

VPNA BOARD MEETING | MINUTES

June 15, 2015 | 6:30-8:00 pm | Davis Park Apartments

Meeting called by Matt Ciranni

Attendees Board Members: Matt C, Patricia H, Ron B, Kathleen C, Melvin B, Brian C, Laura L.
Guests: Nissa Nagel, Resident; Clay Lee, Boise Parks & Rec

AGENDA TOPICS

I. ROUNDBOUT ART UPDATE

Kathleen Lacey, City of Boise Art and History, sent an email prior to the meeting alerting us to the fact that the roundabout art installation may now be September or October 2016 due to some engineering and permitting delays.

II. 23rd STREET CROSSWALK/TRAFFIC CALMING

Nissa Nagel, a neighborhood resident for 14 years, addressed concerns about pedestrian, particularly children's, safety crossing 23rd Street. Whittier will no longer be bussing children east of 23rd Street, so these children will have to cross 23rd to walk to school. Neighborhood children also frequently cross this street to access Fairview Park.

Nissa sees two issues with this street:

--There is no crosswalk across 23rd.

--This is the only north/south roadway in the area that is 30MPH. Most, including 27th, are only 25MPH.

Nissa originally felt that a crosswalk @ the intersection of 23rd & Bannock would be sufficient to increase safety and would help create a corridor, as there is a crosswalk at 27th & Bannock. ACHD did a traffic study on 23rd to see if it warranted a crosswalk, but did not find a need. Nissa explained that ACHD conducted the survey during spring break and while Whittier was still bussing kids to school, so there was lower-than-normal pedestrian usage. She would like ACHD to re-do the study while school is in session and while children are waking to Whittier.

Nissa now would like to see additional traffic-calming measures along 23rd and asked the VPNA board if she should push for just a crosswalk or a crosswalk plus traffic-calming measures. Responses were varied, but Ron said that with the State Street expansion, we should expect to see even more vehicles traveling 23rd Street. He also pointed out that there are new, lighted crosswalks on Whitewater Park Boulevard, and suggested Nissa request this.

The board seems generally agreeable to supporting Nissa in her safety request, as this is also a neighborhood connectivity issue, and offered to vote on writing a letter of support once Nissa decides which direction she'd like to take. Kathleen C suggested Nissa also get the support of the neighborhood association just east of VPNA boundaries. Kathleen C also offered to post a Google survey to collect neighborhood opinions.

Action Items:

- Kathleen and Nissa will work on creating and posting a Google survey.
- Nissa will let VPNA know which actions she'd like to pursue with ACHD, and the board will then take a vote to write a letter in support of increased neighborhood safety and connectivity.

III. COLLISTER & STATE REALIGNMENT

Matt let us know that there was an ACHD open house re: the State Street/Collister re-alignment. The group discussed proposed medians along State Street, which would impede left turns from retail and residential areas. Residents are invited to comment on the design proposal. Final alignment will be approved in 2016, and construction will take place in 2018.

IV. OPPORTUNITIES FOR REFUGEE CHILDREN

Laura pointed out that the Davis Park Apartment children, mostly refugees, seem to be missing out on the many recreational opportunities throughout the city due to a lack of funds and/or transportation. She specifically mentioned soccer and track, and asked if any board members knew of any funding available to support these children. No one did; Laura did follow up with Clay Lee, Boise Parks and Rec, at the meeting. Clay said Parks & Rec provide after-school rec to kids at the apartments and would try to remember to pick up the Davis Park Apartment children before city rec events.

Action Items:

- Laura to follow up with Clay re: picking up kids for city-sponsored events.

V. MOVIE NIGHT

The group discussed final details for Movie Night, June 27.

We will be holding a raffle for a VPNA fundraiser.

Clay Lee, Boise Parks and Rec, spoke to the group about how he could help promote the event. He said he would create flyers and door hangers, and have his staff distribute them door-to-door. Additionally, he will have the Boise Education Foundation send out an email to parents. There will be food vendors at the event, as well as Park and Rec's Mobile Rec Van.

Action Items:

- All board members—bring a donated item for the raffle, if possible.
- Matt: Bring raffle ticket roll.
- Patricia—Bring a money bag or box with change.
- Ron—Ask Albertsons for water donation. (May not be necessary since there will be food trucks.)