager for the city, who provided details on the proposed changes designed to streamline block party applications. Mr. Osorio urged neighborhood associations to carry sufficient liability insurance. Applications for Neighborhoods Day will be made available ASAP once council approves the new block party application process. Attendees also relayed to Lauren positive feedback stemming from the North Marina pop-up improvement project.

6. Committee Reports

Ric Ortega, Code Enforcement Committee Chair not present.

President Warshauer reported on the Clearwater Neighborhoods Conference Committee, which met Saturday, January 28 to discuss the proposed conference. The committee's discussion evolved into a proposal to replace the conference with a series of prominent guest speakers, as part of a "CNC Great Neighborhoods Speaker Series." The committee proposed three speakers in the spring (April/May/June) and three in the fall (September/October/November). The events would be held on regular CNC meeting nights. Guest speakers would be given 45 minutes for presentation and Q&A, with the remaining 45 minutes devoted to CNC meeting business and a discussion of the speakers' topic with the intent of forming an action plan. The committee proposed having Mayor Cretekos give a "State of the City" address as the inaugural speakers' event.

President Warshauer asked attendees for feedback relating to the changes, which were positively received. Some members expressed concern about sustaining a six-month schedule of events and there were concerns about finding suitable venues in the evening. A consensus was reached to invite the mayor to speak on Monday, April 3, and

to evaluate the success of the event before committing to the full series. Jack Mortimer will invite the mayor to speak and Lee Mortimer is looking into finding a suitable venue.

7. New Business

Vice Mayor Bill Jonson reported that the Druid Road Trail extension project, from Glen Oaks to the Duke Energy Trail, is now set for completion in mid-2018.

Karen Cunningham asked Sarah Ward to provide details on the proposed Harn Boulevard pedestrian overpass at US19. Spencer Cook will contact Ms. Ward on behalf of CNC and the Morningside-Meadows Homeowners' Association for more information.

8. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 6 at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

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