

VPNA August Meeting | MINUTES

August 28, 2017 | 6:30-8:00 pm | Davis Park Apartments

Meeting called by Matt Ciranni (VPNA President)

Attendees **Board Members:** Eleanor Chehey, Alessandro Meregaglia, Melvin Brown, Rosalie Ferguson, Brian Knight, Don May, Brian Chojnacky

Neighbors: None

Guests: None

Core Purpose Preserving and Enhancing the Quality of Life in the Veterans Park Area

AGENDA TOPICS

I. General Announcements

- **Discussion:**
 - Neighborhood Night Out went well
 - VPNA Statement on Equality and being a Welcoming Community
 - Adjust to improve focus.
- **Action Items:**
 - **Add to the website: “The Veterans Park Neighborhood Association warmly welcomes, embraces and respects people of all races, colors, religions, creeds, sexual orientations, genders, gender identities, national origins, citizenship status’, ancestries, ages and disabilities. We believe in love and friendship and oppose hatred and discrimination.”**

II. Grant Ideas

- **Discussion:**
 - Putting a lifeguard on duty at Quinn’s Pond; BP&R has said they do not plan on putting a lifeguard on duty; There are future development plans for the southeast waterfront. Potentially we could use a grant to add more life jackets.
 - Wreaths on street signs for the holidays. Providing decorations to underprivileged families.
 - Needs mutt mitt dispensers back in Simplot Park.
 - Rowland street lighting project
 - Outdoors exercise equipment in Veteran’s Park or Willow Lane.
 - Supporting a community garden on city property or in a park that would prevent fear of having the ground sold from underneath them.
- **Action Items:**
 - **Matt will research existing pedestrian pathway lighting in Boise and reach out to Residents in that area for feedback about lighting the Rowland Street pathway**
 - **Melvin will visit outdoor fitness parks at Camels Back and Ann Morrison parks.**

- **Matt will reach out to group wanting to put a community garden on city property to gauge readiness for the project**

III. Open

- **Discussion:**

- Agency for New Americans will have a party at Esther Simplot Park on September 23.
- Concerns about homeless people camping behind Simplot Pond II and potentially defecating in or near the pond causing harmful bacteria in the pond.
- Boise Bike Boulevard Coalition:
 - The Boise Bike Boulevard Coalition (BBBC) has two primary missions:
 - 1. Create a network of connected bike boulevards and other low-stress bike routes throughout Boise that makes biking between our schools, parks and neighborhood destinations easy, safe and comfortable for any Boisean who chooses to ride a bike.
 - 2. Build a grassroots coalition who will work to create change for all people who want to ride a bike in Boise. We strive to create that change through positive, collaborative and respectful work with Ada County Highway District, Idaho Department of Transportation, the City of Boise, Boise School District, neighborhood associations, local non-profits, cycling groups, and businesses.
 - Vision: Envision a Boise ins which ... are connected by bike boulevards where people feel safe and comfortable biking to their destinations. Boulevards connect low-volume car streets. Utilizing local and collector roads.
 - ACHD Controls the road (for the most part) ... VPNA support for this effort would increase the ability for the coalition to have an impact on ACHD projects going forward.

- **Action Items:**

- **Boise Bike Boulevard:**
 - **Alex made a motion to endorsing the mission statement for Boise Bike Boulevards; Eleanor seconded the motion. The board voted 7-1 to support the mission and vision statements.**