



**General Membership Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 9, 2011
Allegheny Traditional Academy, 7:00 p.m.**

In Attendance: Michele Adams, Colleen Bender, Kimberly Bracken, Randy Burns, Anthony Cabral, Lauren Cabral, John Canning, Paul Carson, Justin Cassel, David Charlton, Laurie Charlton, Christopher D'Addario, Kathy Deis, Gavin Deming, Mark Deptola, Patrick Dexter, Bill Donovan, Nan Donovan, Elena Firsova, Joan Gielas, Jerrold Green, Tom Hardy, Bruce Harshman, Regina Humphries, Roger Humphries, Arthur James, Claudia Keyes, Warren Keyes, Don Kosy, Susan Larkin, James Lawrence, McGarry Luginski, Paco Mahone, Joe Mansfield, Randi Marshak, Dennis McAndrew, Dave McFarland, Al Meyers, Jan Meyers, Mark Monahan, Charles Moore, Scott Mosser, Tim Nuttle, Pat Nysewander, Neil Parham, Julie Peterson, Kate Pierson, Henry Reese, John Rhoades, Belinda Shlapak, Brad Spencer, Gregory Spicer, Neill Stouffer, Jana Thompsom, Ruth Tomlin, Leslie Vincen, Leslie Ward, Karina Westfall, Andrew Wickesberg, Craig Worl, Al Zanon, Randy Zotter

Meeting called to order by Greg Spicer, President.

1. CNNC Board of Directors Elections

Jan Meyers asked each candidate to stand and identify themselves to the group: Chris D'Addario, Anthony Cabral, Paco Mahone, Arthur James, Julie Peterson, Joe Mansfield, Karina Westfall and Scott Mosser - present. Barbara Talerico and Tom Westfall - absent.

Greg Spicer declared the elections closed.

2. Announcements

- a. **Rev. Dave McFarland:** AUU Church has been in the neighborhood for 100 years, and now come to the neighborhood in the hopes of creating a "Partner for Safe Places", a 501c3 to keep the building as a public space. Soliciting help and requesting anyone who interested to contact Rev. Dave via www.allegHENYUU.org
- b. **Patricia Buck** – Invited members to check out the movie being filmed in Fineview by Leadership Pittsburgh. Everyone is invited to attend. Check out www.popuppittsburgh.com to learn more.

**3. Treasurer's Report
Monthly Financials**

Tom Hardy reviewed the financials. Fairly unchanged since last month. Fiscal year runs June – May. Had about \$150,000 in income from various sources. About \$70,000 in expenses are noted, including postage and part-time consultants. Motion made to approve the Treasurer's Report by Dennis McAndrew. Motion seconded by Andrew Wickesberg. Motion unanimously approved.

4. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from the April 14, 2011

Motion made to approve the April General Membership Meeting Minutes by Jim Lawrence. Motion seconded by Anthony Cabral. Motion unanimously approved.

5. Sampsonia Right-of-Way Change

**Henry Reese, City of Asylum Representative and Resident on Sampsonia Way
Rob Kaczorowski, Director of Public Works, City of Pittsburgh**

Rob Kaczorowski met with Kim Graziani (of the Mayor's Office) and Henry Reese to conduct a drive-through of Sampsonia Way. Rob asked Henry to petition the residents not only of Sampsonia Way but also the entire neighborhood for what they would like to see for Sampsonia Way. As long there is consensus that a right-of-way change is what the people of the neighborhood want, Rob is behind the request.

A map of the proposed, affected area was distributed. Henry provided a background of the issue, noting that there is much more traffic on Sampsonia now than a few years ago, including the Mattress Factory and City of Asylum residents. Reviewing the options of stopping the one-way change at either Sherman or Arch, it likely is better to go to Arch, primarily due to the wider width of Arch Street and the fact that it is easier to navigate. Henry was able to get all residents, except for

one absentee landlord to sign the petition. Henry did not go to the residents of North Taylor, who have garages on Sampsonia, but there were no objections at the last meeting related to this. Additional membership discussion ensued.

Randi Marshak made a motion to accept the plan to change the direction of Monterey per the red portion of the map noting the plan proposed by Henry Reese. Motion seconded by Paul Carson. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Public Works

CNNC Membership posed several questions and/or comments around local issues with projects that would fall under Public Works including Lake Elizabeth maintenance, Brighton Road Bridge, Eloise Traffic Direction and Children's Play Area in West Park.

Rob Kaczorowski provided feedback and requested that all issues be phoned into the City's 3-1-1 hotline so that they may be logged.

7. Election Results for CNNC Board of Directors: Term May 2011 – April 2013

Greg Spicer announced the winners of the May 2011 CNNC Board of Directors Election: Anthony Cabral, Chris D'Addario, Arthur James, Paco Mahone, Joe Mansfield, Scott Mosser, Julie Peterson, Barbara Talerico, and Karina Westfall.

8. Reports from Committees, Task Forces, Joint Ventures, Subsidiaries

a. Branding Update: Karen Bryant, Communications Consultant North Star Destination Strategies

North Star Destination Strategies brochures were distributed. Karen provided a brief history of the process thus far, including the original awardee being Brady Communications, but with the owners passing, Brady Communications closed its doors.

North Star would use much of the work that we've already done, including the focus groups and marketing plan.

Total fee would be \$30,000 + travel, with a travel cap of \$2,500.

Dave McFarland asked why we are getting a favorable financial deal. Karen explained that because the CNNC has already completed much of the prep work (focus groups, marketing plan, communications plan), it significantly cuts down on North Star's time and costs. Greg Spicer added that a number of residual materials are already developed, including the Mexican War Streets Society, the Children's Museum, etc., which provides some foundation to begin branding work.

Karen Bryant has called three of North Star's references, all of which were glowing. Two references were Sabbatical, CA Chamber of Commerce (7,500 residents); City of Cloverdale, CA (2,000-3,000 people when started, now at 8,500 people in community). Karen Bryant will summarize the reviews provided by North Star's references, which will be posted to the CNNC website.

Greg Spicer noted that most of the \$30,000 for North Star will be sourced from CNNC Developer Fees. The idea is that through effective branding of the neighborhood, more development would be courted and spurred.

Motion made to prepare a contract with North Star Destination by Dennis McAndrew. Seconded by Tim Nuttle. Claudia Keyes suggested that instead the Board of Directors enter into a contract with North Star Destination Strategies. Dennis McAndrew accepted amendment. Anthony Cabral seconded the amendment. Motion passed unanimously.

9. President's Report, Gregory Spicer

Greg thanked the Board Members that he worked with, including those not returning – Dennis McAndrew, Jan Meyers, Neil Parham, and Jim Lawrence. Greg also thanked the Executive Committee, Tom Hardy, Kirk Burkley, and Bill Buettin. Another thanks to Randi Marshak for the Community Plan.

Accomplishments over the last two years:

- Now a newsletter sent USPS, including addresses in the greater Central North Side. Found funding for, and hired a communications consultant, developed a marketing plan and are now slated to roll it out.
- A revised Vision Statement.
- Made contacts with and appeared in local media such as WPXI and others.

- Built and are implementing a Community Plan.
- Moving along plans for Brighton Road and Brighton Place.
- Established a CNNC-Announce Group via web and email.
- Development – New Housing, affordability strategies, Expansion of Historic District, planning for education and outreach seminars, GTB, Crazy Mocha, Deli, Toula's, Scattered Site Development with October (which will be signed by week's end), and Corporate sponsorships in the works including Children's Museum/Alcoa, Fundraising with Halloween Party,
- Enhanced Safety in neighborhood including cameras. Major Landlords are cleaning up their properties.

Standing ovation ensued.

10. West Ohio Street Bridget Project – Jerry Green

Railroad, Norfolk Southern, runs through the Central North Side and surrounding neighborhoods.

There is a court order whereby we cannot fix sidewalks on North Ave until it is 22 feet above the track (right now at 18 feet). Can repair the pedestrian bridge. Can fix the W. Ohio Street bridge.

A public input session will be held later this month, where everyone will be invited to see the plans for the replacement of the W. Ohio Street Bridge. City is under a court order to provide a 22 feet (5-foot higher hill) along park to provide clearance. PennDot cannot replace the bridge, by court order, unless it is 22 feet high.

Jerry noted that the two options are to raise the bridge or lower the tracks. To lower the tracks would interrupt the sewer system. Raising the bridges will require many of the trees in West Park to be cut down.

Jerry noted that we are not the only community affected by this. For example there is another bridge near California Ave.

Several CNNC members expressed concern over pollution and noise issues. The CNNC will continue to provide information and updates on this project.

11. Old Business.

No old business presented.

12. New Business.

No new business presented.

Meeting adjourned by Greg Spicer, President at 8:47 pm

The next CNNC General Membership Meeting will be Monday, June 13, 2011, 7:00 pm at the Allegheny Traditional Academy.